



St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073



Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 17, 2019

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,

The best part about being a priest is celebrating Mass, especially on the weekends and interacting with you as you come and go. Probably the next best part is celebrating the sacrament of Baptism, many of which we have recently experienced. It is very encouraging to see the parish grow (and know that I have job security!).

Another sacrament that Christ himself instituted is that of Reconciliation. Even though it is not as popular as other sacraments, we still owe it to him and ourselves to celebrate it more often. Please inform me what might be better times to offer it.

On a lighter note, to parrot a joke going around online, the groundhog lied! Apparently, the rodent predicted an early spring this year, but we did not get the memo. This seemingly constant barrage of winter weather can take a toll on people. Very hard though it may be, strive to remain hopeful. Ultimately, we hope to be with God for eternity, but that does not mean we cannot hope for warmer temperatures and finer weather. Pray for this gift from Him! ~ Fr. Andrew

Parish Information

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| Parish Phone | 515-367-2685 |
| Fr. Andrew Windschitl | 515-367-2685 |
| Deacon Terry Schleisman | 515-669-6158 |
| 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 |
| Deacon Terry Schleisman | tschleisman@saintmaryhc.org |
| Adult Faith Sharing | |
| Nicole Cory - Confirmation | ncory@saintmaryhc.org |
| Andrea Fisher - RE, 7th-12th | afisher@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 |
| Dave Ortega - Bookkeeper | dortega@saintmaryhc.org |

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|----------------------|--------------|---------|------------|
| 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 - 4:30p.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 <http://www.vocationsonline.org>

Masses and Adoration

Tuesday, February 19

6:00pm St. Mary †Rick McQuiston
~ followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday, February 20

5:30pm Holy Cross †Jim & Margaret Shaw

Thursday, February 21

8:00am St. Mary †Ralph & Neva Cory

Saturday, February 23

5:00pm St. Mary †Ron Odgaard

Sunday, February 24

8:00am Holy Cross †Bill Davis
10:00am St. Mary †John Olejniczak

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesdays, 6:30pm, St. Mary (following 6:00pm Mass)
Thursday, February 21, 7:00pm, St. Mary

RCIA Gatherings

Sundays following 10am Mass: Feb. 17 (Ed Center),
Feb. 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 (Conf. Room)

Cross Ministry

Meeting: Tuesday, February 26, 6:30 - 8:00pm, Social Hall

Finance Council

Meeting: Tuesday February 19, 7:00pm, Social Hall

Stewardship Committee

Meeting: Tuesday, March 19, 5:30pm, Office Area

Knights of Columbus

Meeting: Sunday, March 17, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Funeral Luncheon Call Leaders, Team 5

Mary Cory, Kelly Muth

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!

Pastoral Assistance †

Please contact Fr. Andrew, 515-367-2685, for pastoral assistance or if a family member is in a care facility, home-bound, or hospitalized, and they wish a visit.

8th Graders, Save the Date!

Next Sunday, February 24 is our mandatory retreat. We begin with 10:00am Mass at St. Mary and will end at 5:30pm. For more information please contact Melissa Kahler, 515-290-2830 or Andrea Fisher, 515-240-5059.

Candidates For Joining Our Faith



This year, St Mary-Holy Cross Parish community has two candidates who have been involved in the RCIA process since last fall. They are Gavin Cory and Jeremy Schuler. Both have been baptized in other Christian faiths. It is their plan, and our hope, that they will continue on until the Easter Vigil, at which time they will be brought into Full Communion with the Catholic Church. Please keep Gavin and Jeremy in your prayers.

On Sunday, March 10, at 10:00 Mass, they will go through the Rite of Sending. That Rite will send them forth to attend the Rite of Election/Call to Continuing Conversion to be held later that day at St. Ambrose Cathedral, celebrated by Bishop Pates. The Rite of Election/Call will have catechumens (those not yet baptized) and candidates from throughout the Diocese of Des Moines present for their election and the call to continue their own faith journey.

Crafts, Games and Conversation!!



Join us for this great time of fellowship this Thursday, 9:30am in the Social Hall!

