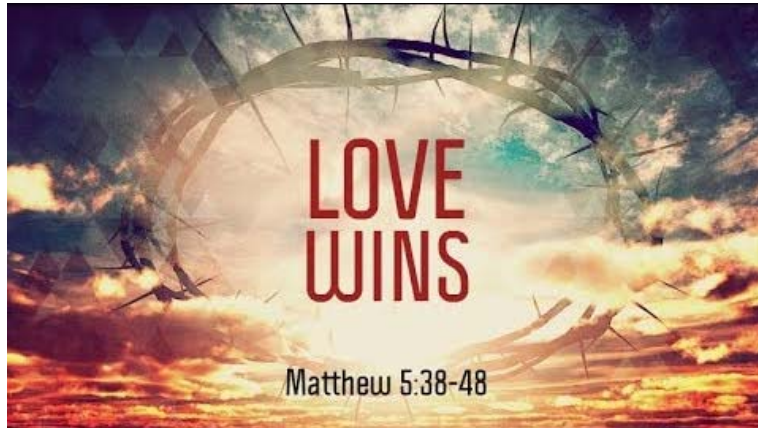




# St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073



## Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 23, 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,

Ash Wednesday, Jesus reminds us in the gospel reading that prayer, fasting, and almsgiving are essential practices of Christians. By carrying these out not to show off but with the appropriate interior disposition, we please God. I encourage you to prayerfully think about and discern what will be your own Lenten penance and especially parents to help your children do the same.

During the week of March 8, we will again have the opportunity this year to participate in InnerVisions HealthCare's baby bottle campaign. Please return them no later than the following weekend. This could be a good Lenten penance for individuals and families alike. Further details will be relayed before Mass that first weekend and can also be found inside this bulletin.

The finance committee is still looking for new members to serve the parish. While it is not required for all members to have knowledge of finances, we would like especially to leverage the expertise of someone with such a background. If you are interested and/or know someone who fits this description, please contact me.

The scammers are hard at work again, recently regarding the bishop. They are sending e-mail messages that purport to be from him and ask for a favor. If you receive one, do not reply; delete the message. The same goes for any of you who are still receiving messages from someone pretending to be me. ~ Fr. Andrew

### 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	6:00pm	St. Mary
	Ash	8:00am	St. Mary
	Wednesday	6:30pm	St. Mary
	Thursday	5:30pm	Holy Cross
	Saturday	5:00pm	St. Mary
	Sunday	8:00am	St. Mary
		10:00am	St. Mary

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

### Tuesday, February 25

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

### Wednesday, February 26 Ash Wednesday

8:00am St. Mary †Dorothy Gannon  
6:30pm St. Mary †Howard & Delores Staber

### Thursday, February 27

5:30pm Holy Cross †Joe Shaw

### Saturday, February 29

5:00pm St. Mary †Ron Odgaard

### Sunday, March 1

8:00am Holy Cross †Lyle Carpenter  
10:00am St. Mary For the Parish

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
Tuesdays, 6:30pm, St. Mary (following 6:00pm Mass)

Parish Council

Meeting: Tuesday, February 25, 6:30pm, Ed Center

Finance Council

Meeting: Tuesday, March 17, 7:00pm, Ed Center

Stewardship Committee

Meeting: Monday, March 9, 6:00pm, Social Hall

Friends of St. Francis

Meeting: Date to be announced

Knights of Columbus

Meeting: Sunday, March 15, 7:00pm, Social Hall

Funeral Luncheon Call Leaders, Team 2

Cody Coffelt, Michele Hand, Shanan Roling

## 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.

## Ash Wednesday

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

### Fasting & Abstaining

*Everyone 14 years and older are bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent.*

*Everyone 18 years old and under 59 years old are bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.*

*On these days, only one full meatless meal is allowed.*

*Two other meatless meals together should not equal a full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and fruit juice are allowed.*

*When health or ability to work*

*would be seriously affected, this does not apply.*



## Stations of the Cross

These Stations began as the practice of pilgrims to Jerusalem who would retrace the final journey of Jesus Christ to Calvary. Later, for the many who wanted to pass along the same route, but could not make the trip to Jerusalem, a practice developed that eventually took the form of the fourteen stations currently found in almost every Catholic church.

