



St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073



Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sept. 14/15, 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,

Over a few days last week, I joined the other "junior clergy," described as those priests ordained for less than five years and from each diocese in Iowa, at Christ the King in Des Moines for a convocation. The idea behind such an event is for us to get together for fraternity and participate in ongoing formation. I use the word formation as opposed to education because formation is more comprehensive. It includes multiple qualities required of the priest, especially the human, intellectual, pastoral, and spiritual. The event was a good reminder for me in that regard, and that for anyone, not just a priest, to become a saint, there is a lot of work to do. Consider also how humbling this realization can be: that the more we learn about God, ourselves, and others, and grow in holiness, we find out how much more we must learn and work toward that sanctity (with His help!). ~ Fr. 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, September 17

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

Wednesday, September 18

5:30pm Holy Cross †William & Kathryn Shaw

Thursday, September 19

8:00am St. Mary †Leo & Rosemary Overmohle

Saturday, September 21

5:00pm St. Mary †Cecelia & Mike Morton

Sunday, September 22

8:00am Holy Cross †Bob & Doris Canney
10:00am St. Mary For the Parish

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

Cross Ministry

Meeting: Tuesday, Sept. 24, 6:30pm, Ed Center

Finance Council

Meeting: Tuesday, Sept. 17, 7:00pm, Ed Center

Stewardship Committee

Meetings: Monday, October 14, 6:00pm, Ed Center

Friends of St. Francis

Meeting: Thursday, October 10, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Knights of Columbus

Meeting: Sunday, October 20, 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.

Becoming Catholic



Would you like to learn more about the Catholic way of life? Have you been Catholic all your life, but have not celebrated all of the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation) and want to do so? All are welcomed into an inquiry community to ask questions, discuss experiences and discover more about who we are as Catholic people. If you or someone you know would like to find out how we can help you on your faith journey, please contact Fr. Andrew at Fr.Andrew@saintmaryhc.org. Participation does not require you to commit to joining the Church; we ask only that you be open to learning more about God, the Catholic tradition, and yourself.

Pilgrimage in the Prairie

Inspired by Pope Francis, the Friends of St Francis invite you to a Pilgrimage in the Prairie today (Sunday) from 1:30-2:30pm at Holy Cross. We will take a short walk, pray, listen, reflect, and sing in celebration of this Season of Creation! It's also a great opportunity to meet others who share our love and ceaseless gratitude for God's creation. *Remember - bring a chair and your walking shoes.*



Crafts, Games and Conversation!!

Join us for a great time of fellowship and to work on your craft or play a game this Thursday, 9:30am in the Social Hall.

Parish Bike Ride!



Next Saturday, Sept. 21. We will start in Bondurant at the Lake Petocka trail head at approximately 6:30pm and will be riding 12 miles to Green Castle Tavern in Mingo. After a stop there, we will turn around and ride back. Join us for the entire ride or meet us at the Tavern for fellowship!

Upcoming Events

†**Month of September:** Can Drive, St. Mary parking lot

†**Sunday, Sept. 15:** Pilgrimage in the Prairie, 1:30-2:30pm, Holy Cross

†**Thursday, Sept. 19:** Crafts, Games and Social Time, 9:30am, Social Hall

†**Saturday, Sept. 21:** Parish Bike Ride, 6:30pm at Lake Petocka trail head in Bondurant

†**Weekend of Sept. 21/22:** Collection for Maxwell Food Pantry

†**Saturday, October 5:** Octoberfest Parish Picnic after 5:00pm Mass, St. Mary

†**Saturday, October 19:** Parish Work Day, 9:00am - Noon

Parish Picnic

Our picnic is three weeks away and you do not want to miss it! Join us after Mass on Saturday, October 5, for our Oktoberfest Party! Dinner, drinks, games, and FUN are all included in this event!

A link to RSVP to the event can be found at: <https://form.jotform.com/52368318465159>. A link to donate to the event can be found at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0b4aa8a62da5fd0-parish1>.

Please mark your calendar now and plan to join us!

~ Stewardship Committee Members

Prizes Wanted!

We will be playing BINGO! at our picnic and would like to have prizes for our winners! Do you have any new or like new items that would make fun prizes that you'd like to donate? If so, please bring them anytime before the picnic and place them on the designated table in the Social Hall or in the box at Holy Cross. Thank you!

