



St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073



Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 26, 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,

Thanks very much to everyone who helped last weekend with the snow removal of the walks and parking lot. It was not a pleasant few days with the cold and wind, but we all persevered. Remember: control of the weather is above the pay grade of any bishop, priest, and deacon!

The finance committee is 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.

~ Fr. Andrew

Parish Information

| | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| Parish Phone | 515-367-2685 |
| Fr. Andrew Windschitl | 515-367-2685 |
| 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 |
| Sarah Baumberger - Bookkeeper | sbaumberger@saintmaryhc.org |
| Nicole Cory - Confirmation | ncory@saintmaryhc.org |
| Andrea Fisher - 7th-12th Ministry | afisher@saintmaryhc.org |
| Melissa Kahler - 7th-12th Ministry | mkahler@saintmaryhc.org |
| Barb Liske - Secretary | bliske@saintmaryhc.org |
| Geneveve Loraditch - PreK-6 RE | gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org |
| Tracy Miller - PreK-6 RE | tmiller@saintmaryhc.org |
| Sue Schmidt - Music | sschmidt@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 |

Reconciliation: Saturdays 4:00 - 4:30p.m.
St. Mary, or by appointment with Fr. Andrew.

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>.

Mass and Adoration

Tuesday, January 28

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

Wednesday, January 29

5:30pm Holy Cross †Will & Mikey Carpenter

Thursday, January 30

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

Saturday, February 1

5:00pm St. Mary For the Parish

Sunday, February 2

8:00am Holy Cross †Harry and Irene Wilson

10:00am St. Mary †Joe Ross

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

Parish Council

Meeting: Tuesday, January 28, 6:30pm, Ed Center

Finance Council

Meeting: Tuesday, February 18, 7:00pm, Ed Center

Stewardship Committee

Meeting: Monday, February 10, 6:00pm, Ed Center

Friends of St. Francis

Meeting: Date to be announced

Knights of Columbus

Meeting: Sunday, February 16, with 1st Degree,
6:30pm, 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.



Blood Drive

We are looking for new and previous blood donors to fill the 24 remaining donation time slots for our parish blood drive this Thursday, January 30, from 3:00-7:00pm in the Social Hall. Most available times are after 5:00pm. Each blood donation saves up to three lives and more than 100,000 units of blood are needed yearly. An appointment sign up sheet is in the vestibule or you may contact Tim and Lisa Kautza, 515-964-7687 / kautza@netins.net to make an appointment. Please give your email address and we'll send a reminder. You may also register at <https://donor.lifeservebloodcenter.org/donor/schedules/geo>.

Also contact Tim and Lisa if you are able to assist the day of the drive: unloading or loading the van, setting up or assisting at the Drive.

Big Game Snack Packs

Last chance to sign up is this weekend! Order forms are in the pews. Snack Packs will be ready for pick up following Masses next weekend. We will plan to have a few extra made up! Thank you for your continued support for the youth in our parish!

Feast Day of St. Blaise, February 3



We ask St. Blaise to protect us from all sicknesses of the throat. We will have this blessing at all Masses next weekend.

10th-12th Graders and Adults!

If you are interested in helping put on a fun filled spiritual retreat on February 22-23 for our 8th and 9th Graders, please attend our Team planning meetings Sundays February 2, 9 and 16 after 10:00am Mass. We will meet in the Youth Area to discuss theme ideas and to prepare for a wonderful retreat experience for our youth. If you have questions please contact Melissa Kahler or Andrea Fisher.

Upcoming Events

- †Thursday, January 30: Blood Drive 3:00-7:00pm, Hall
- †Weekend of February 1/2: Second collection for Building Improvements — S.T.O.R.M. to distribute Big Game snack packs after Masses
- †Wednesday, February 5: Office closed 10:00-11:00am for Staff meeting
- †Weekends of February 8/9 & 22/23: Second collection for Annual Diocesan Appeal shortfall
- †Weekend of February 15/16: Catholic Charities Food Pantry Collection

Celebrating Janet Phelan!!

