



St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073



Second Sunday of Advent December 10, 2017

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

Dear Friends in Christ,

In December of 1980 six men from Forest Lake, Minnesota, unknowingly started a men's directed, Charismatic retreat that would live on for 35 years. Out of the men attending the retreat, 15 went on to be ordained Deacons.

The retreat was attended by men, many of whom were broken in spirit and by the world. Then-layperson-and-Viet Nam-veteran Gary Houle was the first to enter the diaconate and be ordained. Gary went on to encourage many other men, and in particular myself, also a fellow Viet Nam combat veteran, and wrote a letter of recommendation to the Des Moines Diocese for me when I discerned my call to enter the diaconate. I was ordained in 2010 in Des Moines and was vested by Deacon Houle and my wife Diana as part of the sacrament.

Don Tienter first attended the retreat the same year as I. In addition to receiving direction as part of the retreat, we, and two other men, met to share our faith and hold each other accountable to that faith. I had continued to encourage Don to consider the diaconate, and four years ago I wrote a letter of recommendation to the Archdiocese of St. Paul supporting Don's entry into formation. This weekend, December 9, 2017, Don will be ordained a Deacon in the Archdiocese of St. Paul. I and Don's wife Maria will be vesting him. Coincidentally, timewise, the retreat (which is no longer continuing) was always held the first week of Advent.

This retreat had always been a powerful and Spirit-filled opportunity for men to be reintroduced to the Holy Spirit and to bring Christ into their lives. Many tears were shared at those retreats and a lot of spiritual growth was experienced by all who attended. Henry Nouwen refers to such persons as being "Wounded Healers." Blessings, Deacon Terry

Parish Information

Parish Phone	515-367-2685
Fr. Dan Krettek	515-423-2888
Deacon Terry Schleisman	515-669-6158
Parish General Email	smhc@saintmaryhc.org
Parish Fax	515-367-7028
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Parish Facebook Site	St. Mary's Holy Cross Parish-Elkhart
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Deacon Terry Schleisman	tschleisman@saintmaryhc.org
Adult Faith Sharing	
Nicole Cory - Confirmation	ncory@saintmaryhc.org
Stacie Hergenreter - PreK-6	shergenreter@saintmaryhc.org
Melissa Kahler - RE, 7th-12th	mkahler@saintmaryhc.org
Barb Liske - Secretary	bliske@saintmaryhc.org
Celeste Muehlenthaler - Music	cmuehlenthaler@saintmaryhc.org
Peter Relyea - Bookkeeper	prelyea@saintmaryhc.org

Mass Schedule	Wednesday	5:30pm	Holy Cross
	Thursday	8:00am	St. Mary
	First Friday	8:00am	St. Mary
	Saturday	5:00pm	St. Mary
	Sunday	8:00am	Holy Cross
		10:00am	St. Mary

Reconciliation: Saturdays 4:00 - 4:30p.m. St. Mary

Baptism: Contact the Parish Office about a preparation program

Marriage: Contact the Parish Office at least six months prior to the proposed wedding date

Priesthood and Religious Life: See Diocesan website at www.dmdiocese.org/vocations.cfm

Masses

Wednesday, December 13

5:30pm Holy Cross †Larry Ackerman

Thursday, December 14

8:00am St. Mary †Leo & Rosemary Overmohle

Saturday, December 16

5:00pm St. Mary †Ron Odgaard

Sunday, December 17

8:00am Holy Cross †John Iliff

10:00am St. Mary For the Parish

Children's Liturgy of the Word during this Mass.

2:00pm St. Mary **Advent Reconciliation Service**

Dec. 23/24 Weekend Masses

Saturday, Dec. 23, 5:00pm, St. Mary

Sunday, Dec. 24, **9:00am**, St. Mary

No morning Mass at Holy Cross

Christmas Eve Masses

5:00pm, St. Mary

7:00pm, Holy Cross

Christmas Day Mass

9:00am, St. Mary



Join us to celebrate the birth of Christ!

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



Advent Reflection Resources
We have booklets for kids, young adults, families and adults available in the vestibule. This is a time of looking forward and waiting for something greater; both for celebrating Christ's birth, and for the time when He comes again.

