



St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073



Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 26, 2017

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:

There is probably not such a thing as a "favorite" Station of the Cross. They are all pretty sad and graphic as they portray what Jesus endured on His journey to crucifixion on Calvary. It is difficult to understand and accept that anyone would endure that kind of pain and anguish for me (you), but He did. Praying the Stations of the Cross frequently brings on tears for those praying, which is very understandable.

However, I believe there is good in one particular station, and that would be the ninth station when Jesus falls the third time. There are only fourteen stations and there had to be a lot going on that could/should be devoted to any particular station. In His painful journey we hear that He fell the first time, He fell the second time, and then in the ninth station He falls the third time. And the significance is??

Jesus, in being true God and true man, shows that He falls in his humanness, not just once, but three times in fourteen stations! When we look at our lives, we KNOW that we have fallen many times. Because we know of Jesus falling and getting up again to continue His mission from God the Father, we should see from His falling and rising that it is anticipated that we fall in our human condition. It's almost as if he knows and gives us permission to fall, and again. Our message in this is to rise again and continue on whatever mission God has in mind for us. It would be wrong to chastise ourselves for falling and then to drop out of the race, or have a pity-party for ourselves because of our fall.

Jesus' "follow me" means to do that in all things, including rising after WE fall. Let us ask Him for His help as we try to rise from whatever has beaten us down. Blessings, Deacon Terry

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 |
| Melissa Kahler - RE, 7th-12th | mkahler@saintmaryhc.org |
| Barb Liske - Secretary | bliske@saintmaryhc.org |
| Tammi McClain - RE, PreK-6 | tmccain@saintmaryhc.org |
| Celeste Muehlenthaler - Music | cmuehlenthaler@saintmaryhc.org |
| Peter Relyea - Bookkeeper | prelyea@saintmaryhc.org |
| Sonya Staudt - RE, PreK-6 | sstaudt@saintmaryhc.org |

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|----------------------|--------------|---------|------------|
| 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 Lenten Events

Wednesday, March 29

5:30pm Holy Cross †John & Ann Breen

Thursday, March 30

8:00am St. Mary Blake & Shelby Overmohle

Friday, March 31

6:00pm St. Mary Stations of the Cross

Saturday, April 1

5:00pm St. Mary For the Parish

Sunday, April 2

8:00am Holy Cross †Michael Carpenter

10:00am St. Mary †Robert Nemeth, Sr.

Children's Liturgy of the Word during this Mass.



TRIDUUM AND EASTER SERVICES

Holy Thursday, April 13

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

Good Friday, April 14

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

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

Easter Vigil, Saturday, April 15

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

Easter Sunday, April 16


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!

Let's Chat!

 We gather this Tuesday, March 28, 7:00p in the Social Hall to chat about faith-related issues. Our first gathering was an enjoyable meeting with lots of issues discussed both in depth as well as in brief passing. Come with any questions or concerns you have about our Faith. All are welcome to participate in the conversation or to come and just listen and learn. As usual, free popcorn to the first 300 through the door! Ya'll Come!

Stations of the Cross & Fish Fry

Please join us this Friday, 6:00pm for the Stations of the Cross. The Knights of Columbus are serving their fish fry from 5:00 to 7:00pm in the Social Hall. Take out containers are available. Free will donation. Anyone is welcome to help anytime between 8am and 8pm.



Lenten Reconciliation Service

You are encouraged to attend this service next Sunday, April 2, 2:00pm at St. Mary. Additional priests will assist with 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!

It's Not Too Late!!



There's still time to sign up for our book club using the book [A Long Walk to Water](#). Excerpts from the book include, "But the people in the south were of different religions and did not want to be forced to practice Islam. They began fighting for independence from the north." Chapter One, p. 7. "Home for just long enough to eat, Nya would now make her second trip to the pond. To the pond and back - to the pond and back - nearly a full day of walking altogether." Chapter Four, p. 20. *Interested in joining? Contact Tammi McClain, tmccclain@saintmaryhc.org / 515-290-3904. We begin soon!*

Clothing Drive!

It's time to start gathering your good used clothing for our Clothing Drive April 8 - 20. Hope Ministries appreciates your donations for those less fortunate.

