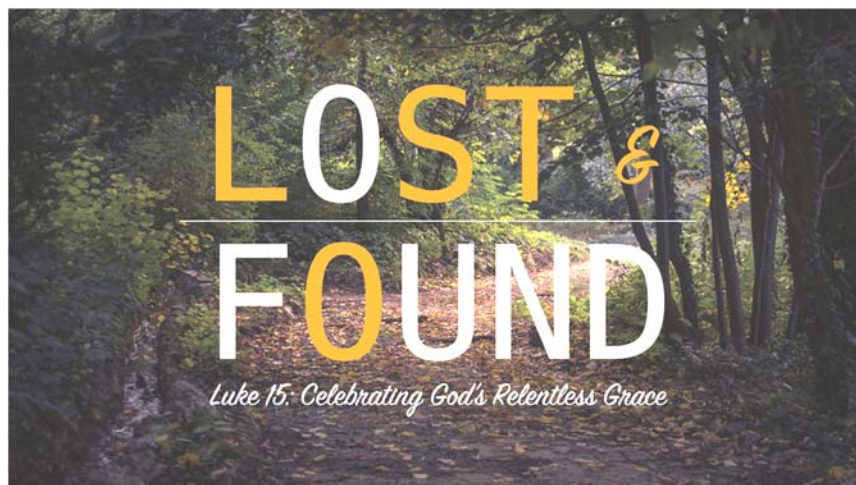




St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073



Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 31, 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,

The fourth Sunday of Lent is also known as "Laetare Sunday." *Laetare* is translated from Latin as *rejoice*. Why rejoice about what might seem like just another day in this penitential season? A reason is that it is the first Sunday past the halfway point of Lent. After this day, there are about seventeen more days of Lent and about nineteen until Easter, which begins with the vigil on April 20 at 8:30 PM.

If you are interested in leading and organizing religious education for pre-kindergarten through sixth grade, please let me know, even if you aren't sure and have questions.

Thanks to Drew, who installed exterior hand rails over the last couple days. Some of those steps are steep, so please, still exercise caution. The doors going directly into the church will now be open more for those who prefer to use them.

- Father 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, Adoration and Stations of the Cross

Tuesday, April 2

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

Wednesday, April 3

5:30pm Holy Cross †Mikey & Will Carpenter

Thursday, April 4

8:00am St. Mary †Donnie Smith

First Friday, April 5

9:00am St. Mary †Butch Moody
6:00pm St. Mary Stations of the Cross

Saturday, April 6

5:00pm St. Mary †Brad West

Sunday, April 7

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



TRIDUUM SERVICES

Holy Thursday, April 18

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

Good Friday, April 19

3:00pm Stations and Veneration of the Cross,
Holy Cross
7:00pm Commemoration of the Passion of Jesus,
St. Mary

Easter Vigil, Saturday, April 20

8:30pm Mass, St. Mary (no 5:00pm Mass)

Easter Sunday, April 21

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!

Are You on Your Way to Transformation?

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

There's still time to take advantage of the reflection resources and Rice Bowl in the vestibule.



Stations of the Cross and Fellowship

Join us to pray the Stations of the Cross on Fridays during Lent at 6:00pm at St. Mary. Following Stations on April 12 we will have a Lenten meal in the Social Hall.

Fish Fry Friday

The Knights of Columbus invite you to their fish fry this Friday from 5:00-7:00pm in the Social Hall. Price is a free-will offering. Take-out containers are available, or bring your own if you'd like. If interested in helping out, please contact Jon Hand at 515-460-0050 or jon79hand@gmail.com.

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.

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.

