



St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073



Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time November 8, 2020

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,

As the end of the liturgical year approaches (Advent is about only three weeks away!), the readings at Mass focus on the end times. This Sunday, Jesus warns, "Stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour." While this may sound ominous, it does not need to be that way. We can have a healthy fear and respect for God such that we are prepared, or we can have an unhealthy fear that is crippling and lends to an impaired relationship with Him that puts our salvation at risk. Constant and consistent prayer and celebration of the sacraments are gifts from God that help us prepare. ~ Fr. 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
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Geneveve Loraditch - PreK-6 RE	gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org
Tracy Miller - PreK-6 RE	tmiller@saintmaryhc.org
Sue Schmidt - Music	sschmidt@saintmaryhc.org

Mass Schedule	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: Saturdays 4:00-4:30pm in **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.
Priesthood and Religious Life: See Diocesan website at <http://www.vocationsonline.org>.

Mass and Adoration

Tuesday, November 10

6:00pm St. Mary †*Cecilia Morton & Son, Mike*
~ followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday, November 11

5:30pm Holy Cross †*For all Veterans*

Thursday, November 12

8:00am St. Mary †*Rita Smith*

Saturday, November 14

5:00pm St. Mary †*Jerry Hanlon*

Sunday, November 15

8:00am Holy Cross *For the Parish*

10:00am St. Mary †*Norma Warner*

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!

Please Wear Your Mask!

When you come to Mass, please wear your mask. While you may not fear getting sick, it's an act of charity and love to do what we can to prevent others from getting sick. Thank you for doing all you can to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

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 for assistance.

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

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

Book of Remembrance ✝

We have our Book of Remembrance placed in the Sanctuary this month, but are doing it a little different this year. Please contact Barb (bliske@saintmaryhc.org/515-367-2685) with the names of your deceased loved ones that you would like remembered and prayed for during our Masses and she will write their names in this Book.

Help with Avenue of Flags for Veteran's Day

 Could you assist with raising the flags this Tuesday at 1:00pm and/or retiring them this Thursday at 1:00pm? Each session takes about 30 minutes. Please contact Lynn Schreurs, lschreurs@msn.com / 515-577-8147, for more information or to volunteer. In event of inclement weather, please contact Lynn.

Thanksgiving Mass

Please join us on Thanksgiving Day, November 26, for 9:00am at St. Mary, and give thanks to God for all He has given us!



A Prayer During Coronavirus

O God our Healer, show your compassion for the human family that is in turmoil and burdened with illness and fear.

Come to our aid, heal those who are sick, and protect their families and friends.

Grant us your spirit of love and self-discipline so that we respect one another.

Make us vigilant, attentive, and proactive in the eradication of all diseases.

Heal our self-centeredness and indifference that makes us worry only when the virus threatens us, help us not to ignore our neighbor.

Strengthen and encourage those in public health services and in the medical profession who commit themselves to caring for the sick and their families.

Inspire, give insight and hope to all researchers focused on developing a successful, safe vaccine.

Sustain all workers and business owners who suffer loss of livelihood.

Heal our world, heal our bodies, strengthen our hearts and our minds, and in the midst of turmoil, give us hope and peace.

Hold in your gentle embrace all who have died and who will die this day. Comfort their loved ones in their despair.

Hear our cry, O God. Listen to our prayer. Amen.

~ Adapted from Dirk Lang, Lutheran World Federation

Stewardship Committee
Meeting, Monday, Nov. 9, 6:00pm, Social Hall
Finance Council
Meeting: Tuesday, Nov. 17, 6:30pm, Social Hall
Parish Council
Meeting: Tuesday, Nov. 24, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Food Pantry Collection

Next weekend's collection benefits *The Blessing Box* in Elkhart. A basket will be set out by the tithe basket, or you may mail your donation to the office. Thank you in advance for your continued generosity for those in need.

Jobs Well Done!

Last Saturday, 22 of our Confirmation students teamed up with the Knights of Columbus for a day of community service. They cleaned and sanitized all the tables and chairs in the Social Hall, switched the electric pianos between St. Mary and Holy Cross and did quite a bit of yardwork for a few of our parishioners. Thank you all for your hard work!

Thank You

The Music Ministry thanks Nicole Cory, the Confirmation kids, Doug Jones, Gary Sesker and Garrett McClain for their help last Saturday in moving two electric pianos between St. Mary and Holy Cross! Their help and muscle is greatly appreciated!

Religious Education

Preschool - 6th Grade Coordinators

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

We are still in need of 45 sugar cookie pouches for the Holiday Food Boxes. Please consider donating and dropping them off at RE this week.

We only have two classes left before Thanksgiving, then we will be on break, with classes resuming January 12/13. It has been such a joy to share the faith with your children these past few months. While we will miss them during Advent, we hope this decision will help everyone stay healthy and peaceful as we await with joy the upcoming celebration of Christmas.

If your child is showing interest in receiving the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist, please plan to attend our Sacramental Prep parent meeting on Wednesday, January 6, from 6:30 to 8:00pm in the Ed Center.

November 10/11- Regular Sessions

— *sugar cookie pouches due*

November 17/18- Last Regular Session until January

November 19- Home Program Packet Pick-Up 6:00pm
Reconciliation/Mass (*Please RSVP to one of us for Mass*)

November 26- Happy Thanksgiving!

January 6- First Communion Parent Meeting 6:30pm,
Ed Center

January 12/13- Sessions Resume

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

EDGE Session Dates: Wednesdays, November 11 & December 2 & 9 6:00-7:30pm. *No EDGE on November 18, 25 or December 16, 23 & 30.* Please contact us if you have questions.

