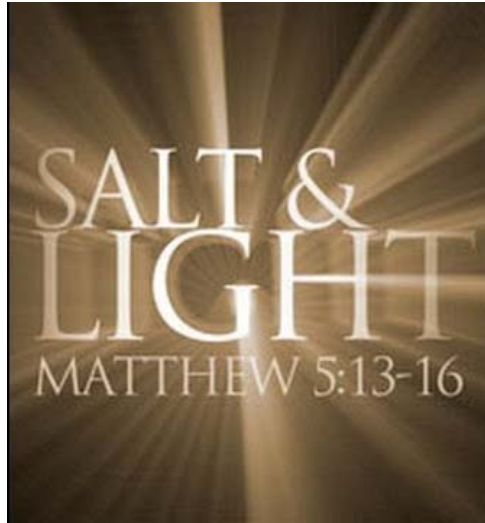




St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 4 & 5, 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 comfort they experience knowing the Parish Community is praying for them. Please join us in this sacred prayer.

Dear Friends in Christ:

As announced and publicized recently, Chris Norton will be here Monday, February 13th to talk about his recovery from a spinal cord injury he suffered in a college football game in 2010. With the support of his family and Community, and the strength of his personal Christian faith, Chris continues to overcome the results of his injury, and has been called an "expert when it comes to resolving challenges and achieving goals." We are most fortunate to get on his speaking schedule. We initially requested that he come on a Wednesday, to speak during the regular Religious Education class time, but his full schedule couldn't accommodate this. So, Religious Ed classes for that week have been moved to Monday, February 13th with all grades meeting together in the Parish Hall for his talk. The Religious Ed students are the primary audience we've asked Chris' to address, but all are welcome to join them during their "adjusted" class time that evening. The Knights of Columbus are generously providing pizza for the evening, which will be served beginning at 6PM, before Chris' talk at 6:30. Please let Barb know that you will be coming so adequate seating and food can be planned. Fr. Dan

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
Parish Web Site	www.saintmaryhc.org
Parish Facebook Site	St. Mary's Holy Cross Parish-Elkhart
Fr. Dan Krettek	dkrettek@saintmaryhc.org
Deacon Terry Schleisman	tschleisman@saintmaryhc.org
Adult Faith Sharing	
Nicole Cory - Confirmation	ncory@saintmaryhc.org
Melissa Kahler - RE, 7th-12th	mkahler@saintmaryhc.org
Barb Liske - Secretary	bliske@saintmaryhc.org
Tammi McClain - RE, PreK-6	tmcclain@saintmaryhc.org
Celeste Muehlenthaler - Music	cmuehlenthaler@saintmaryhc.org
Peter Relyea - Bookkeeper	prelyea@saintmaryhc.org
Sonya Staudt - RE, PreK-6	sstaudt@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, February 8

5:30pm Holy Cross †Will Carpenter

Thursday, February 9

8:00am St. Mary †Lorraine Ross

Saturday, February 11

5:00pm St. Mary †Ron Odgaard

Sunday, February 12

8:00am Holy Cross †Lyle & Frances Pulley
10:00am St. Mary For the Parish

Welcome To Our New Members!



Alyna Harrington who lives in Maxwell

Connor Johnson who lives in rural Maxwell
and

Cassie Reising who lives in Elkhart

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

Iowa-Developed Lenten Reflection

Please let us know before Feb. 10 if you'd like a copy of *Caring for Our Common Home: A Lenten Reflection for Iowans*. Developed through the Iowa Catholic Conference, this daily, personal reflection book takes an Iowa perspective in exploring God's creation while reflecting on selections from Pope Francis' letter *On Care for Our Common Home*, and deepening your appreciation for the web of creation. Preview it on our parish website <http://www.saintmaryhc.org/on-care-for-our-common-home>, then contact Barb Liske in the Parish Office before February 10 to request a copy.

Old Palms

There is a container in the vestibule if you would like us to dispose of your blessed palms from last year.

"Evening of Wonder"

Please join us on Wednesday, February 22, 6:00pm in the Social Hall for an "Evening of Wonder". This is an Adult Faith gathering during the PreK-6 RE Mardi Gras party (6-7pm) in the Ed Center. At 7:00pm, all adults and kids are invited to join together for a meal in the Social Hall. Please RSVP to Nicole Cory, ncory@saintmaryhc.org / 515-313-3014, with number of adults and children attending the meal.

