



St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073



**Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 11, 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:

I am happy to announce that Andrea Fisher has joined Melissa Kahler in the role of Youth Minister for our Parish, and as a member of the Parish Staff. As you know, Melissa has served as our Youth Minister for the past 9 years, leading the Edge and S.T.O.R.M. Youth Group ministries, and teaching Confirmation until two years ago when Nicole Cory assumed responsibility for Confirmation preparation. For many years Andrea has helped extensively in many areas of youth ministry in the Parish on a volunteer basis. Recently Melissa has had to cut back on the time she is able to give to her position, so will now share half her position's responsibilities with Andrea. As such, the Youth Minister position will be a shared ministry, in the way Sonya Staudt and Tammi McClain were co-leaders of the Elementary Religious Education program before Stacie Hergenreter assumed full leadership of it. As I noted, Andrea has volunteered extensively in ministry to our Youth for many years, and I am grateful for her generous service, both as a volunteer and now as paid Staff member. Thank you also to all who so generously serve the Parish as volunteers in many different ways! Fr. Dan

Parish Information

Parish Phone	515-367-2685
Fr. Dan Krettek	515-423-2888
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. Dan Krettek	dkrettek@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
Peter Relyea - Bookkeeper	prelyea@saintmaryhc.org

Mass Schedule	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

Masses and Stations of the Cross

Wednesday, March 14

5:30pm Holy Cross †Kenneth Long

Thursday, March 15

8:00am St. Mary †Reed Benenate

Friday, March 16

6:00pm St. Mary **Stations of the Cross**

Saturday, March 17

5:00pm St. Mary †Kenneth Long

Sunday, March 18

8:00am Holy Cross †Lawrence Stokka

10:00am St. Mary *For the Parish*



TRIDUUM SERVICES

Holy Thursday, March 29

7:00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper, St. Mary
Adoration after Mass until 11:00pm in the Social Hall

Good Friday, March 30

3:00pm Stations and Veneration of the Cross,
Holy Cross

7:00pm Commemoration of the Passion of Jesus,
St. Mary

Easter Vigil, Saturday, March 31

8:00pm Mass, St. Mary *(no 5:00pm Mass)*

Easter Sunday, April 1

Masses: 8:00am, Holy Cross
10:00am, St. Mary

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!

How's Your Lenten Transformation?

We are more than halfway through the Season of Lent. How are you doing with your Lenten commitments you began on Ash Wednesday? Are you going strong or easing up? Are you struggling? Talk to God about it!

Take advantage of the reflection resources and Rice Bowl in the vestibule.

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.

Old Palms

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

Encounter Lent, Companions on the Journey

We encounter Andrise, a teacher in Haiti who knows the importance of forming young people who will give back to the community—and their country. Reflect on the role teachers have played in bringing you closer to God and your community. How can you support those, worldwide, who are forced to flee their homes to find safety or better opportunities? Visit crsricebowl.org for more.

Rice Bowls are located with the Lenten Resources.



Music News

Music Coordinator: Celeste Muehlenthaler
515-577-9394 / celestemu@msn.com

We are looking for students and adults to provide musical accompaniment for our Masses at St. Mary. Would YOU be interested? There can be training and we can work into it slowly. Please contact me to find out more! Thank you for considering this request.

Dear GOD,

Did you really mean "do unto others as they do unto you."
Because if you did, then I'm going to fix my brother. ~ Darla

Sunday Scripture Prayer and Study
Wednesdays, March 14, 21 & 28, 7:00pm, Conf. Room

Meditative Prayer Time

Saturdays, March 17, 24 & 31, 8:00-9:00am, Office

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Thursday, March 15, 7:00pm, St. Mary

Pastoral Council

Next meeting to be announced.

Finance Council

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

Stewardship Committee

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

Knights of Columbus

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

Funeral Luncheon Call Leaders, Team 1

Jean Bruns, Kristi Edleman, Kim Remsburg

Coming Events

†**Sunday, March 11:** Easter Vigil Choir practice, 11am,

†**Monday, March 12:** *Mourning Coffee Club*, 10:00am,
Conference Room. We gather each Monday.

†**Thursday, March 15:** Crafts, Games & Social Time,
9:30am, Social Hall

†**Friday, March 16:** Stations of the Cross, 6:00pm, St.
Mary — Knights of Columbus fish fry, 5-7pm, Social Hall

†**Weekend of March 17 & 18:** Collection for Maxwell
Food Pantry

†**Sunday, March 18:** Men's Choir practice, 11am, St. Mary
— Lenten Reconciliation Service, 2:00pm, St. Mary

†**Monday, March 19:** *Mourning Coffee Club*, 10:00am,
Conference Room — Final book study for *Enrique's
Journey*, 6:30pm, Social Hall

†**Tuesday, March 20:** Let's Chat, Ed Center

†**Friday, March 23:** Silhouette Stations of the Cross,
6:00pm, St. Mary, followed by Lenten meal in Social Hall
prepared by Confirmation students.

