



# St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073

**Love  
God  
Love  
Others**



## Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 31, 2021

## Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 7, 2021

*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.*

### Practice or The Game?

While visiting with my friend Angie a while ago, she shared a conversation she had with her three sport loving boys while driving one day.

I asked my boys, "What do you think is more important, the practice or the game?"

Like normal I ask a question and I get three different answers! "the game"... "the practices"... "both are important." "Why?" I asked. "The game is important because that is the whole point", our oldest says. Next chimes in our youngest, "the practices are more important because that is where you learn." Our middle son says with the most confidence "It's both! The practices are important because if you don't practice, you won't know how to play the game. But, the game is a little more important because that is what it is all for!"

So, I asked, "Would you go to a game if you had never gone to practice?" "No way!"... "How would we know what to do?"... "How would we know who was on our team?" "What if you went to every practice and then it was time for your game and we were too busy to go? Or just too tired?" They laugh, "That's crazy!"... "Why would we skip the game?"... "Why would you say that?"

"Well... think of church on Sunday as the game and our Wednesday atrium as the practice. Each week we go to the atrium and we practice. We learn the parts of mass and what they mean, we learn how to sit quietly and listen to God, we learn about Jesus and how he loves and calls us and we meet our friends and catechists so we know who is on our team. If we miss Atrium, we miss all that. Then each Sunday we have our big game. We go early to prepare for the game by calming our minds, we say hi to all our teammates and we participate by listening, singing and receiving the sacrament. If we miss Church, it's like missing the big game. There was a pause of silence and I prayed this message went deep in their hearts."

As she shared this with me, I couldn't help but think about how adults need practices too. We need time to grow, learn, pray, and build our community "team". Jesus is always waiting for us in the church on Wednesday nights for Mass, "a game" and Adoration, "a practice". ~ Tracy Miller (co-coordinator of pre-school through 6th grade religious education)

## 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	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; after 9:00am First Friday Mass 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:** ww.vocationsonline.org

## Mass, Reconciliation and Adoration

**Monday November 1 All Saints Holy Day**  
8:00am Mass, St. Mary †For the Parish  
6:00pm Mass, St. Mary †Deceased Parish Members

**Tuesday, November 2 All Souls Day**  
5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross †Mark Hanlon

**Wednesday, November 3**  
4:45 - 5:15pm Reconciliation, St. Mary  
5:30pm Mass, St. Mary †Mary Maxwell  
~ followed by Adoration

**Thursday, November 4**  
8:00am Mass, St. Mary †Jerry Hanlon

**First Friday, November 5**  
9:00am Mass, St. Mary †Doris Olson

**Saturday, November 6**  
4:00 - 4:30pm Reconciliation, St. Mary  
5:00pm Mass, St. Mary †Bill Devereux

**Sunday, November 7**  
8:00am Mass, Holy Cross †Craig Hand  
10:00am Mass, St. Mary For the Parish

**Tuesday, November 9**  
5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross †Jim & Margaret Shaw

**Wednesday, November 10**  
4:45 - 5:15pm Reconciliation, St. Mary  
5:30pm Mass, St. Mary †Elsbeth Noel  
~ followed by Adoration

**Thursday, November 11**  
8:00am Mass, St. Mary †For all Veterans

**Saturday, November 13**  
4:00 - 4:30pm Reconciliation, St. Mary  
5:00pm Mass, St. Mary †Mark Schmidt

**Sunday, November 14**  
8:00am Mass, Holy Cross †Francis Hanlon  
10:00am Mass, St. Mary For the Parish

## Welcome To Our New Member!



We welcome **Pete Schmieding of Bondurant** to our Parish family!

## All Saints Holy Day and All Souls Day †

Masses for the Holy Day of All Saints are Monday, Nov. 1, 8:00am and 6:00pm at St. Mary. This is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year as it falls on a Monday, but you are encouraged to attend Mass to celebrate our saints. We commemorate all the faithful departed on All Souls Day, Tuesday, Nov. 2 with 5:30pm Mass at Holy Cross.

**Church Sign: Stop Worrying; God's Got It.**

## Covid Reminders

The Diocese is recommending, not requiring, masks for parishioners over the age of five during all indoor liturgies and other indoor parish events. Masks are required for all clergy and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion during the distribution of Communion. We have masks and hand sanitizer available. If you wish to receive Communion on the tongue, please receive from Fr. Andrew (he sanitizes after each). *For Diocesan updates please go to:*  
<https://www.dmdiocese.org/resources/worship/coronavirus>.

## Lead Us, Lord

Lord,

Lead us from death to life,  
From falsehood to truth.

Lead us from despair to hope,  
from fear to trust.

Let peace fill our hearts,  
our world and our universe.

Let us dream together,  
pray together and work together,  
to build one world of peace  
and justice for all.

