



St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073



Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 16/17, 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,

On Wednesday this past week, the Church in the United States celebrated the memorial of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini. She was born in Italy then emigrated to the U.S. and founded the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart, an order that served God and others through schools, hospitals, and orphanages. Canonized in 1946, she was the first U.S. citizen to be granted such an honor. Of course, saints in general are role models by which we can live the Christian faith; this saint shows us that holiness is attainable regardless of from where we come. Sanctity knows no bounds!

~ Father 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, November 19

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

Wednesday, November 20

5:30pm Holy Cross †Jerry Hanlon

Thursday, November 21

8:00am St. Mary †Bernard Hanlon

Saturday, November 23

5:00pm St. Mary †Robert Richardson

Sunday, November 24

8:00am Holy Cross †Tom Bellis
10:00am St. Mary For the Parish

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

Parish Council

Meeting: Tuesday, November 26, 6:30pm, Ed Center

Finance Council

Meeting: Tuesday, November 19, 7:00pm, Ed Center

Stewardship Committee

Meeting: Monday, December 9, 6:00pm, Ed Center

Friends of St. Francis

Meeting: Date to be announced

Knights of Columbus

Meeting: Sunday, November 17, 7:00pm, Social Hall

Funeral Luncheon Call Leaders, Team 5

Mary Cory, Kelly Muth, Karen Stafford

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.

Book of Remembrance

During November this Book will be in the Sanctuary. You are invited to write in the names of your deceased loved ones to be remembered at our Masses.

NCYC "Move the Bus"

Thank you for your support with the NCYC "Move the Bus" ticket sales. We raised close to \$300 in ONE weekend! That is great support! Thanks to your generosity we are well on our way to getting our bus to and from Indy! We hope to reach our goal of 1000 miles sponsored! The "bus tickets" are \$1 a mile! Please stop by our table in the vestibule this weekend and help get our 12 teens and chaperones there and BACK from Indianapolis! Don't forget with your purchase of a ticket you will be treated to an appreciation brunch on Jan 12, following 10:00am Mass at St. Mary!

This Thursday we leave on our amazing pilgrimage where we will participate in daily Mass, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Reconciliation, worship, music and attend sessions that feature incredible Catholic speakers, dynamic story tellers, fantastic musicians and lovers of faith. Please keep us in your prayers!

A Get Together!!

Join us for conversation, playing games or working on crafts this Thursday, Nov. 21, 9:30am in the Social Hall!

We Are In Need of Your Assistance!

We are looking for volunteers to do one or two-week shifts of snow removal at St. Mary through mid April. Many hands make light work! For more information or to volunteer, please email Drew Hanlon at dlhanlon@windstream.net. Thank you for considering this request.

Prayer – Wireless Access to God With No Fees

Upcoming Events

†**This weekend:** "Move the NCYC Bus" Fundraiser

†**Thursday, Nov. 21:** Crafts, Games & Social Time, 9:30am, Social Hall

†**Adult Christmas Choir practice** (6th graders and up): Sundays after 10:00am Mass for one hour Nov. 17, 24, and Dec. 8, 15 & 22

†**Children's Choir practice** (1st - 5th graders): Sundays 9:25 - 9:55am in the Social Hall, Nov. 17, 24, and Dec. 8, 15 & 22

†**Sunday, Nov. 24:** Coffee & donuts after 8:00am Mass

Music News

Sue Schmidt, coordinator

515-689-9949 / sschmidt@saintmaryhc.org

Our Children's Choir (1st – 5th graders) will sing at Christmas Eve 5:00pm Mass. Practices are Sundays 9:25 to 9:55am in the Social Hall beginning today, Nov. 17 and on Nov. 24, Dec. 8, 15 & 22. Come sing and play the bells!

Our Adult Choir (6th graders to Adults) will also sing at this Mass. Practices are Sundays right after 10:00am Mass for one hour, on Nov. 17, 24, Dec. 8, 15 & 22.

Please contact me if interested or have questions about either of these choirs. Thank you.

Thanksgiving Day Mass

Please join us for Mass at 9:00am at St. Mary, to give thanks to God for all we have been given in His name!

Liturgical Ministers Needed

We invite you to assist with ministries for our Thanksgiving Day Mass, 9:00am at St. Mary, and also for our weekend Masses Nov. 30/Dec. 1. A sign up sheet is available at each Church or contact the Parish Office to volunteer. Thank you.



Senior Citizen's Breakfast

All Senior Citizens of our Parish are invited for breakfast on Friday, December 6. We will gather in the Social Hall for food and fellowship following 9:00am Mass. Hope you are able to join us! RSVP to the parish office by Tuesday, December 3.

