



St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073



Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 8, 2022

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.

Dear Friends in Christ:

Another reason for joy occurred here last Sunday when 25 children received Communion for the first time. Their initiation into God's Church, according to multiple parents, left them edified. Certainly, the best part is the gift of the greatest sacrament that our Lord has given us. Then there is the joy of the children themselves who reflect that in their behavior and suits and dresses. I am personally thankful for this experience and for the work the parents and catechists put into forming their children to become the disciples and saints of Christ they are meant to be.

~ Father Andrew

Parish Information

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

Mass Schedule	Tuesday	5:30pm	Holy Cross
	Wednesday	5:30pm	St. Mary
	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
	4th Sunday	12:00pm	St. Mary

Reconciliation: St. Mary: Wednesdays 4:45 - 5:15pm and Saturdays 4:00 - 4:30pm; or by appointment.

Baptism: Contact Fr. Andrew

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

Priesthood/Religious: www.vocationsonline.org

Mass Reconciliation and Adoration

Tuesday, May 10

5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross †Patrick J. Phelan

Wednesday, May 11

4:45 - 5:15pm Reconciliation, St. Mary

5:30pm Mass, St. Mary †Joseph Joll
~ followed by Adoration

Thursday, May 12

8:00am Mass, St. Mary †Mary Percy

Saturday, May 14

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

5:00pm St. Mary †Dorothy Gannon

Sunday, May 15

8:00am Holy Cross †Craig Hand

10:00am St. Mary People of the Parish



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!

Live the Easter Season



The resurrection of Jesus is such overwhelming Good News that a single day is not enough to celebrate! The Catholic Church celebrates the Easter season until Pentecost, which is June 5. The Diocese has a wealth of resources that encourage us to be an Easter people through the spring. There's a 4-page guide with family-friendly ideas for how to celebrate the season highlighting various feast days. There are Sunday Gospel reflection questions for families, small faith-sharing groups and personal reflections. And, there's a Liturgy of Light prayer experience that can be celebrated at home any time. Go to dmdiocese.org/easter and check out the many ways we can continue to celebrate Christ's resurrection!

And here at the parish we have a few copies of *The Little White Book* available for your reflection during these remaining days of the Easter Season.

Buildings and Grounds Collection

This weekend we have our second collection for Buildings and Grounds. The funds collected will continue to be allocated to repair the water and structural damage at St. Mary's. The engineer we hired has provide us with a report outlining our repair options. We are reviewing the report to consider the options and will continue to provide monthly updates. If you have any questions about this issue please contact a member of the Buildings and Grounds Committee or the Parish Council. Thank you for your support.

Covid Updates

From Bishop Joensen: Masks are optional for the faithful and clergy during Mass and other indoor activities and are no longer required for the distribution of Holy Communion. Everyone is encouraged to discern the use of masks based on their own health and potential immunity to COVID-19.

If you wish to receive Communion on the tongue, please receive from Fr. Andrew (he sanitizes after each).

Masks and hand sanitizer are available. *Diocesan updates:*
<https://www.dmdiocese.org/resources/worship/coronavirus>

A Mother's Prayer

*Dear Heavenly Father,
Thank You for giving me
the privilege of being a mom.
I pray that you will help me
be a beacon that shines the light
of Christ to my children
as well as the children I meet
through the course of a day.
You are the Light of the World
and I pray that I will be
a shining reflection of that light.
In Jesus' Name, Amen.*

Parish Council

Meeting: May 24, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Finance Council

Meeting: May 17, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Stewardship

Meeting: May 9, 6:00pm, Social Hall

Knights of Columbus

May 15, 6:40pm Rosary, SM, 7pm Mtg, Hall

Coming Events

- †Saturday, May 7: Wine & cheese after 5:00pm Mass
- †Weekend of May 7/8: Recognition of our High School Seniors at Masses — Buildings and Grounds collection
- †Weekend of May 14/15: Catholic Charities 2nd collection
- †Weekend of May 21/22: Food Pantry Collection for *The Blessing Box* in Elkhart
- †Blood Drive: Thursday, May 26, 3:00-7:00pm, Social Hall
- †Vacation Bible School: Tuesday, June 21 - Thursday, June 23, 5:00-7:30pm, St. Mary