Congratulations to Janet Phelan on her recent and well deserved retirement as the organist at Holy Cross Church. During the past **60 years** she sang and helped with the St. Mary's choir and eventually began playing exclusively for Holy Cross. She was the first organist for Holy Cross. As many of you know, Janet also played for countless funerals and weddings. Please join us on **Sunday, February 16**, for a celebration of Janet's incredible span of musical dedication to St. Mary-Holy Cross Parish. Cake and punch will be served in the Social Hall immediately following 10:00am Mass. Come share your memories with Janet and hear her inspiring story of musical service to our parish.

We Still Have a Few Left!

Children are encouraged to take a tithe packet located in the vestibule, and on the paper provided, write their name by the number of the packet they have taken. We thank our young people for their support of the parish.

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, 515-367-2685 or email Sarah, sbaumberger@saintmaryhc.org with a request to print and mail (or email) a statement to you. Thank you.



Winter Has Shown Itself!

We are looking for a few more volunteers to do a one week shift of snow removal at St. Mary. Please email Drew at dlhanlon@windstream.net for more information or to volunteer. Many thanks to those who have volunteered!!

Religious Education Preschool - 6th Grade

Coordinators

Geneveve Loraditch, gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org, 515-556-4150
Tracy Miller, tmiller@saintmaryhc.org, 515-520-7981

We are excited to get back into the swing of things in this time of growing after the feast of Christmas! Please remember to check the email you registered with for any cancellations. We also report weather related cancellations to the news stations. If your child is feeling under the weather, please do not hesitate to keep him home from class! We want to share the love of God, not germs!

Sessions: January 28/29 and February 4/5 & 11/12. February 18/19 are also regular sessions with First Reconciliation and Communion enrollment during each session.

No Sessions February 25/26. Please check the bulletin for Ash Wednesday Mass times and attend with your family.

S.T.O.R.M. Report

Grades 7-12 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, Grades 7 & 8

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

Sessions Feb. 5 & 12

No EDGE Jan. 29 & Feb. 19

No EDGE on Feb. 26 as it is Ash Wednesday, please attend Ash Wednesday Mass with your family.

Save the date! Saturday and Sunday, February 22-23 is our MANDATORY 8th & 9th grade retreat. We begin with 5:00pm Mass at St. Mary and will sleep at the Church and wrap up our retreat at 8:00am Sunday morning. More details to follow.

Confirmation, Grades 9 & 10

Wednesday, Jan. 29: Confirmation Session 6:00- 8:00pm
Saint Displays are due for 10th graders.

9th Grade only: Saturday and Sunday, February 22-23 is our MANDATORY 8th & 9th grade retreat. We begin with 5:00pm Mass at St. Mary and will sleep at the Church and wrap up our retreat at 8:00am Sunday morning. More details to follow.

Saturday, Feb. 29: 10th Grade Family Potluck Dinner after 5:00pm Mass. Please watch for a signup genius. Students will present their Saint Display this evening.

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

S.T.O.R.M., Grades 7-12

Teens grades 8th-12th are invited to gather in the Youth Area on Sunday, January 26 after 10:00am Mass, where we will assemble our snack packs and then head out to the Tiger Bowl in Madrid for bowling and lunch. Bring \$15-\$20 to cover your lunch and bowling. Please contact one of us if you are able to join us so we can reserve lanes and work out transportation.

**It's hard to get into shape spiritually
if you only work out on Sunday.**

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Will Bates - 630-470-8271 - a_k_bates@live.com
John Fisher - 515-240-2293 - Johnfisher@sienafastener.com
Doug Jones - 515-367-4402 - djones@bossard.com
Tim Loraditch - 515-556-4390 - Tloraditch@gmail.com
John Roberts - 515-460-2093 - jroberts@huxcomm.net
Stacey Rooney - 515-490-5034 - Rooneyslg17@gmail.com

FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS

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

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Arlene Anderson - 515-967-6770 - arlene@4andersons.com
Jacki Ausman - 515-441-3739 - jackiausman@gmail.com
Kathy Gass - 515-419-8569 - k.gass@mchsi.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
Kris Sturtz - 515-238-1362 - kilsturtz@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
Doug Jones - 515-367-4402 - djones@bossard.com

PARISH AMBASSADOR TO CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Mike and Mary Winders - 641-227-3346 - Mwinde59@yahoo.com

