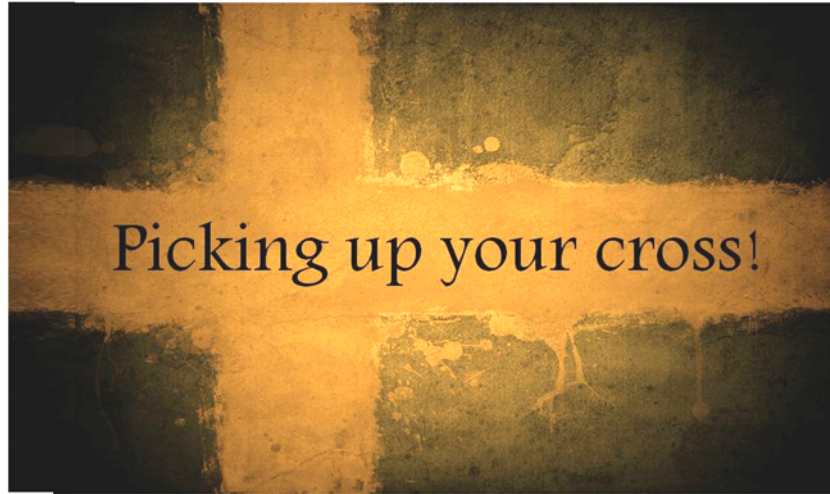




St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073



**Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 16, 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,

Last week I was in the vestibule with Fr. Andrew greeting and welcoming people, and little kids, as they left the church after Mass. I glanced in and saw quite a few people still inside the church so I decided to wait longer to greet them as they came out. After a period of time, I headed towards the sacristy to unvest. I was pleasantly surprised when I entered the church and saw the number of people scattered around inside the church, chatting with others. This is what community is all about!

At Mass, we share the story and the body and blood of our Savior Jesus. After Mass, those people chatting were living out the story as they entered each other's lives through the stories they shared about their lives. How cool!

The folks at Holy Cross have been engaged in this sort of thing for a long time, and good on them! It's neat to see the kids from different families playing together, chasing each other around the church, and climbing the trees outside of church until their moms catch them.

Let's try to do more of that after Mass, maybe in the parish hall out of respect for those still in prayer. Let's be willing to let others share in our personal struggles, our joys, and our lives in general. Blessings, Deacon Terry

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, September 19

5:30pm Holy Cross †Lee Whitfield

Thursday, September 20

8:00am St. Mary †Ron Hamm

Saturday, September 22

5:00pm St. Mary †Jean Dunlay

Sunday, September 23

8:00am Holy Cross *For the Parish*

10:00am St. Mary †Bill O'Brien

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 Windschitl, 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.

Parish Picnic RSVP and Contributions

Our Italian-themed picnic is Saturday, September 22 at 6:00pm!! To help us effectively plan for food, please RSVP by Sept. 16th by filling out a form today at Mass or online at <https://form.jotform.com/52368318465159>. We also request your help with bingo prize donations which can be left in boxes in the church vestibule or entry. Sign up here to bring food for the picnic or to help that day: <http://signup.com/go/KMiToeD>. Start testing your recipes for our Italian dessert contest and get ready for fun games and to ham it up at the photo booth. MOST importantly join us for a taste of Italy, fellowship and fun.

A Get Together!



Join us for conversation and working on crafts or playing games on Thursday, Sept. 20, 9:30am in the Hall.



Adoration Of The Blessed Sacrament

You are invited and encouraged to attend Adoration this Thursday, Sept. 20, 7:00pm at Holy Cross. Spend an hour in silent meditation or prayer and experience the peacefulness.

Let's Chat

Join us Tuesday, Sept. 25, 7:00pm in the Social Hall to chat about what's on your mind or what's going on around us. ALL are invited to join us. Hope to see you there! And yes, we will have popcorn!

Save the Dates!

Our parish will be creating a new parish directory! The dates of the photography sessions are November 19, 20, 23, 24, 29, 30, and December 1. Picture sessions will take about an hour. You will be able to sign up your family beginning October 7. Each family that participates will receive a free family picture, a printed directory, and access to an electronic version. Christmas cards and other picture packages will be available for purchase. Please contact Tammi McClain at tammimcclain71@gmail.com with questions.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Thursday, September 20, 7:00pm, Holy Cross

Cross Ministry
Next meeting to be decided.