†**Weekend of March 24/25:** Special collection for
Catholic Charities for those in need including refugees and
Latino people

†**Sunday, March 25:** Coffee & donuts after 8:00am Mass
— ALTARation Workshop (part 1 of 5), 11am-Noon, Hall
— Easter Vigil Choir practice, 11:00am, St. Mary — *Jesus
Christ Superstar* movie, 3:00pm, with pot luck snack at
2:30pm, Social Hall

†**Monday, March 26:** *Mourning Coffee Club*, 10:00am,
Conference Room — Friends of St. Francis gathering,
6:30pm, Social Hall

Religious Education

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

Service Project for March: We will be collecting children's books (new or used) and they will be distributed to children's hospitals.

Key Dates for Remaining RE Classes: The year is going by very quickly! No class March 14 & 21. The following are the classes that remain.

March 28 April 11
April 4 April 18 - Last Class

Key Dates for First Eucharist:

Friday & Saturday, March 23 & 24 - Self guided Stations available at St. Mary in the Ed Center; workbooks are also due back

April 7 & 8 - Blessing at Masses
April 14 - Rehearsal at 10:00am
April 15 - Mass at 2:00pm

VBS (Vacation Bible School) - June 18 - 21

RE FEES: If you have not paid your fees in full, please do so in the next few weeks. Thank you.

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

C1 & C2 Session: Sunday, March 25, 6:00-7:30pm

Volunteers are needed for:

KofC Fish Fry on March 16
Serve Lenten Meal on March 23
Coral Reading of the Passion on March 30

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

Would you like to go on a fun retreat with other 8th-12th graders? The Steubenville retreat is July 27-29 in St. Paul, MN. Cost is \$310 with \$50 required now. Cost includes six meals, registration cost, transportation, pizza party, and a T-shirt. For more information or to watch video testimonials go to www.partnershipforyouth.org or contact Andrea Fisher.

EDGE (7th-8th grade): We meet next on March 28.
— No gatherings March 14 or 21.

S.T.O.R.M (9th-12th grade): We meet for Youth Group next on March 28 — No gatherings March 14 or 21.



Silhouette Stations of the Cross

We, S.T.O.R.M. Youth Ministry, invite you to journey through the Stations of the Cross with us on Friday, March 23, 6:00pm at St. Mary. The teens have been preparing a unique and powerful prayer experience. We have presented these Stations for a number of years and every year we hear moving testimonies about them. We invite you to come, sit back, pray and reflect as the Stations come alive right before your eyes.

Following the Stations, please join us for a Lenten meal in the Social Hall.

Graduating Seniors!

Our parish has a scholarship to be granted to one of our high school seniors pursuing higher education! If you are interested in applying for this scholarship, contact Tammi McClain at tammimcclain71@gmail.com.

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Garrett McClain - 515-685-2314 -Alleman- gmccclain@iowatelecom.net
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

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 - 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@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

March 4 Week 36

	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Guests	\$ 7,540	\$5,234

Year-to-Date

	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Guests	\$186,323	\$188,412	\$183,943

Auto Debit for Tithing

Use this convenient service to automatically withdrawal from your bank account for your tithing. You designate a dollar amount to be withdrawn on a monthly basis on a pre-determined date. Contact Peter Relyea for more info.

2018 Annual Diocesan Appeal

Bishop Pates sent information and a pledge card to each household. Please prayerfully consider what you are able to give and **mail your pledge directly to the Diocese**. Please join our Parish and the Diocese to continue God's work of spirituality, charity and education. Thank you.

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	\$406,450.85	\$37,458.50	\$197,225.43


Parish & Friends Bereavement Group

The "Mourning Coffee Club" resumes this Monday, March 12 at 10:00am in St. Mary's Conference Room. We offer a supportive community where we not only share fellowship with others who are in this new stage of life, but also learn about the process of grieving and how to become more comfortable during this difficult period of readjustments.


Come discover where you are in your journey and in your ability to cope ... and ... if you've successfully closed that window, we welcome you to also come and share the tools you've used in times of crisis.

Call or text your interest and questions to Paula Garoutte at 515-306-6633 or email paulasongbird@msn.com.

This Thursday!

 Let's get together for conversation, playing games or working on crafts at 9:30am in the Social Hall!

and....

