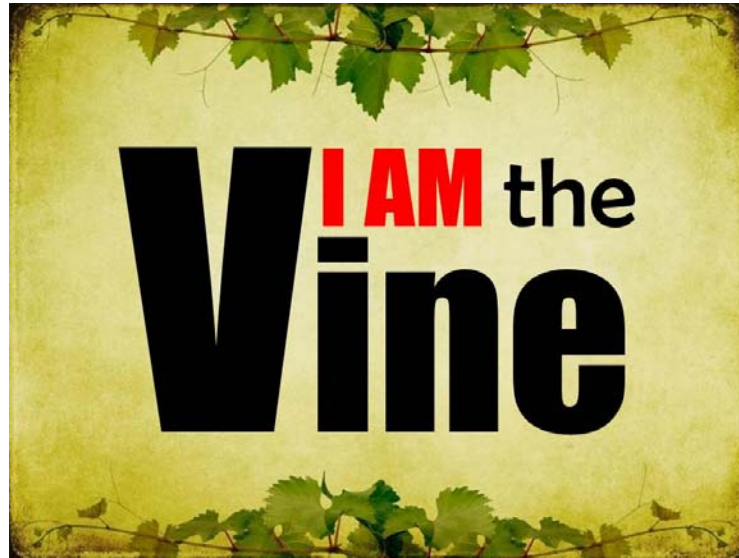




# St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073



## Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 2, 2021

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*It is customary at St. Mary-Holy Cross after the final song, the assembly kneels and silently prays the "Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be" for the next person of our Parish who dies. Parishioners near death have expressed the comfort they experience knowing the Parish Community is praying for them. Please join us in this sacred prayer.*

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Dear Friends in Christ,

Jesus is no stranger to using agricultural imagery in his teaching. In the Gospel for this Sunday, he exhorts his audience to remain in him like a branch must be attached to the vine to survive. We are foolish to think we can experience the Father's glory without Jesus. In fact, he warns that those who do not remain in him "will be thrown out like a branch and wither; people will gather them and throw them into a fire and they will be burned." But by having faith in him, we will bear fruit and glorify the Father, resulting in remaining in Him forever.

In a couple weeks Deacon Todd Church will be joining us at Masses and appealing on behalf of the Diocese of Gallup for its missionary work with Native Americans. It is part of a missionary co-op with our own diocese.

~ Fr. Andrew

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### Parish Information

<b>Parish Phone</b>	515-367-2685
<b>Fr. Andrew Windschitl</b>	515-367-2685
<b>Parish General Email</b>	smhc@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Parish Fax</b>	515-367-7028
<b>Parish Web Site</b>	www.saintmaryhc.org
<b>Parish Facebook Site</b>	St. Mary's Holy Cross Parish-Elkhart
<b>Fr. Andrew Windschitl</b>	Fr.Andrew@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Sarah Baumberger - Bookkeeper</b>	sbaumberger@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Nicole Cory - Confirmation</b>	ncory@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Andrea Fisher - 7th-12th Ministry</b>	afisher@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Melissa Kahler - 7th-12th Ministry</b>	mkahler@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Barb Liske - Secretary</b>	bliske@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Geneveve Loraditch - PreK-6 RE</b>	gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Tracy Miller - PreK-6 RE</b>	tmiller@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Sue Schmidt - Music</b>	sschmidt@saintmaryhc.org

<b>Mass Schedule</b>	Tuesday	6:00pm	St. Mary
	Wednesday	5:30pm	Holy Cross
	Thursday	8:00am	St. Mary
	First Friday	9:00am	St. Mary
	Saturday	5:00pm	St. Mary
	Sunday	8:00am	Holy Cross
		10:00am	St. Mary

**Reconciliation:** Tuesdays 5:15 - 5:45pm; Saturdays 4:00-4:30pm and after 9:00am First Friday Mass, in the **Cry Room**, or by appointment with Fr. Andrew.

