



St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073



Pentecost

May 31, 2020

Dear Friends in Christ,

The word Pentecost refers to the fifty days following Easter. This holy day traces its origin back to Judaism. It was celebrated earlier with joy for the first fruits of harvest. It was later associated with God giving Moses the Law on Mount Sinai. Of course, we recognize it for Jesus' gift of the Holy Spirit to the disciples. It is notable that in the Gospel he connects reception of the Spirit with peace and forgiveness of sins. This seems to be an implicit acknowledgement of sin doing violence to one's contentment that can be had in a relationship with God. Jesus clearly wants peace for us. Do we really want it for ourselves and others?

Many thanks to Lynn Schreurs and company for the wonderful flag display early last week and program on Memorial Day. The turnout was a pleasant surprise and that the weather held off long enough was surely an answered prayer.

~Fr. Andrew

Parish Information

Parish Phone

Fr. Andrew Windschitl

Fr. Andrew Windschitl

Sarah Baumberger - Bookkeeper

Nicole Cory - Confirmation

Andrea Fisher - 7th-12th Ministry

Melissa Kahler - 7th-12th Ministry

Barb Liske - Secretary

Geneveve Loraditch - PreK-6 RE

Tracy Miller - PreK-6 RE

Sue Schmidt - Music

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St. Mary's Holy Cross Parish-Elkhart

Reconciliation: By appointment only with Fr. Andrew.

Baptism: Contact Fr. Andrew for preparations.

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

Priesthood and Religious Life: See Diocesan website at <http://www.vocationsonline.org>.

Mass Intentions offered by Fr. Andrew

Tuesday, June 2	†Michael Carpenter
Wednesday, June 3	†Fr. Ed Pfeffer
Thursday, June 4	†Ron Hamm
Saturday, June 6	†Nydia Claussen
Sunday, June 7	For the Parish

✠ For Pastoral assistance, please contact Fr. Andrew at 515-367-2685 or Fr.Andrew@saintmaryhc.org.

We Are Here to Help!

If you are homebound, at high risk, caring for family, or know someone who is, and are in need of help with errands, picking up prescriptions or groceries, etc., please contact Fr. Andrew or the parish office. Also, if you are willing to help in some way, please email Barb.

Change in Parish Practice

If necessary for you to come to the parish office, please contact Fr. Andrew or staff ahead of time to be sure someone is here, or make an appointment. Phone messages and email will be checked frequently, even when staff is not in the office, and your messages will be returned.

See the diocesan website at

<https://www.dmdiocese.org/resources/worship/coronavirus>

for livestream Masses, updates and resources.

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 form found in the vestibule of St. Mary and on our website. We are glad you are here!

Thank You's

On behalf of the children preparing for First Communion, we would like to repeat our thanks to those that have sponsored Bibles and promised to pray for these children. Preparations are well underway to help make this time as beautiful as possible for the children as they eagerly anticipate this special day! If you sponsored a child, please pray for your child by name. If you'd like a reminder of your child's name, email one of us and we can provide this information.

~ Geneveve Loraditch & Tracy Miller

Thank you to all who came to raise and lower the flags for your Avenue of Flags honoring your loved ones and the special people in your lives. Your work was truly appreciated by all those who visited Holy Cross Cemetery last weekend and for the Memorial Day ceremony. Your continued commitment to this display speaks of your generosity and willingness to serve your congregation and is indeed inspirational. We now are able to quickly raise and lower all 138 flags in less than half an hour.

~ Lynn & Chris Schreurs

St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish,

We are so thankful for your support and generosity. Thank you so much for your recent donation. It came in a time of great need.

~ The Blessing Box

A Prayer for Healthcare Workers

Loving God,
we place into your care
all our doctors, nurses
and healthcare workers.
Give them courage of heart
and strength of mind and body.
Keep them safe from harm.
May they know our deep gratitude
for all they are doing to help
and heal those affected by the coronavirus.
God of all consolation
may they know your protection and peace.
Bless them in these challenging days
and bless their families.
Amen.

*Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I will fear no evil, for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
~Psalm 23:4*

Annual Collection for Holy Cross Cemetery Maintenance

Traditionally, we have an annual collection to cover the maintenance requirements for the cemetery during the Memorial Day weekend Masses (annual expenses usually exceed \$3000). Because we have been prohibited from having weekend Masses and Memorial Day Mass, we were unable to collect these donations. If you are able to support this funding, please send your donation to Barb at the parish office and be sure to identify it as "Holy Cross Cemetery donation". Thank you.