Come experience Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at 7:00pm at St. Mary. Take this time to listen in the quiet to what the Lord has to speak to you. 

The Mass As You Have Never Seen It Before

Through a unique learning experience, including powerful cinematography and workbook resources, you will come to see the Mass and the priesthood in a dramatically new way. **ALTARation** is designed to stir thought, create conversation, dispel myths, and inspire you to a deep and lasting love for the Mass. The goal of **ALTARation** is not to fill your head with information but to pierce your heart with transformation.

After experiencing the "why" behind the "what" of the Mass, you will...

- ... Enter prepared
- ... Participate with sincerity
- ... And exit with purpose!

Please join us for this 5 part workshop held Sundays after 10:00am Mass on March 18, 25, April 8, 15 & 29, lasting no longer than an hour. Light Snacks will be provided. Please RSVP to Nicole Cory, 515-313-3014 (calls & texts welcome), or at ncory@saintmaryhc.org.

Pampered Chef S.T.O.R.M. Fundraiser

Our catalog party is open through next Sunday, March 18! Catalogs are available in the vestibule. Ordering details are included with the catalog. Funds raised will help pay for youth to go to Steubenville St. Paul in July. This is a Eucharistic centered retreat for high schoolers and is held at St. Thomas University in St. Paul, MN.

Food Pantry Collection

Please bring non-perishable food items to Mass next weekend; we will also take up a monetary collection. Thank you for your continued generosity in sharing with those in need. Your donation assists the Maxwell Food Pantry.

Let's Chat!

Join us Tuesday, March 20 at 7:00pm in the Social Hall. We can chat about how your Lenten journey is going or about ANYTHING else you want to share and discuss. This is a great opportunity for community building within our parish. ALL are invited to join us. Hope to see you there! And yes, we will have popcorn!

Lenten Reconciliation Service

You are encouraged to attend our Service next Sunday, March 18, 2:00pm at St. Mary. Additional priests will assist with individual confessions. Let us seek the mercy of God as we open our hearts to the presence of Christ who gave his life so we could have peace. **Come experience the healing power of Christ!**



If you are unable to attend our Reconciliation Service, here are Services in the Des Moines area:

- Our Lady's Immaculate Heart, March 11, 3:00pm
- Christ the King, March 11, 7:00pm
- St. Mary of Nazareth, March 18, 3:00pm
- St. Luke the Evangelist, March 18, 4:00pm
- Ss. John and Paul, March 19, 7:00pm
- St. Catherine of Siena, March 22, 6:00pm
- St. Anthony, March 24, 9:15am

Holy Thursday: Washing of Feet and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

We invite individuals to have their feet washed during our Holy Thursday Mass on March 29. We will have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 11:00pm in the Social Hall following this Mass. A sign up for both of these are in the vestibule at St. Mary and at Holy Cross.

Opportunities to Share the Journey



Share the Journey
#sharejourney

Join with Pope Francis, Bishop Pates and Friends of St. Francis over the next two months in their initiative **Share the Journey** - **Love Your Neighbor** to welcome migrants and refugees fleeing poverty and conflict in their search for a better life for their families. You can ...

... join the second and final book study of *Enrique's Journey* (Sonia Nazario) **March 19**, 6:30pm in the Social Hall. Used copies are available online for \$5.00-6.00+ and there's still plenty of time to read this true, eye-and heart-opening story.

... welcome newcomers to our diocese by contributing financially **March 24 - 25** to a special Catholic Charities collection for those in need including refugees and Latino people.

... contribute personal care and/or cleaning items at the parish for refugee resettlement in the diocese, **April 4-23**.

... open your hearts to poor and vulnerable brothers and sisters through a reflective *One on the Journey* prayer walk in the Social Hall, available **April 7 - 23**.

... see the eye-opening factoids on migration and refugees in the bulletin from now through **April and beyond**.

... find out more about Catholic teaching in the brochures provided by Bishop Pates "*Welcoming the Refugee and Migrant*" in the vestibule **until they're gone**.

... have specific questions answered after Masses at St. Mary Church **April 21 & 22** by Sol Varisco, former immigration program director of our diocese and current executive director of Justice For Our Neighbors.

Watch for more details about all.

A Memorial Gift

We offer you the opportunity to remember a loved one by donating towards the flowers that will decorate our Churches this Easter season. A memorial list will be printed in a future bulletin as a remembrance of your loved ones. Donation envelopes are included with your tithe envelopes; additional flower envelopes are available in the vestibule. Please return your donation by Sunday, March 25.

