



St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073

Holy Cross: 12704 NE 98th Street Maxwell Iowa 50161

PARABLE OF THE TWO SONS

MATT 21: 28-32 A LESSON IN FINISHING STRONG



Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 30 / October 1, 2023

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.

Parish Information

Parish Phone 515-367-2685
Parish General Email smhc@saintmaryhc.org
Fr. Ross Parker, Pastor 515-367-2685/rparker@dmdiocese.org
Deacon Terry Schleisman 515-669-6158/digiterry@netscape.net
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
Candy Zidon - Bookkeeper bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org
Parish Web Site www.saintmaryhc.org
Parish Facebook Site St. Mary's Holy Cross Parish-Elkhart
Parish Fax 515-367-7028

Mass Schedule

Tuesday	No Mass
Wednesday	No Mass
Thursday	No Mass
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.

Rite of Christian Initiation: Please contact Fr. Parker

Marriage: Contact the office at least six months prior to the proposed wedding date.

Priesthood/Religious: www.vocationsonline.org

Mass and Reconciliation

No daily Mass Tuesday-Thursday
— Fr. Parker is at the Priests Workshop

First Friday, October 6

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † *Edward & Jessie Ross*

Saturday, October 7

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

5:00pm Mass, St. Mary † *Lee Hindman and
Duane Saari*

Sunday, October 8

8:00am Mass, Holy Cross † *Aiden Phelan-Ruden*

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



Welcome To Our New Members!

*David and Aubrey Sigmund and their children
Marietta and Percy, who live in Ankeny*

*Jamey and Leah Teply and their children
Quinlan and Bennett, who live in Polk City*

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. We are glad you are here!

† Pastoral Assistance

Fr. Ross is at the Priests workshop through October 5. In case of emergency please contact Fr. Dan Krettek at 515-423-2888.

If a family member is in a care facility, home-bound, or hospitalized, and they wish a visit please contact or Deacon Schleisman at 515-669-6158 or digiterry@netscape.net.

October is the Month of the Rosary

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

*If you'd like to lead the Rosary please email Anne Davis,
annedavis06@gmail.com.*

† Blessings Offered

If you would like a blessing for your fields, flocks, pets, house or another blessing, Fr. Parker is more than happy to come to your home for any of these. For more information or to set up a date and time, please email him at rparker@dmdiocese.org.

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). Each year participants offer their goods and services at a WOOH Festival in the Social Hall. Please join us at this year's November 4 & 5 Festival. Please contact Lisa Kautza, kautza@netins.net or 515-964-7687, if interested becoming a participant or if you want more information. To be added to the new directory of participants or to make changes from the previous years, please contact Lisa by October 6.

Harvest Time 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: October 17, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Finance Council

Meeting, October 24, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Stewardship

Meeting: October 9, 6:00pm, Social Hall

Knights of Columbus

Oct. 16, Rosary, 6:40pm SM, Meeting 7:00pm, Hall

Funeral Luncheon Food Donations:

Team 6, Alleman, Baxter, Des Moines, Mingo,
Mitchellville, Prairie City, Sheldahl, Slater

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

Coming Events

- † **Weekends in October:** Rosary prayed 20 minutes before each Mass.
- † **Sunday, Oct. 1:** Coffee & Donuts after 8:00am & 10:00am Masses — Life Chain, 2:00-3:30pm (see back page)
- † **Weekend of Oct. 7/8:** Buildings and Grounds Collection — *note change of date*
- † **Saturday, Oct. 7:** Wine & Cheese after 5:00pm Mass
- † **Weekend of Oct. 14/15:** *InnerVisions* Baby Bottle Campaign
- † **Sunday, Oct. 15:** Omelet /Scramlette Bar after 10:00am Mass, Social Hall
- † **Thursday, Oct. 19:** Crafts, Games & Conversation, 9:00am, Social Hall

Church Sign

Feeding People: Body and Soul

Funeral Services

Services for Mary Ann Cory at St. Mary's: Visitation is Friday, October 6 from 5:00 to 7:00pm, with a Rosary prayed at 7:00pm. Funeral Mass is Saturday, October 7 at 10:30am.

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

Religious Education Registration

Register online: <https://forms.gle/DFn61LKez5juiYx48>, or fill out a paper form (on the website and in the vestibule) and send it to the office.

Religious Education: Preschool to 6th Grade

Preschool - 6th Grade Coordinators

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

Our year is well underway and is off to a great start! The children have shown so much excitement over the last few weeks and we are so thrilled to be on this journey with them. We would like to especially thank the children who volunteered to be ministers at 10:00am Mass this past weekend! Thank you for your service! We are always looking for volunteers at Mass, if your child is interested in Altar serving or participating in another way on a regular basis, please let us know!

October 1- Session A Children ministers at 10:00am Mass
October 4- Regular Sessions
October 11- Regular Sessions
October 18- Regular Sessions

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

Grades 7-12 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 7th & 8th

Sessions: October 4, 11, 18, 6:00-7:30pm, Social Hall
October 25: Trunk or Treat. EDGE teens can come as soon as they are able to set up and will be asked to stay a bit later to help clean up.

9th & 10th Confirmation:

Sunday, Oct. 8, 11:00am (after Mass) - Noon: **9th grade only session**, youth room, downstairs at St Mary.
Sunday, Oct. 22, 11:00am (after Mass) - Noon: **10th grade only session**, youth room, downstairs at St Mary.
Saturday, Oct. 28, 8:00am - Noon: Community Service Day; rain date will be Saturday, Nov. 4.
No Wednesday Family Session for the month of October.