Sunday Scripture Prayer and Study
Wednesdays, March 29, April 5, 12 & 26, 7:00pm, Conf. Rm
Meditative Prayer Time
Saturdays, April 1, 8, 22 & 29, 8:00-9:00am, Office
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Thursday, April 20, 7:00pm, St. Mary
Pastoral Council
Meeting: To be announced
Finance Council
Meeting: Tuesday, April 18, 7:00pm, Conference Room
Stewardship Committee
Meeting: Tuesday, April 11, 6:00pm, Office Area
Knights of Columbus
Meeting: Sunday, April 9 with 1st Degree, 6:30pm, Hall
Funeral Luncheon Call Leaders, Team 6
Jenny Koudelka, Kate Rutledge, Karla Seeman

Coming Events

- †**Sunday, March 26:** *One Earth, One Chance* event, 11:15am-1:30pm, Social Hall & Ed Center
- †**Tuesday, March 28:** *Let's Chat*, 7:00pm, Social Hall
- †**Children's Choir practice:** Wednesdays, March 29, April 5, 12, & 19, 6:00-6:45pm, St. Mary
- †**Friday, March 31:** Stations of the Cross, 6:00pm, St. Mary — K of C fish fry served 5:00-7:00pm, Social Hall
- †**Sunday, April 2:** Reconciliation Service, 2:00pm, SM
- †**Sundays, April 2, 9:** Adult Choir practice, 11:00am — Men's Choir practice, 12:30pm, St. Mary
- †**Clothing Drive:** April 8 - 20, St. Mary
- †**Work Days:** St. Mary: Saturday, April 29, Holy Cross: Saturday, May 20, 9:00am to Noon

Are You Interested in Assisting With the Next Generation of Parishioners??

The end of our Confirmation year is almost upon us!! I am looking to add many exciting things next year to the existing Confirmation program, and am in need of a Confirmation Core Team to assist me. Come to an informational meeting Monday, April 3, 7:00pm in the Social Hall. Responsibilities would be based on how much YOU are able to commit yourself! Assistance is needed in the following areas: Small group leaders/co-leaders (materials, lessons, and guidance always provided), chaperones and feedback on program itself. Contact Nicole Cory with questions or to volunteer, ncory@saintmaryhc.org, 515-313-3014.

Religious Education

PreK-6: Co-Catechetical Leaders

Tammi McClain, tmcclain@saintmaryhc.org, 515-290-3904
Sonya Staudt, sstaudt@saintmaryhc.org, 515-710-4583

2nd graders and Parents: — First Eucharist Learning Centers will be available Friday, April 8 (8:00am - 8:00pm) and Saturday, April 9 (8:00am - 5:00pm). These will take about 45 minutes to complete and will be set up similar to First Reconciliation Learning Centers. — Fr. Dan will bless students during Masses the weekend of April 9 & 10 — Reminder to turn in your child's First Eucharist Workbook by April 19. Thank you!

Each RE class will be participating in a contest to create a recycled sculpture that is relevant to a Bible Verse. If you have "unique" recyclables, please send them in with your child(ren).

Have you thanked your child's catechist lately? Merely saying thank you, for the time and energy they volunteer each week, is a nice way to show how much you appreciate them.

VBS is going to be EPIC!!! At *Maker Fun Factory* kids will experience incredible Bible learning experiences where they will get to see, hear, touch, and even taste! Let faith flow into real life! VBS is June 19 - 22; meals begins at 5:30pm and the factory doors open each night at 6:00pm! More information including registration will be coming soon!

RE Fees: Reminder letters were sent to those who opted to make payments; please submit your payment as soon as possible. Thank you to those who have made their payment.

Catholic Youth Camp registration is open. Visit <https://stmcenter.com/catholic-youth-camp>. *Our Parish contributes \$100 of the fee for each child of our Parish who attends. Please notify Barb in the office when your child is registered.*

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

C1 & C 2 Sessions: Sunday, April 2, 5:30-7:30pm.

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

Silhouette Stations practices

Sunday, March 26, 6:00-9:00pm
Sunday, April 2, after 10:00am Mass
Wednesday, April 5, 6:00-9:00pm
Friday, April 7, after school; then Stations at 6:00pm

EDGE: Session March 29, 6:00-7:30pm, Social Hall

Life Night/Life Teen: Session March 29, 7:45-9:30pm, Youth Room

Music News

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

We rehearse for First Eucharist Mass on Wednesdays beginning this week, 6:00-6:45pm in St. Mary. We have small group, if there are any older kids or adults who'd like to join us, please contact me.

Do you play piano or organ or feel comfortable leading our weekend music with another instrument? We are in great need of additional folks to play at our weekend Masses or we may not have accompaniment at some of them! Please pray on this! If not you, then who?

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Garrett McClain - 515-685-2314 - Alleman - gmcclain@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

Arlene Anderson - 515-967-6770 - Bondurant - arlene@4andersons.com
Susan Genalo - 515-367-3033 - Elkhart - sagenalo@yahoo.com
Beth Hart - 515-515-306-4916 - Maxwell - mrsmatthart@gmail.com
Bill Sexton - 515-829-8995 - Ankeny - billsxtn@gmail.com
Sue White - 515-967-2996 - Bondurant - charylmyron@q.com
John Zidon - 515-967-3367 - Bondurant - 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 - ishaw@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 19 Week 38

| | <u>Received</u> | <u>Budget</u> |
|---------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Tithes/Plate/Youth/Guests | \$2,327 | \$5,469 |

