



St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073

Mercy

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 13, 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,

To forgive is to be like God. This does not mean that we will ever be gods ourselves. However, such action on our part imitates his own generous action. And generous is a gross understatement. Consider that He is the king in the Gospel reading this Sunday and we are the debtor, owing Him a "huge" amount (the original Greek is translated to "ten thousand talents," referring to an amount of money that is impossible to be paid). The debt is incurred because of our sin. Even though He is in no way obligated to do so, He forgives us when we beg for it. Then we are meant to visit it upon others. If God wants mercy and forgiveness for us all, who are we to deny it for others, even ourselves?

It has been encouraging to celebrate Mass the last couple weeks with religious education families. Please pray that they settle in well and everyone remains healthy as they learn more about God and draw closer to Him.

As I type this article, the floor of the social hall is being stripped and waxed. If you are so inclined, be sure to check it out, but please do not christen it by spilling something on it!

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
Fr. Andrew Windschitl	Fr.Andrew@saintmaryhc.org
Sarah Baumberger - Bookkeeper	sbaumberger@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

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

Monday, September 14 Feast of the Holy Cross

5:30pm Holy Cross †Will & Mikey Carpenter

Tuesday, September 15

6:00pm St. Mary †Charlie Brendeland

~ followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday, September 16

5:30pm Holy Cross †Keith Dittmer

Thursday, September 17

8:00am St. Mary †Doris Olson

Saturday, September 19

5:00pm St. Mary †Colleen Hindman and
son, Lee Hindman

Sunday, September 20

8:00am Holy Cross †Stephen & Mike Carpenter
10:00am St. Mary For the Parish

Welcome To Our Parish Family!



Tim and Candy Miller, who live in Cambridge

Eric and Rachel Manley and their children Abraham, Rose, Clara, Grace, Esther, Leo, Mary Margaret, Fulton, Samuel and Pauline, who live in Colfax

David and Crysta Green and daughters Noelle, Elsa and Lucy, who live in Ankeny

Joseph and Sandy Ortiz, who live in Bondurant

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.

Mass at Holy Cross, Sunday, Sept. 20

Families attending with last names of A - I.

Please join us at St. Mary if unable to attend at Holy Cross.

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

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

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 or Holy Cross and on our website. We are glad you are here!

SMHC High School/College Students & Adults

We are in need of volunteers to assist with our EDGE program. If you are interested in helping and could spare 3-6 hours a month we would LOVE your help! If you are interested in learning more or want to help, please contact Melissa, 515-290-2830 or Andrea 515-240-5059. We will be happy to share information about our EDGE program with you. We have had a wonderful EDGE core team in the past and look forward to adding new people. Thank you for considering helping grow our young church!

In Sympathy and Compassion

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Bill Devereux, Father of Lisa Jones and Mike Devereux, Grandpa of Patrick, Olivia and Thomas Jones and Joe, Emily and Abigail Devereux, who passed away September 2. May he be at peace with our Lord and his family know the compassionate presence of Christ in their time of loss.

✠ Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord, ✠
and let perpetual light shine upon him.

When This Is Over

When this is over,
may we never again take for granted
A handshake with a stranger
Full shelves at the store
Conversations with neighbors
A crowded theatre
Friday night out
The taste of communion
A routine checkup
The school rush each morning
Coffee with a friend
The stadium roaring
Each deep breath
A boring Tuesday
Life itself.

When this ends,
may we find that we have become
more like the people
we wanted to be
we were called to be
we hoped to be
and may we stay
that way--better
for each other
because of the worst.

- Laura Kelley Fanucci

Stewardship Committee

Monday, Sept. 14, 6:00pm, Social Hall

Finance Council

Meeting: Tuesday, Sept. 15, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Crafts and Social Time

Thursday, Sept. 17, 9:30pm, Social Hall

Parish Council

Meeting: Tuesday, Sept. 22, 6:30pm, Social Hall

YOU Are Needed!

Our Religious Education Team is still in need of catechists to help out on Wednesdays; two catechists at 5:15 and one at 6:45. If you are willing to help, please email Genevieve, gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org, or Tracy, tmiller@saintmaryhc.org as soon as possible so we can brief you on our plan for the year! Thanks for your consideration!

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.

