



St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073

Love
God
Love
Others

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 4, 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,

The second part of the first reading this Sunday is part of a prayer that is known to Jews as the *shema*. It is one of their most important prayers and as such is recited every day, in both the morning and the evening. It reminds them - and us - of at least two very essential things. First, He is God alone. When Jewish Israel was in its infancy, it was surrounded by other nations and religions that were polytheistic. Monotheism is what helps set apart the Judeo-Christian tradition from other religions. We may not be challenged in the exact same way today, but what are other things and/or other people in our lives that receive more attention from us than God? Second, God is love. By extension, Jesus Christ is love incarnate. He teaches us that loving someone means willing the best for them as they are, even if we do not get something out of it. Sometimes that love is shown by sacrifice, to which he is no stranger.

As I understand it, everything that was removed from the offices and education center has been returned. Some touch-up painting remains. It is starting to look normal down there, if there is such a thing as normal. Barb, Peter, and I should be able to move back in the next couple weeks. More important than that, religious education begins this week.

— 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
Peter Relyea - Bookkeeper	prelyea@saintmaryhc.org

Mass Schedule	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

Wednesday, November 7

5:30pm Holy Cross †*Mikey & Will Carpenter*

Thursday, November 8

8:00am St. Mary †*Theresa Kaltenheuser*

Saturday, November 10

5:00pm St. Mary †*Albert & Helen Schmidt*

Sunday, November 11

8:00am Holy Cross †*LaMont Schreurs*

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.

Book of Remembrance †

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

A Scriptural Walk Through the Mass

This is a five-part video series that will be shown to our RCIA candidates as a very thorough and interesting way to explain what takes place at our Mass. This series should be a "must-see" for every Catholic, not just those preparing to come into the Church. It explains the reason for the prayers and actions done by the priest and people based upon Scripture. Yes, most of us went through CCD or Religious Education when we were kids, but how many of us really cared at that time in our lives? A frequent phrase heard at these sessions is, "Wow, I didn't know THAT!"

The presentations are Sundays after 10am Mass beginning November 4. On the first Sunday of the month, "coffee and donut Sunday", we will meet downstairs in the Ed Center; the other Sundays we meet in the Social Hall. *Come, join us!*

Blood Drive This Thursday



Donate at our Drive from 3:00 to 7:00pm in the Social Hall. Only you can make the difference in helping to save lives by making this special donation!!

Smile For Your Family Picture!

We'd like every family to sign up so our directory is complete! It will be a great resource to help us connect with names and faces! **Sign up today!** Visit our website for a link, or go to <https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/yxxt0hxe/>, or call the parish office to make an appointment. Photo dates: Nov. 19, 20, 23, 24, 29, 30 & Dec. 1. If you would like to assist with check-in on any of these dates, please sign up at <http://signup.com/go/JvvcKGv>.

If you do not wish your contact information included, you MUST contact the Parish Office.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Thursday, November 15, 7:00pm, Holy Cross

RCIA Gathering
Sundays, Nov. 4 (Ed Center), 11 & 18 (Hall), 11:00am

Cross Ministry
Meeting: Next meeting to be determined

Finance Council
Meeting: Tuesday, November 20, 7:00pm, Social Hall

Stewardship Committee
Meeting: Tuesday, November 13, 6:00pm, Office Area

Friends of St. Francis
Meeting: TBA

Knights of Columbus
Meeting: Sunday, Nov. 18 with First Degree, 6:30pm,
Social Hall

Funeral Luncheon Call Leaders, Team 3
Ginger Geren, Christine Sauer, Lisa Schoening

Upcoming Events

- †**Clothing Drive:** Month of November, Ed Center
- †**Cornucopia collection:** Nov. 3/4, 10/11 & 17/18
- †**Scriptural Walk Through the Mass:** Sundays, Nov. 4, Ed Center, Nov. 11 & 18, Social Hall, 11:00am
- †**Sunday, Nov. 4:** Hall in use Noon to 5:00pm
- †**Wednesday, Nov. 7:** Office opens at 10:00am
- †**Good News Singers practice:** Wednesdays, Nov. 7, 14, 28, Dec. 5, 12 & 19, 6:00-6:45pm, St. Mary Church
- †**Blood Drive:** Thursday, Nov. 8, 3:00-7:00pm, Social Hall
- †**Adult Choir practice:** Sundays, Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 2, 9, 16 & 23, 11:00am-12:30pm, St. Mary Church

Music News

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

Children's Choir: The Good News Singers meet Wednesdays beginning November 7 from 6:00 to 6:45pm. Your Religious Ed Director and teachers are aware these occur during RE classes. We sing at 5:00pm Mass on Christmas Eve at St. Mary. It's really important to let me know before Nov. 7 if you are joining us, so we can have music ready and also since space in the choir loft is limited. I'll take the first 20 children grades 2nd through 6th that I hear from. Thanks for encouraging your children to partake in this very important ministry! I look forward to hearing from you!