Thank You

Dear Church Members,

Thank you very much for your generous donation of \$600.00 for our shelter. Your support is much appreciated.

Sincerely, St. Joseph Shelter Staff & Guests

Sunday Scripture Prayer and Study
Wednesdays, February 8, 15 & 22, 7:00pm, Conf. Room

Meditative Prayer Time

Saturdays, February 18 & 25, 8:00-9:00am, Parish Office

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday, February 16, 7:00pm, St. Mary

Pastoral Council

Meeting: To be announced

Finance Council

Meeting: Tuesday, February 21, 7:00pm, Conference Rm.

Stewardship Committee

Meeting: Tuesday, February 7, 6:00pm, location TBA

Knights of Columbus

Meeting: Sunday, February 19, with 1st Degree, 6:30pm,
Social Hall

Funeral Luncheon Call Leaders, Team 6

Jenny Koudelka, Kate Rutledge, Karla Seeman

Coming Events

†**Monday, Feb. 13:** *The Power To Stand* presentation by Chris Norton, 6:30pm (Pizza at 6:00pm), Social Hall; RSVP to the Parish Office

†**Thursday, Feb. 16:** Crafts, Games & social time, 9:30am, Social Hall

†**Weekend of Feb. 18/19:** Food Pantry collection for St. Mary's Family Shelter

†**Wednesday, Feb. 22:** Adult Faith gathering, 6:00pm, Social Hall, then joint meal with RE kids at 7:00pm

†**Thursday, Feb. 23:** Friends of St. Francis gathering, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Music News

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

We have been "Singing from the Rafters" about once a month, up in the choir loft. We've been having lots of fun while we help lead our sung prayer from upstairs. We welcome singers of all ages! We meet up in the choir loft one hour before Mass begins. Information on when we sing upstairs is usually in the bulletin or you may contact me. Please come join us! We'd love to have you!!

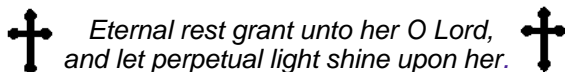
We welcome Maria Gorham and Stacey Rooney to our awesome group of cantors! Maria sang for the first time in December and Stacey will begin in February. Thanks so much to them for answering the call to share their musical talents!

There has been a call for a funeral choir. I have one person who has already said they would be interested. Are you available during the day? We'd like to have several people who would be available to sing during the day at funerals. This would not be a huge time commitment and it means so much to the families. Please contact me if you'd be willing to help with this.

The Diocesan Office for Worship is presenting a workshop for cantors, psalmists, music ministers and anyone interested in learning about the role of a cantor. The workshop is offered on Saturday, February 11 at Sacred Heart Parish, 1627 Grand Avenue in West Des Moines and Saturday, February 18 at St. Mary's Parish, 1510 Highland Avenue in Red Oak, and runs from 9:00am until Noon. Contact me if you want to attend and we can car pool.

In Sympathy and Compassion

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Clita McHone, mother of Dave McHone, who passed away January 27. Pray she finds peace with God and that her family is comforted during their time of grief.



Religious Education

PreK-6: Co-Catechetical Leaders

Tammi McClain, tmcclain@saintmaryhc.org, 515-290-3904
Sonya Staudt, sstaudt@saintmaryhc.org, 515-710-4583

Monday, February 13: Please join us for a meal and Chris Norton's talk "The Power of Faith...When Tragedy Strikes" at 6:00pm in the Social Hall. RSVP to the Office. (No class on Feb. 15th)

PreK-6th grade will be having a Mardi Gras Party on Wednesday, February 22 from 6:00-7:00pm. *This is a time change from our regularly scheduled class.* There will be an Adult Faith gathering in the Social Hall during the party and then kids and adults join together for a meal. RSVP to Nicole Cory, ncory@saintmaryhc.org / 515-313-3014, with number of adults and children attending the meal.

We are collecting coloring books, puzzle books, (both child and adult) crayons and colored pencils for the Ronald McDonald House this month. Please leave your donations in the Ed Center. Thank you for your support!

On March 3, the 4th-6th graders will be leading the Stations of the Cross. Please join them. Enjoy the Knights of Columbus' fish fry before or after the Stations of the Cross.