Youth Group Dates: Come join us November 11, December 2 & 9; plan to bring a friend, hang out, pray, and have some fun with your fellow SMHC teens, 7:45-9:00pm in the youth room.

PURPOSE (Confirmation 1 & 2, Grades 9 & 10)

Wednesday, November 18, 6:00 - 8:00pm: Confirmation Session, Social Hall.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adult (RCIA)

Are you yourself and/or do you know someone who would like to become Catholic and/or would like to know more about the faith? "The rite of Christian initiation [...] is designed for adults who, after hearing the mystery of Christ proclaimed, consciously and freely seek the living God and enter the way of faith and conversion as the Holy Spirit opens their hearts. By God's help they will be strengthened spiritually during their preparation and at the proper time will receive the sacraments fruitfully." *For further information please contact Fr. Andrew at fr.andrew@saintmaryhc.org or 515-367-2685.*

What would you do today
if you knew Christ was coming tomorrow?

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Doug Jones, *Chair* - djones@bossard.com
Will Bates - a_k_bates@live.com
John Fisher - Johnfisher@sienafastener.com
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FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS

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PARISH TRUSTEES

Sheri Fogarty - fogarty929@gmail.com
Doug Jones - djones@bossard.com

PARISH AMBASSADOR TO CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Mike and Mary Winders - Mwinde59@yahoo.com

Weekly Collection Financial Update

November 1 Budget Week 18

Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>
	\$7,860	\$4,860

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

<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
\$96,234	\$87,480	\$99,896

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.

<u>Parish Goal</u>	<u>Pledge Total</u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Amt. Due</u>
\$49,556	\$45,477	\$42,617	\$6,939

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's home page, <https://www.saintmaryhc.org/>.

VETERANS DAY

On Veterans Day we honor all,
Who answered to a service call.
Soldiers young, and soldiers old,
Fought for freedom, brave and bold.
Some have lived, while others died,
And all of them deserve our pride.
We're proud of all the soldiers who,
Kept thinking of red, white and blue.
They fought for us and all our rights,
They fought through many days and nights.
And though we may not know each name,
We thank ALL veterans just the same.



By Cheryl Dyson



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.

The Third Option

Meet some great people while spending time with your spouse at The Third Option. This is a program for couples that are hurting and for couples that want to make a good thing better! We go through 14 skill-based workshops that help couples develop better understanding, sensitivity and trust. We meet each second and fourth Monday of the month, from 7:00-9:00pm at All Saints Church, 650 NE 52nd Avenue in Des Moines.

Sounds of the Season



This has taken place at different area churches each year; this year it is scheduled to be held at the Elkhart Christian Church. As a church, they decided not to hold it in the traditional sense. They hope you will be excited about how they are doing it this year!

All talented members from our parish are asked to record themselves singing, playing an instrument, reading a poem, or whatever else you enjoy during the Advent and Christmas seasons. After you have recorded your performance (if on a jump drive), please mail it to Tim Butler at P.O. Box 97, Elkhart, IA 50073, (it will be returned to you) or you may email it to him at tjbutler317@gmail.com if it isn't too big. Members of their church will collaborate and turn all the recordings into a performance, which will be broadcast over Facebook, via live watchparty.

The deadline to submit your performance is Tuesday, December 1, with the live showing on Sunday, December 13.

If you need help with the recording you may also reach out to Tim Butler. If you have any questions or concerns you may contact Mary Jo Ward at eccsecretary@windstream.net or reach out to Tim Butler at above email.

Hope to see you singing and playing soon!



27,000 trees are felled each day to manufacture toilet paper.

Margaret of Scotland Queen and Mother, 1045-1093

Margaret was born in Hungary, the daughter of royal parents. Brought to the court of King Edward the Confessor in England when she was twelve, she and her family were forced to flee after the Battle of Hastings in 1066. Shipwrecked off Scotland, they were befriended by King Malcolm of Scotland who married Margaret in 1070.

Margaret and Malcolm had six sons and two daughters. Contrary to the general practice of royalty in that time, Margaret took charge of raising and educating her children. The youngest son, Saint David of Scotland, succeeded his father and two older brothers as king. One daughter, who became known as Good Queen Maud, married King Henry I establishing a line which runs through the present royal family of England.

King Malcolm was good-hearted, but rough and uncultured. Because of his love for Margaret, she was able to soften his temper and she became his advisor in state matters. It was said that the main goals of Malcolm and Margaret were to maintain justice, to establish religion, and to keep their subjects happy. Margaret encouraged arts and education in her adopted country and instigated religious reform. With her husband, she founded several churches.

Despite her heavy involvement in the affairs of her household and her country, Margaret led an austere private life. She ate sparingly and slept little in order to have time for her devotions. She and her husband kept two Lents - one before Easter and one before Christmas. At these times, Margaret, often joined by Malcolm, would arise before midnight to attend Mass. On her way home, she would tend to the poor. Margaret was always surrounded by beggars and never refused them. Especially during Advent and Lent, Margaret and her husband often fed hundreds of poor people, serving them the same food that they had for their own meal.

Saint Margaret is the patroness of Scotland. She is honored by an optional memorial on November 16.

Margaret's message today: A heavy responsibility falls on those who have been given exalted positions. Now, as Margaret did then, we must provide for those who are less fortunate than ourselves.

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time, November 8

Theme: We must always be ready.

Reading I: Wisdom 6:12-16 • Wisdom seeks those who seek her.

Reading II: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 • The dead will participate in Jesus' return.

Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13 • Readiness is essential for the end time.

For Children: If Jesus came to your house today, what would you do to get ready for him?

For Youth: Even though you are still young, what strategy do you have to make sure you are "ready" for the inevitable moment when you will die?

For Adults: How are you preparing to be ready for that moment that no one escapes, the moment when you come to the end of your life as you know it now?