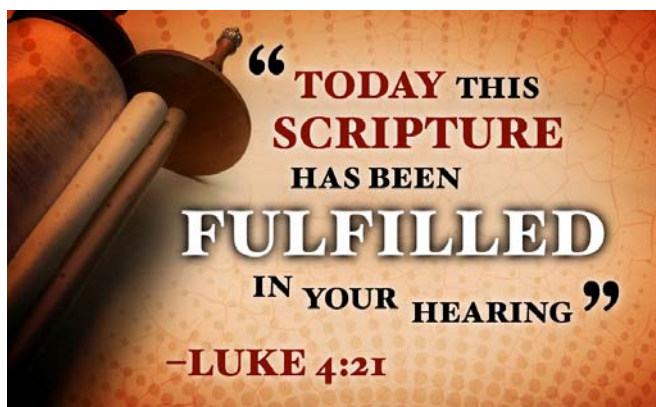


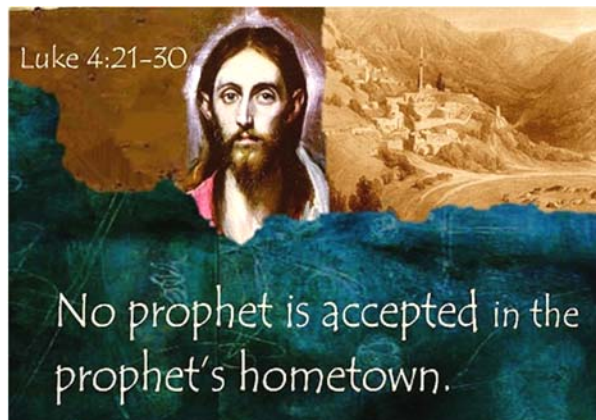


St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073



Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 27, 2019



Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 3, 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,

Thanks very much to Peter Relyea who served the parish as bookkeeper for the last twelve years. May he enjoy a smooth transition into retirement. Welcome to David Ortega, who has taken over for him.

Even though the office will be closed from the 28th to the 1st, I will still be around and available. If you do not find me at church, contact me via e-mail or phone, the latter in particular for emergencies.

The feast of St. Blaise is usually on February 3, which is on Sunday this year and the 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time gets precedence. However, blessing of the throats will still be offered after Masses.

You may have noticed that there are no more makeshift offices in the social hall. Thankfully everyone is mostly settled in. The storm that caused the damage happened about two weeks before I started here. While I enjoyed (sometimes) the big windows and people coming and going, it is good to have walls for a little more quiet and privacy.

~ Fr. Andrew

Parish Information

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

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, January 29

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

Wednesday, January 30

5:30pm Holy Cross †Harry & Irene Wilson

Thursday, January 31

8:00am St. Mary †Rick McQuiston

First Friday, February 1

9:00am St. Mary †Ken Cowman

Saturday, February 2

5:00pm St. Mary †Joe Ross

Feast of St. Blaise; Blessing of Throats at weekend Masses

Sunday, February 3

8:00am Holy Cross *For the Parish*
10:00am St. Mary †Elizabeth Gulbransen
Children's Liturgy of the Word during this Mass.

Tuesday, February 5

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

Wednesday, February 6

5:30pm Holy Cross †Mikey & Will Carpenter

Thursday, February 7

8:00am St. Mary †Albert & Helen Schmidt

Saturday, February 9

5:00pm St. Mary †Cecelia Morton

Sunday, February 10

8:00am Holy Cross †Karen Recker
10:00am St. Mary *For the Parish*

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesdays, January 29, February 5, 12, 19 & 26, 6:30pm,
St. Mary (following 6pm Mass)

Thursday, February 21, 7:00pm, St. Mary

RCIA Gatherings

Sundays following 10am Mass: Jan. 27, Feb. 3 (Conf. Rm),
Feb. 10 (Hall), Feb. 17 (Ed Center), Feb. 24, March 3, 10,
17, 24 & 31, (Conf. Rm)

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, February 12, 6:00pm, Office Area

Knights of Columbus

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

Funeral Luncheon Call Leaders, Team 5

Mary Cory, Kelly Muth

Revised Office Hours

The office is closed the week of January 28 - February 1.

Fr. Andrew will be available by phone.