Catholic Youth Camp registration is open. Please visit <https://stmcenter.com/catholic-youth-camp>.

Parents of 2nd Graders: Please mark your calendar to attend a parent meeting on Wednesday, March 8, regarding your child's upcoming Sacrament of First Eucharist.

RE Fees: Reminder letters were sent to those who opted to make payments; please submit your payment as soon as possible. Thank you to those who have made their payment.

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

C1 & C2 - Next Sessions: Sunday, February 5 after Mass and donuts, 11:15am - 1:00pm. Note time change due to Super Bowl.

We will have some makeup sessions on Saturday, February 11. Please be looking for more information in your email inbox.

Monday, February 13, 6:00pm: Please join us for a meal and Chris Norton's talk "The Power of Faith...When Tragedy Strikes." RSVP to the Office.

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

EDGE: 6:00 - 7:30pm, Social Hall

February 8: Washed Clean - Reconciliation.

February 15, No Session, instead please join us for a meal and Chris Norton's talk "The Power of Faith..." on Monday, February 13, 6:00pm in the Social Hall. RSVP to the Office. *continued...*

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 - 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

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
Doug Jones - 515-367-4402 - Elkhart - djones@bossard.com
Laurie Phelan - 515-201-6111- Maxwell -Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com
Rita McClain - 515-249-6841 - Bondurant - mcclainrj@hotmail.com
Sue Tollefson - 515 208-0536 - Cambridge - suet@iowacubs.com

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Arlene Anderson-515-967-6770 -Bondurant -arlene@4andersons.com
Susan Genalo - 515-367-3033 - Elkhart - sagenalo@yahoo.com
Beth Hart - 515-515-306-4916 - Maxwell - mrsmatthart@gmail.com
Bill Sexton - 515-829-8995 - Ankeny - billsxtn@gmail.com
Sue White - 515-967-2996 - Bondurant - charylmyron@q.com
John Zidon - 515-967-3367 - Bondurant - 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
John Freeman - 641-363-4462 - johnfmingo@hotmail.com
Tracy Irwin - 515-771-3071 - sammyjack@partnercom.net
Lynn Schreurs - 515-577-8147 - lschreurs@msn.com
Larry Shaw - 515-720-3587 - lshaw@tru-test.com
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

No report received for January 29

EDGE *continued...*

Save the date! Sunday, February 26, is our MANDATORY 8th grade retreat. We begin with 10:00am Mass at St. Mary and will end at 5:00pm.

Life Night/Life Teen: 7:45-9:30pm, Youth Area

February 8: Distorted

No Session February 15, instead please join us for a meal and Chris Norton's talk "The Power of Faith...When Tragedy Strikes" on Monday, February 13, 6:00pm in the Social Hall. RSVP to the Office.

Retreat Team Meetings for 8th Grade Retreat

Sundays, Feb. 12, 19, 6:00-9:00pm, Youth Area and Ed Center
Wednesdays, Feb. 15 & 22, 6:00-9:00pm, Youth Area
Friday, Feb. 24, 6:00-9:00pm, Dress Rehearsal & pizza
Saturday, Feb. 25, Time TBA. Retreat Prep and Retreat Environment
Sunday, Feb. 26, RETREAT. Meet at 9:15am in the Ed Center; attend Mass as a team. Will wrap up by 6:00pm.

Liturgical Ministers for Next Weekend

Saturday, February 11, 5:00pm Mass, St. Mary

Announcer	Di Schleisman
Lector	Lorrie Lengel
Cup Bearers	Melanie Stoner, John Zidon
Host Distributor	Jerry Barnwell
Altar Servers	Lauren De Costa, Grace Fisher, Julia Fisher
Ushers	Mark Lengel, Drew Hanlon, Mike Devereux, Mark Birchmier

Sunday, February 12, 8:00am Mass, Holy Cross

Announcer	Celia Shedd
Lector	Doug Heger
Cup Bearer	Mike Phelan
Altar Server	Kelcie Shedd
Ushers	Lynn & Chris Schreurs

Sunday, February 12, 10:00am Mass, St. Mary

Announcer	Joe Dunham
Lector	Tracy Kangas
Cup Bearers	Lori Dunham, Jacki Ausman
Host Distributor	Tom Ausman
Altar Server	Christianne Ledet, Andrew Ausman
Ushers	Thom Hamm, Merle Olberding, Brian, Will & Mya Pottebaum, Andrew Cory