**Baptism:** Contact Fr. Andrew for a preparation program.

**Marriage:** Contact Fr. Andrew at least six months prior to the proposed wedding date.

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## Mass, Reconciliation & Adoration

### Tuesday, May 4

5:15 - 5:45pm Reconciliation, St. Mary

6:00pm Mass, St. Mary †Mary Wilson  
~ followed by Adoration

### Wednesday, May 5

5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross †Tom Bellis

### Thursday, May 6

8:00am Mass, St. Mary †Leo & Rosemary Overmohle

### First Friday, May 7

9:00am Mass, St. Mary †Ken Cowman & Dorothy Smith

### Saturday, May 8

4:00 - 4:30pm Reconciliation, St. Mary

5:00pm Mass, St. Mary For the Parish

### Sunday, May 9

8:00am Mass, Holy Cross †Lyle Carpenter

10:00am Mass, St. Mary †Lorraine Polansky &  
Mildred Flaherty

## A Prayer for Hope

Dear Lord,

When evil darkens our world, give us light.

When despair numbs our souls, give us hope.

When we stumble and fall, lift us up.

When doubts assail us, give us faith.

When nothing seems sure, give us trust.

When ideals fade, give us vision.

When we lose our way, be our guide!

That we may find serenity in Your presence,  
and purpose in doing Your will.

We pray in Your name, Amen.

## New Birth by Water and the Holy Spirit

Celebrate with us in welcoming into our Faith



**Baker Randall & Aspen Elizabeth**

Son and niece of Drake and Paige Ferch

**Carter Lawrence Parker & Rose Annette Therese**

Son and Daughter of John and Nicole Cory

**Pyper Rose**

Daughter of Michael and Caitlin Kelsey

### Stewardship Committee

Meeting: May 10, 6:00pm, Social Hall

Knights of Columbus

May 16: 6:40pm Rosary, Church

7:00pm Meeting, Social Hall

Finance Council

Meeting: May 18, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Parish Council

Meeting: May 25, 6:30pm, Social Hall

## Are You New To Our Parish?



We welcome you to our family of St. Mary-Holy Cross and invite you to become a member of our parish! Please fill out a registration card found in the vestibule of St. Mary or Holy Cross or on our website. We are glad you are here!

## Masks Required in Parish Buildings

**Bishop Joensen has extended the mask requirement at all public Masses, sacramental celebrations, and other events in Church buildings. This decision corresponds to the recommendations of public health experts within the local medical community.**

For Diocesan updates, resources and livestream Masses, please go to <https://www.dmdiocese.org/resources/worship/coronavirus>.

## SMHC Temporary Solution Regarding Masks

In consultation with the diocese, an additional Mass at Noon on Sundays is being offered for those individuals to whom an exemption applies (see the excerpt from the bishop below). This does NOT mean that the mask mandate is currently rescinded. It also does not mean that anyone with an exemption is necessarily barred from attending a different Mass time. It is certainly not an attempt to "exile" anyone. Rather, it is an attempt to facilitate respect for those who are anxious about others not wearing masks around them (and perhaps vice versa).

Excerpt from the bishop's statement:

*This diocesan requirement applies to all those over the age of five, who do not have a medical or psychological condition prohibiting mask use. A personal preference opposed to mask use, or the belief that masks are not effective, does not qualify as a condition exempting one from mask use. If parishioners are unsure whether an exemption applies to them, they should consult with their pastor who can assist in discernment.*

## Last Chance This Year to Purchase a Flag

Memorialize your special someone with a flag that will be flown along with 135 others on Memorial weekend, Fourth of July, Labor Day weekend and Veteran's Day. Your flag pole will be marked with a laser engraved tag that identifies the honoree and the donor. Price is \$175 and includes flag and pole, identifying label, base installation, raising and lowering the flag and flag storage. **Contact Barb at the parish office with your request by Monday, May 3** and provide her with the identification label information and payment (checks payable to Lynn Schreurs). Contact Lynn (515-577-8147) if you have any questions.

*Reminder---we only install new flags once a year prior to Memorial weekend.*

## Food Pantry Collection Next Weekend

This collection is being moved up one week due to a missionary coming May 15/16. Please bring non-perishable food items to Mass next weekend; we will also take up a monetary collection. Thank you for your continued generosity in sharing with those in need. Your donation this month will assist *The Blessing Box Food Pantry in Elkhart*.

