



# St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073



Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 28, 2018

*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:

"You can't retire! You're too young! You're not old enough!" I've received this response a number of times since my note two weeks ago regarding the conclusion of my assignment here at St. Mary-Holy Cross this coming July. There are several other factors involved in my decision to retire from a parish assignment at this time I'd like to share. The first was the experience of my friend and mentor Msgr. Dan Tarrant, the priest who most influenced my going into the seminary, about whom I've written and spoken a number of times over my years here. He was scheduled to retire at age 65 in July of 1991, but died of a heart attack at Palm Sunday Mass in March of that year. Though I strive to follow his example in many ways in my ministry as a priest, that is one lead I don't want to follow! There are also several other priests who died before retirement whom I don't want to emulate in that way. Another factor is that now, after 10 years in the Parish, I think you've heard everything I have to say, and I have accomplished whatever I can accomplish in service to the Parish, and you would be better served by the new ideas and efforts a new priest can bring. Also, 10 years in the Parish and 40 years ordained are nice round numbers and feel like good numbers to conclude with! So, thank you to all who have expressed your "distress" at my plans. I'm sorry for your distress, but appreciate all your kind words. Fr. Dan

## Parish Information

<b>Parish Phone</b>	515-367-2685
<b>Fr. Dan Krettek</b>	515-423-2888
<b>Deacon Terry Schleisman</b>	515-669-6158
<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. Dan Krettek</b>	dkrettek@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Deacon Terry Schleisman</b>	tschleisman@saintmaryhc.org
Adult Faith Sharing	
<b>Nicole Cory</b> - Confirmation	ncory@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Stacie Hergenreter</b> - PreK-6	shergenreter@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Melissa Kahler</b> - RE, 7th-12th	mkahler@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Barb Liske</b> - Secretary	bliske@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Celeste Muehlenthaler</b> - Music	cmuehlenthaler@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Peter Relyea</b> - Bookkeeper	prelyea@saintmaryhc.org

<b>Mass Schedule</b>	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](http://www.dmdiocese.org/vocations.cfm)

## Masses

### Wednesday, January 31

5:30pm Holy Cross †Mikey & Will Carpenter

### Thursday, February 1

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

### First Friday, February 2

8:00am St. Mary †Ralph & Neva Cory

*Feast of St. Blaise, Blessing of Throats at Masses*

### Saturday, February 3

5:00pm St. Mary †Joe Ross

### Sunday, February 4

8:00am Holy Cross *For the Parish*

10:00am St. Mary †Ron Hamm

Children's Liturgy of the Word during this Mass.

Sunday Scripture Prayer and Study  
Wednesdays, January 31, February 7, 21 & 28, 7:00pm,  
Conference Room

Meditative Prayer Time

Saturdays, February 10, 17 & 24, 8:00-9:00am, Office

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday, February 15, 7:00pm, Holy Cross

Pastoral Council

Next meeting to be announced.

Finance Council

Meeting: Tuesday, February 20, 7:00pm, Conference Room

Stewardship Committee

Meeting: Tuesday, February 13, 6:00pm, Office Area

Knights of Columbus

Meeting: Sunday, February 18, 7:00pm, Social Hall

Funeral Luncheon Call Leaders, Team 1

Jean Bruns, Kristi Edleman, Kim Remsburg

## 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!

## Sunday Snack Packs

Order forms for these great snack packs will be available this weekend; with pick up next weekend, February 3/4. Proceeds to help fund Youth Group activities. Thank you!!

## Community Dinner

Please join us for dinner hosted by our Parish this Tuesday, January 30, from 5:30-7:00pm at the Elkhart Christian Church. These dinners are open and free to the public. We will serve a variety of soups and crackers, cornbread, celery and carrot sticks, cookies and dessert bars. If you would like to help with the meal, please contact Kathy Gass at [k.gass@mchsi.com](mailto:k.gass@mchsi.com) / 515-419-8569. Thanks!

## Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University

Parishioners Scott & Lisa Warner will coordinate a 9-week session of Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University here at St. Mary. Sessions are Tuesdays, 6:30-8:00pm beginning this Tuesday, Jan. 30. You are required to purchase a course kit for \$129.00 prior to class. If interested, contact Scott at [swarner@gdmhabitat.org](mailto:swarner@gdmhabitat.org)/515-971-4320. More information at [www.daveramsey.com](http://www.daveramsey.com). We hope to see you there!

## Blood Drive

Will there be blood available if you or a loved one needs a transfusion? LifeServe Blood Center is low on every blood type and desperately needs donations! **Come donate this Thursday, Feb. 1.** Appointments are at 5 minute increments; best times are 4:30-5:30pm and 6:10-6:50pm. Appointments are strongly suggested (but walk-ins are welcomed). To set an appointment, contact Lisa or Tim Kautza at 515-964-7687 or [kautza@netins.net](mailto:kautza@netins.net) or LifeServe at 1-800-287-4903.

