



St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073



The Epiphany of the Lord

January 5, 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,

Happy new year to all. God bless it and I pray that it begins well for you, and, regardless, that it goes and ends well.

Did you know that the calendar we use, even much of the secular world, was authored by a pope? The current version is known as the Gregorian calendar, instituted by Pope Gregory XIII in 1582 as a correction to the Julian calendar. The difference between the two, as Encyclopedia Britannica describes it: "only in that no century year is a leap year unless it is exactly divisible by 400 (e.g., 1600, 2000)." I will leave it at that and let you investigate it more for yourself if you are so inclined lest I bore you. So now you too can in turn either impress your friends with such knowledge or bore them! ~ 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

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, 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 7

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

Wednesday, January 8

5:30pm Holy Cross †Jack Housby

Thursday, January 9

8:00am St. Mary †Bill Roberts

Saturday, January 11

5:00pm St. Mary For the Parish

Sunday, January 12

8:00am Holy Cross †Paul Matthews
10:00am St. Mary †Ron Hamm

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, January 21, 7:00pm, Ed Center

Stewardship Committee

Meeting: Monday, January 13, 6:00pm, Ed Center

Friends of St. Francis

Meeting: Date to be announced

Knights of Columbus

Meeting: Sunday, January 19, 7:00pm, Social Hall

Funeral Luncheon Call Leaders, Team 1

Tawna Kerr, Rachel Rasmussen, Linda Froehlich

Christmas Flowers

We received this additional flower memorial:

Matt & Beth Hart In memory of Scott Strong

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.

Epiphany Brunch

You are invited to a brunch to celebrate Epiphany with us today (Sunday) after 10:00am Mass. Come even if you did not RSVP! We will be collecting personal care items to give to the area clothing/food pantries we support. Thank you!

NCYC Appreciation Brunch

We will hold our NCYC appreciation brunch and presentation next Sunday, January 12, following 10:00am Mass until about Noon. ALL are invited. We will be serving various breakfast foods. We look forward to sharing our NCYC adventures with you!

Have Old Greeting Cards?

We'll take them!! Collection ends this Friday; they will be given to St. Jude's Children's Hospital to be repurposed. Please give to Father Andrew at Holy Cross or at St. Mary put them in the box in the vestibule. Thanks!

Jesus Asks Us to Feed the Hungry

For many years our members have provided a meal for guests at Catholic Charities Emergency Family Shelter on the second Sunday of each month. We continue the tradition this year! We are in need of volunteers for April, July, September, November and December. One or more families can volunteer to prepare and deliver a meal, although the shelter prefers that no more than five people be present at the house at a time. To volunteer or to find out more, please contact Lisa or Tim Kautza at kautza@netins.net, 515-964-7687.

The Parish Office will have varied hours January 9th through the 22nd. Please call or email to be sure someone is here before stopping by. Fr. Andrew will be available and in the office off and on during this time, (except Mondays the 13th and 20th) so please call or email him first. Always contact him in an emergency – no matter day or time.

Upcoming Events

- †**This Weekend:** Capital Improvements collection — Wine and cheese after 5:00pm Mass — Epiphany Brunch after 10am Mass, Social Hall
- †**Sunday, January 12:** NCYC Appreciation Brunch and presentation after 10am Mass, Social Hall
- †**Thursday, January 16:** Crafts, games and social time, 9:00am, Social Hall
- †**Weekend of January 18/19:** Collection for Huxley Food Pantry — Orders for *The Big Game* Snack Packs begin, ends January 26
- †**Thursday, January 30:** Blood Drive 3:00-7:00pm, Social Hall

We Only Have a Few Weeks Still Open!



We are looking for additional volunteers to do one or two-week shifts of snow removal at St. Mary's hands make light work! For more information or to volunteer, please email Drew at dlhanlon@windstream.net. Thank you for considering this request. Many, many thanks to those who have already volunteered!!

End-of-Year Statements

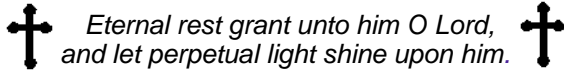
In order to save on postage, paper and printing expense, we will not be mailing Year End Tithing Statements to everyone. If you would like a Year End Tithing Statement, please call the office, 515-367-2685 or email Sarah, sbaumberger@saintmaryhc.org with a request to print and mail (or email) a statement to you. Thank you.

ALL 10th-12th Graders and Adults!

We will have our Retreat Team Meeting on Sunday, January 19 in the Youth Area following 10:00am Mass. If you are interested in helping put on a fun filled spiritual retreat for the 8th and 9th Graders this year, please attend this brief meeting to discuss theme ideas, plan future meeting days and begin to prepare for a wonderful retreat experience for our fellow youth. If you have questions please contact Melissa or Andrea.

In Sympathy and Compassion

Pray for the repose of the soul of Adam Baumberger who passed away December 27, and for Sarah, Casey and Parker as they mourn his passing. May they find strength and comfort at this most difficult time.



Religious Education Preschool - 6th Grade

Coordinators

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

All Religious Education Sessions are invited to join us for an Epiphany party this Wednesday, 6:00-7:00pm. Children will be guided by their catechists; parents are welcome to stay!

If your child is interested in receiving First Communion this year, please attend the mandatory parent meeting on Wednesday, 6:00-7:00pm in the Ed Center (during the Epiphany party).

Regular Sessions: January 14/15, 21/22 and 28/29.

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: January 8, 15 & 22

Confirmation, Grades 9 & 10

Saturday, Jan. 18: 9th Grade Family Potluck Dinner after 5:00pm Mass. Please RSVP to Nicole and watch for a food sign up.