Purchase a Flag for Holy Cross Cemetery



Memorialize your special someone with a flag that will be flown on Memorial weekend, Fourth of July, Labor Day weekend and Veteran's Day, along with our current 140 flags. Your flag pole will be marked with a laser engraved tag that identifies the honoree and the donor. Price is \$200 which includes the flag and pole, identifying label, base installation, raising and lowering the flag and flag storage. An order form with instructions is available at both churches and on our website at <https://www.saintmaryhc.org/holy-cross-cemetery-committee>. **Orders and payment due by May 15 to Lynn Schreurs.** Please contact Lynn, 515-577-8147, if you have questions. A reminder that we only install new flags once a year prior to Memorial weekend.

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

Brayden Bartleson	Garrett Jones
Emma Beauchamp	Weston Kahler
Brett Beukema	Brooke Kiley
Valerie Beukema	Sadie Kuehn
Ellie De Costa	Katelyn Lappe
Emily Devereux	Bailey Liske
Marcus Doyle	Timothy Maier
Jacob Feldmann	Lucas Maire
Grace Fisher	Lucy Schaffer
Avery Fricke	Martin Shugar
Marcus Hauptert	Hailey Volz
Grace Johnson	

Religious Education

Preschool - 6th Grade Coordinators

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

Congratulations to the children who received First Communion this past weekend! It was our privilege to be a part of your special day.

Registration for next year is underway! We look forward to receiving everyone's registration and getting a head start on our preparations for next year. Forms can be emailed to bliske@saintmaryhc.org, mailed to the office or dropped off at the office.

Join us for Summer With The Saints! June 21-23rd, from 5:00 -7:30. We look forward to seeing you there! Let us know if you or your teen would like to help!

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

Purpose Confirmation Program

Friday, May 20, 6:30pm, Confirmation Liturgy Rehearsal
Dinner for sponsors and teens.

Saturday, May 21, Confirmation Liturgy. Teens to be there by 12:50pm, Liturgy begins at 2:00pm.

World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Join the universal Church on Sunday, May 8, to publicly fulfill the Lord's instruction to, "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). While appreciating all vocations, the Church concentrates its attention this day on vocations to the ordained ministries (priesthood and diaconate), consecrated life in all its forms (male and female religious life, societies of apostolic life, consecrated virginity), secular institutes in their diversity of services and membership, and to the missionary life.

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

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

John Roberts, *Chair* - jroberts@huxcomm.net
Doug Jones - djones@bossard.com
Tim Loraditch - Tloraditch@gmail.com
Tammi McClain - tammimcclain71@gmail.com
Larry Sauer - sauerld@outlook.com
Celia Shedd - hoyhill@partnercom.net

FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Heidi Ackerman, *Co-President* - heidimdittmer@gmail.com
Sue Tollefson, *Co-President* - suet@iowacubs.com
John Fisher - Johntfisher@sienafastener.com
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STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Arlene Anderson - arlene@4andersons.com
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Sue White - charylmyron@q.com
John Zidon - jzidon@msn.com

CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Laurie Phelan, *Chair* - Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com
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PARISH TRUSTEES

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Doug Jones - djones@bossard.com

PARISH AMBASSADOR TO CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Mike and Mary Winders - mwinde59@yahoo.com

Kindness is a language

which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.

Weekly Collection Financial Update

May 1	Budget Week 44		
	Received	Budget	
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund	\$5,621	\$5,642	
<i>Year to Date Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund</i>			
	Received	Budget	Last Year
	\$261,862	\$248,248	\$240,845

2022 Annual Diocesan Appeal

Please consider how you are able to help support the work of the Diocese and return the pledge card sent by Bishop Joensen, by mail to the parish office or dropped in the collection basket at Mass. If donating by check, please make it out to the Diocese of Des Moines. You can also donate at <https://www.dmdiocese.org/giving>; choose our parish from the "Designate" dropdown.

Goal	Pledged	Paid	Unpaid Pledges	Amt. Due
\$54,744	\$39,960	\$37,335	\$2,675	\$17,409

Thank you to those who've already donated so generously!

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 / 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.*

You Can Help Save Lives!