Upcoming Events

- †**Weekend of Jan. 26/27:** Sign up for S.T.O.R.M. Super Football Snack Packs
- †**Sunday, Jan. 27:** Coffee & donuts after 8am Mass
- †**Blood Drive:** Thursday, Jan. 31, 3:00-7:00pm, Social Hall
- †**Weekend of Feb. 2/3:** Installation of Fr. Andrew as Pastor at Masses — Pick up Super Football Snack Packs — Wine & cheese after 5pm Mass — Coffee & donuts after 10am Mass
- †**Wednesday, Feb. 6:** Office opens at 10:00am due to staff meeting

Welcome To Our New Members!



We welcome the following folks who have joined our Parish:

Tom and Linda Froehlich, who live in Huxley

Drake and Paige Ferch and daughter Blaise, from Elkhart

*Luke and Tracy Miller and children Isaac, Lillian, Jonah,
Gabriel and Audrey, from Prairie City*

New Birth by Water and the Holy Spirit

Celebrate with us in welcoming into the Faith these little ones who have been baptized:



Gianna Rose

Daughter of Tim and Genevieve Loraditch

Jayson Todd

Son of Todd and Stephanie Volz

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, or Deacon Terry, 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.

Annual Diocesan Appeal

The Finance Council asks for your continued generosity and support of the Annual Diocesan Appeal (ADA). As of the most recent report, we have pledges of \$46,275 towards our Goal of \$53,806 leaving us just over \$7500 short of Goal. We will be holding 2nd collections at each Mass not already designated for a 2nd collection now through the end of February in an attempt to meet this obligation. 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, and reach out to any Finance Council member or the parish office if you have questions. Thank you again for your support of this effort.

Feast Day of St. Blaise, February 3

We ask St. Blaise to protect us from all sicknesses of the throat. We'll have this blessing after all Masses Feb. 2 & 3.

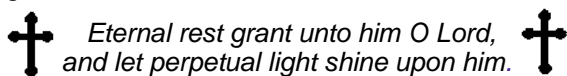
Prayer Chain



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.*

In Sympathy and Compassion

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Joe Cadwell, uncle of Lynn Schreurs and for his family as they mourn his passing.



Religious Education PreK-6

Stacie Hergenreter, Catechetical Leader

shergenreter@saintmaryhc.org, 515-491-3876

Altar Server Refresher Training courses are under way for all servers on the current schedule. Father is working with seven servers at a time. Times are being determined and communicated to each family. Thank you for getting your children to the trainings.

Key Up Coming Dates:

Jan. 30 - No Class February 6 & 13 - Class

February 20 - No Class

*Feb. 27 - Combined Session 6-7pm, Mardi Gras Party, Hall

***April 28 - First Eucharist

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

No EDGE January 30

Sessions: February 6, 13, & 27

No EDGE February 20

8th Grade Retreat: Sunday, February 24

C1 & C2 (9th & 10th Grades) Sessions 6:00-7:30pm

Sunday, January 27 - Confirmation Prep Session,
9th grade Lesson 6 - *One or both parents can attend with teen* — 10th Grade: Lesson 18

Saturday, February 9 - 10th Grade Only, Makeup Date
for Student/Sponsor Prayer Stations that were held in
November. They will be set up in the Ed Center from 1:00
to 4:00pm.

Sunday, February 10 - Confirmation Prep Session,
9th grade Lesson 7 — 10th Grade Lesson 19

Saturday, February 16 - Parent Appreciation Chili Supper
6:00pm, Social Hall. Families of all 9th & 10th graders are
welcome to attend. Please RSVP to Nicole Cory.

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

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 24. Call/text Melissa or Andrea if you
are interested in helping with this amazing experience!

Retreat Team Meetings (Youth Area/Ed Center)

Receive service hours!

-Sundays, Jan. 27, Feb. 3 & 10, 4:00-6:00pm

-Wednesdays, Jan. 30, Feb. 20, 6:00-8:30pm

-Wednesday/Thursday, Feb. 21/22, 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.

The Son of God became a man
to enable men to become the sons of God.

