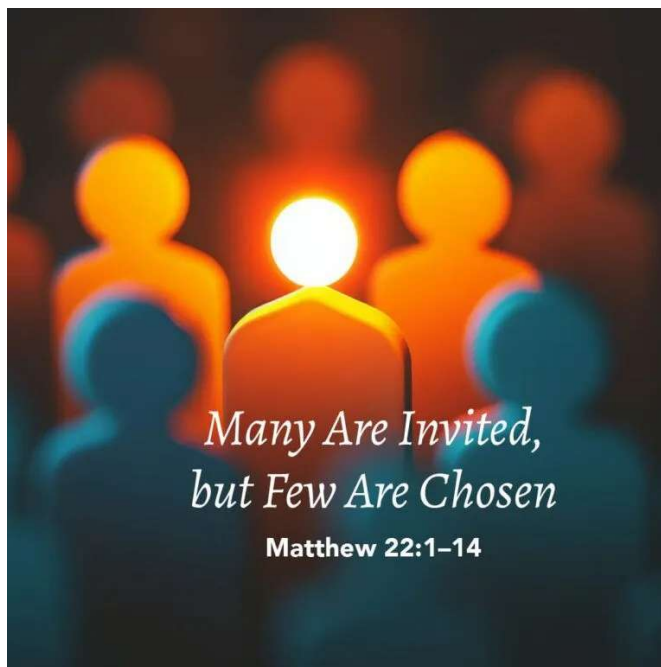


St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

St. Mary: 460 NW Washington Avenue, Elkhart Iowa 50073

Holy Cross: 12704 NE 98th Street, Maxwell Iowa 50161



*Many Are Invited,
but Few Are Chosen*

Matthew 22:1-14

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 10/11, 2026

It is customary at our Parish that 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 passes away. Parishioners near death have expressed the comfort they experience knowing their Parish Community is praying for them. Please join us in this sacred prayer.

Parish Phone	515-367-2685
Parish General Email	smhc@saintmaryhc.org
Fr. Pisut, Pastor	515-367-2685/ cpisut@dmdioocese.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
Tracy Miller - Preschool - 6th RE	tmiller@saintmaryhc.org
Candy Zidon - Bookkeeper	bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org
Parish Web Site	www.saintmaryhc.org
Parish Facebook Site	St. Mary's Holy Cross Parish-Elkhart

Mass Schedule	Tuesday	8:00am	St. Mary
	Wednesday	5:30pm	Holy Cross
	Thursday	8:00am	St. Mary
	Friday	8:00am	St. Mary
	Saturday	5:00pm	St. Mary
	Sunday	8:00am	Holy Cross
		10:00am	St. Mary

Reconciliation: Saturday 4:00 - 4:45pm,
St. Mary or by appointment with Fr. Pisut

Baptism: Please contact the Office

Marriage: Please contact the Office at least six months prior to the proposed wedding date.

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults: Please contact Fr. Pisut or Nicole Cory

Priesthood/Religious: www.vocationsonline.org

Dear Parishioners,

Next week Koley's from Omaha will be picking up the tabernacle and altar crucifix for restoration. They specialize in manufacturing sacred vessels and metal altarware. I have worked with them many times over the years and they do excellent work. By having the tabernacle restored we not only will have a beautiful home for our Lord, but we will also pay homage to those who initially purchased this tabernacle years ago for this sacred purpose. I have secured a temporary tabernacle to use in the meantime. It will take a long time for the tabernacle to be restored, perhaps six months or so. Please be patient, it will be worth the wait. I want to thank those who so generously donated the funds to make this restoration possible. If you wanted to contribute but did not get around to it yet don't worry, I have other items that I would like to restore or upgrade for the celebration of Holy Mass.

Sharon Adams, who has been laundering our Mass Linens for twenty-six years, is stepping down. I want to thank her for her many years of generous service. Cleaning Mass linens is more than just throwing them in the washer and dryer. There is a special way to clean, fold and iron them. This is an important role in assisting in the celebration of Holy Mass. Consequently, St. Mary's/Holy Cross is looking for a volunteer to take on this responsibility. If you love our Lord and doing laundry, this may just be the calling for you. If you are interested, please reach out to me or Barb in the parish office.

