



# St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073



November 25, 2018

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*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.*

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Dear Friends in Christ,

Repent! The end is near!

And so it is; the end of our liturgical year is close at hand. The liturgical year is kind of like a fiscal year, the time when the Church year "starts over" again. We are ending the longer of the two periods known as ordinary time, so called because there are no major events occurring during these periods. The color green is used during this period.

Our next liturgical season, Advent, begins on Sunday, December 2nd. Advent is a season observed in many Christian churches as a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas. Advent, along with Lent, is a penitential season when people are called to introspection, repentance, and renewal.

The liturgical color for Advent is violet, with the exception of the third Sunday. The color for the third Sunday, known as Gaudete Sunday, from the Latin word meaning "to rejoice," is rose, or pink.

The Advent wreath, used during this season, holds four candles, three purple and one rose, each representing a week of Advent. The wreath is blessed on the first Sunday of Advent and displayed throughout the season. The Advent wreath serves as a reminder of the approach of the feast of Christmas. Blessings, Deacon Terry

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## Parish Information

<b>Parish Phone</b>	515-367-2685
<b>Fr. Andrew Windschitl</b>	515-367-2685
<b>Deacon Terry Schleisman</b>	515-669-6158
<b>Parish General Email</b>	smhc@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Parish Fax</b>	515-367-7028
<b>Parish Web Site</b>	www.saintmaryhc.org
<b>Parish Facebook Site</b>	St. Mary's Holy Cross Parish-Elkhart
<b>Fr. Andrew Windschitl</b>	Fr.Andrew@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Deacon Terry Schleisman</b>	tschleisman@saintmaryhc.org
Adult Faith Sharing	
<b>Nicole Cory</b> - Confirmation	ncory@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Andrea Fisher</b> - RE, 7th-12th	afisher@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Stacie Hergenreter</b> - PreK-6	shergenreter@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Melissa Kahler</b> - RE, 7th-12th	mkahler@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Barb Liske</b> - Secretary	bliske@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Celeste Muehlenthaler</b> - Music	cmuehlenthaler@saintmaryhc.org
<b>Peter Relyea</b> - Bookkeeper	prelyea@saintmaryhc.org

<b>Mass Schedule</b>	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>

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## Masses

### Wednesday, November 28

5:30pm Holy Cross †*Jim Shaw*

### Thursday, November 29

8:00am St. Mary †*Rick McQuiston*

### Saturday, December 1

5:00pm St. Mary †*Marilyn Joan Hart*

### Sunday, December 2

8:00am Holy Cross †*John Iliff*  
10:00am St. Mary *For the Parish*

## 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.



## Advent Reflection Resources

*We have various booklets for all ages for you and your family's use during the Advent Season; a time of looking forward and waiting for something greater; both for the annual celebration of the event of Christ's birth, and Christ's second coming. You will find them in the vestibule until they are gone.*

**Prepare the Way of the Lord:** The author beautifully explains that Advent isn't an isolated season, but a time to realize that God is with us 365 days a year.

**Peace on Earth:** Guide your family through a peace-filled Advent, fostering love for one another and encouraging peace in the world. Let us look to Jesus in the manger and open our hearts to receive the peace that only He can give.

**Jesus, Open Our Hearts!** Children can prepare for Jesus' coming by coloring ornaments on a Christmas tree as they complete the prayerful and caring activities each day.

**Little Blue Book:** Six-minute reflections from the Gospel of Luke, a little bit at a time, and a variety of thoughts about the Advent and Christmas seasons, feasts, and various traditions and customs.

**The Word Among Us:** Offers daily meditations and inspirational stories with the theme "Journeying Through Advent With Mary", and special features about John the Baptist and St. Francis of Assisi.



## Work of Our Hands Festival

Enjoy a fun, relaxing time sampling food and finding out more about the goods and services provided by St. Mary-Holy Cross parishioners at the Work of Our Hands Festival next weekend; Saturday, December 1, 1:00 - 4:45pm & 6:00 - 7:00pm and Sunday, December 2, 11:00am - 12:30pm. Ethical Trade goods, created by artisans in developing countries, and other new products will also be available for purchase. Do some Christmas shopping at our Festival! There will be wine and cheese on Saturday and coffee and donuts on Sunday. Join us for our Festival!!

## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday, December 20, 7:00pm, St. Mary

## RCIA Gathering

Sundays, Dec. 2 (Ed Center), 9, 16 & 23 (Hall), 11am-12:30pm

## Cross Ministry

Meeting: Sunday, Nov. 25, 11:00am-12:30pm, Social Hall

## Finance Council

Meeting: Tuesday, January 15, 7:00pm, Social Hall

## Stewardship Committee

Meeting: Tuesday, December 11, 6:00pm, Office Area

## Friends of St. Francis

Meeting: date and time to be decided

## Knights of Columbus

Meeting: Sunday, Dec. 16, 7:00pm, Social Hall

## Funeral Luncheon Call Leaders, Team 5

Mary Cory, Kelly Muth

## Upcoming Events

†**Clothing Drive:** Month of November, Ed Center

†**Adult Choir practice:** Sundays, Dec. 2, 9, 16 & 23  
11:00am-12:30pm, St. Mary Church

†**Good News Singers practice:** Wednesdays, Nov. 28,  
Dec. 5, 12, 6-6:45pm & Dec. 19, 5:30-6:30pm, SM Church

†**Work of Our Hands Festival:** Saturday, Dec. 1, 1- 4:45pm  
& 6 - 7pm, and Sunday, Dec. 2, 11am-12:30pm, Social Hall

†**Ladies Christmas Party:** Wednesday, Dec. 5 beginning  
with 6:00pm Mass, St. Mary

†**Senior Citizen Breakfast:** Friday, Dec. 7 after 9:00am  
Mass, St. Mary

†**Advent Reconciliation Service:** Sunday, Dec. 9, 2pm, SM

## Help Needed with Snow Removal

We are looking for volunteers to do two-week shifts now through mid April at St. Mary. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Drew Hanlon, 515-367-3367 / dlhanlon@windstream.net. Thank you.

## Ethical Trade Goods Coming Dec. 1 & 2

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Ethical Trade goods will be displayed for purchase at the Work of Our Hands Festival, December 1 and 2. These products were created by artisans in developing countries and the proceeds of their sale will be returned to the artisans by CRS. CRS' vetting process goes a step further than typical fair trade principles to ensure that the business practices of the cooperatives with which they partner are not in conflict with Catholic social teachings. Come to view these beautiful, high quality products and support the families that produce them. For more, visit <https://ethicaltrade.crs.org> We will also have Honduran El Zapote Coffee for tasting and purchase. St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, Ames, sold nearly two tons of this coffee this year with proceeds going directly to the growers association in Honduras as part of the parish's ministry to the parish of Dulce Nombre de Maria Honduras. For more, see <https://staparish.net/social-justice/honduras-ministry>.

## Pictorial Directory!

Celebrate our church family by being part of our directory. Photography sessions resume Thursday and slots are still open to reserve! Go to <https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/yxxt0hxe/> to make an appointment. **If you do not wish your contact information included, you MUST contact the Parish Office.**