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.

Religious Education Preschool - 6th Grade

Coordinators

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

If you have a child who is preparing for their First Communion, please note in your calendar the upcoming mandatory parent meeting January 8, 6:00 - 7:00pm.

Nov. 19/20 Regular Sessions

Nov. 26/27 Break - Happy Thanksgiving

Dec. 3/4 Regular Sessions

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

Confirmation, Grades 9 & 10

Confirmation Session: Wednesday, Nov. 20, 6:00-8:00pm
in the Social Hall

EDGE, Grades 7 & 8

Wednesdays 6:00-7:30pm, Social Hall

Nov. 20 & Nov 27: No EDGE

Meet Our New Parish Council Members!

Will Bates (typically attends Mass at Holy Cross)

Married to Rebecca for nineteen years. They were middle school teachers for more than ten years. Moved here about a year ago and works as an analyst in Des Moines. He describes them as "crazy dog parents" of three French bulldogs.

John Fisher (8 AM at Holy Cross or 10 AM at St. Mary)

John lives in Alleman and is married to Andrea for 31 years. They have eight children Johnny, Zach, Scott, Jacob, Michael, Noah, Julia and Grace. They have been parishioners for 20 years. He enjoys Mass, adoration, fishing, hunting, and travel.

Tim Loraditch (10 AM at St. Mary)

He is a convert as of 2003 and married to Geneveve with seven kids. Family has been parishioners for about two years. Serves in pro-life movement as well as marriage preparation, including as sponsor couple.

John Roberts (5 PM at St. Mary)

Lives in Huxley. Graduated from and works at Iowa State University. Has been a parishioner most of his life. Enjoys spending time with family, friends, and going hunting and fishing.

Stacey Rooney (8 AM at Holy Cross)

Has been a parishioner for 31 years. Is semi-retired as a registered nurse and substitutes for Bondurant-Farrar school district. Married to Tom and live south of Farrar. They have three children and three grandchildren. Enjoys spending time with family, playing pickleball, and golfing.

Mark Schmidt (5 PM at St. Mary)

Married to Sue, the parish music director. They have been members since 2013.

We thank these parishioners for volunteering to be members of this Council. They begin their ministry with their first meeting, along with Fr. Andrew, on Tuesday, November 26.

PARISH COUNCIL

Our new Parish Council replaces the Cross Ministry Team, which was an interim group consisting of members from each ministry as well as others from the parish. See who our new members are and a little about them in this bulletin. Their contact information will be included in next weekend's bulletin.

FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Dave Pottebaum, *President* - 515-710-8932—pottebaum5@msn.com
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
Sue Tollefson - 515 208-0536 - Cambridge - suet@lowacubs.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 - 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 - shaw@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

November 10, Budget Week 19

	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund	\$3,673	\$5,730

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

<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
\$109,367	\$108,870	\$108,448

2019 Annual Diocesan Appeal

<u>Parish Goal</u>	<u>Pledge Total</u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Amt. Due</u>
\$48,797	\$37,815	\$35,615	\$13,182

Pledge cards are available at each Church. Please consider making a pledge if you haven't done so. Any amount will be gratefully received and appreciated. Please return to the parish office or place in the offertory basket at Mass. Or donate online at dmidiocese.thankyou4caring.org/. Thank you to those who have already made a gift.

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>
\$440,234	\$426,919	\$13,315	\$207,460



ADVENT RESOURCES

You have various booklets to choose from to help prepare for the Christmas celebration of God among us. Determine ahead of time which might be best for you or your family by reading the following brief descriptions. Booklets will be available next weekend.

Understanding Advent

This booklet is designed for anyone who may benefit from a fuller understanding of the meaning of Advent. Including historical background on the season along with an overview of its symbols, prayers and rituals, this diverse resource will help Catholics understand the Church's celebration of "God's time" through the liturgical calendar and the special place of Advent in the Church Year.

The Magnificat

This page-a-day resource helps you prepare your heart for the spiritual renewal of Advent. Inspiration abounds throughout its pages, featuring original essays and meditations on the daily Gospel.

Little Blue Book

One page will walk you through Matthew's Gospel, a few verses at a time with explanations and reflections along the way; you will also read about angels. The other page is a variety of thoughts about the Advent and Christmas seasons, the feast of the day, and various traditions and customs. Simply let God speak to you through the words, guiding you to reflections that sometimes seem to come from nowhere. It can change your day...change your life.

There are Advent events offered by the Diocese & other parishes; To find out where and when, please visit www.dmdiocese.org.