## Ladies....

Next weekend in honor of Mother's Day and the month of Our Lady, we will have a bookmark for you. Please pick one up at Mass. Men, you will not be forgotten — Father's Day is next month! 😊

**Best wishes to our students graduating from high school! We pray that they call on God for guidance in their future endeavors.**

Rylie Anderson	Lauren Jones
Shelby Breen	Thomas Jones
Ali Cockerham	Mason Lenz
Joseph Devereux	Mason Markley
Addison Ehlers	Madeline Miller
Katherine Fogarty	Tyler Montgomery
Avery Fried	Luke Nemeth
Morgan Gass	Samuel Petersen
William Geren	Kyle Richardson
Sean Golwitzer	Noah Richardson
Jacob Havener	Megan Theulen
Sophie Hoffmeier	Brayden Weldon
Joseph Husak	

## Religious Education

### Preschool - 6th Grade Coordinators

Geneveve Loraditch, [gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org), 515-556-4150  
Tracy Miller, [tmiller@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:tmiller@saintmaryhc.org), 515-520-7981

I wish we could put into words our gratitude for First Communion. Thank you to all the Catechists and parents who volunteered and made it all run so smoothly. The children's faces were beaming with excitement and joy all weekend as they prepared to receive the gift of the sacraments. We feel so blessed to be surrounded by such a loving parish.

We look forward to working with the children again in the Fall. Registration will be out mid-summer. Please feel free to reach out to us with any questions or concerns.

## S.T.O.R.M. Report

### Grades 7-12 Coordinators

Melissa Kahler, [mkahler@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:mkahler@saintmaryhc.org), 515-290-2830  
Andrea Fisher, [afisher@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:afisher@saintmaryhc.org), 515-240-5059

**May 5 & May 12:** All 8th-12th graders are welcome to join us for 5:30pm for Mass at Holy Cross. If you are unable to make it to Mass, please plan to join us in the youth area for a meal and youth gathering at 6:15pm until 8:30pm. We hope to see you. Feel free to bring a friend! Contact Melissa or Andrea with questions.

### Grades 9 & 10, Confirmation Coordinator

Nicole Cory, [ncory@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:ncory@saintmaryhc.org), 515-313-3014

### Purpose (Confirmation Program)

*Friday May 7, 6:00pm at St. Mary:* Confirmation Liturgy Rehearsal Dinner for teens and sponsors only.

*Saturday May 8, 10:30am at St. Mary:* Confirmation Liturgy. Teens, please arrive by 9:30am.

Please watch your email for important details surrounding this Liturgy.

✠ For Pastoral assistance, please contact Fr. Andrew at 515-367-2685 or [Fr.Andrew@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:Fr.Andrew@saintmaryhc.org).

## PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Doug Jones, *Chair* - [djones@bossard.com](mailto:djones@bossard.com)  
John Fisher - [Johnfisher@sienafastener.com](mailto:Johnfisher@sienafastener.com)  
Tim Loraditch - [Tloraditch@gmail.com](mailto:Tloraditch@gmail.com)  
John Roberts - [jroberts@huxcomm.net](mailto:jroberts@huxcomm.net)  
Stacey Rooney - [Rooneysl17@gmail.com](mailto:Rooneysl17@gmail.com)

## FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Heidi Ackerman, *Co-President* - [heidimdittmer@gmail.com](mailto:heidimdittmer@gmail.com)  
Sue Tollefson, *Co-President* - [suet@iowacubs.com](mailto:suet@iowacubs.com)  
Larry Davis - [larryedavis57@gmail.com](mailto:larryedavis57@gmail.com)  
Diane Gannon - [ddkgannon@gmail.com](mailto:ddkgannon@gmail.com)  
Doug Jones - [djones@bossard.com](mailto:djones@bossard.com)  
Laurie Phelan - [Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com](mailto:Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com)

## STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Arlene Anderson - [arlene@4andersons.com](mailto:arlene@4andersons.com)  
Jacki Ausman - [jackiausman@gmail.com](mailto:jackiausman@gmail.com)  
Beth Hart - [mrsmatthart@gmail.com](mailto:mrsmatthart@gmail.com)  
Kelly Hoffmeier - [nkhoff@msn.com](mailto:nkhoff@msn.com)  
Tammi McClain - [tammimcclain71@gmail.com](mailto:tammimcclain71@gmail.com)  
Kathy Petersen - [katherine@huxcomm.net](mailto:katherine@huxcomm.net)  
Kris Sturtz - [klsturtz@gmail.com](mailto:klsturtz@gmail.com)  
Sue White - [charylmyron@q.com](mailto:charylmyron@q.com)  
John Zidon - [jzidon@msn.com](mailto:jzidon@msn.com)

## CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Laurie Phelan, *Chair* - [Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com](mailto:Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com)  
Karen Bellis - [puzzlenuts@aol.com](mailto:puzzlenuts@aol.com)  
Pat Bishop - [pjbishop@midiaowa.net](mailto:pjbishop@midiaowa.net)  
Lowell Crouse - [l3jl@windstream.net](mailto:l3jl@windstream.net)  
John Freeman - [johnfmingo@hotmail.com](mailto:johnfmingo@hotmail.com)  
Tracy Irwin - [irwin@partnercom.net](mailto:irwin@partnercom.net)  
Lynn Schreurs - [lschreurs@msn.com](mailto:lschreurs@msn.com)  
Larry Shaw - [shawcattle13@gmail.com](mailto:shawcattle13@gmail.com)  
Mike and Mary Winders - [Mwinde59@yahoo.com](mailto:Mwinde59@yahoo.com)

## PARISH TRUSTEES

Sheri Fogarty - [fogarty929@gmail.com](mailto:fogarty929@gmail.com)  
Doug Jones - [djones@bossard.com](mailto:djones@bossard.com)

## PARISH AMBASSADOR TO CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Mike and Mary Winders - [Mwinde59@yahoo.com](mailto:Mwinde59@yahoo.com)

## Weekly Collection Financial Update

**April 25** Budget Week 43

Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>
	\$4,794	\$4,860

*Year to Date Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund*

<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
\$238,033	\$208,980	250,875

## 2021 Annual Diocesan Appeal

<u>Parish Goal</u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Unpaid Pledges</u>	<u>Amt. Due</u>
\$51,038	\$30,328	\$5,287	<b>\$20,710</b>

Thank you to those who have been so generous to this year's Appeal. If you have not made a pledge, please consider how you are able to help support the work of the Diocese and return your pledge card from Bishop Joensen to the parish office or drop it in the collection basket at Church. If donating by check, please make it out to the Diocese of Des Moines. You can also donate online at <https://www.dmdiocese.org/giving>; then choose our parish from the "Designate" dropdown. Thank you.

@Maxwell Market in the Park  
May 2nd  
Noon to 3:00PM



## Bake Sale & Mini-Petting Zoo

St.Mary's-Holy Cross Church Youth Group



The youth group is raising  
money to attend National  
Catholic Youth Conference



## NCYC Fundraiser!

Please join us at the Maxwell Market in the Park this Sunday from Noon to 3:00pm. Our group will be hosting a bake sale and mini-petting zoo. This came up kind of last minute but we are grateful for the opportunity to offer our goodies at these amazing little farmer's market. Plan to have some lunch, shop the 65+ vendors, and have some dessert made with love by the youth. Oh, and we also will have sweet baby bunnies and other animals that you can enjoy at our mini-petting zoo. Hope to see you there!



## Blood Drive

Our blood drive is Thursday, May 27, 3:00 to 7:00pm in the Social Hall. What safer and easier way to serve others than to donate your life-supporting blood that will help save or sustain the life of three others. LifeServe Blood Center provides a disinfected and sanitized environment. Blood is always in short supply and especially now. The whole process (registration, confidential health history interview, donation, and post-donation rest in our canteen) will take less than an hour with the actual donation taking only about 10 minutes. LifeServe personnel and donors are required to wear a mask. Appointments are required for added safety. To schedule your appointment sign up in the vestibule of St. Mary or use this link [https://donor.lifeservebloodcenter.org/donor/schedules/drive\\_schedule/169798](https://donor.lifeservebloodcenter.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/169798) to choose your donation time and then log in or create an account. If you have difficulties or questions, please call LifeServe Blood Center at 800-287-4903 and mention you would like to sign up for the Elkhart Community Blood Drive on May 27.