Religious Education

Preschool - 6th Grade Coordinators

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

Religious Education has begun! We kicked off our year with each session having an opening Mass. It was so nice to see all of the families and to join together in worship! We look forward to a special year. Amidst all this craziness, it is good to take an hour (or two!) to spend time growing in our knowledge and love of the Lord.

All families from last year who have not registered, we can plan to have you enrolled in our At Home Program. If it is not your wish to be enrolled in the At Home Program, please let us know. Otherwise, please send your registration form in at your earliest convenience. This form was emailed or can be found on our website. The first At Home Packet can be picked up at the opening Mass on Sept. 24 at 6:00pm or in the vestibule through Sept. 27.

Due to the limited space we will not be accepting walk-in registrations the first day of class.

Upcoming Schedule

September 15/16- Good Starts, Toddler through 3rd Grades (see calendar for times)

September 22- Regular Session: All classes meet

September 23- Good Starts, Toddler through 3rd Grades (see calendar for times)

September 24- 6:00pm Home Program opening Mass

September 29/30- Regular Session: All classes meet

Registration Form: <https://www.saintmaryhc.org/RE%202020-2021%20Registration%20form.pdf>

Calendars: [https://www.saintmaryhc.org/Religious%20Education%20Calendar%202020-2021%20\(3\).pdf](https://www.saintmaryhc.org/Religious%20Education%20Calendar%202020-2021%20(3).pdf)

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 (7th & 8th graders) families! It will be a blessing to have our EDGE kids back together next week. Parents, please attend our Parent (only) meeting this Wednesday, Sept. 16, at 6:00pm in the Social Hall at St. Mary.

Our first EDGE session with the students will be Wednesday, Sept. 23 from 6:00-7:30pm. Please contact one of us if you have questions; our contact information is above. *Blessings, Melissa and Andrea*

C 1 & C 2 - PURPOSE (Grades 9 & 10)

If you have not registered your child, please do so as soon as possible.

We are looking for program volunteers.

2020/21 Parent Meeting: Wednesday, Sept. 16, 7:15pm in the Social Hall at St. Mary. For safe practices we ask that only one parent attend and there is no need for children to attend. We will go over everything with them during the first session.

First Session: Wednesday, Sept. 30, 6:00 - 8:00pm in the Social Hall at St. Mary.

Church Sign

A world of love makes a world of difference.

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Doug Jones, *Chair* - djones@bossard.com

Will Bates - a_k_bates@live.com

John Fisher - Johntfisher@sienafastener.com

Tim Loraditch - Tloraditch@gmail.com

John Roberts - jroberts@huxcomm.net

Stacey Rooney - Rooneyslg17@gmail.com

FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Dave Pottebaum, *President* - pottebaum5@msn.com

Heidi Ackerman - heidimdittmer@gmail.com

Diane Gannon - ddkgannon@gmail.com

Doug Jones - djones@bossard.com

Laurie Phelan - Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com

Sue Tollefson - suet@iowacubs.com

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Arlene Anderson - arlene@4andersons.com

Jacki Ausman - jackiausman@gmail.com

Kathy Gass - kathygass68@gmail.com

Beth Hart - mrsmathart@gmail.com

Kelly Hoffmeier - nkhoff@msn.com

Tammi McClain - tammimcclain71@gmail.com

Kris Sturtz - klsturtz@gmail.com

Sue White - charylmyron@q.com

John Zidon - jzidon@msn.com

CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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

Karen Bellis - puzzlenuts@aol.com

Pat Bishop - pjbishop@midiaowa.net

Lowell Crouse - l3jl@windstream.net

John Freeman - johnfmingo@hotmail.com

Tracy Irwin - irwin@partnercom.net

Lynn Schreurs - lschreurs@msn.com

Larry Shaw - lshaw@tru-test.com

Mike and Mary Winders - Mwinde59@yahoo.com

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

	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget (est.)</u>	
Tithes/Plate/	\$5,958	\$4,520	August 30
Youth/Bldg. Fund	\$2,828	\$4,520	Sept. 6

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

<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
\$52,291	\$42,500	\$50,727

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	\$42,477	\$39,057	\$10,027

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.

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 via phone at 515-367-2685 or via e-mail at fr.andrew@saintmaryhc.org.