You Are Near!

Advent is the time to prepare for the Christmas celebration of Christ's presence with us. Although we reflect back on His coming at the first Christmas, and look forward to His second coming at the end of time, we watch and wait because we believe that He is also with us right now. Use this booklet to spend time each day with Christ during Advents; there is a prayer chosen from one of the saints--persons who like us wanted to grow in their relationship with Christ by spending time with Him--and a verse from Scripture to invite you to discover Christ alive and eager to be in a relationship with you.

The Word Among Us

Daily meditations, inspirational stories with the theme "Come, Let Us Adore Him". Be eager like the shepherds who heard "good news of great joy". Be humble, like the Magi, who "were overjoyed" and who "did him homage". Be trusting like Mary who said, "May it be done according to your word". With special features about Saint Stephen, Our Lady of Guadalupe, and being Pro-Life.

Booklets For Children

God Is With Us

Advent Chain Booklet

An Advent Chain is a way of counting the days until Christmas...but this Advent Chain does much more! Each day a person, place or event is presented from the Nativity story. There is an activity, puzzle or thought for the day plus a Bible verse that complements the theme of the day. Each day a strip of the page is trimmed to continue building the chain.

Holy Friends of Jesus

Saints of the Advent Season

"Saints" are persons who help us know how loving Jesus can change our lives. These men and women we remember during Advent were just like us, but when they learned about Jesus, they wanted to be like him. In this booklet, children learn about the 15 saints that the Church celebrates during the Advent/Christmas season. A colorful illustration, brief biography and a thought starter question highlight each saint.

**Celebrate Advent
like Mary!**

Parish Advent Opportunities

Mass: Tuesdays, 6:00pm at St. Mary (followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament); Wednesdays, 5:30pm at Holy Cross; Thursdays, 8:00am at St. Mary, and First Friday, 9:00am at St. Mary.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Tuesdays after 6:00pm Mass at St. Mary.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturdays, 4:00-4:30pm at St. Mary, or by appointment with Fr. Andrew. Our parish Reconciliation Service is Sunday, December 15, 1:00pm at St. Mary.

Hello from Me and My House!

If there is one common theme from the words of the Lord, it's the need to care for the poor and vulnerable. Matthew 25:31-46, the Story of the Last Judgement ends with, "He will answer them, 'Amen, I say to you, what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me.'"

If the division between the wealthy and the poor is a gauge at determining how the poor are faring in a country, then the United States is in trouble. In 2018, the top three wealthiest people held more in their fortunes than the total of the poorest half of Americans. The trends are showing that the wealthy have had increasing incomes in the last 30 years while the poverty rate just varies up and down. The republican tax cuts that were passed back in 2017 will help to widen the gap. The richest 1% will receive 27% of the benefits going into effect this year and alarming 43.5% of the population in the United States are either poor or low-income.

I've known about this gap and the statistics for quite some time. I can remember talking about it in high school and college, which was quite a few years ago. But it's still tough to look at these statistics. The United States is advanced, we have led the way in so many different areas. We are a nation of smart and open-minded people. Yet we still allow for this to happen.

Life expectancy rates are also affected by this gap as well. Almost three-quarters of rich Americans who were in their 50s and 60s in 1992 were still alive in 2014. Just over half of poor Americans in their 50s and 60s in 1992 made it to 2014. People who are wealthier have better access to live a healthier lifestyle than those who are not. There are many people who either wait to go to the doctor or who don't go at all due to cost. Even with medical insurance, doctor visits and medicine copays can still become expensive for a typical family. The same goes for how we nourish our bodies. The cost for a box of hamburger helper and a pound of hamburger equals the cost of a bag of grapes. There are many families who shop for groceries on a very tight budget. It's less expensive to buy the processed unhealthy food. A person who struggles to pay for groceries isn't thinking about what's the best for their bodies, they are thinking about what's cost effective and as I've already said that's probably about 43.5% of our population.

There are many things that can be blamed: outsourcing, tax cuts to large corporations, competing with the low cost of products made in China, investments that drive the cost of food up and so much more. Even though these things are to blame, they aren't how we solve the problem. Any corporation is going to do what they need to do in order to compete with others, and it's hardly their fault that this competition even exists.

The best way to solve the problem is to invest in people. This is where we go back to equal access to education. The fact is: a person with a higher education is likely to earn more money in their lifetime. Employment training would also be another great solution. It's easy enough to charge the wealthy more in taxes to cover these costs. We can begin by spreading the word, educating ourselves and voting. Our country has led the way with democracy, but there are still so many that don't even make their way to the polls. Voter turnout in the US is much lower than other established democracies. Change can begin with the simplest thing. Vote in every election big and small. Volunteer at the polls, help other people who may not be able to make it, get there. Change begins just like a stone tossed into a pond. The smallest splash can make waves on the banks. You are never too small to affect the world.