## Just A Little Note

St. Mary-Holy Cross Family,  
Thinking of all of you and miss being at Elkhart. I'm doing well living at Homestead Memory Center in Knoxville. My daughter, Shelia lives close by. Happy New Year to all of you!  
~Rita Smith

## Coming Events

- †**Tuesday, Jan. 30:** Elkhart Community Meal hosted by our Parish, 5:30-7:00pm, Elkhart Christian Church
- †**Tuesdays, Jan. 30 - March 27:** Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University, 6:30-8:00pm, Social Hall
- †**Thursday, Feb. 1:** Blood Drive, 3:00-7:00pm, Social Hall
- †**Weekend of Feb. 3/4:** Snack Pack pick up after Masses — Wine & Cheese after 5:00pm Mass — Coffee & Donuts after 10:00am Mass
- †**Sunday, Feb. 11:** Budget prep meeting with all committee/program leaders, 11:00am, Social Hall
- †**Monday, Feb. 12:** Book Study, *Enrique's Journey*, 6:30pm, Social Hall
- †**Thursday, Feb. 15:** Crafts, Games & Social Time, 9:30am, Hall — Friends of St. Francis mtg, 6:30pm, Hall
- †**Friday, Feb. 16:** Stations of the Cross, 6pm, St. Mary — K of C Fish Fry, 5:00-7:00pm, Social Hall

## Music News

**Music Coordinator: Celeste Muehlenthaler**  
515-577-9394 / [celestemu@msn.com](mailto:celestemu@msn.com)

There are lots of opportunities to help with our music for Easter! We're looking for men to sing on Holy Thursday (March 29) and people of all ages to sing at the Easter Vigil (March 31). We also welcome people who play instruments. Please contact me and I will get a folder ready for you. I can also provide recordings of the music if you are interested in that. Please consider adding your voice or instrument to our Holy Week Liturgies!

## Ash Wednesday

We begin our Lenten journey Wednesday, February 14. 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 the vestibule of St. Mary or contact the Parish Office to volunteer. Thank you.

## Stations of the Cross and Fellowship

We will pray the Stations of the Cross on Fridays during Lent at 6:00pm at St. Mary, followed by a meatless meal in the Social Hall. **We are in need of volunteers to lead the Stations of the Cross and hosts for three meals.** A sign up is in the vestibule at St. Mary or contact the Parish Office to volunteer.

## Religious Education

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

We covered the meaning of Lent as well as started the chain of giving. During Lent, each time a child helps someone or does an act of kindness, they get to add a chain. These acts of kindness can be done while at RE or during the week at home, in school, etc. The children are striving to make the chain go all the way around the gathering space!

**January 31 - No class** - We are having a Catechist Workshop from 6:00-7:00pm in the Ed Center.

**February 7** - This class is from 6:00-7:00pm as one group and the children will participate in a Mardi Gras Party.

**February 14 - No class** as this is Ash Wednesday; we encourage all children to attend Mass at 6:30pm.

**RE FEES:** Please submit your January payment as soon as possible. Thank you.

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

**Sunday, Jan. 28** - Confirmation Session 6:00-7:30pm. Saint Displays due for 10th Grade.

**Saturday, Feb. 10** - Parent & Volunteer Appreciation Dinner following 5:00pm Mass at St. Mary. Please RSVP to Nicole.

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

**Would you like to go on a fun retreat** with 2,200 other current 8th–12th graders? We plan to attend a Steubenville retreat in St. Paul MN and will be gone July 27-29. Cost is \$310 with \$50 required right away. Cost includes six meals, registration cost, transportation, late night pizza party, and a T-shirt. For more information or to watch video testimonials go to [www.partnershipforyouth.org](http://www.partnershipforyouth.org). For more information you may also call Andrea Fisher. Join us for an informational meeting Sunday, Jan. 28 after 10:00am Mass.

**Attention all 9th-12th graders:** We are looking for teens to help plan, lead and work the 8th grade Retreat at St. Mary on Sunday, February 25. Please check your calendars and save the date NOW! Call/text Melissa, 515-290-2830, if you are interested in helping with this amazing experience!

**Retreat Team Meetings** (Youth Area/Ed Center)

Sundays, Jan. 28, Feb. 11 & 18, 6:00-9:00pm  
Wednesday, Feb. 7, 7:45-9:00pm  
Wednesday, Feb 21, 6:00-8:00pm  
Thursday, Feb 22, 6:00-8:00pm  
Friday, Feb. 23, 6:00-9:00pm, Dress Rehearsal & Pizza  
Saturday, Feb. 24, Time TBA. Retreat/Environment prep  
Sunday, Feb. 25, RETREAT. Meet at 9:15am in Ed Center; attend Mass as a team. We will wrap up by 6:00pm.

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

**Save the date! Sunday, February 25, is our mandatory 8th grade retreat.** We begin with 10:00am Mass at St. Mary and will end at 5:30pm.