90th Birthday!

The family of Jeanne Carpenter invite you to share in her 90th birthday celebration on June 7th by sending her a card to brighten her day! Her address: Jeanne Carpenter, 2785 1st Ave S, Apt 224, Altoona, IA 50009.

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 at 515-367-2685 or bliske@saintmaryhc.org. *If the request is not for you, please ask permission of the one it is for to be on our prayer chain.*

The Word Among Us

We have a few copies of this daily meditation book available for pick up in the vestibule of St. Mary.

Church Sign

Challenges in life can make you either bitter or better.

Religious Education

Preschool - 6th Grade Coordinators

Geneveve Loraditch, gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org, 515-556-4150
Tracy Miller, tmiller@saintmaryhc.org, 515-520-7981

Happy Pentecost! We pray you all are well and your children are enjoying the Pentecost packets we made. We would love to hear your feedback on them. Feel free to email us your thoughts on how they worked for your family.

As the Psalm reads today "*Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.*"

Our second Meditation for First Communion and Sacramental Prep is this Wednesday, June 3 from 6:00-7:15pm. Please continue to keep the children preparing for First Communion in your prayers. We will also have meditations on Wednesdays, June 10 & 17.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

S.T.O.R.M. Report

Grades 7-12 Coordinators

Melissa Kahler, mkahler@saintmaryhc.org, 515-290-2830

Andrea Fisher, afisher@saintmaryhc.org, 515-240-5059

Grades 9 & 10, Confirmation Coordinator

Nicole Cory, ncory@saintmaryhc.org, 515-313-3014

Graduating Seniors: The Parish has a gift for you; please pick yours up from the table near the cry room.

Teens: You are in our hearts and in our prayers and we hope you are finding a new normal, happiness, and joy in your days. Please reach out to us if there is anyway we can help you and your family during our time apart from our church. Stay healthy and stay safe! May God continue to bless you and your family! ~ Nicole, Andrea and Melissa

Online Giving

Thank you to those who have used this type of tithing!

We currently offer online giving through the Catholic Foundation of Southwest Iowa, by using this secure link: <https://catholicfoundationiowa.org/make-a-donation/parishes-and-schools-relief/>. Use the drop down menu and choose St. Mary/Holy Cross Parish-Elkhart to make your donation which will be credited as tithes, and will appear on your year end statement. No fees! The Foundation will send all gift acknowledgement letters. Thanks for considering this!

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Pentecost, May 31

Theme: We have been given the breath of God - the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Reading I: Acts 2: 1-11 • All were filled with the Holy Spirit.

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13 • There are different gifts, but the same Spirit.

Gospel: John 20:19-23 • As the Father sent me, so I send you.

Question for Children: When have you heard your inner voice or conscience guiding you to do what is right?

Question for Youth: How will you make Jesus more known to others in your own way this week?

Question for Adults: When did the power of the Spirit give you the right words or the insight into a dilemma?

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

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PARISH TRUSTEES

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PARISH AMBASSADOR TO CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Mike and Mary Winders - Mwinde59@yahoo.com

Weekly Collection Financial Update

May 24 Budget Week 46

Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund	Received	Budget
	\$2,705	\$5,730

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

Received	Budget	Last Year
\$277,419	\$269,310	\$276,353

2020 Annual Diocesan Appeal

Information and a pledge card have been mailed to each household. Please prayerfully consider what you are able to give and mail your pledge to the parish or donate online at <https://www.dmdiocese.org/giving/annual-diocesan-appeal-giving>, being sure to designate our parish for proper credit. Each gift is vital to reaching our assessment. Thank you.

Parish Goal	Pledge Total	Payments	Amt. Due
\$49,556	\$35,422	\$30,962	\$18,594

Considering switching over to automatic withdrawal from your bank account for your tithing? Please contact Sarah Baumberger, sbaumberger@saintmaryhc.org, for additional information or find the form in the vestibule or on our website home page in the lower right hand corner.