Contact Lisa or Tim Kautza ([kautza@netins.net](mailto:kautza@netins.net) or 515-964-7687) if you would like to volunteer to help in the canteen or can provide cookies, bars or other snacks.

## YOU Are Needed!

We are looking for additional people to lector at our Masses. Please contact Fr. Andrew if you are interested. Thank you for considering this request!



## Prayer Chain

If illness or a crisis strikes your family or friends, please don't hesitate to contact us so members of our Parish may offer prayers for those in need. For requests or to participate in our Prayer Chain, please contact Barb, [bliske@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:bliske@saintmaryhc.org) / 515-367-2685. *If the request is not for you, please ask permission of the one it is for to be on our prayer chain.*

## Auto Debit for Tithing

Please consider using this type of tithing where you designate a monthly dollar amount to be withdrawn from your account on a pre-determined date. For questions or to begin ACH, please contact Sarah, [sbaumberger@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:sbaumberger@saintmaryhc.org), or find the form in the vestibule or on the home page of our website, <https://www.saintmaryhc.org/>. Thank you to those who currently use ACH for your tithing.

## Online Giving

This is available through the Catholic Foundation of SW Iowa with this secure link: <https://catholicfoundationiowa.org/make-a-donation/parishes-and-schools-relief/>. On the drop down choose *St. Mary/Holy Cross Parish-Elkhart* to make your tithe donation. No fees! The Foundation will send gift receipts. Thank you for considering using this for your tithing and thank you to those who are currently using it!



Enough plastic is thrown away each year to circle the earth four times.

## Upcoming Parish Council Opening

St. Mary-Holy Cross Parish Council was established just over a year and a half ago in an attempt to help Father Andrew guide and make decisions for our Parish family. This Council was established with six parishioners with representatives from both St. Mary's and Holy Cross. Our aim is to have each new member serve a three year term with two members rotating off each year. Now that the Council is established, we are looking for up to two new members to join. This June the Parish will hold a vote (if necessary) for new members who are interested. If you are interested, or anyone you know who might be, please feel free to reach out to any of the current Parish Council members for more information.

Had a baby? Moved? Dropped your landline?

Have you provided your cell phone number to us?

*Please contact the parish office with changes/updates so our records can be as accurate as possible. Thank you!*

## What is a Prayer Shawl?

A prayer shawl is a soft warm reminder for people going through a rough time that you are not alone and that we are praying for you. If you know someone that could use the comfort of a prayer shawl or are interested in helping make them, please contact Dona Cowman at 515-383-4482 or [racefans@iowatelecom.net](mailto:racefans@iowatelecom.net).

## You are Invited!

Bishop William Joensen invites you to join him for a Holy Hour every Monday at 5:00pm at St. Ambrose Cathedral, or you can join him virtually at [Facebook.com/dmdiocese](https://www.facebook.com/dmdiocese). Bishop Joensen is praying for guidance from the Holy Spirit as we emerge from the pandemic.

## Get a Tax Credit While Helping Kids

Did you owe the state after filing your taxes this year? Wipe out your Iowa state tax liability with a gift to CTO. For every dollar you give, you'll receive a 65% Iowa tax credit! Learn more at [CTOIowa.org](http://CTOIowa.org).

## Catholic Movie Reviews

Go to [www.catholicnews.com/movies.cfm](http://www.catholicnews.com/movies.cfm).

## Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

### Fifth Sunday of Easter, May 2

*Theme: I am the vine; you are the branches.*

*Reading I:* Acts 9:26-31 • The church was at peace.

*Reading II:* 1 John 3:18-24 • We are called to believe and to love one another.

*Gospel:* John 15:1-8 • I am the vine.

*For Children:* How do you keep yourself connected to Jesus in your daily life?

*For Youth:* Jesus is the vine – we are the branches, connected to Him as our life-source. When do you feel most connected to Jesus in your everyday life? How can you go there more often?

*For Adults:* How does your own connection to Christ, the vine, affect your daily life? What image from this reading helps you see the importance of this connection to Christ?