Finance Council
Meeting: Tuesday, September 18, 7:00pm, Social Hall

Stewardship Committee
Meeting: Tuesday, October 9, 6:00pm, Social Hall

Friends of St. Francis
Meeting: Wednesday, October 24, 6:30pm, Conference Rm

Knights of Columbus
Meeting: Sunday, September 16, 7:00pm, Social Hall

Funeral Luncheon Call Leaders, Team 2
Tara Huntruds, Melissa Robinson, Jessica Ward

Upcoming Events

- †**Sunday, Sept. 16:** Pancakes after 8am Mass, Holy Cross
- †**Thursday, Sept. 20:** Crafts, games & social time, 9:30am, Social Hall
- †**Saturday, Sept. 22:** Parish Picnic after 5:00pm Mass
- †**Tuesday, Sept. 25:** *Let's Chat*, 7:00pm, Social Hall
- †**Wednesday, Sept. 26: Evening With a Lost Boy of Sudan** presentation, 6:30pm, Social Hall
- †**Sept. 29 & 30 Weekend:** Olive Wood Art sales before/after Masses — Christ Our Life Conference, Wells Fargo
- †**Sunday, Sept. 30:** Blessing of Pets, 1:00pm, Holy Cross

Music News

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

We're looking for accompanist(s) for our Christmas Eve Mass and for choir practices for that Mass. There is a stipend for these rehearsals and for Christmas Eve. Having an accompanist so I can direct makes things run so much more smoothly! Practices are in November and December after 10:00am Mass for adults and Wednesdays from 6:00-6:45pm for children. Thanks for even considering this position(s)!

Can you believe our Christmas Choirs will begin rehearsing soon?!? The Good News Singers (our Children's choir) meet on Wednesdays from 6:00 - 6:45pm. I would also love a few "big kids" to be special Student Directors. We have limited space in the choir loft and I will be able to accept the students who sign up first. Our Adult Choir will meet on Sundays right after 10:00am Mass. We also welcome people willing to play their instruments or percussion. If I hear from interested musicians I'll be better able to judge how many will fit in the choir loft. I look forward to hearing from you!

An Evening with One of the Lost Boys of Sudan

Our Friends of St. Francis group invite you to meet Dhoal Larjin, whose life is witness to the transforming power of God's love in the midst of daily adversities and numerous atrocities. As a nine year old Dhoal was one of the Lost Boys of South Sudan. He was abducted and coerced to become a child soldier. His journey from that life to a refugee camp, education, and resettlement in Des Moines in 2005, will be shared. *This presentation is appropriate for teens and adults.* There will be an opportunity to make a tax deductible free will offering to The Larjin Fund. **Join us on Wednesday, Sept. 26, 6:30pm in the Social Hall.** No RSVP is required for individuals or small groups. However, let us know if you plan to bring a large group so we can plan accordingly.

Register for Religious Ed classes today!!

Forms are available in the vestibule and on the website.
Please return form with \$50 minimum payment to the Office.

Religious Education PreK-6

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

CLASSES for PreK-6th start October 3rd! Catechists met on September 12th and reviewed options available to us since the Ed Center currently is not available for classes. We felt there was no better way to kick off the year than to start in the church itself and discuss the meaning of Mass. We are all looking forward to seeing all of the kids on opening night!

Key Dates:

- Sept. 19 & 26 — No Class
- Oct. 3 - Class in St. Mary's Church
- Oct. 10 - Class in St. Mary's Church
- Oct. 17 - Class in Ed Center
- Oct. 19 (4-8pm) and Oct. 20 (8am-4pm) - Reconciliation Self Guided Learning Centers in Ed Center
- Oct. 24 - Trunk or Treat, 6-7pm, St. Mary
- Oct. 31 - No Class

Altar Server Training - Parents of 4th graders please talk to your child about being an altar server. Training will be in October or November, based upon when we get back into the Ed Center. This is a great way for our youth to be part of Mass and to serve their parish.

We are looking for one more volunteer for classes; please contact me if you are interested.

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 Grades)

Thank you to all the EDGE Parents & Teens who attended our first EDGE session of 2018-2019. We look forward to working with you during this year of faith formation. If you missed our first session and you would like information about the upcoming EDGE schedule and other important details please contact Andrea Fisher or Melissa Kahler.

Sessions: Wednesdays, 6:00-7:30pm in the Social Hall unless noted below

- Sept. 19: Get to know your fellow EDGE-ers and small group family bonding.
- Sept. 26: Attend *Lost Boys of Sudan presentation*, EDGE kids will be served pizza from 5:45-6:15pm and at 6:30pm the presentation will begin in the Social Hall.
- Oct. 3: *Always Burning- Breathing Fire*
- Oct. 10: *Ignition- Mission of the Holy Spirit*
- Oct. 17: *The Rosary in Action*
- Oct. 24: Host TRUNK or TREAT for RE kids & community

C1 & C2 (9th & 10th Grades)

Session: Sunday Sept. 23: 6:00 - 7:30pm
9th Grade: Lesson 2 10th Grade: Lesson 14

Confirmation Core Team meeting: Tuesday, October 2, 6:30pm in the Social Hall.

For movie reviews see www.catholicnews.com/movies.cfm.