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

RCIA Gatherings

Sundays following 10am Mass: March 31, April 7 & 14,
Conference Room

Cross Ministry

Meeting: Tuesday, April 30, 6:30 - 8:00pm, Ed Center

Finance Council

Meeting: Tuesday, April 16, 7:00pm, Ed Center

Stewardship Committee

Meeting: Monday, April 8, 6:00pm, Ed Center

Knights of Columbus

Meeting: Sunday, April 14, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Funeral Luncheon Call Leaders, Team 5
Mary Cory, Kelly Muth

Upcoming Events

- †**Totally Catholic Jewelry Fundraiser by Youth:** After weekend Masses at St. Mary March 29/30 and April 6/7
- †**Fridays during Lent: Stations of the Cross,** 6:00pm, St. Mary. Lenten meal April 12; Fish fry April 5
- †**Parish Lenten Reconciliation Service:** Sunday, April 7 2:00pm, St. Mary
- †**Jesus Christ Superstar Movie:** Palm Sunday, April 14, 2:00pm, Social Hall, with potluck snacks at 1:30pm

Music News 🎵

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

March 31 Rehearsals: Men, 11am to Noon; Easter Vigil choir, 12:30 to 1:30pm, in the Church.

As we notice more silence in our Mass during Lent...On occasion, instead of singing, we may be silent when the gifts of money are gathered for the poor and for the church, and when the gifts of bread and wine are brought to the altar. And when all have been fed, when all have drank from the cup, again we are silent, caught up in the reverie of great mystery, standing together wide-eyed and satisfied, breathing quiet gratitude for life breaking out everywhere, enjoying the quiet of this moment before an eternal dawn, when God will be all in all and the final silence will be ruptured with raucous, joyous cries of "Worthy! Worthy! Worthy!"

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Religious Education PreK-6

Stacie Hergenreter, Catechetical Leader

shergenreter@saintmaryhc.org, 515-491-3876

The Knights of Columbus have one final Fish Fry this Friday, April 5 from 5:00-7:00pm. Please bring in desserts to support this meal. We are planning on serving 500+ people. Your past generosity is much appreciated and a great deal of the funds raised at the fish fry go to activities for our youth. Please drop off desserts 3:00pm.

**Up Coming Dates: April 3 - Class April 10 - No class
April 17 - Last Class**

First Eucharist Dates:

April 6/7 weekend: Blessing of students at Mass

April 28 - First Eucharist Mass, 2:00pm, St. Mary

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I wanted to say thank you to all for allowing me to serve your children as the RE Coordinator over the past two years. I feel I have learned more from the children than I imparted on them. A huge thank you goes out to all of the Catechists that make RE possible. We are very blessed as a parish to have so many caring and talented catechists that share their faith so openly with our children.

As we all can attest to, different people have an impact on us at various times in our lives and I think that rings even truer when it comes to one's faith. There is no harder thing to teach than faith since it isn't something that can be seen by the naked eye. Our children are being exposed to so many things in today's society, some good, but many things that aren't so good. With that said, having a strong faith seems even more important to assist us all in forging ahead and to make good decisions.

As some of you may know, I love to assist children and adults in leading a healthy lifestyle. A healthy lifestyle to me is made up of three key components: spirituality, activity and healthy eating. I have been able to be involved in the spirituality side of things at Saint Mary-Holy Cross, but I feel my calling is being involved in all three areas.

I am currently working towards becoming a certified personal trainer. In the past when someone heard personal trainer, they thought of them as a person that helps you get ready for a beach vacation! However, they have become a great deal more and now are actively engaged in assisting people to lead a healthier lifestyle in a world that is becoming more unhealthy by the day due to the change in how we lead our daily lives; one that is sedentary, and our children are heavily being impacted by this.

Being the RE Coordinator is a great way to be involved with the Church and to have an impact on the children of the Parish. If you are interested at all but just are not sure what to expect, please reach out to me and I will answer any questions that you may have.

Again, thank you to all for letting me serve our Parish.

~ Stacie

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

April 3: Lent, the Journey Continues

April 10: NO SESSION, Stations of the Cross rehearsal

April 17: Last EDGE, evaluations, party and blessing

continued.....

CROSS MINISTRY TEAM

This team functions as the Pastoral Council for the parish. It consists of members from each ministry (e.g. RE, Stewardship, K of C, Liturgy, Finance Council, etc.), as well as others from the parish. For more information, please contact Fr. Andrew

FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Heidi Ackerman - 641-203-5322 - Huxley - heidimdittmer@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
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 - 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

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

Weekly Collection Financial Update

	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>	
Tithes/Plate/	\$3,846	\$5,157	March 16/17
Youth/Guests	\$4,347	\$5,157	March 23/24

Year-to-Date

	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Guests	\$214,344	\$207,124	\$197,757

Flood Relief Collection: \$804.09

Auto Debit for Tithing: Use this safe and convenient service to automatically withdrawal from your bank account for your tithing. For more information contact Dave Orgeta, *dortega@saintmaryhc.org* or 515-367-2685.