Thank You's

Thank you to my church family. I would be no where without you. *Karla Seeman and Family*

St. Mary-Holy Cross:

Thank you very much for your continued support! We are thankful for your donations. *~The Blessing Box*

Love Your Neighbor – They (We) Need Your Help

What safer and easier way to serve others these days 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 in our parish social hall. And, 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 about an hour with the actual donation taking only about 10 minutes. According to LifeServe the results of our August blood drive "were much lower than they have been in a very long time." Many regular donors were unable to attend and there were no new donors this time. Only 24 units (72 lives affected) were collected and our average is 38 (114 lives affected). So, we hope if you're a past donor or a potential new donor that you will sign-up for our next drive Thursday, November 5 from 3:00 – 7:00pm. Appointments are required for added safety. Sign-up on the St. Mary Church vestibule bulletin board or online at lifeservebloodcenter.org (see below). Volunteers and treats for the canteen are needed for the drive. Please contact Lisa and Tim Kautza if you can help (515-964-7687 or kautza@netins.net).

To schedule an appointment, visit <https://www.lifeservebloodcenter.org/>. Select "Donate;" then select "Schedule Your Donation;" then "Schedule a Donation Now;" then "Sponsor Name Search;" then enter "Elkhart;" then "Search;" then Elkhart Community should show up then select "Schedule;" then pick an available time and either log in or create an account. If you have difficulties or questions, please call LifeServe Blood Center 800-287-4903 and tell them you wish to sign up to donate at the Elkhart Community Blood Drive November 5.

Thank you to the following who came to donate and/or volunteered at the August drive: Beth Hart, Janet Stewart, Karen Stafford, Bridget Smith, Scott Schaffer, Andrea Fisher, Amanda Eichmeier, Kathy Petersen, Tawna Kerr, Judy Sesker, Denise Northrop, Lindsey Haefner, Doug Jones, Larry Mitchell, Kelly Muth, Connie Passmore, Jill Swanson, Sue White, Jean Miller, Craig Ellyson, Tim and Lisa Kautza, Kathy Daup, Suzette Bartleson, Jen Koudelka, Mark Block, Patrice Hudson, Shannon Golwitzer, Susan Pratt, Angela Schaffer, Michael Lenz, Ron McWilliams, Sharon and Bill Dunbar, and Dona Cowman.



More than 28 billion glass bottles and jars end up in landfills every year -- that is the equivalent of filling up two Empire State Buildings every three weeks.



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 the one it is for to be on our prayer chain.*

Christ Our Life Conference

This legendary Catholic conference is Sept. 26 & 27! You can purchase a ticket to attend in person at Wells Fargo or a ticket to livestream the conference. **We hope to be able to livestream it here at St. Mary;** we will have more details next week. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$15 for students. If you purchase an in person ticket, you can switch it to an online ticket. *Contact parishioners Dona Cowman (515-383-4482 / racefans@iowatelecom.net) or Heidi Ackerman (641-203-5322 / heidimdittmer@gmail.com) with questions or to buy tickets.* For conference details go to <https://www.christourlifeiowa.com/>.

The Retirement Income Expert

Tom Hegna, CLU, ChFC, CASL, an award-winning author, speaker and economist will conduct the virtual seminar *Don't Worry, Retire Happy!* one night only this Thursday, Sept. 17 at 7:00pm. This seminar is free to the faithful with pre-registration required. Tom will hit on topics like medicare, medicaid, taxes and social security. He will also discuss valuable information on the use of life insurance, annuities and long term care insurance. To register please email daniel.ginther@kofc.org or call 515-460-3411. This seminar is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Insurance of Iowa.

St. Joseph Catholic School is Enrolling Now!

If your child attends a public school, we are offering a Welcome Tuition Grant to attend St. Joseph's. This grant entitles each child to \$1,000 off tuition the first year and \$500 off tuition the following year. We would love to schedule a tour! Please contact Jodi Halligan for more information, 515-

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Sept. 13

Theme: We are called to forgive others as Jesus forgives us.

Reading I: Sirach 27:30-28:7 • Forgive your neighbor's faults, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.

Reading II: Romans 14:7-9 • Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35 • I did not say to forgive seven times but seventy times seven.

For Children: Jesus says we should forgive from our heart. When did you ask forgiveness of someone you hurt? How did you feel?

For Youth: Jesus challenges us to forgive. Who needs your forgiveness? From whom do you need to ask forgiveness?

For Adults: Jesus tells us to forgive seventy times seven, which means always and forever. Name a time this past week when you forgave someone. Name, too, a time when you accepted another person's forgiveness.