Jan. 31: No session                      Feb. 21: No session  
Feb 7: Lent Lesson                      Feb. 25: Retreat!  
Feb 14: No Session, Ash Wednesday Mass

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

Jan. 31: No gathering  
Feb 7: Youth Gathering Retreat Work Session/ Creativity & Brainstorming  
Feb 14: No gathering, Ash Wednesday Mass

## 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 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 - tammimccclain71@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  
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

January 21	Week 30	
	Received	Budget
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Guests	\$2,302	\$5,234

	Year-to-Date		
	Received	Budget	Last Year
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Guests	\$154,452	\$157,010	\$153,148
Food Pantry Collection:	\$690.25		

## End-of-Year Statements

In order to save on postage, paper and printing expense, we will not be mailing Year End Tithing Statements to everyone. If you would like a Year End Tithing Statement, please call the office or e-mail Peter Relyea ([prelyea@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:prelyea@saintmaryhc.org)) with a request to print and mail a statement to you. Thank you.

## 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.

## Monthly Financial Update

	December, 2017			Year to Date		
	Actual	Budget	Last Year	Actual	Budget	Last Year
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>	\$ 35,626	\$ 28,809	\$ 34,063	\$ 169,916	\$ 165,828	\$ 170,751
Operating Expenses	\$ 26,647	\$ 26,795	\$ 26,475	\$ 187,148	\$ 188,601	\$ 172,173
Net operating income (expense)	\$ 8,979	\$ 2,014	\$ 7,588	\$ (17,232)	\$ (22,773)	\$ (1,422)
Cash Balance of General Fund	\$ 104,280	N/A	\$ 111,334			

### Liturgical Ministers for Next Weekend

#### Saturday, February 3, 5:00pm Mass at St. Mary

Announcer: Jack McDermott  
 Lector: Tim Kautza  
 Cup Bearers: Diane Cronk, JoAnn Meusburger  
 Host Distributor: Di Schleisman  
 Altar Servers: Hunter Halligan, Mary Staudt, Bennett Bruns  
 Ushers: Doug, Patrick & Thomas Jones, Bill Schmitt

#### Sunday, February 4, 8:00am Mass at Holy Cross

Announcer: Dawn Beukema  
 Lector: Doug Heger  
 Cup Bearer: Tom Morris  
 Altar Server: Valerie Beukema  
 Ushers: Sandra Hunter, Tracy Irwin

#### Sunday, February 4, 10:00am Mass at St. Mary

Announcer: Lori Dunham  
 Lector: Joe Dunham  
 Cup Bearers: Garrett McClain, Carol Weber  
 Host Distributor: Matt Miller  
 Altar Servers: Griffen Muth  
 Ushers: Brody, Angie, Kaden & Drew Gilligan, Andrew Cory

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### Money Counters

**Jan. 28:** Dona Cowman, Kathy Daup  
**Feb. 4:** Sharon Morris and Carol Weber

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### Friends of St. Francis News

Pope Francis' two year initiative called *Share the Journey, Love Your Neighbor* is intended to encourage governments and individuals to welcome migrants and refugees fleeing poverty and conflict in search of a better life for their families. We will be offering several activities and informational gatherings during the Lenten and Easter seasons. Join us for a book study for adults on Monday, February 12, 6:30pm in the Social Hall. The book is *Enrique's Journey* by Sonia Nazario and we will discuss the first 50 pages. Please obtain a copy of this book from a library or purchase it from Amazon. Contact Robin Olberding at 515-291-4473 if you have any questions or if you would like to join us.

Join us for our next Friends of St. Francis meeting on Thursday, February 15, 6:30pm in the Social Hall.

Sol Varisco, executive director of Justice for Our Neighbors, will join us after all Masses April 21 & 22 to speak to us and respond to questions about immigration and refugee issues.

*\*\*Used batteries are still collected in the vestibule storage container. Please tape the ends of the batteries with either duct or masking tape prior to donation. Thank you.*

### 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.*

### An Invitation to Help

The Knights of Columbus are looking forward to Lent and the Fish Fry meals they will serve on February 16, March 2, and March 16. They would like to extend an open invitation to anyone who is interested in helping out in the preparation, serving, and cleanup. You can come for as little or as long as you'd like. They start prep work around 8:30am and serve food from 5:00 to 7:00pm. You can reply to Jon Hand, 515-460-0050 / jon79hand@gmail.com or just show up. Thanks!

### 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 - 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; WHO radio and KWKY Catholic Radio.

### St. Joseph Informational Night

Our Preschool and Kindergarten Information Night is Thursday, February 22. Preschool from 6:00-7:00pm and Kindergarten from 7:00-8:00pm. These meetings will be in the Parish Center, below the Church. Registration for Preschool and kindergarten classes for this coming fall will begin that night. For more information, call 515-266-3433.

### Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

#### Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, January 28

*Theme: Jesus has power over evil.*

*Reading I:* Deuteronomy 18:15-20 • I will put my words into your mouth.

*Reading II:* 1 Corinthians 7:32-35 • I want you to be free of all worries.

*Gospel:* Mark 1:21-28 • He has authority over all creation.

*For Children:* Name some bad things that you want to pray that Jesus will take away from our world.

*For Youth:* Jesus freed the man from the unclean spirit within him. What do you hope Jesus will free you from? What is happening in the world that needs Jesus' help?

*For Adults:* What are the evils in today's world that you pray God will free us from?