Weekly Collection Financial Update

| | Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund | <u>Received</u> | <u>Budget</u> |
|----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Jan. 12 | Budget Week 28 | \$2,461 | \$5,730 |
| Jan. 19 | Budget Week 29 | \$7,835 | \$5,730 |

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

| <u>Received</u> | <u>Budget</u> | <u>Last Year</u> |
|-----------------|---------------|------------------|
| \$182,130 | \$166,170 | \$174,879 |

Food Pantry Collection: \$551

2019 Annual Diocesan Appeal

| <u>Parish Goal</u> | <u>Pledge Total</u> | <u>Payments</u> | <u>Amt. Due</u> |
|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| \$48,797 | \$43,143 | \$41,143 | \$7,654 |

Second collections will be taken up until paid in full, or donate online at dmdiocese.thankyou4caring.org/, being sure to designate our parish for your donation. Thank you!

Project Hope

Proceeds from this Diocesan collection provide tuition assistance for families in need. Your gift makes a difference in the lives of families who desire a Catholic School education for their children, but are not be able to afford the entire tuition. An envelope for your donation is included in this bulletin; please return it next weekend. Thank you.

Hello from Me and My House!

We hope the holidays treated you all well. I have already dived into 6 of the Catholic Social Teachings: Life and Dignity of the Human Person; Call to Family, Community and Participation; Rights and Responsibilities; Option for the Poor and Vulnerable; The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers; and Solidarity. They each seem to fit together and form a kind of staircase. You can't have one without the next. But how can we practice any of the former teachings without Caring for God's Creation, our home: The Earth?

I would like to focus specifically on reducing, reusing and recycling. Many of you may be aware that recycling in the United States has been in crisis mode since 2017, when China tightened their standards on what kinds of materials they would take. In 2016, 760 million tons of our scrap plastic went to China. By 2017 that amount went down by an astounding 95%. When the U.S. responded by moving their shipping south in Asia, this prompted other countries to instill new standards on receiving recyclables as well, many have banned imports of recycled plastics all together. The average American produces 234 pounds of plastic waste per year. We have much better recycling abilities than most of the world but the sheer amount of waste that we generate is the problem. And now our largest export country has stopped accepting it.

Some communities have stopped collecting many recyclable materials simply because they have no where to put it. Our cities used to make money by selling recyclables and now they are paying to have it taken away. New plastic has become cheaper than recycled plastic, the cost to sort recycled materials after they leave our curbs is going up. Due to all of this, the waste we produce here in America is piling up. 40-50 years ago, we started a movement to recycle and we have come a very long way, we do recycle well. Recently some major companies in the U.S. have vowed to only use recyclable plastics and this is a great start. But things need to change *drastically*. It's time to shift the focus to reducing and reusing.

We can purchase things that are reusable rather than disposable: water bottles, straws, ziplock bags, grocery bags. Forget the paper plates and plastic silverware. This of course leads to more washing and using more water. This website has a great list of ways to reduce the use of water, to go along with more reusable items: <https://www.mauicounty.gov/245/25-Things-You-Can-Do-To-Prevent-Water-Wa>

There are many ways you can reduce waste as well. Try to maintain and repair things like clothes, tires and appliances so that they don't have to be thrown out as often. Remember that one person's junk is another's treasure. Donate whatever can be reused. There are many places that will accept donations and sometimes you can even write them off your taxes. You are not only helping the planet; you are helping other people who need it. Also try to buy used items as much as possible. It takes resources and energy to produce new products. You can purchase just about anything used, including appliances and building materials and they are often less expensive.

Our own parish has a group called Friends of Saint Francis whose primary focus is the 7 social teachings, specifically caring for our home: Earth. You may think that one person or family cannot make a difference. But big changes always start small. The best way to ensure that this beautiful world is here for future generations is to begin taking care of it the best ways that we can. Start with attainable goals like reducing and reusing. What do you and your family do to care for our planet? Please share your ideas by sending an email to joshua2415smhc@gmail.com.



Liturgical Ministers



Recycling 1 ton of cardboard saves 46 gallons of oil.

