



St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

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

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



Pentecost

May 23/24, 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 the Parish Community is praying for them. Please join us in this sacred prayer.

Dear Good People,

This weekend we celebrate the great feast of Pentecost. The birthday of the Holy Catholic Church. Certainly, the third most important feast in our Church calendar. Pentecost is not simply the end of Easter. It is the day the Church celebrates the descent of the [Holy Spirit](#) upon the apostles, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the first disciples gathered in Jerusalem. It is the moment when the fearful followers of Jesus were strengthened to proclaim the gospel boldly to the world.

On Monday we also solemnly mark Memorial Day. We remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice serving our country. We will mark that day with mass at Holy Cross at 10 AM. We will then proceed to the cemetery for a program. Hopefully you can join us.

Just a word of thanks for all who helped for our clean-up days at St. Mary and Holy Cross. Everything is looking green and nice right now. Please keep all of our farmers in prayer as the last of the planting hopefully moves forward, and we receive favorable growing conditions. ~ A.M.D.G. Fr. Ross

Parish Phone	515-367-2685
Parish General Email	smhc@saintmaryhc.org
Fr. Ross Parker, Pastor	515-367-2685/ rparker@dmdiocese.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	Monday	10:00am	Holy Cross
	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 - 4:30pm, St. Mary or by appointment with Fr. Parker

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. Parker or Nicole Cory

Priesthood/Religious: www.vocationsonline.org

Mass and Reconciliation



Memorial Day, Monday, May 25

10:00am Mass, Holy Cross † *Chris Schreurs*

Tuesday, May 26

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † *Cecilia & Mike Morton*

Wednesday, May 27

5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross † *Mary Beth Bump and Ashley Carpenter*

Thursday, May 28

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † *Fr. James Livingstone*

Friday, May 29

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † *George Meusburger*

Saturday, May 30

4:00 - 4:30pm Reconciliation, St. Mary

5:00pm Mass, St. Mary † *Jack Sabol*

Sunday, May 31

8:00am Mass, Holy Cross † *Tom Morris*

10:00am Mass, St. Mary *People of 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 or Holy Cross or on our website, <https://www.saintmaryhc.org/membership>. We are glad you are here!

Pastoral Assistance

In case of an emergency please contact Fr. Ross Parker, 515-720-3434. To schedule a visit with Father at your home, or if a family member is in a care facility, home-bound, or hospitalized, and they wish a visit, please contact him at rparker@dmdiocese.org.

Liturgical Minsters Needed for 10:00am Mass

Please consider becoming a Lector, Minister of the Eucharist or Usher for our Sunday 10:00am Mass. Training is provided. These are great ways to be involved and assist your Parish! Please contact the Office, bliske@saintmaryhc.org / 515-367-2685 if interested or have questions. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Memorial Weekend

Outdoor Pancake Breakfast: Sunday, May 24 after 8:00am Mass at Holy Cross. Free will donation to benefit Holy Cross Cemetery. Come for great food and fellowship! Hosted by the Knights of Columbus.

Please join us for our **10:00am Memorial Day Mass** at Holy Cross. The Maxwell Legion and McKinsey Guard Bagpipers will be present following Mass. See our Avenue of Flags and take a self-guided walking tour of the cemetery.

We will take up a **collection** at our weekend Masses and at our Memorial Day Mass for the upkeep of the cemetery grounds. Or mail your donation directly to the Parish Office. Please make checks payable to Holy Cross Cemetery. Thank you for your support ensuring the cemetery remains a beautiful resting place.

Could you assist with **retiring the flags** at Holy Cross on Memorial Day at 4:00pm? It only takes about 30-35 minutes. For more information or to volunteer, contact Lynn Schreurs, 515-577-8147.

Pentecost Prayer

**Spirit of Christ, stir me;
Spirit of Christ, move me;
Spirit of Christ, fill me;
Spirit of Christ, seal me.**

**Consecrate in me Your Heart and Will,
O Heavenly Father.**

Create in me a fountain of virtues.

**Seal my soul as Your own,
that Your reflection in me
may be a light for all to see.**

Amen.

Parish Council

Meeting: June 16, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Finance Council

Meeting: May 26, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Stewardship

Meeting: June 8, 6:00pm, Social Hall

Adult Faith Formation

Please watch the bulletin for upcoming opportunities for faith and fellowship.

Knights of Columbus

Meeting: June 15, 7:00pm, Social Hall

Funeral Luncheon Food Donations

Team 6: Alleman, Des Moines area, Madrid, Mingo, Mitchellville, Polk City, Prairie City, Runnells, Sheldahl, Slater

*Fr. Parker does not have set office hours at the Parish.
To reach him please email, call or text:
rparker@dmdiocese.org or 515-720-3434.*

Coming Events

- † **Collection for Holy Cross Cemetery:** This weekend and on Memorial Day
- † **Friday, May 29:** Social Hall in use 5:00-7:00pm
- † **Saturday, May 30:** Church, Social Hall & Ed Cener in use 8:00am-3:30pm — Social Hall in use after 5:00pm Mass
- † **Sunday, May 31:** Social Hall in use 11:30am-4:00pm

6 - 12th Graders & Young Adults of St. Mary – Holy Cross!