C1 & C2 (9th & 10th Grades)

Saturday, April 6: Spring Community Service Day

Sunday, April 7: Annual Confirmation Reconciliation Service during 2:00pm, Parish wide Lenten Reconciliation Service.

Sunday, 7 - Confirmation Session, 6:00 - 7:00pm,
9th Grade: Lesson 11 10th Grade: Lesson 23

The best math equation: 1 cross + 3 nails = 4 given.

Lenten Reconciliation Service

You are encouraged to attend our Service next Sunday, April 7, 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:

St. John the Apostle (Norwalk), March 31, 1:00-3:00pm

All Saints, March 31, 2:00pm

Our Lady's Immaculate Heart, March 31, 3:00pm

Christ the King, April 7, 6:00pm

Assumption (Granger), April 10, 6:30pm

St. Catherine of Siena, April 11, 6:00-8:00pm

St. Joseph, April 11, 6:30pm

St. Anthony, April 13, 9:00am



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, April 12, 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.*

Old Palms

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

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 18. 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 is in the vestibule at St. Mary and at Holy Cross.

Jesus Christ Superstar



Join us for this movie on Palm Sunday, April 14, 2:00pm (1:30pm 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.

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, April 14.



This Weekend and Next!

S.T.O.R.M.'s **Totally Catholic Jewelry Fundraiser** in the Social Hall following 5:00pm and 10:00am Masses. We have beautiful and affordable Catholic jewelry displayed for purchase. Shop for your Confirmation, First Eucharist and Easter gifts! The money you spend supports the youth of our parish to attend NCYC, Retreats and other youth events. See you at the sale!



Helping the Flood Victims

If you have an interest in assisting families and parishes displaced by the flooding along the Missouri River personally or as a parish group, please contact Deb Powers at Catholic Charities at powers@catholiccharitiesdm.org.

Baby Bottle Campaign



Our Parish is organizing this Campaign for InnerVisions HealthCare, a local unplanned pregnancy and STD medical clinic. Their mission is to empower women with unplanned pregnancies in vulnerable situations to choose parenting or adoption. Next weekend you'll find baby bottles in the vestibule; please take one, fill it with change, cash, or check and return it the following weekend, April 13/14. If you have any questions, please contact Bryan Gonzalez of InnerVisions at 812-686-6102. To learn more about their life-affirming work, visit www.ivhcare.org or look them up on Facebook (@ivhcare) or Twitter (@ivhcare).

7th - 12th Grade Volunteers Needed!

Choral Reading of the Passion. No singing involved, it's read from a script. Practices: Monday, April 15, 6:30pm, Wednesday, April 17, 7:30pm (after EDGE). The reading is on Good Friday, April 19 at the 7:00pm Service at St. Mary. Please contact Nicole Cory if interested, 515-313-3014 or ncory@saintmaryhc.org.

College Scholarship \$\$

Did you know that our Parish has a scholarship available for high school seniors planning on attending college next fall? This year the Stewardship Committee is teaming up with the Knights of Columbus to offer (2) \$200.00 scholarships to teens that have been directly involved in our parish. The application is available on the parish website.

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. To learn more, please come to an Open Houses on April 5 or April 12 from 7:00-8:30pm at St. Augustin's Catholic Church, 42nd & Grand, or contact Father Bob Schoemann at 515-418-1938, Daryl Stahl at 515-480-6617, or Dana Reed at 515-975-3745. The next *Beginning Experience Weekend* is April 26-28 at St. Thomas More Center in Panora.

A Child's Letter to God

Dear God, If You give me a genie lamp like Aladin, I will give you anything you want, except my money or my chess set. ~ Raphael

Liturgical Ministers

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!