SMHC Bucket Vote Winner is...

IOWA STATE! Congratulations to all the Cyclone fans and thank you for your \$188 worth of votes! UNIVERSITY OF IOWA came in 2nd at a grand total of \$58 and not far behind was the "I DON'T CARE" votes which brought in \$54. Thank you for voting and supporting the youth as they continue to fundraise for their NCYC pilgrimage! All together your votes totaled \$300; this will be very helpful when the 10 youth from SMCH attend the National Catholic Youth Conference in November. THANK YOU!

Religious Education Preschool - 6th Grade

Coordinators

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

We've had a great start to our RE year these past 2 weeks! This past week the children enjoyed getting to know their Catechists, classmates, and their Atriums/classrooms. We look forward to another week of "Good Starts" before we start our full sessions for the year.

Sept. 17/18- Good Starts**- 30 Minutes Sessions

Sept. 24/25- Regular Sessions begin

**This shorter session begins at your child's normal class time and concludes about thirty minutes later.

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

Teens (grades 7th-12th) are welcome to join us for

After Party! Sundays, Sept 15 & 29 after Mass from 11:00am to 1:00pm in the Youth Room.

Come play games, watch a movie, have a snack or just hang out. Bring a friend, all are welcome!

No After Party Sunday, Sept. 22
due to Homeless Awareness Lock Out.

2nd Annual HALO - Homeless Awareness Lock OUT:

Youth from 7th - 12th grade are invited to attend this overnight event September 21 - 22 at St. Mary.

Permission forms for this Lock OUT must be turned in by Sunday, Sept. 15. They are available on the table outside the cry room at St. Mary and can be turned into the Confirmation Folder in the file box on that same table.

Arrive at St. Mary by 3:00pm on Saturday Sept. 21;
pick up by 8:30am Sunday, Sept. 22

Confirmation, Grades 9 & 10

If you haven't registered your child yet, please do as soon as possible.

Sunday, Sept. 15: Homeless Awareness Lock OUT permission slips due

Saturday, Sept. 21, 3:00pm to Sunday, Sept. 22, 8:30am: Homeless Awareness Lock OUT

Wednesday, Sept. 25: Session 6:00-8:00pm, Social Hall

EDGE, Grades 7 & 8

We had a very energetic start to our EDGE year with a whopping 61 people at our session this past Wednesday! We have a team of 20 adults and teens who are looking forward to another great year of working with 44 7th & 8th graders! We kick off our semester with a series called *Thou Shall*. This series of sessions will challenge the youth to look at the Ten Commandments not as a list of all the things they should not do, rather as a guideline that brings them to live lives of true freedom and happiness.

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

Sept. 18- Be Chosen: 1st Commandment- You shall Have No Other Gods Besides Me

Oct. 2- Be Named: 2nd Commandment- You Shall Not Take the Name of the Lord God in Vain

Oct. 9- Abide: 3rd Commandment- Keep Holy the Lord's Day

Oct. 16- Be Rooted: 4th Commandment- Honor Your Father and Mother

Oct. 23- TRUNK or TREAT

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

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@iowacubs.com

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Arlene Anderson - 515-967-6770 - arlene@4andersons.com
Jacki Ausman - 515-441-3739 - jackiausman@gmail.com
Nicole Cory - 515-313-3014 - ncory@saintmaryhc.org
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 - ksturtz@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

Seeking a volunteer; contact the Parish Office for more information.

Weekly Collection Financial Update

Sept. 1, Budget Week 10

	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund	\$4,005	\$5,730

Year-to-Date

	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Guests	\$54,732	\$57,300	\$54,271

2019 Annual Diocesan Appeal

<u>Parish Goal</u>	<u>Pledge Total</u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Amt. Due</u>
\$48,797	\$34,915	\$33,423	\$15,374

Each family's help is needed to reach our assessment. Any amount will be gratefully received and appreciated. **Pledge cards are available at each Church.** Please return to the parish office or place it in the offertory basket at Mass. Or donate online at <https://dmdiocese.thankyou4caring.org/>. Thank you to those who have already made a gift.