Friday October 9th is the feast of St. Denis and Companions (d. 250), martyrs. Denis was born in Italy and was sent to evangelize France, where he became bishop of Paris. He was martyred with Rusticus and Eleutherius in Montmartre, and their bodies were thrown into the Seine River. They were recovered and properly buried, and the great abbey of St. Denis was built over his tomb. Denis is the patron of Paris.

On the same day we also celebrate the feast of St. John Leonardi (d. 1609). He was born at Lucca in Italy and educated as a pharmacist but left for the priesthood. He dedicated himself to the catechetical instruction of children and youth. He founded the Congregation of Clerks of the Mother of God. He also helped to establish a seminary for the formation of priests from the mission countries.

Wednesday October 14th is the feast of St. Callistus (d. 222). He was a slave who was the founder of a bank in Rome where the baths of Caracalla now stand. He was accused of a crime and condemned but later set free. He was accused again and condemned to the salt mines in Sardinia. He was liberated by the intercession of Pope Victor and went to Anzio, Italy. He was ordained a priest and placed in charge of the cemetery which eventually became the catacombs of the popes. He was elected pope in 217, but a small minority resisted, thus causing the first schism in the Church. He is listed as a martyr though there is

no authentic account of his death. One legend has him thrown down a well with a millstone around his neck. Another legend states he was lynched in a riot. His tomb was discovered in 1960.

Thursday October 15 is the feast of St. Teresa of Jesus, also known as St. Teresa of Avila, (d. 1582). She was born in Avila Spain in 1515 and was of Jewish descent on her Father's side. This was the golden age of Spain both materially, due to the wealth of her colonies, and spiritually, due to the many great saints and spiritual treatises of the time. Devout in her youth she entered the Carmelite monastery at age twenty. Shortly after entering she became seriously ill and had to be sent away for treatment. Upon her return she was practically an invalid for several years. After reading the *Confessions* of St. Augustine and deeply moved by the image of *Ecce Homo* (Behold the Man) she dedicated herself to the serious practice of prayer. She worked to reform Carmel and founded the convent of St. Joseph in Avila. With the help of St. John of the Cross, she extended the reform to the friars and as a result the Holy See recognized two distinct branches of the Carmelite Order, the Discalced and the Calced. She went on to found more than forty foundations of Carmelite nuns of the strict observance. She is known for *The Life* (her autobiography), *The Way of Perfection* and *The Interior Castle*.

Lastly, thank you for your prayers for me and all the priests while we were away at the priest workshop last week. The theme was evangelization and how to call people to authentic discipleship and invite people into the Faith. The workshop also provides an opportunity for priests to have fellowship together, which is so important to help us to continue to thrive in our priestly ministry.

Fr. Pisut

Mass and Reconciliation

Tuesday, October 13

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † *Dan Sickerson*

Wednesday, October 14

5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross *Healing for Chris Pritchard*

Thursday, October 15

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † *Delores Markfort Goche*

Friday, October 16

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † *Ira & Mary Ann Cory*

Saturday, October 17 — Rosary 20 min. before Mass

4:00 - 4:45pm Reconciliation, St. Mary

5:00pm Mass, St. Mary † *Harry & Mary Fisher*

Sunday, October 18 — Rosary 20 min. before Masses

8:00am Mass, Holy Cross † *Bill Jorgensen*

10:00am Mass, St. Mary *People of the Parish*



Welcome To Our New Members!

Charles and Eileen Reilly who live in Ankeny.

Are You New to Our Parish? Welcome

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 or the online form at <https://www.saintmaryhc.org/membership>. We are glad you are here!

Pastoral Assistance

In case of an emergency please contact Fr. Pisut, 515-473-2743. To schedule a visit with Father at your home, or if a family member is hospitalized, in a care facility or home-bound, please email him at cpisut@dmdiocese.org.

Pray the Rosary With Us

Please join us in praying the Rosary 20 minutes before weekend Masses in October.