We invite you to join us for these powerful Stations every Friday of Lent, 6:00pm at St. Mary.  
Come follow Jesus on his way to Calvary.

*Following the stations we will have a meal and fellowship.*

## Leaders for Stations and Meal Hosts

Would you like to lead us in the Stations of the Cross on March 13 or March 27? We are also looking for additional help for the meal on March 20. A sign up is in the vestibule at St. Mary or contact the Parish Office to volunteer. Thank you for your consideration in becoming involved in this way at our parish.

## Upcoming Events

†**Fridays during Lent, Stations of the Cross:** 6:00pm, St. Mary. Lenten meal on March 6, 20, April 3. Fish fry on February 28, March 13 & 27

†**Sunday, March 1:** Coffee & donuts after 10am Mass

†**Easter Vigil Choir practices:** Sundays, March 1 - April 5 immediately after 10:00am Mass, lasting one hour.

## Music News

Sue Schmidt, coordinator

515-689-9949 / [sschmidt@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:sschmidt@saintmaryhc.org)

**Easter Music News:** Easter and spring are right around the corner! You are cordially invited to join our Easter Vigil choir. Practices are Sundays, March 1 through April 5 immediately after 10:00am Mass and will last one hour. This choir will sing at the Easter Vigil Mass at 8:00pm on Saturday, April 11. All ages welcome! So, if you like to sing and want to be part of our parish Easter choir, come check us out. Contact me for more information.

## EDGE & High School Teens!

Silhouette Stations of the Cross "actors" needed! We are looking for 4 to 10 teens who are willing to lead and participate in this moving presentation of the Station of the Cross. No need to be nervous or shy about the acting we will have plenty of time to rehearse and you are behind the screen so shy people are welcome! We will meet 5 times to rehearse: Sundays, March 1, 8, 22 & 29 following 10:00am Mass until 1:00pm in the Youth Area and/or Social Hall, and on Friday, April 3 we have our final rehearsal right after school, then present the Silhouette Stations to the parish at 6:00pm. Please text or call Melissa Kahler, 515-290-2830, or Andrea Fisher, 515-240-5059, soon to sign up to help with this powerful experience.

## Fish Fry Fridays

The Knights of Columbus want to welcome you to join us for a Fish Fry dinner before or after the Stations of the Cross on February 28, March 13, and March 27. We will be serving the same menu as last year from 5:00-7:00pm in the Social Hall.

*If you would like to help serve or clean up, we would love to have you. Please show up any time after 4:30pm.*

*If you would like to donate a dessert to the dinner, please sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0b4aa8a62da5fd0-desserts>.*

## 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

One of the best ways to encourage our children in their faith is to participate and be active in it. The church teaches us 3 particular ways to participate during Lent - prayer, fasting and almsgiving (money or time). While sometimes it's hard to know how to choose, we have some opportunities here at the parish to help us grow closer to Christ during this time.

**February 28, 5:00-7:00pm:** Families can help serve, bus tables, and clean up at the fish fry.

**March 8, 3:00pm:** Families can donate ingredients and/or help prepare food for those in need at Catholic Charities Emergency Family Shelter.

**March 20, 6:00pm:** The Religious Education program will lead Stations of the Cross this evening. We have lots of reading opportunities for those children in 4th - 6th grade who would like to help.

*Sign up Geniuses for these opportunities are on the website as well as sent in the email addresses we have on file.*

**Feb. 25/26: No Sessions. Please attend Ash Wednesday Mass (8:00am or 6:30pm at St. Mary) with your family.**

**March 3/4 & 10/11:** 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, Grades 7 & 8

**Wednesdays 6:00-7:30pm, Social Hall**

**Feb. 26: No Session. Please attend Ash Wednesday Mass (8:00am or 6:30pm at St. Mary) with your family.**

### Confirmation, Grades 9 & 10

**Parents:** Please be watching for Individual Progress emails coming for your 9th and 10th graders.

**Saturday, Feb. 29:** 10th Grade Family Potluck Dinner after 5:00pm Mass. RSVP to Nicole and use the signup genius sent out. Students to present their Saint Display.