Saturday, February 1, 5:00pm, St. Mary

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Announcer | Jack McDermott |
| Lector | Bill Sexton |
| Cup Bearers | Kris & Bill Sexton |
| Host Distributor | JoAnn Meusburger |
| Altar Servers | Abigail & Emily Devereux |
| Ushers | Jim Hudson, Drew Hanlon, Mike & Joseph Devereux |
| Cantor | Drew Hanlon |
| Accompanist | Lorrie Hanlon |

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.*

Sunday, February 2, 8:00am, Holy Cross

| | |
|--------------|------------------------|
| Announcer | Lynn Schreurs |
| Lector | Anne Davis |
| Cup Bearer | Laurie Phelan |
| Altar Server | Kaden Gilligan |
| Ushers | Brodie Gilligan Family |
| Cantor | Drew Hanlon |
| Accompanist | Stacey Rooney |

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.

Sunday, February 2, 10:00am, St. Mary

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Announcer | Joe Dunham |
| Lector | Lori Dunham |
| Cup Bearers | Jacki & Tom Ausman |
| Host Distributor | Garrett McClain |
| Altar Servers | Lauren Feldmann, Sawyer Smeltzer |
| Ushers | Doug Zehr, Greg g Richwine, |
| | Andrew Cory, Jerry McClain, Dennis Schmidt |
| Cantors | Jen Linderblood |
| Accompanist | Mary Ortmann |

Christian Experience Weekend (CEW)

Women's: February 7-9 Men's: February 28-March 1

CEW is a spiritual renewal retreat. It consists of presentations, reflection, group prayer services, opportunity for Reconciliation, and Sunday Liturgy. The renewal of one's life in Christ is the focus as each participant examines his or her relationship with self, others, and God. Many of us lead busy lives and at times our faith life is neglected. CEW gives us an opportunity to take time out and away from the many challenges we experience in leading our lives in the way God would have us live. CEW gives us the time to think and reflect on where we are in our faith journey, and where we would like to go. *To register: <https://forms.ministryforms.net/embed.aspx?custom-templates=&formId=b6baafef-8eb5-481c-ab93-e9592097c039>*

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Money Counters

Jan. 26 Sharon Morris, Dona Cowman

Feb. 2 Carol Weber, Brenda Nehring

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World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life

In 1997, St. John Paul II instituted a day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. This year, World Day for Consecrated Life will be celebrated the weekend of Feb. 1-2. Please pray for all those who have made commitments in the consecrated life and for those discerning the call today. May they continue to be inspired by Jesus Christ and respond generously to God's gift of their vocation.

Catholic Youth Camp Registration is Open!

Registration is conducted on a "first come, first serve" basis and is only online at stmcenter.com. Camp is open to 3rd-12th graders. *Our Parish will contribute \$100 of the fee to CYC for each child of our Parish who attends. Please notify Barb in the office when you have registered your child.*

Christ Our Life Catholic Regional Conference

SAVE THE DATE! September 26/27
Wells Fargo Arena

Hear world class speakers, celebrate Mass among thousands, fill your spirit with music, attend reconciliation, visit Jesus in adoration and feel your soul rejoice.

To learn more, contact our parish "Go To" folks: Heidi Ackerman, 641-203-5322 / heidimdittmer@gmail.com or Dona Cowman, 515-383-4482 | racefans@iowatelecom.net

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, January 26

*Theme: Jesus calls us to follow him;
our lives will never be the same.*

Reading I: Isaiah 8:23-9:3 • The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17 • Let there be no factions among you.

Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23 • Come with me.

Question for Children: How do you hear Jesus calling you to do what he wants you to?

Question for Youth: As you grow into young adulthood, Jesus calls you to follow him in particular ways, both big and small. What are some of the small ways in which Jesus calls you to follow him?

Question for Adults: How does Jesus call you to assist in his ministry: the building up of the Reign of God? How do you know what God wants of you in this regard?

Seminary Visits

Men 16 to 24 years of age are invited to experience the real world of seminary. Trips are planned for Feb. 14-16 to St. John Vianney Seminary in Minnesota and March 28-30 to Conception Seminary in Missouri. If you know someone who might be interested please have them contact Father Ross Parker at vocations@dmdioocese.org or 515-237-5050.