Amen.

## Stewardship Committee

Meeting: November 8, 6:00pm, Ed Center

## Finance Council

Meeting: Nov. 16, 6:30pm, Social Hall

## Knights of Columbus

Nov. 21: 6:40pm Rosary, Church, 7:00pm Meeting, Hall

## Parish Council

Meeting: November 23, 6:30pm, Social Hall

*The Parish Office has varied hours through November 5. Please call or email to be sure someone is here before stopping by. Fr. Andrew will be available off and on during this time, so please call or email him first. Always contact him in an emergency – no matter day or time.*

## Upcoming Events

- †**Sunday, Oct. 31:** Coffee & Donuts after 8:00am Mass
- †**Thursday, Nov. 4:** Blood Drive 3:00-7:00pm, Social Hall
- †**Weekend of Nov. 6/7:** Buildings & Grounds Collection
- †**Saturday, Nov. 6:** Wine & Cheese after 5:00pm Mass
- †**Weekend of Dec. 4/5:** Work Of Our Hands Festival:  
Saturday, 3:00-4:45pm and after Mass til 7:00pm and  
Sunday, after 10:00am Mass til 12:30pm
- †**Monday, Dec. 6:** Fellowship time for ladies of the  
parish following 6:00pm Mass, St. Mary

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

## Blood Drive



There's no substitute for REAL human blood and it is always in great demand! Consider donating at our drive on Thursday, November 4, 3:00 to 7:00pm in the Social Hall. Donors 16 or 17 years old need a permission form at their first donation; forms are available at St. Mary. You can sign-up to donate there, too, or find that form or sign-up at <https://www.lifeservebloodcenter.org>. We hope to see you there!! After you donate, have a beverage and parishioner's homemade treats! Questions, contact Lisa and Tim Kautza, [kautza@netins.net](mailto:kautza@netins.net); 515-964-7687.

## Book of Remembrance



During November this Book will be in the Sanctuary. You are invited to write in the names of your deceased loved ones to be remembered at our Masses.

## 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

It was so much fun to see everyone's costumes at Trunk or Treat. It was great to gather as a community.

Regular sessions resume this week.

Due to lack of interest, we are currently suspending our parent group at 6:30 on Wednesday nights. Stay tuned for other adult faith opportunities in the future.

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

### Upcoming Schedule

**Nov. 1 - All Saints Day, attend Mass**

**Nov. 3/5 - Regular Sessions**

**Nov. 10/12 - Regular Sessions**

**Nov. 17/19 - Regular Sessions**

## 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

### Grades 9 & 10, Confirmation Coordinator

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

### EDGE (7th & 8th Grades)

**November 3 Session:** Night of Service. Watch for a Remind App message or Facebook post for more details regarding this session.

**EDGE & Youth Group will not gather Nov. 10, 17 or 24** due to Confirmation, NCYC and Thanksgiving holiday.

We will meet again on December 1.

### Purpose (9th & 10th grades)

Our Confirmation Program is seeking volunteers. If you or someone you know would like to join our team, please contact Nicole Cory.

Please register your 9th/10th grader for Confirmation.

**10th Grade only: Teens/Sponsor Prayer Stations:**

Available Saturday, Nov. 6, 10:00am to 3:00pm and Sunday, Nov. 7, 11:00am to 2:00pm, in the Social Hall

**Next Session:** November 10, 6:00-8:00pm, 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!



## Christmas Eve Choir

We are happy to announce that there will be a Christmas Eve choir this year. If you would like to sing in this choir, please plan to attend choir practices on Sundays November 21, December 5, 12 and 19 immediately following 10:00am Mass. Practices will last one hour. All ages and skill levels are welcome to sing and we would love to have you join us. Please contact Sue Schmidt at [sschmidt@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:sschmidt@saintmaryhc.org) or 515-689-9949 if you would like to join or have questions.

## PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

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

## 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)  
John Fisher - [Johnfisher@sienafastener.com](mailto:Johnfisher@sienafastener.com)  
Diane Gannon - [ddkgannon@gmail.com](mailto:ddkgannon@gmail.com)  
Doug Jones - [djones@bossard.com](mailto:djones@bossard.com)

## STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Arlene Anderson - [arlene@4andersons.com](mailto:arlene@4andersons.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 - [shawcattle77@gmail.com](mailto:shawcattle77@gmail.com)  
Mike and Mary Winders - [mefothergill@yahoo.com](mailto:mefothergill@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)

## K of C Coats for Kids Drive



We are teaming up with the Collins-Maxwell School District to provide winter coats for children in need. If you have a clean, slightly used winter coat you can spare, please consider donating it. New coats are welcome as well! Drop-off bins are at St. Mary's and Holy Cross. If you have any questions, feel free to call Jon Hand at 515-291-8814 or Cory Schoening at 515-360-4824.