**Saturday, March 14:** 9th Grade Family Potluck Dinner after 5:00pm Mass. Please RSVP through signup genius that's already been sent out.

## Lenten Resources

Please take advantage of the Lenten reflection resources for all ages that are available in the vestibule. They will help God's presence in you become more evident, more of a reality in your everyday life, and they may help God's light shine through you to others in need of love.

## Sponsor a Bible!

Help us put the word of God in our First Communicants' hands. Cost is \$30 to sponsor one Bible. Geneveve and Tracy will be available after Mass next weekend, Feb. 29/ March 1, with envelopes for those who wish to contribute. Thank you for prayerfully considering this lifelong gift to the children.

## PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Will Bates - [a\\_k\\_bates@live.com](mailto:a_k_bates@live.com)  
John Fisher - [Johntfisher@sienafastener.com](mailto:Johntfisher@sienafastener.com)  
Doug Jones - [djones@bossard.com](mailto:djones@bossard.com)  
Tim Loraditch - [Tloraditch@gmail.com](mailto:Tloraditch@gmail.com)  
John Roberts - [jroberts@huxcomm.net](mailto:jroberts@huxcomm.net)  
Stacey Rooney - [Rooneyslg17@gmail.com](mailto:Rooneyslg17@gmail.com)

## FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Dave Pottebaum, *President* - [pottebaum5@msn.com](mailto:pottebaum5@msn.com)  
Heidi Ackerman - [heidimdittmer@gmail.com](mailto:heidimdittmer@gmail.com)  
Diane Gannon - [ddkgannon@gmail.com](mailto:ddkgannon@gmail.com)  
Doug Jones - [djones@bossard.com](mailto:djones@bossard.com)  
Laurie Phelan - [Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com](mailto:Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com)  
Sue Tollefson - [suet@iowacubs.com](mailto:suet@iowacubs.com)

## STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Arlene Anderson - [arlene@4andersons.com](mailto:arlene@4andersons.com)  
Jacki Ausman - [jackiausman@gmail.com](mailto:jackiausman@gmail.com)  
Kathy Gass - [k.gass@mchsi.com](mailto:k.gass@mchsi.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)  
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@mid Iowa.net](mailto:pjbishop@mid Iowa.net)  
Lowell Crouse - [l3jl@windstream.net](mailto:l3jl@windstream.net)  
John Freeman - [johnfmingo@hotmail.com](mailto:johnfmingo@hotmail.com)  
Tracy Irwin - [sammyjack@partnercom.net](mailto:sammyjack@partnercom.net)  
Lynn Schreurs - [lschreurs@msn.com](mailto:lschreurs@msn.com)  
Larry Shaw - [lshaw@tru-test.com](mailto:lshaw@tru-test.com)  
Mike and Mary Winders - [Mwinde59@yahoo.com](mailto:Mwinde59@yahoo.com)

## PARISH TRUSTEES

Anne Davis - [annedavis06@gmail.com](mailto:annedavis06@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)

## Weekly Collection Financial Update

**February 16** Budget Week 33

Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>
	\$9,456	\$5,730

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

<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
\$205,936	\$189,090	\$200,378

Project Hope Total to Date: \$ 580

Food Pantry: \$ 719

## 2019 Annual Diocesan Appeal

<u>Parish Goal</u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Amt. Due</u>
\$48,797	\$48,114	<b>\$683</b>

*This week should be our last collection!  
Thank you for all your extra donations enabling us  
to pay this assessment in full!*

**God can make a way  
when there seems to be no way....  
just ask Him.**

## Liturgical Ministers

We are in need of a few additional Ministers for our Ash Wednesday Masses. Please sign up in the vestibule or contact the Parish Office to volunteer. Thank you.