Adult Choir: Our rehearsals for 5:00pm Christmas Eve Mass are Sundays starting November 11. We meet in the Church right after 10am Mass until 12:30pm. It would be so helpful if you contact me ahead of time so music is ready for you for our first rehearsal. We are looking forward to seeing you! Please join us in singing praise for the birth of our Savior!

Help With *Avenue of Flags* for Veteran's Day

Could you assist with the raising of flags on Saturday, Nov. 10 at 10:00am and/or retiring them on Sunday, Nov. 11 at 4:00pm? Each session lasts about an hour. If inclement weather, please call Lynn Schreurs, 515-577-8147. Thanks!

Work of Our Hands Festival

New participants, new crafts!!
Look for flyer in next week's bulletin.

Saturday, December 1, 1:00 - 4:45pm & 6:00 - 7:00pm
Sunday, December 2, 11:00am - 12:30pm, in the Social Hall

In Sympathy and Compassion

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Margaret Shaw of our parish who passed away October 25, and for her family as they mourn her passing.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Joe Rubendall, brother-in-law of Barb Liske, who passed away last Sunday. May his family find strength and comfort during this most difficult time.

✠ *Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.* ✠

Religious Education PreK-6

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

Classes begin this Wednesday in the Ed Center!!! Thank you for your patience and a reminder for children to bring their writing or picture of their experience of attending Mass that they've had since our last class.

Key Dates: Nov. 7 & 14 - Class

Service Project for November: Clothing Drive (boxes will be located downstairs in the Ed Center)

First Reconciliation Key Dates:

Nov. 7: Parent Meeting in Ed Center after each class opening

Nov. 10 & 11: Blessing of First Eucharist Students at all Masses

Nov. 17: First Reconciliation Service, 10:00am, St. Mary

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*

All S.T.O.R.M. Youth Gathering Kick Off Sunday, Nov. 4

Minute to win it games, prizes and other fun activities. Bring a friend! 4:00-5:30pm in the Youth Area

EDGE (7th/8th) Sessions: 6:00-7:30pm, Social Hall

Nov. 7: *Kindling- The Church*

Nov. 14: *Everlasting- One, Holy, Catholic & Apostolic*

Nov. 21: NO EDGE- Happy Thanksgiving

Nov. 28: *Life In The Fire- Structure of the Church*

Dec. 5: NO EDGE

C1 & C2 (9th & 10th Grades) Sessions 6:00-7:30pm

- Sunday, Nov. 11: 9th Gr. - *Lesson 5* 10th Gr. - *Lesson 17*

-10th Grade Students and Sponsor Prayer Stations: These self lead stations will be set up in the Ed Center; students and their sponsors can come anytime Saturday, Nov. 10, 1:00 - 4:00pm and Sunday, Nov. 11, 11:00am - 3:00pm

10th-12th Graders Bible Study

Sundays 4:30-5:30pm, Nov. 4, 11 & 18. We meet in the You Area. Questions, call or text Andrea 515-240-5059.

SMHC Job Opening for Bookkeeper

Peter Relyea will be retiring after the first of the year. If you would be interested in this part-time position (10-15 hours per week), please send a cover letter and resume to Father Andrew. Qualifications include: bookkeeping skills (3-5 years' experience), computer skills (Microsoft Office, Excel, Word, Publisher), and organizational skills. Familiarity with ParishSoft Accounting & Family Suite software is a plus.

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Garrett McClain - 515-685-2314 -Alleman- gjmccclain69@gmail.com
 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
 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 - mclclairj@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 - lischreurs@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 - 515-967-7477 - annedavis06@gmail.com

Weekly Collection Financial Update

October 27/28 Week 18

	Received	Budget
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Guests	\$ 10,055	\$5,157

Year-to-Date

	Received	Budget	Last Year
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Guests	\$97,056	\$92,821	\$92,803

Food Pantry Collection: \$595.25

Annual Diocesan Appeal

Pledge cards are in the vestibule and can be returned in the collection basket at Mass, to the Parish Office, or you may donate on the Diocesan website: www.dmdiocese.org/ada-online-giving-instructions.cfm.

Everyone's participation is need! Thank you.

Parish Goal	Pledge Total	Payments	Balance Due
\$53,806	\$46,275	\$43,088.50	\$10,717.50

Auto Debit for Tithing

You are encouraged to use the convenient service of automatic withdrawal from your bank account for your tithing; You designate a dollar amount to be automatically withdrawn from your account on a monthly basis on a pre-determined date. Sign up forms are available in the vestibule. Please contact Peter Relyea at prelyea@saintmaryhc.org.