Diocesan Collection for Seminarians

You will be receiving a letter from Bishop Pates requesting your support for the education of our 17 Seminarians. You can mail your gift to the Diocese or drop it in the collection basket at Mass next weekend. Many thanks for your prayers and financial assistance in support of our seminarians!

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, Sept. 21, 5:00pm, St. Mary

Announcer	Jack McDermott
Lector	Lorrie Hanlon
Cup Bearers	Drew Hanlon, Tony Kuehn
Host Distributor	<i>Volunteer needed</i>
Altar Servers	Alexis Hergenreter, Isabella Kuehn, Bennett Bruns
Ushers	Dawn & Mason Reynolds, Mark Birchmier, Mark Lengel
Cantor	Sue Schmidt
Accompanist	Dan Scheetz

Sunday, Sept. 22, 8:00am, Holy Cross

Announcer	Sheri Fogarty
Lector	Stacey Rooney
Cup Bearer	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Altar Server	Aiden Phelan-Ruden
Ushers	Dave & Char McHone

Sunday, Sept. 22, 10:00am, St. Mary

Announcer	Susan Genalo
Lector	Tracy Kangas
Cup Bearers	Kelly Hoffmeier, Julia Fisher
Host Distributor	Jon Hand
Altar Servers	Caleb Coffelt, Sawyer Smeltzer, Lauren Feldmann
Ushers	Brian, Will & Mia Pottebaum, Merle Olberding, Jerry McClain
Cantor	Shirley Robertson, Garrett McClain
Accompanist	Mary Ortmann

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Money Counters

Sept. 15: Dona Cowman, Sharon Morris

Sept. 23: Carol Weber, Sue White

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Food Pantry Collection

Please bring non-perishable food items to Mass next weekend; we will also take up a monetary collection. Thank you for your continued generosity in sharing with those having a tough time. Your donation this month will assist the Maxwell Food Pantry.

Parish Work Day

Mark your calendars now to help out at our work day on Saturday, October 19 from 9:00am to Noon at both St. Mary and Holy Cross. Many hands make light work!

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.*

"Community Connection" Bulletin Board

This is a very casual way to enhance community and connection among members of our Parish. Post information about informal get-togethers and activities you'd like to have or are interested in. This bulletin board is located in the Social Hall.



Americans use 85,000,000 tons of paper a year; about 680 pounds per person.

Vocation to the Priesthood

Men aged 16 and older who are interested in a vocation to the Priesthood are invited to join Bishop-elect William Joensen, Vocation Director Father Ross Parker and other priests from the area at the Andrew Dinners this fall. This is an evening of prayer, good food and fun. Dates and locations for the Andrew Dinners are: Tuesday, Oct. 8 at St. Pius X Parish, Tuesday, Oct. 29 at St. Theresa Parish and begin at 6:00pm, concluding by 8:00pm. For more information visit vocationsonline.org, or contact the Vocations Office at vocations@dmdioocese.org or 515-237- 5014.

Beginning Experience

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. The weekend program is held at St. Thomas More Center on Sept. 20-22. Contact Father Bob Schoemann at 515-418-1938, Daryl Stahl at 515-480-6617, or Dana Reed at 515-975-3745.

Young Catholic Leaders

Looking for a way to dive into leadership in the Church? Or for service hours and/or a college application booster? YCL will focus on empowering teens to be the change they wish to see in the world. Be a messenger of the Gospel to your peers. We will meet on a handful of Saturdays throughout the calendar year. Registration for the year is \$60, and the form can be found at www.dmdioocese.org/ycl. Email Justin White at jwhite@dmdioocese.org with any questions or concerns.

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

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Sept. 14/15

Theme: Come home. God's forgiveness is always there. God forgives before we even ask for forgiveness.

Reading I: Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14 • God has mercy on us.

Reading II: 1 Timothy 1:12-17 • God has treated us mercifully.

Gospel: Luke 15:1-32 • God is watching for us to return to him.

Question for Children: The father in this story welcomed his son home, even after he ran away and did bad things. How do you know God welcomes you after you do that?

Question for Youth: The prodigal son was welcomed home even though he had sinned. How hard is it for you to ask for forgiveness? Is it hard for you to believe that you are still loved even when you have sinned?

Question for Adults: When you wander away from being true to your faith, how do you know God will take you back? What signs do you see?