You are invited by Fr. Parker and S.T.O.R.M. to join us this Wednesday, May 27 for Mass at Holy Cross at 5:30pm followed by a game of kickball at St. Mary's beginning around 6:15pm. Food will be served at the field (or in the Social Hall in the case of rain.) If it is a rainy evening, we will play toilet paper dodge ball in the Social Hall. We hope you will join us for one of Fr. Ross' favorite activities! If you have any questions please reach out to Andrea, 515-240-5059, or Melissa, 515-290-2830.

Religious Education: Preschool - 6th Grade

Coordinator

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

We have a couple parish/family movie nights planned for this summer. Drinks and snacks provided. Everyone is welcome to attend!

Monday, June 29, 6:30-8:30pm, *Love God's Will* - True story of Father Ryan Stawaisz. Join us for this powerful movie.

Tuesday, July 14, 6:30-8:30pm, *David* - a historical animated musical film.

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

Thank You!

Thank you to those who helped at our work day. At Holy Cross: Rodney & Jennifer Burns, Tom & Stacey Rooney, Lynn Schreurs, Matt Hart and Laurie Phelan. At St. Mary: Fr. Parker, Margaret Cleverley, Randy Holdren, Candy Miller, Karen Stafford and Drew Hanlon. Many tasks were completed by these mighty workers to maintain our buildings and grounds. You're the best!

Coffee & Donuts!

We hope to have coffee and donuts after 10:00am Mass on **June 7**; but we are needing a host! No expense to you. Just pick up the donuts at the North Hy-Vee in Ankeny, serve them and straighten up afterwards! Contact the Parish Office to volunteer or if you would like more information. Thank you for considering this request!

Summer Bulletins

We begin our bi-weekly bulletins next week. If you wish to have something included, please email your information to the Parish Office, bliske@saintmaryhc.org, by Wednesday Noon on May 27, June 10 and June 24. Thank you!

Annual Diocesan Appeal (ADA)

Please support the Diocese which supports our Parish! Our assessment is \$47,270; we are doing great but still need additional pledges to finish this Appeal. Mail your pledge card from Bishop Joensen and your gift directly to the Diocese (check made out to the Diocese of Des Moines; 601 Grand Ave, Des Moines, IA 50309-2501) or donate online at <https://www.dmdiocese.org/giving>; and choose our Parish from the "Designate" dropdown. Thank you for your support!

Catholic Communications Campaign

Your support of this collection helps build Catholic communities using the internet, television, radio and print media. Half of the funds collected remain in our Diocese to support local efforts. Spread the Gospel message! To learn more visit www.usccb.org/cc. Donation envelopes are available on the table at St. Mary and at Holy Cross. Please return your gift this week. Thank you.

Church Sign

No one is hopeless whose hope is in God.

Weekly Collection Financial Update

May 17 Budget Week 46

	Received	Budget
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund	\$9,856	\$5,536

Year-to-Date

	Received	Budget	Last Year
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Guests	\$304,501	\$254,636	\$277,444

Food Pantry Collection: \$695

Mass Attendance: May 16/17: 335

2026 Annual Diocesan Appeal

Goal	Pledged	Paid	Unpaid	Amt. Due
\$47,270	\$41,830	\$37,306	\$4,524	\$9,964

Councils and Committees

PARISH COUNCIL

Anne Davis - annedavis06@gmail.com
Drew Hanlon - drewsmhcpc@yahoo.com
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 - jlinderb@yahoo.com
Tammi McClain - tammimcclain71@gmail.com
Kathy Petersen - katherine@huxcomm.net
Sue White - charylsue@msn.com

BUILDING & GROUND COMMITTEE

John Roberts, *Co-Chair* - jroberts@huxcomm.net
Scott Turczynski, *Co-Chair* - ScottT@hrtlnd.us
Drew Hanlon - drewsmhcpc@yahoo.com
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 - rooneysl7@gmail.com
Tom Rooney - roondog007@msn.com
Lynn Schreurs - lschreurs@msn.com
Jim Stoelk - jim.stoelk@mchsi.com

PARISH TRUSTEES

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

PARISH HISTORIAN

Larry Sauer - sauerld@outlook.com - 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, to be on our prayer chain.* For requests or to participate in our prayer chain, please contact the Office at bliske@saintmaryhc.org or 515-367-2685.