Stations of the Nativity

Children of the parish are invited to take part in this performance at Holy Cross after Mass next Sunday, December 17. Practice is this Sunday, December 10 after 8:00am Mass. Please contact Michele Hand (515-387-1417 or handjm06@msn.com) with names and ages of children wanting to participate.

MANY Liturgical Ministers Are Needed!

Volunteers are needed for our Masses next weekend and for Masses through January 1. A sign up is available at each Church; please volunteer where able. You may also contact the Parish Office to volunteer. Thank you!

Advent Reconciliation Service

Jesus, the Prince of Peace, sets our hearts free from the burden of sin through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Come join your fellow brothers and sisters in Christ for our Advent Reconciliation Service next Sunday, December 17 at 2:00pm, to celebrate His love and forgiveness. We will have additional priests here to assist with individual confession.

Unable to attend our Service? Here are other area services:

Our Lady's Immaculate Heart, Dec. 10, 3:00pm

Christ the King, Dec. 10, 7:00pm

St. Theresa, Dec. 11, 7:00 pm

Assumption (Granger), Dec. 13, 6:30pm

St. Pius X, Dec. 14, 7:00pm

St. Anthony, Dec. 16, 9:00am

Ss. John & Paul, Dec. 18, 7:00pm

† Pastoral Assistance

Please contact Fr. Dan Krettek, 515-423-2888, or Deacon Terry Schleisman, 515-669-6158, for pastoral assistance or if a family member is in a care facility, home-bound, or hospitalized, and they wish a visit.

Sunday Scripture Prayer and Study

Wednesdays, Dec. 13, 20 & 27, 7:00pm, Conference Room

Meditative Prayer Time

Saturdays, Dec. 16, 23 & 30, 8:00-9:00am, Office

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday, December 21, 7:00pm, Holy Cross

Pastoral Council

Next meeting to be announced.

Finance Council

Meeting: Tuesday, January 16, 7:00pm, Conference Room

Stewardship Committee

Meeting: Tuesday, December 12, 6:00pm, Office Area

Knights of Columbus

Meeting: Sunday, December 10, 7:00pm, Social Hall

Funeral Luncheon Call Leaders, Team 1

Jean Bruns, Kristi Edleman, Kim Remsburg

Coming Events

- † **Sunday, Dec. 10:** Practice for *Stations of the Nativity* after 8:00am Mass at Holy Cross. Performance is Dec. 17 after Mass at Holy Cross
- † **Monday, Dec. 11 & 18:** "Mourning Coffee Club", 10-11am, Conference Room
- † **Dec. 16/17 Weekend:** Food Pantry Collection for Catholic Charities Emergency Family Shelter
- † **Thursday, Dec. 21:** Crafts, Games & Social Time, 9:30am, Social Hall

Music News

Music Coordinator: Celeste Muehlenthaler

515-577-9394 / celestemu@msn.com

Would anyone consider discussing with me the feasibility of having benches in the choir loft? Also, making them for us if it's a good idea? I'm trying to fit more people in the choir loft, and looking for ideas. Would like to have them for Christmas Eve Mass. Thanks for your consideration!

Choir Practices: Deo Gratias Choir (adults), Sundays after 10am Mass December 10 & 17. **Good News Singers (children)**, Wednesdays, 6:00pm December 13 & 20 in the Church and Sunday, December 17 after 10am Mass.

Food Pantry Collection

Our collection next week is for Catholic Charities Emergency Family Shelter. They are in most need of monetary donations with which they will purchase needed supplies at a reduced cost. Thank you for your continued generosity in sharing with those in need.

In Sympathy and Compassion

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Bill O'Brien, father of Chris Sauer, who passed away last Sunday, and for the family as they mourn his passing.

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

Religious Education

PreK-6, Stacie Hergenreter, Catechetical Leader
shergenreter@saintmaryhc.org, 515-491-3876

For class this week we are collecting ****Toys for Tots**** (new unwrapped toys). Please place toys under the tree in the RE Center. Toys will only be collected that night as they will be dropped off on December 14 to then be distributed throughout the Des Moines community.