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.*

Upcoming Events

†**Sunday, Feb. 17:** Hall in use before/after 10am Mass

†**Thursday, Feb. 21:** Crafts, games and social time, 9:30am, Social Hall

†**Sunday, Feb. 24:** Coffee & donuts after 8:00am Mass

†**Sunday, Feb. 24:** 8th Grade Retreat begins with 10:00am Mass and concludes at 5:30pm, St. Mary

Music News



Music Coordinator: Celeste Muehlenthaler
515-577-9394 / celestemu@msn.com

Are you an instrumentalist? God is calling your name right now! Instrumentalists are needed for Easter Vigil Mass, April 20, 8:15pm, for First Eucharist, April 28, 2:00pm, and for Confirmation, May 5, 2:00pm. We also need an accompanist for our Easter Vigil. Please contact Celeste if you can help with any of these. God bless you for thinking about it!!



Ash Wednesday

We begin our Lenten journey March 6. Our Masses are 8:00am and 6:30pm at St. Mary.

—We are in need of Liturgical Ministers for these Masses. A sign up is in St. Mary's vestibule, or contact the Parish Office to volunteer. Thank you.

Stations of the Cross Leaders and Meal Hosts

Please volunteer to lead the Stations of the Cross one Friday during Lent and/or prepare and host a Lenten meal after Stations on March 29 or April 12. A sign up is in the vestibule at St. Mary or contact the Parish Office to volunteer. Thanks!

Food Pantry Collection

Please bring non-perishable food items to Mass next weekend; we will also take up a monetary collection. Thank you for your continued generosity in sharing with those in need. Your donation assists Catholic Charities Food Pantry.

2018 Annual Diocesan Appeal

We continue our second collection at Masses next weekend in an attempt to meet our obligation for this Appeal. Any amount collected above the Goal is refunded to the Parish by the Diocese and does not negatively impact us in any way. Please consider giving or increasing your donation to the ADA. Thank you for your support of this effort.

Religious Education PreK-6

Stacie Hergenreter, Catechetical Leader

shergenreter@saintmaryhc.org, 515-491-3876

We will not have regular class on March 6 as that is Ash Wednesday. Mass will take the place of class and all children should be in attendance at Mass.

Up Coming Dates:

Feb. 20 - No Class

***Feb. 27** - Combined Sessions 6:00-7:00pm for Mardi Gras Party in the Social Hall

***March 6** - 6:30pm Ash Wednesday Mass replaces classes

March 13 - Class

March 20 - No Class

March 27 - Class

First Eucharist Dates:

March 29 (4-8pm) and March 30 (8am-5pm) - Self Guided Learning Stations set up in the Ed Center. Families can come during a time that works for them.

***April 28 - First Eucharist Mass, 2:00pm, St. Mary

Altar Server Refresher Training courses continue for our current servers. Times are being decided and communicated to each family. Thank you for getting your children to the trainings.

S.T.O.R.M. Report

Grades 7-12 Youth 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) Sessions: 6:00-7:30pm, Social Hall

Feb. 20 - NO EDGE

8th Grade Retreat: Sunday, February 24

Feb. 27 - EDGE teens host Mardi Gras Party for RE kids

Families, please sign up to help with meals. If you were not sent an email for the SignUpGenius, let Andrea know.

C1 & C2 (9th & 10th Grades)

Sunday, March 3 - Confirmation Prep Session, **11:00am -**

12:30pm, Social Hall. 9th Grade: Lesson 8

10th Grade: Lesson 20

S.T.O.R.M. 9th-12th graders

Retreat Team Meetings (Youth Area/Ed Center)

-Wednesday, Feb. 20, 6:00-8:30pm

-Thursday, Feb. 21, 6:00-8:00pm (if needed)

-Friday, Feb. 22, 6:00-9:00pm, Dress Rehearsal & Pizza

-Saturday, Feb. 23, Time TBA. Retreat/Environment prep

-Sunday, Feb. 24, RETREAT. Meet at 9:15am in Ed

Center; attend Mass as a team. We will wrap up by 6pm.

Thank You!