An Encounter with Communion and Liberation

Hear the witness of people who spent time with a man on the path to sainthood. Engage questions about what it means to be human in a digital age. Listen to music performed by talented artists. Experience a cultural event with people whose lives have been shaped by an encounter with God. Saturday, June 6, 11:00am-8:00pm at the Pastoral Center and St. Ambrose Cathedral It is free and for everyone. See details at: www.thedesmoinesmeeting.com.

Seven Sisters Apostolate

The Seven Sisters Apostolate is a mission committed to prayer support toward a Parish Priest. Seven women commit to praying each one hour a week on a specific day. Currently, there is a group of Seven Sisters who pray for Fr. Ross Parker. We would like to begin a group for Fr. Christopher Pisut. Please prayerfully consider joining this important group. More information is available at <http://sevensistersapostolate.org/>. If interested, please contact Nancy Breitreutz, 515-778-2415 / nbz7882@gmail.com or Kathy Daup, 515-306-2702 / kadaup@hotmail.com.

Ministers for Memorial Day

Monday, May 31, 10:00am Mass, Holy Cross

Lector	Anne Davis
Cup Bearer	Laurie Phelan
Altar Servers	<i>Volunteers needed</i>
Usher	<i>Volunteers needed</i>
Music	Drew Hanlon, Stacey Rooney

Ministers for May 30 & 31

Saturday, May 30, 5:00pm Mass, St. Mary

Lector	Candy Miller
Host Distributor	Linda Froehlich
Cup Bearers	Tom Froehlich, Susan Stillmunkes
Ushers	Lisa Merten, Larry Dietrich
Music	Drew & Lorrie Hanlon

Sunday, May 31, 8:00am Mass, Holy Cross

Lector	Anne Davis
Cup Bearer	Michele Hand
Altar Servers	Claire & Oliver Hand
Usher	Jerry & Patty Hilton
	Drew Hanlon, Stacey Rooney

Sunday, May 31, 10:00am Mass, St. Mary

Lector	Jill Swanson
Host Distributor	Julie Coash
Cup Bearers	Bob Coash, Jill Swanson
Altar Servers	Kate & Cora Swanson
	<i>Cross Bearer:</i> Emma Swanson
Ushers	Andrew Cory, Gregg Richwine
Music	Jen Linderblood, Karon Lacey, Mary Ortmann

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

Money Counters

May 24: Kathy Daup, Trish Morris
May 31: Sharon Morris, Sue White



More aluminum goes into beverage cans than any other product.

Change of Information?

Moved? Had a baby? Dropped your landline? New email? Your adult children moved away and/or joined another parish? Please email the parish office with any changes so our records can be as accurate as possible. *Thank you!*

Additional Options for Tithing

Auto Debit: You designate a monthly dollar amount to be withdrawn from your account on the 15th or 30th. Please contact Candy at bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org if you have questions or would like to begin ACH or find the form on the table at church or on the home page of our website.



Online Giving through the Catholic Foundation of SW Iowa with this QR Code or this secure link: <https://catholicfoundationiowa.org/make-a-donation/parishes-and-schools-relief/>. On the drop down choose *St. Mary/Holy Cross Parish-Elkhart* to make your Tithe, Building Fund and/or Food Pantry donation. The Foundation sends gift receipts.

Thank you for considering one of these for your tithing.

Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ

Corpus Christi processions on Sunday, June 7

OLIH Church, 501 E 1st St, Ankeny, after 10:30am Mass
St. John's Church, 24043 302nd Place, Adel,
Mass at 11:00am followed by a procession
St. Augustin's Church, 545 42nd Street, DSM, 4:00pm

Monastic Experience

The Benedictine Sisters of Perpetual Adoration invite single women, ages 18-40 who are curious about religious life, to their Monastic Experience June 26-28, at their monastery in Clyde, Missouri. It's a chance to experience the daily rhythm of monastic life where participants can join the Sisters in praying the Divine Office, Daily Mass and Eucharistic Adoration, as well as experiencing Lectio Divina (praying with Scripture) and gaining wisdom from the Benedictine tradition. There is no cost to attend, and more details are available at www.benedictinesisters.org - Vocations - Events. To register, please contact Sister Nancy Rose at 660-944-2221 ext. 142 or vocation@benedictinesisters.org or complete the form at <https://bit.ly/4skj3Xa>

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Pentecost, May 24

Theme: We have been given the breath of God - the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Reading I: Acts 2: 1-11 • All were filled with the Holy Spirit.

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7, 12-13 • There are different gifts, but the same Spirit.

Gospel: John 20:19-23 • As the Father sent me, so I send you.

Question for Children: When have you heard your inner voice or conscience guiding you to do what is right?

Question for Youth: How will you make Jesus more known to others in your own way this week?

Question for Adults: When did the power of the Spirit give you the right words or the insight into a dilemma?