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Garrett McClain - 515-685-2314 -Alleman- gjmccain69@gmail.com
Sheri Olson - 515-967-5663 - Bondurant - lowasher@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 - mcclainrj@hotmail.com
Sue Tollefson - 515 208-0536 - Cambridge - suet@iowacubs.com

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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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 - tammimccain71@gmail.com
Sue White - 515-967-2996 - charylmyron@q.com
John Zidon - 515-967-3367 - jzidon@msn.com

CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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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 - 515-967-7477 - annedavis06@gmail.com

Weekly Collection Financial Update

Sept. 8/9 Week 11

	Received	Budget
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Guests	\$ 2,718	\$5,157

Year-to-Date

	Received	Budget	Last Year
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Guests	\$53,631	\$56,724	\$54,975

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	\$45,675	\$42,327.75	\$11,478.25

Support Our Future Priests

Gifts to this Diocesan collection support our seminarians education and formation costs. We currently have 17 seminarians. Your prayers for continued vocations are appreciated. Use the envelope in this bulletin (return next week) or donate at www.dmdiocese.thankyour4caring.org. Questions about the priesthood? Contact Fr. Andrew at the parish or Fr. Ross Parker at vocations@dmdiocese.org.

Liturgical Ministers

Saturday, September 22, 5:00pm, St. Mary

Announcer	Sonya Staudt
Lector	Tim Kautza
Cup Bearers	Mike & Patty Devereux
Host Distributor	<i>Volunteer needed</i>
Servers	Abbey, Joe & Emily Devereux
Ushers	Mason & Dawn Reynolds, Joe Rumbaugh, Bill Schmitt

Sunday, September 23, 8:00am, Holy Cross

Announcer	Anne Davis
Lector	Karen Bellis
Cup Bearer	Tony Kuehn
Altar Server	Isabella Kuehn
Ushers	Shirley & Bill Jorgensen

Sunday, September 23, 10:00am, St. Mary

Announcer	Susan Genalo
Lector	Garrett McClain
Cup Bearers	Tim Loraditch, Carol Weber
Host Distributor	Matt Miller
Altar Server	Griffen Muth
Ushers	Dennis Schmidt, Bill & Kelly Dunbar, Thom Hamm, Dave Pottebaum

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Money Counters

Sept. 16: Kathy Daup, Dona Cowman
Sept. 23: Carol Weber, Sharon Morris

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October is the Month of the Rosary

We are looking for volunteers to lead the Rosary 20 minutes before each weekend Mass in October. If you would like to volunteer or have questions, please contact Anne Davis, annedavis06@gmail.com. Thank you.

Olive Wood Art

Holy Land Olive Wood Art carvings will be available for purchase the weekend of September 29/30 at St. Mary and Holy Cross. Generations of families have taught their children to carve religious figures from olive wood by hand. The olive tree is an ancient symbol of peace, wisdom, glory, power and pureness. In purchasing items, you help these artists to support their families and their presence in the Holy Land.

Blessing of Pets

To celebrate the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi (October 4), Patron Saint of ecology and animals; we will have a blessing of pets and animals on Sunday, Sept. 30, 1:00pm on the lawn behind Holy Cross Church.

Work Of Our Hands

Members of the Parish who are service providers, hobbyists, or willing to provide their services or goods for a fee or barter are welcomed to join Work Of Our Hands (WOOH). Our WOOH Festival is scheduled for December 1 & 2. Please contact Lisa Kautza, kautza@netins.net/515-964-7687, if you are interested in joining us or if you would like more information. To be added to the new directory of WOOH participants or to make changes from the previous years, please contact Lisa by October 2.



Americans throw away enough office paper each year to build a 12 foot high wall every year from Seattle to New York! Recycling a stack of newspaper just 3 feet high saves one tree.

Becoming Catholic

People come from many different backgrounds and levels of belief to learn more about the Catholic way of life. Some may have extensive experience with the Church through the influence of a spouse, child, grandparent or friend. Others have been attracted through the witness of Catholics in their daily life or through a service offered in a time of need. Some have little experience of connection with the Church, but have a yearning or longing that nothing else has satisfied. All are welcomed into an inquiry community where they may ask questions, discuss experiences and discover more about who we are as Catholic people. If you, or someone you know, want to learn more about the Catholic way of life, please contact Deacon Terry Schleisman, 515-669-6158 or tschleisman@saintmaryhc.org. Participation in the inquiry sessions 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.

Parish Work Day

Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 13 to spruce up our buildings and grounds at St. Mary and Holy Cross. Time frame is 9:00am to Noon; if you can't come for the entire time, come and help out as long as you can. This is a great opportunity for service hours for our youth!

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.*

Christ Our Life Catholic Conference

September 29 & 30 at Wells Fargo Arena. Hear world class speakers, celebrate Mass among thousands, fill your spirit with music, celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, visit Jesus in Adoration and feel your soul rejoice. Cost is \$25/person, \$15 for 6 years through college (\$5 more at the door) and children under 5 years are free. Vendors will be represented with their unique items. To learn more go to www.ChristOurLifelowa.com.

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Sept. 16

Theme: We are called to carry our crosses.

Reading I: Isaiah 50:5-9a • The Lord God is my help.

Reading II: James 2:14-18 • What good is it to say you believe, if you don't practice it?

Gospel: Mark 8:27-35 • Who do you say that I am?

For Children: What do think it means for you to follow in Jesus footsteps?

For Youth: Who do you say that Jesus is? Who is Jesus in your life?

For Adults: What is the cross that you carry today? How do you follow Jesus in the workplace and at home?