I would like to say "Thank You" to a group of people that shared their time with me to decorate St. Mary's for this past Christmas Season: Julia Fisher, Andrew Ausman, Deacon Terry, Gregg Richwine, Kathy Gass, Arlene, Todd, Rylie & Justine Anderson, Andrew Cory, Father Andrew and Brody McCoun. We pray that God will bless you as much as you've blessed us. We thank Him for your gifts, shared from a heart of love. We pray He will touch all your hearts in a very special way and fill you more with His love, each and every day. Thank you! ~ Jackie Ausman

Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a great battle.

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Garrett McClain - 515-685-2314 -Alleman- gjmcllain69@gmail.com
Sheri Olson - 515-967-5663 - Bondurant - lowasher@gmail.com
Cory Schoening - 515-964-7403 - Ankeny-cschoeni@nationwide.com
Mark Schmidt -515-402-9949-Ankeny-mark1.schmidt@centurylink.net

FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Heidi Ackerman - 641-203-5322 - Huxley - heidimdittmer@gmail.com
Doug Jones - 515-367-4402 - Elkhart - djones@bossard.com
Rita McClain - 515-249-6841 - Bondurant - mcclainrj@hotmail.com
Laurie Phelan - 515-201-6111- Maxwell - Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com
Dave Pottebaum, Co-President-515-710-8932-pottebaum5@msn.com
Sue Tollefson - 515 208-0536 - Cambridge - suet@iowacubs.com

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Arlene Anderson - 515-967-6770 - arlene@4andersons.com
Nicole Cory - 515-313-3014 - ncory@saintmaryhc.org
Paula Garoutte - 515-306-6633 - paulasongbird@msn.com
Beth Hart - 515-515-306-4916 - mrsmatthart@gmail.com
Kelly Hoffmeier - 515-975-7865 - nkhoff@msn.com
Tammi McClain - 515-290-3904 - tammimcclain71@gmail.com
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
Karen Bellis - 515-360-1465 - puzzlenuts@aol.com
Pat Bishop - 515-387-1391 - pjbishop@midiaowa.net
Lowell Crouse - 515-387-9530 - l3jl@windstream.net
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Mike and Mary Winders - 641-227-3346 - Mwinde59@yahoo.com

PARISH TRUSTEES

Anne Davis - 515-967-7477 - annedavis06@gmail.com
Doug Jones - 515-367-4402 - djones@bossard.com

PARISH AMBASSADOR TO CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Anne Davis - 515-321-7558 - annedavis06@gmail.com

Collection Update is not available this week.

2018 Annual Diocesan Appeal

If you made a pledge but have not paid in full, please do so as soon as possible as these amounts due are not included in what we are collecting for now. Thank you for your continued generosity to the Diocese and our Parish.

Tithing

Thank you to those who have recently signed up for ACH and to those who have increased their monthly amount!! If you don't use this type of tithing, please consider it. You designate a monthly dollar amount to be withdrawn from your account on a pre-determined date. Questions? Contact parish bookkeeper Dave Orgeta, dorgega@saintmaryhc.org or 515-367-2685.

Fish Fry Fridays

The Knights of Columbus invite you to join them for a Fish Fry in the Social Hall from 5:00-7:00pm on Fridays, March 8, 22, and April 5. The menu remains the same as last year. Price is a free-will offering. Take-out containers are available, or bring your own if you'd like. If you're interested in helping out, please contact Jon Hand at jon79hand@gmail.com or 515-460-0050.

Liturgical Ministers

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

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| Announcer | Arlene Anderson |
| Lector | Lisa Jones |
| Cup Bearers | Mike & Patty Devereux |
| Host Distributor | Di Schleisman |
| Altar Servers | Justin Anderson, Emily Devereux, Abigail Devereux |
| Ushers | Doug & Thomas Jones, Mike & Joseph Devereux |

Sunday, February 24, 8:00am, Holy Cross

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| Announcer | Anne Davis |
| Lector | Karen Bellis |
| Cup Bearer | Tony Kuehn |
| Altar Server | Isabella Kuehn |
| Ushers | Bill & Shirley Jorgensen |

Sunday, February 24, 10:00am, St. Mary

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| Announcer | Matt Miller |
| Lector | Matt Miller |
| Cup Bearers | Tom Ausman, Carol Weber |
| Host Distributor | Jacki Ausman |
| Altar Servers | Jackson & Joel Waters, Sawyer Smeltzer |
| Ushers | Bill & Kelly Dunbar, Doug Zehr, Andrew Cory, Dave Pottebaum |