The Knights of Columbus poster contest ends December 13 so participants must bring their creations with them to class that evening. Our EDGE students will judge them that night.

Class on December 20 will be a *Birthday Party for Jesus* and it will be from 6:00-7:00pm (both sessions together).

Grades 9 & 10, Nicole Cory, Confirmation Coordinator
ncory@saintmaryhc.org, 515-313-3014- texts welcome!

Upcoming Confirmation Sessions , 6:00 - 7:30pm

Dec. 17: 9th Grade - Lesson 6 — 10th Grade - Lesson 17
Jan. 7: 9th Grade - Lesson 7 — 10th Grade - Lesson 18

Also coming January 21: "Bridge The Gap" A teen/parent workshop to explore generational differences in a fun way!
More details to come!

Grades 7-12, Melissa Kahler, Youth Coordinator
mkahler@saintmaryhc.org, 515-290-2830

EDGE 7th & 8th graders, 6:00-7:30pm, Social Hall

Dec 13: *Abraham- Our Hope and Our Promise*
Dec 20: EDGE Christmas Party

S.T.O.R.M. 9th-12th graders, 7:45-9:00pm, Youth Room

Dec 13: *Youth Group Game Night*
Dec 20: *"Ugliest or Most Festive Sweater" Christmas Party*

Parish & Friends Bereavement Group

The "Mourning Coffee Club" meets Monday, December 11 & 18, 10:00am in St. Mary's Conference Room. We offer a supportive community of fellowship as we learn about the process of grieving and how to become more comfortable during this difficult period of readjustments. Come discover where you are in your journey; and if you've successfully closed that window, come and share the tools you've used in times of crisis.

Contact Paula Garoutte with your interest and questions,
paulasongbird@msn.com or 515-306-6633.

Christmas Flower Memorial

Your gift will be a beautiful remembrance at St. Mary and Holy Cross during the Christmas season. A memorial list of your loved ones will be printed in a future bulletin.

*Flower donation envelopes are included with your tithe envelopes or are available in the vestibule.
Please return your donation by December 18.*

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Garrett McClain - 515-685-2314 -Alleman- gmccclain@iowatelecom.net
Lori McQuiston - 515-249-7663 - Maxwell- mcquiston@midiaowa.net
Sheri Olson - 515-967-5663 - Bondurant - lowasheri@gmail.com
Cory Schoening - 515-964-7403 - Ankeny-cschoeni@nationwide.com
Mark Schmidt -515-402-9949-Ankeny-mark1.schmidt@centurylink.net

FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Shaun Magill, *Co-President*-515-205-3934-shaunkrismagill@gmail.com
Dave Pottebaum, *Co-President*-515-710-8932-pottebaum5@msn.com
Karen Bellis - 515-360-1465 - Ankeny - puzzlenuts@aol.com
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Sue Tollefson - 515 208-0536 - Cambridge - suet@iowacubs.com

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Arlene Anderson - 515-967-6770 - arlene@4andersons.com
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Paula Garoutte - 515-306-6633 - paulasongbird@msn.com
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Sue White - 515-967-2996 - charylmyron@q.com
John Zidon - 515-967-3367 - jzidon@msn.com

CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Laurie Phelan, *Chair* - 515-201-6111 - Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com
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Mike and Mary Winders - 641-227-3346 - Mwinde59@yahoo.com

PARISH TRUSTEES

Anne Davis - 515-967-7477 - annedavis06@gmail.com
Joe Dunham - 515-967-5118 - joedunham11@msn.com

PARISH AMBASSADOR TO CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Anne Davis - 515-967-7477 - annedavis06@gmail.com

Weekly Collection Financial Update

December 3 Week 23

	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Guests	\$3,046	\$5,234

Year-to-Date

	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Guests	\$113,271	\$120,374	\$118,187

Annual Diocesan Appeal

Pledge cards are available in the vestibule or donate on the Diocesan website: <http://www.dmdiocese.org/ada-online-giving-instructions.cfm>. Thanks to those who have pledged!

<u>Parish Goal</u>	<u>Pledge Total</u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Balance Due</u>
\$ 56,442	52,041.64	\$ 51,091.64	\$ 5,350.36

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, contact Barb at 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.*