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Garrett McClain - 515-685-2314 -Alleman- gjmccclain69@gmail.com
Sheri Olson - 515-967-5663 - Bondurant - lowasheri@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
Anne Davis - 515-321-7558 - Bondurant - annedavis06@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@midia.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

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

Weekly Collection Financial Update

	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>	
Tithes/Plate/	\$3,083	\$5,157	Jan. 12/13
Youth/Guests	\$3,136	\$5,157	Jan. 19/20
<u>Year-to-Date</u>			
	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Guests	\$161,506	\$154,702	\$154,452

Annual Diocesan Appeal 2018

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 the \$7500 that we are collecting for at this time.
Thank you for your continued generosity to our Diocese
and Parish.

Sharing God's Gifts Diocesan Campaign

Thank you for your continued support; we appreciate your
timely payments for this Campaign.

<u>Pledged</u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Balance Due</u>	<u>SMHC Rec'd</u>
\$443,909.35	\$421,649.35	\$22,135	\$204,824.68

Movie Reviews

See www.catholicnews.com/movies.cfm.



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Come experience Adoration following 6:00pm Mass at St. Mary on Tuesdays, January 29 and February 5. Take this time to listen to God in the quiet.

The Gift of Life!



Our blood drive is Thursday, January 31, 3:00 to 7:00pm in the Social Hall. Bring your friends!! Get a free pair of holiday socks if you donate at this Drive; get a free t-shirt if you are a first time donor! An appointment sign up sheet is in the vestibule or you may contact Tim and Lisa Kautza, kautza@netins.net/515-964-7687 to make an appointment. Also, let Tim and Lisa know if you are able to assist before, during or after the Drive.

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 bookkeeper Dave Ortega (dortega@saintmaryhc.org) with a request to print and mail (or e-mail) a statement to you. Thank you.

Super Football Snack Packs



Order forms for these great snack packs will be available the weekend of January 26/27, with pick up on February 2/3. Proceeds to help fund Youth Group activities. Thank you for your continued support of our young Church!

Free Community Meal

Join us Tuesday, January 29 for this meal sponsored by our parish, from 5:30-7:00pm at the Elkhart Christian Church. Everyone is invited. These meals, sponsored in conjunction with the Blessings Box, are for EVERYONE to come and enjoy an evening of socialization, having a night off from cooking, a night out, etc. We will be serving a variety of soups and desserts along with other items. Hope to see you there! *If you would like to assist with this meal please see the sign up at <http://signup.com/go/cEKWWWWh>. Thank you!*

See reverse side for "Thoughts From Me and My House".

Join us for this Incredible Journey of Faith and Adventure to France: Lourdes, Paris and Normandy June 14-23, 2019!

Things we'll do in Lourdes:

- Grotto where Our Lady appeared
- Participate in candlelight procession
- Participate in Blessed Sacrament procession
- Mass in the Basilica
- Opportunity to bathe in Lourdes water
- Childhood home of St. Bernadette

Things we'll do in Paris

- Visit the Notre Dame Cathedral
- Famous Mona Lisa at Louvre Museum
- Take in Paris from atop the Eiffel Tower
- Mass at Sacre Coeur, hilltop photos after
- Historic Champs-Élysées Boulevard
- Catacombs of Paris
- Wonderful French cuisine and wine

Things we'll do in Normandy:

- Visit the D-Day Beach
- Pray at the American Cemetery
- Visit the Mont-Saint-Michel
- Mass on the island
- Explore city of Bayeux
- Visit Lisieux, home of St. Therese

This trip includes daily Mass, opportunity for confession, time for shopping and relaxation! SPACE LIMITED TO 20 PEOPLE. Find day-by-day itinerary and short, 90-second video at www.CollinsTravel.biz and click on "Pilgrimages."

Hosted by Father Andrew Windschitl
Pastor of St. Mary-Holy Cross Parish in Elkhart
..and by Jason Collins, M.A.,
founder of Collins Travel and Pilgrimages and
active member of St. Francis Parish, West Des Moines



Cost: \$4,799
Includes round-trip
airfare, hotel, all
breakfasts & dinners,
transportation in
Europe, museum
entrance fees & local
guides. **Deposit due
Feb. 1.**

Installation of Fr. Andrew as Pastor

At Masses the weekend of February 2 & 3, Bishop Pates will formally install Father Andrew as Pastor of St. Mary-Holy Cross Parish!! Join Bishop Pates in welcoming and blessing Father Andrew!