Year-to-Date

| | <u>Received</u> | <u>Budget</u> | <u>Last Year</u> |
|---------------------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------|
| Tithes/Plate/Youth/Guests | \$193,820 | \$207,831 | \$208,402 |

Food Pantry Collection: \$772.05

2017 Annual Diocesan Appeal

| <u>Parish Goal</u> | <u>Pledge Total</u> | <u>Payments</u> | <u>Balance Due</u> |
|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| \$ 56,442 | \$ 226,415 | \$ 16,790 | \$ 39,652 |

Annual Diocesan Appeal

Please prayerfully consider what you are able to give and return a pledge card in the collection basket at Mass or mail it to the Parish Office. Pledge cards are also available in the pews. Everyone's participation is need! Thank you.

Diocesan Catholic Relief Services Collection

This Collection helps six Catholic agencies provide relief and support to struggling communities all over the world. Learn more at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief. Envelopes are in this bulletin, please return your gift next weekend.

Liturgical Ministers for Next Weekend

Saturday, April 1, 5:00pm Mass, St. Mary

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|------------------|--|
| Announcer | John Zidon |
| Lector | Bill Sexton |
| Cup Bearers | Kris Sexton, Diane Cronk |
| Host Distributor | Bill Sexton |
| Altar Servers | Emily, Abigail & Joe Devereux |
| Ushers | Doug, Patrick & Thomas Jones, Mike Devereux |

Sunday, April 2, 8:00am Mass, Holy Cross

| | |
|--------------|--------------------------|
| Announcer | Celia Shedd |
| Lector | Anne Davis |
| Cup Bearer | Laurie Phelan |
| Altar Server | Kelcie Shedd |
| Ushers | Bill & Shirley Jorgensen |

Sunday, April 2, 10:00am Mass, St. Mary

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Announcer | Matt Miller |
| Lector | Lori Dunham |
| Cup Bearers | Joe Dunham, Lisa Gonnerman |
| Host Distributor | Dan Gonnerman |
| Altar Server | Griffen Muth, Andrew Ausman |
| Ushers | Jacki & Tom Ausman Garrett, Tammi & Jackson McClain |

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Money Counters

March 27: Carol Weber, Kathy Daup

April 2: Sharon Morris, Brenda Nehring

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Liturgical Ministers!

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

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!

What Is NCYC?

NCYC (National Catholic Youth Conference) is an exciting, biannual three-day experience of prayer, catechesis, community, and discipleship and fun! Catholic teenagers and their adult chaperones will learn about the Catholic faith through keynote presentations and workshop sessions that address a wide variety of topics. Some of the amazing activities include celebration of the Eucharist, Sacrament of Reconciliation, concerts, exhibits and a thematic park.

Parents & 8th - 11th graders are invited to an informational meeting on Sunday, April 9 after 10:00am Mass, to learn more about NCYC. Please call or text Andrea Fisher, 515-240-5059, with any questions or concerns.

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 April 13. 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.

SAYWHAT? Recycling one glass bottle or jar saves enough electricity to light a 100-watt bulb for four hours.

Recycling one ton of plastic saves the equivalent of 1,000–2,000 gallons of gasoline.

Pastoral Assistance

Please contact Fr. Dan Krettek, 515-423-2888 or Deacon Terry, 515-669-6158, if a family member is in a care facility, home-bound, or hospitalized, and they wish a visit.

Parish Time and Talent Survey!!

This survey has been emailed to parishioners and paper copies are available at both St. Mary and Holy Cross. It will take 5 to 10 minutes to complete and provides options for how you can get involved in various groups and activities. Selections you make on this survey are not a commitment; it's an indication of interest or for more information. Please respond to the survey by April 14. Paper copies may be returned to the Parish Office. Thanks for sharing your talents with our St. Mary-Holy Cross Parish!

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 Monday, April 10.

Movie Afternoon

Join us to watch *Jesus Christ Superstar* on Palm Sunday, April 9 at 4:00pm (3:30pm potluck snacks) in the Social Hall. Jesus is portrayed as a very "human" kind of 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.

Prayer Chain

If illness or a crisis strikes your family or friends, don't hesitate to contact the Parish Office, 515-367-2685 or bliske@saintmaryhc.org, so members of our Parish may offer prayers for your needs. *If the request is for someone else, please ask their permission to be on our prayer chain.*

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 26

Theme: We are children of the Light.

Reading I: 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a • David is anointed king of Israel.

Reading II: Ephesians 5:8-14 • You are people of the light.

Gospel: John 9:1-41 • Jesus gives us sight.

Question for Children: What are the things that Jesus wants you to do as his friend?

Question for Youth: Jesus helped a blind man see—and he helps each of us see the world differently. How do you see differently because you believe?

Question for Adults: Share how you, as a child of the light, in the power of Christ, produce goodness, justice, and truth for the world. What specific actions do you take to do this?