Sign-up to donate your valuable and much needed blood! Reserve your preferred time today on the sign up in the vestibule of St. Mary or at www.lifesevebloodcenter.org (Appointments are required). There is no substitute for human blood. It only takes about 30 – 45 minutes from check-in to check-out and then you get to enjoy beverages and homemade treats at our canteen. Our drive is 3:00 – 7:00pm on Thursday, May 26 in the Social Hall. Can't donate, but want to help? We welcome homemade treats and wonderful volunteers to tend the canteen. Contact Lisa and Tim Kautza, kautza@netins.net; 515-964-7687 to help.

May is Catholic Charities Month

For more than 95 years, Catholic Charities has provided essential services to those in need within our southwest Iowa diocesan community. The mission of Catholic Charities is to empower individuals and strengthen families which exemplifies the Catholic Social Teaching principles in advancing human dignity and service to others. Today in the midst of ever increasing needs, such as food, shelter, health and safety, and resettlement, the services offered by Catholic Charities help to respond to these socio-economic necessities. During the past few years, Catholic Charities, in partnership with the Diocese, has also extended support to those affected by floods, tornadoes, the derecho, rental assistance, COVID-19, and other disaster-related events within our Diocese.

We will have a second collection next weekend for Catholic Charities. Your contribution is much appreciated.

Additional Options for Tithing

Auto Debit: Please consider using this type of tithing. You designate a monthly dollar amount to be withdrawn from your account on the 15th or the 30th. If you have questions or would like to begin ACH, please contact Candy at bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org or find the form on the table at church or on the home page of our website.

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 sends gift receipts.

Thank you for considering one of these for your tithing.

World Youth Day 2023

All young adults are invited to join the Diocese for a pilgrimage to Lisbon, Portugal next summer for World Youth Day. This opportunity is held only once every few years, and is a fantastic opportunity to encounter the Lord through his global Church. The two-week pilgrimage includes a few days hosted by a Lisbon family, a week of hotel lodging for World Youth Day itself, and a day trip to Fatima after hearing from the Pope. For more information: www.dmdiocese.org/wyd23!



Recycling one ton of paper saves 7,000 gallons of water.

Liturgical Ministers Needed

Memorial weekend is coming up and ministers for our Masses are by sign up. Please contact Barb at the office if you are able to help out. Thank you!!

Laudato Si' Small Group Study

Join us for a study of Pope Francis' Encyclical Letter *Laudato Si' On Care for Our Common Home*. We as human beings are united by the concern of our planet, and every living thing that dwells on it, especially the poorest and most vulnerable. Ken and Rita Bresnan will facilitate the group that will meet weekly for two hours, over the course of four weeks - May 16, May 23, June 6, and June 13 from 1:00-3:00pm via Zoom. Anyone interested in learning more about our common call to be good stewards of the earth and all who inhabit the earth are welcome and encouraged to join the conversation. Cost is \$30. <https://csm.coursesform.com/course/laudato-si-small-group-study>.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Formation for Adults

Begins June 25-26 at St Augustin Catholic Church in Des Moines. This catechist formation seeks to:

- Present the methodology and guiding principles of the CGS for the 3–6-year-old child.
- To explore the religious nature and the most vital religious needs of the 3–6-year-old child.
- To meditate on the Biblical and Liturgical themes presented to the 3–6-year-old child.
- To broaden your ability to observe and learn from the child, to listen to the Scriptures with the child, to deepen your own enjoyment of God.

For more information, contact Mary Heinrich at 515-321-9440 or maryheinrich@cgsusa.org.

Single and Catholic?

What about the baptismal vocation we all have? Join us this June for a 4-week online interactive series that will help equip you to more fully discover and effectively live your baptismal vocation! Sign up today. For more information and to register please go to: <https://nationalcatholicssingles.com/mission-possible-living-your-baptismal-vocation/>.

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Fourth Sunday of Easter, May 8

Theme: Jesus knows us and calls us.

Reading I: Acts 13:14, 43-52 • Many became believers.

Reading II: Revelation 7:9, 14b-17 • The Lamb at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water.

Gospel: John 10:27-30 • I give my sheep eternal life.

Children: Jesus promises to guard us like a shepherd does the sheep. How do you experience his loving care in your life?

Youth: Jesus said "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me." How does Jesus speak to you? What new path is he asking of you?

Adults: What is your experience of being a follower of Christ, of being cared for and guarded with him as shepherd?