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Money Counters

Feb. 17: Lisa Kautza, Sue White

Feb. 24: Dona Cowman, Kathy Daup

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Ss. John & Paul Parish Mission with Sarah Hart

Grace in our Lives, Music in our Hearts, and Praise on our Lips. All are invited to our intergenerational mission with stories, song and prayer! Sarah's signature blend of music welcomes and delights listeners of every age. Her extraordinary storytelling engages young and old alike! Come at 6:00pm for refreshments in the parish hall; the program is 6:30-8:00pm in the church. This is a family-friendly event! For more information, call Ss. John & Paul office at 515-967-3796.

Beat the Winter Blues!

Start thinking about the best week of your summer and register for Catholic Youth Camp! This is for anyone in 3rd grade to High School Seniors! Come and enjoy a week of adventuring in the outdoors while you grown in faith and friendship. Register NOW! More Information and registration at STMCCENTER.com. *Financial aid is available.* Here's a link to a YouTube promotional video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xKBbBfKZEh0>.

Our parish pays \$100 towards the fee of each child of the parish who attends CYC!

Recycling Drop Off

Stuff Etc. on First Street in Ankeny (behind Wells Fargo) accepts the following items for recycling: small electronic items, cords, wires, straighteners, hair dryers, small radios, cell phones, Christmas lights, MP3 players, iPods and tablets and chargers, headphones, vacuums, tube TVs, computers and larger electronics. For more information call the store, 515- 964-4444.



There is no limit to the amount of times aluminum cans be recycled. Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to run a TV for three hours; or the equivalent of a 1/2 gallon of gas.

Winter Weather Cancellations

When North Polk School is cancelled, dismissed early, or evening activities are cancelled due to weather, classes, meetings and activities here at the Parish will be cancelled as well. In most instances, Masses - both daily & weekend - will not be cancelled, so please use your own judgment. If the need to cancel weekend activities arises, this information will be on the three major TV networks & WHO radio.

Young Catholics of Des Moines (YCDM)

Dedicated to building community through faith, we meet weekly (usually Thursdays) to celebrate and grow in our faith with one another. This community draws from all parishes in the Des Moines area, and is dedicated to helping young adults grow to be more and more connected not only to YCDM but to the parishes of our Diocese. No need to sign-up, register, or "officially" be a part of YCDM--if you're a young Catholic, you're in! Come to all the events every month, or just come to the ones that strike you.

Thursday, Feb. 21: Movie Night: "The Mission", at Sacred Heart Parish Center (1627 Grand Ave. WDM), 7:30pm. John Pridmore will be speaking about his amazing story upstairs at Sacred Heart at 6:15pm with a fun cocktail hour.

Never been to one of our events? New to the area? Have questions? Reach out to hosts of this event: David Reising, dreising91@gmail.com, or Rebecca Johll, rajohnn04@gmail.com. Com, to hear more about this growing community!

Steubenville 2019

Sign up now for this retreat held on July 26-28 in St. Paul, MN. Cost is \$307 (six meals, two T-shirt's, transportation, housing and retreat fee). See informational flyer on the bulletin board. An invoice form is on the table; to register please fill out this form, include a \$50 nonrefundable deposit with it and place it in the box on that table or in the collection basket at Mass. For questions please contact Andrea Fisher, afisher@saintmaryhc.org/515-240-5059.

See Diocesan events and job openings at www.dmdiocese.org and offerings sponsored by St. Joseph Ed Center at www.sjeciowa.org

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, February 10

Theme: Trust in Jesus, the way to true happiness.

Reading I: Jeremiah 17:5-8 • Happy are those who trust in God.

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20 • Christ is raised from the dead.

Gospel: Luke 6:17, 20-26 • Happy, blessed, are the poor, whose reward is great in heaven.

Children: How do you experience God's blessing in difficult times, when you are sad, hungry, or when friends reject you?

Youth: How does trusting in God make a difference in your life?

Adults: In today's Gospel, we are reminded that we will be either blessed or have woe done unto us. It's a challenging teaching! Which half of this Gospel reading applies to you?