### Ash Wednesday, February 26

#### 8:00am Mass, St. Mary

*Needed: Announcer, Lector, 2 Ushers*

Cup Bearer JoAnn Meusburger, Diane Cronk  
 Altar Servers Isaac & Jonah Miller  
 Cantor Drew Hanlon  
 Accompanist Lorrie Hanlon

#### 6:30pm Mass, St. Mary

*Needed: Announcer, 3 Altar Servers, 3 Ushers*

Lector Jack McDermott  
 Cup Bearers Kris & Bill Sexton, Jacki Ausman  
 Susan Stillmunkes  
 Host Distributor Tom Ausman  
 Ushers Jacki & Tom Ausman, Andrew Cory  
 Cantor Drew Hanlon  
 Accompanist Lorrie Hanlon

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#### Saturday, February 29, 5:00pm, St. Mary

Announcer Cory Schoening  
 Lector Kris Sexton  
 Cup Bearers Lisa Schoening, Bill Sexton  
 Host Distributor Kris Sexton  
 Altar Servers Daniel & Jessica Schoening  
 Ushers Bill Schmitt, Drew Hanlon,  
 Mark Birchmier, Mark Lengel  
 Cantor Mark & Sue Schmidt  
 Accompanist Celeste Muehlenthaler

#### Sunday, March 1, 8:00am, Holy Cross

Announcer Heidi Ackerman  
 Lector Jackie Crouse  
 Cup Bearer Tony Kuehn  
 Altar Server Isabella Kuehn  
 Ushers Mike Phelan, Mike Veasman  
 Cantor Drew Hanlon  
 Accompanist Lorrie Hanlon

#### Sunday, March 1, 10:00am, St. Mary

Announcer Garrett McClain  
 Lector Tracy Kangas  
 Cup Bearers Garrett McClain, Tom Ausman  
 Host Distributor Jacki Ausman  
 Altar Servers Griffen & Leah Muth,  
 Ushers Brian, Will & Mya Pottebaum,  
 Merle Olberding, Gregg Richwine  
 Cantors Jen Linderblood  
 Accompanist Mary Ortmann

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## Money Counters

**Feb. 23:** Kathy Daup, Dona Cowman

**March 1:** Dawn Reynolds, Sharon Morris

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## 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.*



There is now a monstrous 5.25 trillion pieces of plastic debris in our ocean & 46,000 pieces in every square mile of ocean.

## Old Palms

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

## Baby Bottle Campaign

Our parish is holding this campaign for InnerVisions HealthCare, a local unplanned pregnancy and STD medical clinic. Their mission is to empower women in vulnerable situations to choose parenting or adoption. The weekend of March 7/8, you'll find baby bottles in the gathering space; please take a bottle, fill it with change, cash, or checks (make out to InnerVisions) and return it on the weekend of March 14/15. If you have any questions, please contact Bryan Gonzalez at 515-280-4706. To learn more about the life-affirming work of InnerVisions HealthCare, please visit their website at [www.ivhcare.org](http://www.ivhcare.org).

## Winter Weather Cancellations

Whenever North Polk School is cancelled, dismissed early, or evening school 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 and 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 and WHO radio.

## Men's Christian Experience Weekend (CEW)

This retreat is an opportunity to take time out and away from the many challenges we experience in our daily lives. Take time to reflect on how to live in the way God would have us live and where we are in our faith journey, and where we would like to go. This CEW will be held at OLIH Church in Ankeny this Friday evening, Feb. 28 through Sunday afternoon, March 1. For more information, contact Tom Maher at 515-314-9666 or [tom.mahercew@gmail.com](mailto:tom.mahercew@gmail.com). You can also visit <http://olih.org/cew-retreats/> to register.

See Diocesan events, Parish Lenten events and job openings at [www.dmdiocese.org](http://www.dmdiocese.org)

## Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

### Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, February 23

*Theme: God's love invites us to wholeness.*

*Reading I:* Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18 • To be like God is to be loving.

*Reading II:* 1 Corinthians 3:16-23 • To love one another is to live.

*Gospel:* Matthew 5:38-48 • Forgive and love to conquer evil.

*Question for Children:* What can you do at home or at school to show that you follow Jesus' Commandments?

*Question for Youth:* Do you think Jesus was serious when he said to love your enemies? Why or why not?

*Question for Adults:* Have you ever told someone to do something for his/her own well being? Do you accept God's laws in the same spirit of love and concern?