Liturgical Ministers Needed

You are invited to assist us with our Palm Sunday Masses, Holy Week Services and Easter Sunday Masses. A sign up is in the vestibule at St. Mary and at Holy Cross or call the Parish Office to volunteer. Thank you!

Ministers for Next Weekend

Saturday, March 17, 5:00pm Mass, St. Mary

Announcer	Arlene Anderson
Lector	Bill Sexton
Cup Bearers	Kris & Bill Sexton
Host Distributor	Deacon Terry
Altar Servers	Justin Anderson, Hunter Halligan, Daniel Schoening
Ushers	Jim Hudson, Bill Schmitt, Drew Hanlon, Mark Birchmier

Sunday, March 18, 8:00am Mass, Holy Cross

Announcer	Kathy Daup
Lector	Jackie Crouse
Cup Bearer	Deacon Terry
Altar Server	Valerie Beukema
Ushers	Bill & Shirley Jorgensen

Sunday, March 18, 10:00am Mass, St. Mary

Announcer	Tracy Kangas
Lector	Joe Dunham
Cup Bearers	Lori Dunham, Mike Nehring
Host Distributor	Deacon Terry
Altar Server	Christianne Ledet
Ushers	Dennis Schmidt, Doug Zehr, Brian, Will & Mia Pottebaum, Gregg Richwine

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Money Counters

March 11: Dona Cowman, Carol Weber

March 18: Kathy Daup, Dawn Reynolds

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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.*



Jesus Christ Superstar

Join us for this movie on Palm Sunday, March 25, 3:00pm (2:30pm potluck snacks) in the Social Hall. Jesus is portrayed as a very "human" person in this movie recounting the last week of His life and is from the surprising point of view Judas Iscariot. It is in a rock-opera format and dares to look at a classic religious story with a very different perspective.

The music is fantastically engaging. Copies of lyrics and an interpretation of the various scenes to assist in understanding the connection of the movie to Scripture, will be available on the table in the gathering area to take home and review in advance of the showing.

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



One of the primary reasons immigrants come to the United States in an undocumented manner is due to the many systemic barriers of our current immigration system. Enormous wait or "visa backlog" prevents them from reunifying with family members currently living in the United States in a timely fashion.

Winter Weather Cancellations



Whenever North Polk School is closed or evening school activities cancelled due to weather; activities here at the Parish will be cancelled as well. In most instances, Masses - daily and weekend - will not be cancelled. If there is a need to cancel weekend activities it will be on the three major TV networks; WHO radio and KWKY Catholic Radio.

Mass of Healing

St. Luke the Evangelist Church in Ankeny invites everyone to an incredible night of healing with Fr. Ubald on Wednesday, March 14 at 6:00pm. Fr. Ubald has an amazing gift and his focus is on healing, forgiveness and evangelization. During the 1994 genocide Fr. Ubald lost over 80 members of his family and more than 45,000 of his parishioners were exterminated. He escaped through the Congo on foot in the middle of the night. When he left Rwanda at that time he made a promise to his Bishop that he would return to bring healing to his people. You may learn more about Fr. Ubald and his work by going to www.frubald.com. Bring others to join us for this special Mass of Healing. Come and pray for others who cannot be there to pray for healing. As Fr. Ubald would say, "Jesus is not limited to time and space."

Fr. Ubald will also hold this service at St. Francis of Assisi Church on Thursday, March 15, 6:00pm and on Friday, March 16 at Christ the King Church, 7:00pm.

Beginning Experience Open House

What if the worst thing happens and you are widowed, separated or divorced? How do you cope if your life changes in a blink of an eye? How do you deal with the grief, loss and pain? Beginning Experience can help; you don't have to suffer alone. We have walked through similar feelings which you are facing. We are willing to walk with you in this journey to discover a new hope and meaningful life. We meet three Friday nights: March 16, 23 and April 6 from 7:00-8:30pm at St. Augustin Church Hall (42nd & Grand Ave.). The open house gives beginning steps of healing and is also an invitation to attend our weekend of April 20 - 22. If you wish to know more about the healing process, contact Dana Reed, 515-975-3745, Mike Losee, 515-360-8268 or Father Bob Schoemann, 515-418-1938.

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 11

Theme: We believe.

Reading I: 2 Chronicles 36:14-17, 19-29 • Early and often did God send messengers to them.

Reading II: Ephesians 2:4-10 • God is rich in mercy.

Gospel: John 3:14-21 • The light came into the world.

For Children: Who is one person in your life who supports your faith and helps it to grow?

For Youth: How can you move toward God's light in your life? What is your darkness that needs Jesus' healing?

For Adults: When is it difficult for you to believe? What particular line in this reading helps your faith?