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)

Are you someone or do you know someone who would like to know more about the Catholic faith? Please join us for the Order of Christian Initiation of *Adults* (OCIA). Our sessions take place on Thursdays from 6:00 - 7:30pm in the Social Hall at St Mary, and are open to anyone. If you've already received your Sacraments but are interested in growing in your faith - please join us. If you know someone who simply wants to learn more without pressure—please invite them.

Adult sponsors are needed for OCIA. If you know someone who would be a good fit, please reach out to Nicole Cory.

Baby Bottle Campaign



InnerVisions HealthCare, is a local unplanned pregnancy and STD medical clinic whose mission is to empower women in vulnerable situations to choose parenting or adoption. To assist InnerVisions, you are invited to take a bottle, fill it with your donation of change, cash or check and return it by the weekend of October 24/25. See <https://innervisionshealthcare.org/> to learn more. Thank you for your generous support!

Harvest Prayer



Gracious and Holy God,
We thank you for the bounty of the land
and for those who plant and harvest
that the world might be fed.
We are grateful for the harvest that has
been successfully and safely completed.
And, we pray that you graciously watch over
those farmers yet to complete their
harvest.
Grant them favorable weather conditions
and keep them safe.
Where there is anxiety, give peace.
Where there is depression, restore hope.
Where there is economic uncertainty,
grant protection.
Life-giving God, we trust in your faithfulness
and your promise to abide with us always.
So, we are bold to pray that joy and
gladness be restored to our orchards and
farms and ranches.
We pray in the name of Jesus,
in whom we have our hope and salvation.
Amen.

Parish Council

Meeting: Oct. 20. 15, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Finance Council

Meeting: Oct. 27, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Stewardship

Meeting: October 12, 6:00pm, Social Hall

OCIA

Meetings: Thursdays Oct. 15, 22, & 29
6:00-7:30pm, Social Hall

Knights of Columbus

Meeting: Oct. 19, 7:00pm, Social Hall

Funeral Luncheon Food Donations

Team 2: Maxwell, Colfax, Collins, Nevada

Fr. Pisut does not have set office hours at the Parish.

To reach him please email, call or text:

cpisut@dmdiocese.org or 515-473-2743.

Coming Events

✠ **Weekend of October 17/18:** Food Pantry Collection for Impact Community Action Partnership

Note From the Cemetery Committee

In preparation for winter, please plan to remove all grave site decorations at Holy Cross Cemetery by October 30. Any remaining decorations after this date will be collected and disposed of by the Cemetery Committee. Thank you.

Church Sign

Give thanks for each day.

You'll never get to live it over again.

Religious Education: Preschool - 6th Grade

Coordinator

Tracy Miller, tmiller@saintmaryhc.org, 515-520-7981

Are your children wanting to be more involved in Mass? We are always looking for more Altar servers. Please let me know and we can get them trained and on the schedule.

Upcoming dates

- Oct. 14: Regular sessions
- Oct. 21: Regular sessions
- Oct. 28: Regular morning sessions -- no evening sessions due to Trunk or Treat

S.T.O.R.M. Report: 7th - 12th Grade

Coordinators

Melissa Kahler, mkahler@saintmaryhc.org, 515-290-2830
Andrea Fisher, afisher@saintmaryhc.org, 515-240-5059
Nicole Cory, ncory@saintmaryhc.org, 515-313-3014

EDGE (Grades 7 & 8), 6:00-7:30pm, Social Hall

Wed. Oct. 14: EDGE Session

Wed. Oct. 21: EDGE Session

Wed. Oct. 28: TRUNK or Treat 6:00-7:00pm (EDGE and High School youth will need to help set up and clean up 5:30pm-7:30pm)

Confirmation (9th & 10th Grades)

As a reminder, both 9th and 10th grades should attend all sessions this year.

If you have not filled out a registration form for your child for Confirmation Preparation, please do so.