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, November 10, 5:00pm, St. Mary

Announcer	Cory Schoening
Lector	Kris Sexton
Cup Bearers	Susan Stillmunkes, Kris Sexton
Host Distributor	Bill Sexton
Altar Servers	Daniel & Jessica Schoening, Bennett Bruns
Ushers	Bill Schmitt, Mark Birchmier, Dawn & Mason Reynolds

Sunday, November 11, 8:00am, Holy Cross

Announcer	Dawn Beukema
Lector	Heidi Ackerman
Cup Bearer	Mike Phelan
Altar Server	Brett Beukema
Ushers	Mike Phelan, Mike Veasman

Sunday, November 11, 10:00am, St. Mary

Announcer	Susan Genalo
Lector	Garrett McClain
Cup Bearers	Tim Loraditch, Tom Ausman
Host Distributor	Jacki Ausman
Altar Server	Peyton, Veronica, Felicity Loraditch
Ushers	Jackson & Tammi McClain Bill & Kelly Dunbar, Thom Hamm

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Money Counters

Nov. 4: Dawn Reynolds, Sharon Morris

Nov. 11: Carol Weber, Lisa Kautza

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Will You Join Us??

We are seeking a person or two from Holy Cross to add their voice to our Liturgy Committee. If interested in joining us for this important and rewarding ministry, please contact Fr. Andrew at fr.andrew@saintmaryhc.org.

Cornucopia Collection

Our Youth Group's goal is to provide 6-10 deserving families with a basket full of food items, enabling them to prepare a Thanksgiving meal for their family. We ask you to prayerfully consider donating to this project. Find our Cornucopia poster in the vestibule at St. Mary and also one at Holy Cross, with various food items pinned on it. You indicate your commitment to help by taking a card(s) from this poster with the picture of the food item/items that you are willing to donate and return the actual food item the weekend of Nov. 17/18 to St. Mary. If you know of a family in your community that can benefit from receiving a food basket, please contact Melissa Kahler, 515-290-2830 or Andrea Fisher 515-240-5059 to arrange delivery options. Thank you!

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.*

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



There are about 46,000 pieces of plastic floating in every square mile of our oceans.

Thank You!

It was such a huge help to us to have our yard raked by the Confirmation Students and the Knights of Columbus. Thank you all so much!
~ Don and Cecelia Morton

Faithful Citizenship

There will never be a perfect candidate, but that's no excuse not to vote, which would let some other force or voice fill the vacuum left by opting out. Choose the candidate you believe has potential to do the most good for the most people. Visit www.iowacatholicconference.org, and then click "Faithful Citizenship" for more information.

Catholic Schools Open Houses

Dowling Catholic: Sunday, Nov. 4, 11:00am - 2:00pm.

St. Luke's: Sunday, November 11 from 11:30am - 1:00pm
For more information: 515-985-7074 / www.slte-school.org.

National Vocations Awareness Week

As Catholics, we firmly believe that God has a plan for our lives! He calls some to marriage, some to the priesthood, and others to religious life. Some remain as generous single people. Fully living our own vocations—and teaching young people how to discern God's call—is a serious duty, but also a joyful one. Today begins National Vocation Awareness Week. During this week, please pray about how God is calling you to live your vocation more deeply. Encourage the young people in your life—children, grandchildren, students, and friends—to be open if God calls them to priesthood or consecrated life. For more information, go to [Vocations Online.org](http://VocationsOnline.org) or call Father Ross Parker at 515-237-5050.

Take24 — Advent Retreat for Young Adults

All young adults are invited to take 24 hours away from their routine for a weekend of community, prayer, and discernment. This noon-til-noon Saturday/Sunday overnight retreat (December 1/2) is geared towards helping young adults prepare for the arrival of our Lord at Christmas in the world and in their lives. Registration is \$100, and can be found at www.dmdiocese.org/take24. Email Justin White at jwhite@dmdiocese.org with any questions or concerns.

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time, November 4

Theme: *Live the First Commandment.*

Reading I: Deuteronomy 6:2-6 • Be blessed by keeping the Commandments.

Reading II: Hebrews 7:23-28 • Jesus makes intercessions for us.

Gospel: Mark 12:28b-34 • Love the Lord with all your heart, soul, mind and strength; and love your neighbor as yourself.

For Children: How often do you put God first in your life? Do you think you can love others as much as you love yourself?

For Youth: What do you think Jesus meant when he said to the scribe, "You are not far from the reign of God"?

For Adults: Which of the Greatest and New Commandments should you improve on in your own life?