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

Money Counters

February 5: Dawn Reynolds, Sue White

February 12: Lisa Kautza, Tracy Havener

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Networking of Parishioners



If you have an eco-friendly business or service, re-purpose items, have skills, knowledge or interest in the environment or other aspects of improving our common home, *we'd like to know who you are.*

Do you want to share your interest with others (by a display or in a sharing activity); *we want to know who you are.*

Do you want to teach others about your skill or hobby (how to start a butterfly garden, beekeeping, prairie restoration, how to re-purpose items, why we should eat farm fresh eggs....); *we want to know who you are.*

Do you have a vested interest in an organization that we should know about? *We want to know who you are and what is the organization.*

We will be compiling a list of people as contacts. Please send your name, contact info and brief description of your service/skill to Robin Olberding at rolberding58@gmail.com.

We will also be compiling a list of organizations that accept donations of goods. If your resolution is to reduce items in your home, we'd like to help with that by providing other alternatives to the landfill. *Thank you!*

Want To Strengthen Your Marriage?

The Third Option is an on-going support group for marriages to help couples develop better understanding, sensitivity and trust. It's for those facing obstacles and those just trying to make a good thing better! Come join a community focused on the skills that make a marriage thrive! We meet the first and third Monday of each month, 7:00-9:00pm in the Mercy Hospital Conference Room (1111 6th Avenue, East Tower). For more information, please visit <http://www.dmdiocese.org/the-third-option.cfm>.



To produce each Sunday's newspapers, 500,000 trees must be cut down.

Recycling a single run of the Sunday New York Times would save 75,000 trees and if all newspaper was recycled, we could save 250,000,000 trees annually!

The Poor and the Earth Are Crying Out!

Mark Sunday, March 26 after 10:00am Mass on your calendar to enjoy lunch, prayerful guided reflection, song, conversation, and interesting exhibits that will help you heed Pope Francis call to care for God's creation. Join Matt Halbach from St. Joseph Educational Center and Hannah Landgraf from Iowa Interfaith Power & Light, who will guide adults and bring your children to experience activities that will open their and our eyes to God in all creation. We'll decide individually what we each will do to respond to Pope Francis and learn of an exciting parish-wide activity to care for our common home this spring. Watch the bulletin, display boards, and our website <http://www.saintmaryhc.org/on-care-for-our-common-home>, for more information.

Prayer Chain

If illness or a crisis strikes your family or friends, don't hesitate to contact the Parish Office, 515-367-2685 or bliske@saintmaryhc.org, so members of our Parish may offer prayers for your needs. *If the request is for someone else, please ask their permission to be on our prayer chain.*

Winter Weather Cancellations

Whenever North Polk School is cancelled, dismissed early, or evening school activities are cancelled due to weather; events here at the Parish will also be cancelled. If there is a need to cancel weekend activities, it will be on TV channels, 5, 8, & 13, and on WHO radio and KWKY Catholic Radio.

Widowed, Separated or Divorced?

How do you cope? How do you deal with the grief, loss and pain? *Beginning Experience* can help. You do not need to suffer alone; we have walked the path you are facing now and will help you discover new hope and meaning in your life. Our *Open Houses* (Fridays, Feb. 10, 17 & 24, 7:00 to 8:30pm, St. Augustin Church Hall, DSM) give you the beginning steps toward healing, and are also an invitation to you to attend our *Beginning Experience Weekend* March 10-12. If you wish to know more about the healing process, contact Dana Reed, 515-975-3745, Mike Losee, 515-360-8266, or Father Bob Schoemann, 515-418-1938.

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, February 5

Theme: We are all called to be children of the light.

Reading I: Isaiah 58:7-10 • True holiness is found in right relationships with one another.

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 2:1-5 • Become transparent to let God's light shine through.

Gospel: Matthew 5:13-16 • Salt is another image of holiness, and saltiness is given by God.

Question for Children: What can you do to bring the light of Jesus into the lives of your family, friends, and people you meet?

Question for Youth: How do you feel when Jesus says that YOU are the salt of the earth and that YOU are called to be the light for others?

Question for Adults: What specific efforts do you take to maintain your light? Do you let your light dim? Why?