Sunday, Oct. 18: 11:00am-12:15pm, Confirmation Student Session, Social Hall

Youth Gatherings (Grades 9-12), 7:30-9:00pm, Youth Room

Wed. Oct. 14: Youth Gathering

Wed. Oct. 21: Youth Gathering

Wed. Oct. 28: TRUNK or Treat 6:00-7:00pm (High School and EDGE youth will need to help set up and clean up 5:30pm-7:30pm)

TRUNK OR TREAT

Have some great Halloween fun Wednesday, October 28, 6:00-7:00pm in the parking lot at St. Mary (if rain, in the Social Hall). All Parish families, friends and surrounding community members are welcome to attend! Wear your non scary costumes and "trunk or treat" at the cars. *We are collecting new socks and underwear for local clothing closets. Could you donate 1 or 2 large bags of wrapped candy, snack cakes, clean stuffies, small books or small toys (from happy meals) to hand out to the 200+ trunk or treaters? A container is by the cry room for your donations through October 25. If you are interested in helping in any way or hosting a trunk, please contact Melissa Kahler, 515-290-2830 or Andrea Fisher, 515-240-5059. Thank you!*

Thank You Sharon!

After 26 years Sharon Adams is turning off her iron! She has been washing and ironing the Church linens since 2000. We are so grateful for her many years of dedicated and excellent service to the Parish! Would you be interested in taking on this task? For more information or to volunteer, please contact Father Pisut at cpisut@dmdioocese.org.

Weekly Collection Financial Update

	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>	
Tithes/Plate/	\$2,599	\$5,727	Sept. 27
Youth/Bldg. Fund	\$7,894	\$5,727	Oct. 4

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

<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
\$81,934	\$80,184	\$74,068

Building Fund Collection: \$1,908.00

Mass Attendance: Sept. 26/27: 303 October 3/4: 305

2026 Annual Diocesan Appeal

Unpaid Balance: **\$3,002**

Councils and Committees

PARISH COUNCIL

Anne Davis - annedavis06@gmail.com
Drew Hanlon - dlhanlon@windstream.net
Kim Heger - hegerkim91@gmail.com
Doug Jones - djones@bossard.com
Carolyn Kirby - gurlzmom@gmail.com
Bill Kyle - bill@northiowaair.com
Tim Miller - millertimothyg@gmail.com
Bill Sexton - billsxtn@gmail.com

FINANCE COUNCIL

Laurie Phelan, *Chair* - Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com
Julia Coash - jcoash@outlook.com
Craig Johnson - dad.craig@gmail.com
Anne Power - powerhouse57049@gmail.com
Bill Rooney - 1rooneybill@gmail.com
Tom Rooney - roondog007@msn.com

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Julia Coash - jcoash@outlook.com
Katie Fredericks - katie.fredericks1@hotmail.com
Beth Hart - mrsmatthart@gmail.com
Kris LeRoy - klsturtz@gmail.com
Jen Linderblood - Linderblood@gmail.com
Tammi McClain - tammimcclain71@gmail.com
Kathy Petersen - katherine@huxcomm.net
Sue White - charylssue@msn.com

BUILDING & GROUND COMMITTEE

John Roberts, *Co-Chair* - jroberts@huxcomm.net
Scott Turczynski, *Co-Chair* - ScottT@hrtlnd.us
Drew Hanlon - dlhanlon@windstream.net
Tim Miller - millertimothyg@gmail.com
Laurie Phelan - Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com
Bill Schmitt - isucui@isualum.com
Lynn Schreurs - lschreurs@msn.com

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Laurie Phelan, *Chair* - Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com
Pat Bishop - pjbishop@midiaowa.net
Lowell Crouse - ldcjac82@gmail.com
John Freeman - johnfmingo@hotmail.com
Tracy Irwin - irwin@partnercom.net
Stacey Rooney - rooneyslg17@gmail.com
Tom Rooney - roondog007@msn.com
Lynn Schreurs - lschreurs@msn.com
Jim Stoelk - jim.stoelk@gmail.com

PARISH TRUSTEES

Sheri Fogarty - fogarty929@gmail.com
John Roberts - jroberts@huxcomm.net

PARISH HISTORIAN

Larry Sauer - 515-710-2421

PARISH AMBASSADOR TO CATHOLIC CHARITIES

John & Peg Evans - evansp3@yahoo.com

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GRAND KNIGHT

John Roberts - jroberts@huxcomm.net

Prayer Chain



If illness or crisis strikes your family or friends, please don't hesitate to contact us so members of our Parish can offer prayers for them. *If the request is not for you, please ask permission from the one it is for to be on our prayer chain.* For requests or to participate in our prayer chain, contact the Office at bliske@saintmaryhc.org or 515-367-2685.