Wednesday, Jan. 29: Confirmation Session, 6 - 8pm, Hall

Blood Drive

Our blood drive is Thursday, January 30, 3:00 to 7:00p.m. in the Social Hall. Each blood donation saves up to three lives and more than 100,000 units of blood are needed yearly. May we count on you to donate blood? 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 as well so a reminder can be sent to you.

Please also contact Tim and Lisa if you are able to assist the day of the drive: 2 or 3 people to help unload the van and set up (about 2:00pm) and 2 or 3 people to help return the supplies to the van (about 7:45pm). Light lifting. Volunteers are also needed to assist during the drive.

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.*

Jesus Is The Only Reason For Every Season!

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 - mcclainrj@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 - mrsmathart@gmail.com
Kelly Hoffmeier - 515-975-7865 - nkhoff@msn.com
Tammi McClain - 515-290-3904 - tammimcclain71@gmail.com
Kris Sturtz - 515-238-1362 - klsturtz@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

Seeking a volunteer; contact the Parish Office for more information.

Weekly Collection Financial Update

		<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund			
Dec. 22 Budget Week 25		\$3,159	\$5,730
Christmas Collection		\$5,589	
Dec. 29 Budget Week 26		\$7,671	\$5,730

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

<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
\$164,681	\$148,980	\$161,186

Retirement for Religious Collection: \$475 to date
Food Pantry Collection: \$697

2019 Annual Diocesan Appeal

<u>Parish Goal</u>	<u>Pledge Total</u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Amt. Due</u>
\$48,797	\$41,015	\$38,686	\$10,111

Second collection 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!

Auto Debit for Tithing

Use this safe and convenient service to automatically withdrawal from your bank account for your tithing. Contact Sarah at sbaumberger@saintmaryhc.org for more details.

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, January 11, 5:00pm, St. Mary

Announcer	Jack McDermott
Lector	Lorrie Hanlon
Cup Bearers	Kris Sexton, Diane Cronk
Host Distributor	Bill Sexton
Altar Servers	Jack & Tommy Selby, Bennett Bruns
Ushers	Drew Hanlon, Mark Birchmier, Mark Lengel, Tom Bowman
Cantor	Drew Hanlon
Accompanist	Lorrie Hanlon

Sunday, January 12, 8:00am, Holy Cross

Announcer	Heidi Ackerman
Lector	Sheri Fogarty
Cup Bearer	Laurie Phelan
Altar Server	Brock Phelan-Ruden
Ushers	Tracy Irwin Family

Sunday, January 12, 10:00am, St. Mary

Announcer	Lori Dunham
Lector	Joe Dunham
Cup Bearers	Mike Nehring, Carol Weber
Host Distributor	Nicole Cory
Altar Servers	Lauren Feldmann, Caleb Coffelt
Ushers	Bill & Kelly Dunbar, Merle Olberding, Gregg Richwine, Andrew Cory
Cantors	Jen Linderblood, Christine Muehlenthaler
Accompanist	Celeste Muehlenthaler

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Money Counters

Jan. 5 Dona Cowman, Carol Weber

Jan. 12 Sue White, Brenda Nehring

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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.

Widowed, Divorced, or Separated?

The loss of a loved one through separation, divorce, or death is one of life's most traumatic experiences. Many people who have suffered this loss feel uncertain about their futures. Beginning Experience® is a program intended for those suffering the loss of a love relationship who are ready to come to terms with that loss and begin to move forward with their lives. The program is presented by a team of people who are willing to share their own experiences to help others. The weekend program is held at St. Thomas More Center in Panora on January 17-19. To learn more about Beginning Experience, contact Father Bob Schoemann, 515-418-1938, Daryl Stahl, 515-480-6617, or Dana Reed, 515-975-3745.

Contemplative Prayer

Emmaus House offers Contemplative Prayer Wednesdays from Noon - 12:45pm. We begin with a Scripture reading, followed by contemplative prayer and spoken intentions. Mass is celebrated Tuesdays and Fridays at Noon. Join us!



Recycling just one glass jar saves enough electricity to light an 11 watt CFL bulb for 20 hours.

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.

Dowling Catholic Incoming Freshman Placement Test

This test will be administered on Saturday, January 11 from 7:45am to Noon. Students interested in enrolling at Dowling Catholic should take the test. The test does not determine admissions, but is used to identify the level of classes that will allow the student to be successful in high school. Please contact the Admissions Office by January 6 to register for the exam. Students unable to take the exam that day need to register for the make up test by contacting the Admissions Office at teischeid@dowlingcatholic.org or 515-222-1025.

Did You Make a New Year's Resolution to Strengthen Your Marriage?

Join our free marriage enrichment program, *The Third Option*. This is an on-going support group for all couples whether they are facing obstacles in their marriage or just trying to make a good thing better! Couples will walk through 14 skills-based workshops, listen to a couple who has overcome comparable frustrations, and provides support group discussions on suggested exercises / tools. We meet the first and third Monday of the month from 7:00-9:00pm in the Mercy College of Health Sciences in the Sullivan Center Conference Room. For more info visit: <http://www.dmdiocese.org/the-third-option.cfm>. Our next session begins January 6 but join us any time.

See Diocesan events and job openings at the Diocese and parishes at www.dmdiocese.org and offerings sponsored by St. Joseph Ed Center at www.sjeciowa.org

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord, January 5

Theme: The mystery of the incarnation - Jesus is a gift to all humanity.

Reading I: Isaiah 60:1-6 • Your light has come!

Reading II: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6 • We all share the same promise!

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12 1 They opened their coffers and presented him with gifts.

Question for Children: In your life, who helps you to see Jesus in other people such as a classmate or a friend?

Question for Youth: Life can sometimes be rough: losing your home, moving, feeling fear or danger. How do you experience God being and staying with you in such times?

Question for Adults: How this past week did you demonstrate God's love at home and at work?