InnerVisions Virtual Gala

InnerVisions has made the difficult decision to pivot their 2020 Gala to a *virtual* event. The hope is for the possibility of even more to be able to join in than before! Register at www.ivhcare.org/galapivot/ for free and then tune in on Thursday, June 4 at 7:00pm for the program and live auction (bidding for the auction will begin on Tuesday, June 2 at 8:00am). As their main fundraiser they rely on your generosity to support their life-saving mission throughout the rest of 2020 and beyond. Despite the pandemic, the clinic doors have remained open, and their nurses have served a near-record number of pregnancy patients this past April.

Walking With God? Walk With Us!

The Benedictine Sisters of Perpetual Adoration invite single women, ages 18 - 40 who are considering religious life, to attend a Virtual Monastic Experience via Zoom July 12-14, 2020. We hope to digitally show discerners around, introduce some of our Sisters and share some tips on prayer and discernment. The experience will include one hour of input each day. There will also be an opportunity to connect with the vocation director one on one. There is no cost to attend. Visit our website to learn more: www.benedictinesisters.org. To register, please call Sr. Maria Victoria at 660/944-2221 ext. 127 or at vocation@benedictinesisters.org.



Five plastic bottles (PET) recycled provides enough fiber to create one square feet of carpet or enough fiber fill to fill one ski jacket.

Employment Opportunity

St. Joseph Catholic School (3300 Easton Blvd, DSM) is taking applications for the 2020-2021 school year. Positions available are 5th grade elementary teacher and a MS Reading & Language Arts teacher for grades 6th-8th. Please send a cover letter and resume to Jodi Halligan at jhalligan@stjosephsschooldsm.org.

Reflecting On Our Experience

Using the Ignatian Examen as a guide, we will prayerfully reflect on our experiences throughout the week. On Saturday mornings, we will gather virtually to share our experiences and listen reverently to the ways that each of us has experienced our hearts burning during this challenging time in our world. No prior understanding of the Examen is necessary in order to attend. All are welcome.

Dates: Every Saturday *Time:* 10:00 - 11:30am

There is no cost to attend. Freewill donations welcomed.

Please RSVP so we can email you the link to the online meeting.

Saint Anthony of Padua, Priest and Doctor, 1195-1231

Born Ferdinand de Bulhoses in Lisbon, Portugal, Anthony was the son of a knight in King Alphonso's court. He began his studies at the cathedral in Lisbon and joined the Augustinians when he was fifteen. Ordained in about 1219, Anthony transferred to the Franciscans in 1221 at which time he took the name Anthony.

Sent to Morocco to preach to the Moors, Anthony was soon forced to return because of illness. He was stationed at a small hermitage in Italy, where he spent his time studying Scripture, praying, and doing menial tasks. Once, at an ordination when no one was prepared to speak, Father Anthony hesitantly accepted the task. His fellow Franciscans, expecting little from Anthony, were astounded by his sermon and Anthony began a new ministry as a preacher.



Anthony was assigned to preach throughout Italy. Noted for his eloquence, fire, and persuasiveness, he attracted large crowds wherever he spoke and was particularly successful at converting heretics. Recognized as a great scholar, Anthony became the first Franciscan friar to teach theology to other Franciscan friars.

Appointed minister provincial of the Franciscan order, Anthony, was released from these duties in 1226 in order to resume his preaching. He settled in Padua in that year and his bold and brilliant preaching completely reformed the city. He worked to abolish debtors' prisons, helped the poor, and worked ceaselessly and untiringly with heretics. All of this took its toll on Anthony's health and he died on June 13 at the age of 36.

Saint Anthony was canonized in the year following his death and was declared a Doctor of the Church by Pope Pius XII in 1946. He is the patron of the poor and oppressed. Alms given to seek his intercession are often referred to as "Saint Anthony's Bread." Anthony is also widely invoked for the return of lost articles. This belief comes from a story which told of a novice who ran away, taking with him a book of Psalms which Anthony had been using. Anthony prayed for the return of the book and the novice, struck by an alarming vision, brought the Psalter back to Anthony.

Saint Anthony is the patron of many things and places besides lost articles. Among them are American Indians, expectant mothers, and sailors. His memorial is celebrated on June 13.

Anthony's message today: Anthony has been a favorite saint for hundreds of years because of the belief that he intercedes with God on behalf of many who have lost articles. Any Catholic who has, say, misplaced the car keys and said a short prayer to Saint Anthony can tell you how they "miraculously" found their keys virtually "under their noses." We can count on the saints to help us, knowing that they, too, experienced many of the difficulties we encounter in our own lives.