Diocesan Collection for Missions

World and Home Mission Sunday is next week. Your support enables the outreach carried out by dedicated missionaries among the poor and marginalized here and abroad, as they reach out to those most vulnerable in our society, sharing God's love by offering practical, emotional and spiritual care.

Donation envelopes are available at both Churches. Please return your envelope by November 1. You may also donate online at <https://www.dmdiocese.org/giving/diocesan-special-collections/world-mission-sunday>. Thank you for your generosity in helping those most in need locally, nationally and world-wide.

Mark Your Calendars!

Please plan to attend our Blood Drive on Thursday, November 12 from 3:00-7:00pm in St. Mary's Social Hall. There will be Yummy Soups and Homemade Treats to enjoy after your donation. To schedule an appointment go to <https://www.lifeservebloodcenter.org/> (use 50073 as the zip code to find our sign-up). Walk-ins are also welcome! Thank you for your gift of life to those in need. 😊



90% of plastic bags in the United States are not recycled.

Ministers for October 17 & 18

Saturday, October 17, 5:00pm Mass, St. Mary

Lector	Kris Sexton
Host Distributor	Bill Sexton
Cup Bearers	Kris Sexton, Lisa Jones
Ushers	Doug Jones, Bill Kyle, Jim Hudson
Music	Drew & Lorrie Hanlon

Sunday, October 18, 8:00am Mass, Holy Cross

Lector	Matt Hart
Cup Bearer	Jon Hand
Altar Servers	Claire & Oliver Hand
Usher	Sandra Hunter
Music	Drew Hanlon, Stacey Rooney

Sunday, October 18, 10:00am Mass, St. Mary

Lector	Jim Stoelk
Host Distributor	Julie Coash
Cup Bearers	Jill Swanson, Bob Coasch
Altar Servers	Emma & Cora Swanson
	Cross Bearer: Rex Roberts
Ushers	Andrew Cory, Gregg Richwine
Music	Jen L., Karon L., Mary Ortmann

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Money Counters

October 11: Kathy Petersen, Kathy Daup
October 18: Sharon Morris, Kathy Daup

A 10-Day Pilgrimage with Fr. Christopher Pisut

I R E L A N D

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST. PATRICK

September 7-16, 2027

SEE THE BROCHURE ON THE TABLE

ST. CHARLES
Catholic Pilgrimages

Register at stcharlespilgrimages.com/pisut

Respect Life Mass

We warmly invite you to St. John Catholic Church in Adel for a Respect Life Mass at 11:00am on Sunday, October 18. Immediately following the Mass, we will gather in our Memorial Garden for the Unborn for a special prayer service and the dedication and placement of memorial stones in remembrance of unborn children or infants lost too soon. You are welcome to prepare your own memorial stone ahead of time, personalizing it with a name, date, or other meaningful inscription in honor of an unborn child or infant lost too soon. Please bring your completed stone with you to place during the dedication ceremony. For more information please go to www.stjohnsadel.org/memorial-garden-for-theunborn.

Thinking of Priesthood Day

This one-day event in Ames on Saturday, November 7 is for men aged 16-40 who are interested in priesthood. This is an informal discernment day and is a great way to spend time with peers who are also thinking about their vocation. Please contact Father Nick Smith for more information or to register at 515-237- 5050.

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time, October 11

Theme: Only those who enter the banquet will share the reign of God.

Reading I: Isaiah 25:6-10a • The Lord will provide for his people.

Reading II: Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20 • In Christ, I am strong.

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14 • All are invited to the feast.

For Children: Why is it important for you to do what Jesus asks of you?

For Youth: When you are at Mass, how well do you really participate? How could you be more present in heart, mind, and spirit?

For Adults: Describe in your own words who will be welcome and why they will be welcome, at the eternal banquet of God.