Saturday, April 6, 5:00pm, St. Mary

Announcer	Jack McDermott
Lector	Di Schleisman
Cup Bearers	Dellila Roberts, Patty Devereux
Host Distributor	Mike Devereux
Altar Servers	Abby & Emily Devereux, Alex Hergenreter
Ushers	Drew Hanlon, Jim Hudson, Mark Lengel, Mark Birchmier

Sunday, April 7, 8:00am, Holy Cross

Announcer	Anne Davis
Lector	Heidi Ackerman
Cup Bearer	Jon Hand
Altar Server	Kaden Gilligan
Ushers	Brody Gilligan Family

Sunday, April 7, 10:00am, St. Mary

Announcer	Joe Dunham
Lector	Lori Dunham
Cup Bearers	Garrett McClain, Jacki Ausman
Host Distributor	Tom Ausman
Altar Servers	Jackson & Joel Waters, Sawyer Smeltzer
Ushers	Bill Dunbar, Kelly Dunbar, Brian, Will & Mya Pottebaum

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Money Counters

March 31: Dawn Reynolds, Carol Weber

April 7: Sue White, Lisa Kautza

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Married Couples!

Would you like to re-live the excitement, romance and passion from your honeymoon? Rekindle that spark on a *Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend* on April 12-14 in Ankeny or May 3-5 in Dubuque. For more information call 563-608-3305 or visit our website at iowa-wwme.org.

Want to Strengthen Your Marriage?

Join our marriage enrichment ministry, *The Third Option*, which meets the first and third Monday of each month from 7:00 to 9:00pm at Mercy College, 928 6th Ave. in Des Moines (parking available in the north lot). *The Third Option* is an on-going support group for marriages, which is built upon 14 skill based workshops that cover a comprehensive set of tools to help couples develop better understanding, sensitivity and trust. This is a program meant for couples that are hurting and for couples that just want to make a good thing better! Come join a community focused on the skills that help marriages thrive! For more information contact Adam Storey at astorey@dm-diocese.org or Maria Campbell at maria.campbell@msn.com or visit dm-diocese.org and click on Marriage and Family Life. For more information about *The Third Option* visit <http://thethirdoption.com/>.

Movie Reviews

See www.catholicnews.com/movies.cfm.



An aluminum can thrown away today will still be a can 500 years from now!

Set Some Time Aside

How can we take the first steps toward setting time aside this Lenten season to hear what God's saying? How do we carve out time in a busy schedule to pray? Check out some of the offerings at Emmaus House Spirituality Center. Go to TheEmmausHouse.org and find a way to connect with God this season of Lent!

Encounter: First Fridays

Encounter is a night of Adoration, music, and witness created to build a culture of prayer in the Des Moines area. Adoration is paired with live music, a speaker, and time for private reflection to give people multiple ways to grow in their relationship with God. *Encounter* is the first Friday of every month starting at 7:00pm at St. Pius X Catholic Church in Urbandale. Families of all ages are welcome. For more information please email firstencounterdsm@gmail.com

CYC!

Start thinking about the best week of your summer and register for Catholic Youth Camp! This is for anyone in 3rd grade to High School Seniors! Come and enjoy a week of adventuring in the outdoors while you grown in faith and friendship. Register NOW! More Information and registration at STM-CENTER.com. *Financial aid is available.* Here's a link to a YouTube promotional video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xKBbBfKZEh0>.

—Our parish pays \$100 towards the fee of each child of the parish who attends CYC!

Steubenville 2019

Sign up now for this retreat held on July 26-28 in St. Paul, MN. Cost is \$307 (six meals, two T-shirt's, transportation, housing and retreat fee). See informational flyer on the bulletin board. An invoice form is on the table; to register please fill out this form, include a \$50 nonrefundable deposit with it and place it in the box on that table or in the collection basket at Mass. For questions please contact Andrea Fisher, afisher@saintmaryhc.org/515-240-5059.

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

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 31

*Theme: God wants us to come back.
Now is the time to reconcile.*

Reading I: Joshua 5:9a, 10-12 • They ate the produce of the land.

Reading II: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21 • We are reconciled with God through Christ.

Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11-32 • The son that was lost came back home.

Children: Who is the one person you most need to say, "I'm sorry" to in your family?

Youth: Is it difficult for you to say "I'm sorry" when you hurt another or get off track in your own life? Why or why not?

Adults: How have you or your family welcomed a family member who has been distant and/or absent from you?