## Weekly Collection Financial Update

October 24 Budget Week 17

	Received	Budget
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund	\$1,996	\$5,642

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

Received	Budget	Last Year
\$89,748	\$95,914	\$86,074

## 2021 Annual Diocesan Appeal

Parish Goal	Payments	Unpaid Pledges	Refund
\$51,038	\$52,837	\$3,693	\$1,799

Thank you to those who have been so generous to this year's assessment. Additional monies received from those paying on their pledges will be refunded to the parish!

**Fall Back!** Daylight Savings Time ends Sunday, Nov. 7. Turn your clocks back one hour!






## "Move the NCYC Bus"

On November 18, 19 SMHC parishioners will embark on an amazing pilgrimage to Indianapolis to attend the National Catholic Youth Conference, traveling by charter bus for 500+ miles to join 15,000 others! We plan to participate in daily Mass, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Reconciliation, worship, music and attend sessions that feature incredible Catholic speakers, dynamic story tellers, fantastic musicians and lovers of faith. We have been blessed with support; with your generosity we've almost reached our financial goal. Our fundraiser, "Move the NCYC Bus" will be after Masses November 6/7 and 13/14. We ask that you prayerfully consider purchasing \$1 "ticket(s)" to sponsor "miles along the trip to Indianapolis". Stop by our table after Mass those weekends to learn more! Thank you for your love, prayers and support! **God IS good, ALL the time!**

## Help With *Avenue of Flags* for Veteran's Day

 Could you assist with raising the flags at Holy Cross on Thursday, Nov. 11 at 10:00am and/or retiring them at 5:00pm that day? Each session lasts about 30 minutes. If rain is forecasted we will not put the flags up. Thank you!


## Work of Our Hands

Parishioners can showcase their businesses or sell products at our Work Of Our Hands Festival, December 4 & 5 at St. Mary's Social Hall. Parishioners who are service providers, hobbyists, or willing to provide their service or goods for a fee or barter are welcome to participate and exhibit their goods or services. Contact Lisa Kautza at [kautza@netins.net](mailto:kautza@netins.net) or 515 - 964-7687 or text at 515-238-5557 if you'd like to participate or for more information before November 15.

## Thank You!

A huge "thank you" to the SMHC Confirmation students and accompanying adults for their yard work last Saturday. We appreciate the opportunity to be part of such a giving and loving community. ~ *Marion and Steve Panyan*

## Ladies of the Parish.....

You are cordially invited to join us for Mass on Monday, December 6 at 6:00pm followed by some fellowship. More details to come, but please SAVE the Date! We can't wait to mingle (and jingle) with you. 

## Liturgical Ministers

We are looking for lectors, ushers and Host distributors for our Masses. Training provided. If you have questions or are interested in serving, please contact Fr. Andrew at [Fr.Andrew@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:Fr.Andrew@saintmaryhc.org). Thanks for considering this!

## National Vocation Awareness Week Nov. 7-13

Please continue to pray for an increase in vocations for priests, sisters, deacons and all consecrated life. Prayer is a moving force in vocation development; it's powerful, it's effective; it's essential. Few are called to priesthood or religious life, but all are called to pray for vocations.

Please pray with us: *Lord, your Church is in need. Touch the hearts of many within our parish with the desire to serve you. Call forth from this community sisters, brothers, deacons, priests and lay leaders. Help us to live lives that will nurture childhood trust into adult commitment. May this parish be a source of hope and a source of ministers for your Church, your people and your world. Amen.*



Recycling a single aluminum can saves enough energy to power a TV for 3 hours.

## 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.*

## 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

## Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

### Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time, October 31

*Theme: Live the First Commandment.*

*Reading I:* Deuteronomy 6:2-6 • Be blessed by keeping the Commandments.

*Reading II:* Hebrews 7:23-28 • Jesus makes intercessions for us.

*Gospel:* Mark 12:28b-34 • Love the Lord with all your heart, soul, mind and strength; and love your neighbor as yourself.

*For Children:* How often do you put God first in your life? Do you think you can love others as much as you love yourself?

*For Youth:* What do you think Jesus meant when he said to the scribe, "You are not far from the reign of God"?

*For Adults:* Which of the Greatest and New Commandments should you improve on in your own life?

### Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time, November 7

*Theme: We must give to God until we have given enough.*

*Reading I:* 1 Kings 17:10-16 • The jar of flour shall not go empty.

*Reading II:* Hebrews 9:24-28 • Christ takes away our sins.

*Gospel:* Mark 12:38-44 • She gave from her want.

*For Children:* What part of your own possessions are you called on to share?

*For Youth:* When you think of your own life, do you consider yourself to be rich or poor? How do you spend your money? Is there anything you should be doing differently?

*For Adults:* When do you know that you have given away enough?