Scout Sunday

This is a day to recognize the contributions of young people and adults to scouting. It is also a day for all Scouts to live out their duty to God. All Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and Scout leaders are encouraged to wear their uniforms to the 10:00am Mass on Sunday, February 3 where they will receive a special blessing.

Dave Ramsey Financial Peace University

This program will not be offered at our Parish in February but will be offered at two locations in Ankeny, in Slater, Altoona and in 2 locations in Des Moines in February.

Project Hope

(Help Our Parents Educate)

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.

8th Graders, Save the Date!

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.



Would you be willing to shovel the walks and steps at St. Mary for a two-week shift now through mid April. We have a snow blower. For more information or to volunteer, contact Drew Hanlon, dlhanlon@windstream.net or 515-367-3367. Thank you!

Greetings from Me & My House!

Two weeks ago, I talked about New Year's Resolutions. I am twenty-something days into living by a standard of grace and not perfection. It's much more difficult than I thought it would be. Really! It seems like it would be easy to stop trying to be perfect but once you spend years doing something a certain way, and then try to change it—it doesn't just happen overnight. I've decided to make my changes in steps. Very small steps. And I'm going to take you all with me!

Relationships

Part 1: God

Relationships are perhaps one of the most important aspects of our lives. Almost everything we are involved in requires us to have the ability to maintain relationships with a variety of people. Not only this, but as humans we crave them deeply. We are social by nature. So, it makes perfect sense to begin with a focus on relationships.

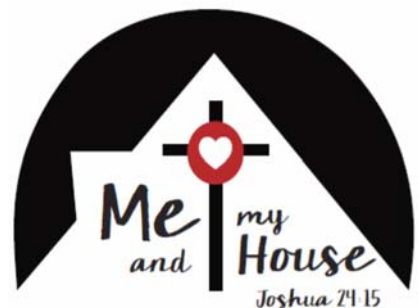
Most people know how important relationships are, but they do take work. There are many studies that talk about the importance of having deep and meaningful connections with others. Like anything else, we must make priorities with each relationship we have. If you've never heard the phrase, "you can't pour from an empty cup" then I'm going to sum it up for you. Having a relationship with God is the frontline to every other relationship in your life. One of the best ways to "fill your own cup" is through a relationship with Christ.

The great news is that there is no perfect way to have a relationship with Jesus, there are some best practices though. Prayer is a great place to start. Remember that praying is different for everyone. You don't have to do it a certain way or say a specific prayer. There are many people who do say specific prayers and do it at a certain time of the day because it helps them to build a routine and remember to do it as often as possible. Personally, I am fond of writing, so I have a journal that is specifically for praying. I write to God like I'm writing a letter to a friend. A good guide to follow when praying is A.C.T.S.--The Four Steps of Prayer. Adoration-Praise God, because without Him we wouldn't be much. Confession-Humble yourself by confessing something that you need to work on within yourself. Thanksgiving-Give thanks to God for all the blessings in your life. Supplication-And intercession. What or who are your prayer intentions for today?

There is no better way to strengthen yourself with God than the Eucharist. It is literally the closest you can get to Christ. Jesus knows what it is to suffer more than anyone. When you are on your way up the aisle to celebrate the sacrament, think about everything weighing on your heart and ask Jesus to share the burden with you. When we gather for Mass our prayers are nothing but greater and more powerful. Go to Mass and bring your family. Parents are the first catechists for their children, show your children how important it is to take the sacrament of the Eucharist and to partake in Mass. Our church is your very own community in Christ, join it!

The most important thing is that your relationship with Christ is unique to you. It doesn't have to be how others do it. It needs to feel right for you. It's really hard to cultivate your relationships with the people in your life, if you aren't intentional in your relationship with Christ. Go ahead and fill your cup with the love that God has for you. It's time to get right with Jesus! Watch for the next installment on relationships in 2 weeks.

I look forward to hearing from you! The intention of 'Thoughts from Me & My House' is to be a collaborative column within our parish. Email me at joshua2415smhc@gmail.com with any thoughts, ideas, and opinions you have!



Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, February 2, 5:00pm, St. Mary

Announcer	Cory Schoening
Lector	Arlene Anderson
Cup Bearers	Lisa Jones, Diane Cronk
Host Distributor	Susan Stillmunkes
Altar Servers	Jack & Tommy Selby, Justin Anderson
Ushers	Doug, Patrick & Thomas Jones, Tom Bowman

Sunday, February 3, 8:00am, Holy Cross

Announcer	Sheri Fogarty
Lector	Heidi Ackerman
Cup Bearer	Laurie Phelan
Altar Server	Aiden Phelan-Ruden
Ushers	Mike & Mary Winders

Sunday, February 3, 10:00am, St. Mary

Announcer	Susan Genalo
Lector	Garrett McClain
Cup Bearers	Jacki & Tom Ausman
Host Distributor	Garrett McClain
Altar Servers	Joel Waters, Veronica Loraditch, Jackson Waters
Ushers	Doug Zehr, Andrew Cory, Brian, Will & Mya Pottebaum Dave Pottebaum

Saturday, February 9, 5:00pm, St. Mary

Announcer	Sonya Staudt
Lector	Bill Sexton
Cup Bearers	Tony Kuehn, Bill Sexton
Host Distributor	Kris Sexton
Altar Servers	Olivia Naragon, Kaden Gilligan, Isabella Kuehn
Ushers	Brody, Angie & Drew Gilligan, Jim Hudson

Sunday, February 10, 8:00am, Holy Cross

Announcer	Kathy Daup
Lector	Jeff Ruden
Cup Bearer	Dawn Beukema
Altar Server	Brock Phelan-Ruden
Ushers	Tracy Irwin Family

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

Announcer	Joe Dunham
Lector	Lori Dunham
Cup Bearers	Carol Weber, Mike Nehring
Host Distributor	Matt Miller
Altar Servers	Lauren Feldmann, Griffen Muth, Leah Muth
Ushers	Garrett, Tammi & Jackson McClain, Thom Hamm

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Money Counters: Jan. 27: Dona Cowman, Sue White
Feb. 3: Sharon Morris, Kathy Daup
Feb. 10: Carol Weber, Dawn Reynolds

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Christian Experience Weekend (CEW) for Men

This renewal weekend is designed to enable them to more deeply "experience" themselves and their relationship to God and the Christian community. Join us at OLIH Church in Ankeny Friday evening, Feb. 15 through Sunday afternoon, Feb. 17. For more information, contact Curt Carlson, curtcew2019@gmail.com and/or 515-783-3819. You can also visit <http://olih.org/cew-retreats/>.



Recycling old aluminum uses only 5% of the energy used to make new aluminum.

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 & 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.

Celebrate Valentine's Day Early

Join us on Friday, February 8 for a social and presentation from Dr. Sheryl Overmyer, Associate Professor of Catholic Studies at DePaul University, on how *Charity Changes Everything: How Christian love takes shape in marriage and singleness*. The event will be held at the Sherwood Forest Event Center, 7400 Hickman Road, Windsor Heights. Doors open at 6:30pm and the event starts at 7:00pm. Drinks will be available with purchase. Parish childcare is available with RSVP. Contact Adam Storey at astorey@dmdiocese.org or 515-237-5056 or to register for childcare.

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

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, January 27

Theme: Jesus is the one sent by God to save us.

Reading I: Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10 • The Word of God speaks to all who hear it.

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 12:12-30 • We are the body of Christ and each is a different part.

Gospel: Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21 • Jesus is the fulfillment of the Scriptures.

Children: Jesus is present to each of us in a different way. Tell about a time that you knew Jesus was with you.

Youth: Name a moment or situation in your life where Jesus was present. What are some situations or places where you wish that Jesus was more visible?

Adults: Jesus came to bring glad tidings to the poor and set free the enslaved. How has this mission of Christ in the world affected you personally?

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, February 3

Theme: Jesus' words and love are for everyone!

Reading I: Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19 • Before you were born, you were known, consecrated and appointed.

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13 • Love is the greatest gift of God.

Gospel: Luke 4:21-30 • Jesus was sent for us.

Children: What ways do you show God's love to someone who is lonely or hurting?

Youth: Who are the people who mean the most to you? How do you show them how important they are to you?

Adults: What is a way you show members of your family your love for them?