Email joshua2415smhc@gmail.com with any thoughts, ideas, and opinions you have.



Liturgical Ministers For Next Weekend

Saturday, November 23, 5:00pm, St. Mary

Announcer	Cory Schoening
Lector	Di Schleisman
Cup Bearers	Tony Kuehn, Joe Rumbaugh
Host Distributor	Lisa Schoening
Altar Servers	Kaden Gilligan, Jessica Schoening Isabella Kuehn
Ushers	Brodie, Angie & Drew Gilligan, Mark Lengel
Cantor	Drew Hanlon
Accompanist	Lorrie Hanlon

Sunday, November 24, 8:00am, Holy Cross

Announcer	Lynn Schreurs
Lector	Stacey Rooney
Cup Bearer	Laurie Phelan
Altar Server	Aiden Phelan-Ruden
Ushers	Mike Phelan, Mike Veasman

Sunday, November 24, 10:00am, St. Mary

Announcer	Garrett McClain
Lector	Tim Loraditch
Cup Bearers	Mike Nehring, Julia Fisher
Host Distributor	Kelly Hoffmeier
Altar Servers	Sawyer Smeltzer, Peyton Loraditch
Ushers	Thom Hamm, Jacki & Tom Ausman, Bill & Kelly Dunbar
Cantors	Christine Muehlenthaler, Terri Hamm
Accompanist	Celeste Muehlenthaler

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Money Counters

Nov. 17 Dona Cowman, Sharon Morris

Nov. 24 Dawn Reynolds, Kathy Claussen

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Trunk or Treat Winners!

Our winners with the most votes for decorated "table" are 1st Place Kelly Hoffmeier with her movie theater themed table and 2nd Place was Sandie Stutes with her Frozen themed table. Thank you to all who participated and voted!

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.*

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.

"As citizens, we should be guided more by our moral convictions than by our attachment to a political party or interest group."

~ Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship, USCCB



Food and paper waste used for food can be composted into nutrient rich soil and sold to farmers.

Be of Service To Those in Need

Catholic Charities is looking for assistance in handing out Thanksgiving meal boxes on November 20, 21 and 22 at their food bank at 1815 Hubbell Avenue in Des Moines. There are two shifts available: 9:00am – 12:30pm and 12:30 to 3:45pm. If you are able to help or would like additional information, please contact Holly at 515-237-5027 or hackermann@catholiccharitiesdm.org. Thank you!

Has a Priest Made an Impact in Your Life?

Give others the opportunity to have that same experience! Join the St. Serra Club of Des Moines in praying for and supporting priesthood and religious vocations. Come to any of our monthly events and see what we're all about. For more information, contact Jim at 515-422-0960; or visit dmserra.com.

Contemplative Prayer

Emmaus House offers Contemplative Prayer every Wednesday from noon to 12:45 p.m. We will begin with a Scripture reading, followed by 20 minutes of contemplative prayer. We will continue with spoken intentions, both personal and for the mission of Emmaus House. We will finish by 12:45 p.m. We look forward to having you join us for this time of prayer.

No Room at the Inn

Catholic Charities annual *No Room at the Inn* fundraiser for the Emergency Family Shelter is Friday, Dec. 6 at the Catholic Pastoral Center from 6:00 - 8:30pm. Tickets are \$50 each. Come see unique nativity displays, enjoy hors d'oeuvre buffet, a photo booth, silent auction and more while helping those in need. To register, call Beth at 515-237-5078 or go online at CatholicCharitiesdm.org.

See Diocesan sponsored events and job openings, and parish events at www.dmdiocese.org

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Nov. 9/10

Theme: The day of the Lord is a day of hope and joy.

Reading I: Malachi 3:19-20a • The sun of justice will arise.

Reading II: 2 Thessalonians 3:7-12 • Work is a noble, good thing.

Gospel: Luke 21:5-19 • Your endurance will win you your life.

Question for Children: Jesus teaches us that work is good for us. What kind of work do you do during the week? How does it help you?

Question for Youth: Jesus tells us that even though bad things will happen, we are safe in God. When have you felt the safety of God's life in your own life?

Question for Adults: Paul's words to the Thessalonians are tough: if you want to eat, you must work! How does this translate into our society today? How do you reconcile this with Jesus' command to love and feed the poor?