STORM Youth Group (9th - 12th Graders)

Gatherings: October 4, 11, 18, 7:30-9:00pm, Youth Room

InnerVision Healthcare Baby Bottle Campaign

We are holding this Campaign for InnerVisions HealthCare, a local unplanned pregnancy and STD medical clinic. Their mission is to empower women in vulnerable situations to choose parenting or adoption. The weekend of October 14/15, you'll find baby bottles in the vestibule; please take a bottle, fill it with change, cash, or checks (made out to Innervisions) and return it the following weekend. If you have questions, please contact Bryan Gonzalez at 515-280-4706. To learn more about their two clinics and life-affirming mission, visit www.ivhcare.org. Thank you!

Weekly Collection Financial Update

October 1 Budget Week 14

	Received	Budget
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund	\$2,454	\$6,114

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

Received	Budget	Last Year
\$55,881	\$79,478	\$59,049

Mass Attendance: September 23/24: 226

2023 Annual Diocesan Appeal

Assessed	Pledged	Paid	Unpaid	Amt. Due
\$55,196	\$50,215	\$47,815	\$2,400	\$7,381

Councils and Committees

If you prefer to speak with one of our committee members instead of email, please contact the parish office for their phone number.

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Celia Shedd, *Chair* - hoyhill@partnercom.net
Terri Hamm - Theresa.Hamm@mercyconeiowa.org
Drew Hanlon - drewsmhpcp@yahoo.com
Doug Jones - djones@bossard.com
Tammi McClain - tammimcclain71@gmail.com
Larry Sauer - sauerld@outlook.com
Lisa Schoening - lisa.schoening@cbdsm.com

FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mike Winders - *President* - mwinde59@yahoo.com
Heidi Ackerman - heidimdittmer@gmail.com
John Fisher - Johnfisher@sienafastener.com
Diane Gannon - ddkgannon@gmail.com
Bill Rooney - 1rooneybill@gmail.com

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Katie Fredericks - katie.fredericks@commonspirit.org
Beth Hart - mrsmatthart@gmail.com
Kris Sturtz - klsturtz@gmail.com
Jen Linderblood - jlinderb@yahoo.com
Tammi McClain - tammimcclain71@gmail.com
Kathy Petersen - katherine@huxcomm.net
Sue White - charylmyron@q.com

BUILDING & GROUND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

John Roberts, Co-Chair - jroberts@huxcomm.net
Scott Turczynski, Co Chair - ScottT@hrtlnd.us
Drew Hanlon - drewsmhpcp@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 MEMBERS

Laurie Phelan, *Chair* - Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com
Pat Bishop - pjbishop@midiowa.net
Lowell Crouse - l3jl@windstream.net
Tracy Irwin - irwin@partnercom.net
Stacey Rooney - rooneysl7@gmail.com
Tom Rooney - roondog007@msn.com
Lynn Schreurs - lschreurs@msn.com
Larry Shaw - shawcattle77@gmail.com

PARISH TRUSTEES

Sheri Fogarty - fogarty929@gmail.com
Doug Jones - djones@bossard.com

PARISH HISTORIAN

Larry Sauer - sauerld@outlook.com - 515-710-2421

PARISH AMBASSADOR TO CATHOLIC CHARITIES

Mike and Mary Winders - mwinde59@yahoo.com

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GRAND KNIGHT

Mike Devereux - devoducks@msn.com

Laudato Si

Recycling becomes more effective if you buy products that use recycled content. For example: when buying paper towels or printer paper, look for brands that are made from recycled content. See more at:

<https://www.saintmaryhc.org/on-care-for-our-common-home>.

Interested In Us? Find Out More!

Do you long to be one with us in our Catholic faith tradition? Have you been away from the church and are now compelled to get "caught up" on what you've forgotten or missed; or maybe want to get something "off your chest?" Have you been Catholic all your life, but have not celebrated all of the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation) and yearn to do so?

If so, find out how we can help you on your faith journey by contacting Fr. Ross Parker at rparker@dmdiocese.org. Or, if you know someone who might answer "yes!" to any of these questions, suggest they contact Fr. Parker to find out how they can learn more about Catholicism and our community. *No commitments, just inquiry and opportunities to explore questions.*

Join Us

Omelet (Scramlette?) Bar

'Build-Your-Own' creation after 10:00am Mass on Sunday, October 15. You'll choose the ingredients and the K of C chefs will prepare your omelet/scramlette! Fruit, mini donuts/toast, coffee, orange juice and water will also be available. Breakfast, Fellowship and No Dishes! Hope to see YOU there. *Free will offering will go toward the College Scholarship Fund.*

Prayer Chain

If illness or a crisis strikes your family or friends, don't hesitate to contact us so members of our Parish may offer prayers for those in need. *If the request is not for you, please ask permission of the one it is for, to be on our prayer chain.* To request prayers or to participate in our prayer chain, please contact the parish office, bliske@saintmaryhc.org.

Liturgical Ministers October 7 & 8

Saturday, 5:00pm Mass, St. Mary

Lector Tom Froehlich
Host Distributor Mary Thomas
Cup Bearers Linda & Tom Froehlich
Altar Servers *Volunteers needed*
Ushers Brodie Gilligan Family
Music Drew & Lorrie Hanlon

Sunday, 8:00am Mass, Holy Cross

Lector Anne Davis
Cup Bearer Michele Hand
Altar Server Claire & Oliver Hand
Usher Jerry & Patty Hilton
Music Drew Hanlon, Maggie Bruce
Lector Kris LeRoy
Host Distributor Tim Loraditch
Cup Bearers Jacki & Tom Ausman
Altar Servers Isaac, Jonah & Gabriel Miller
Ushers Tom & Jacki Ausman
Music Sue Schmidt, Celeste Muehlenthaler

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Money Counters

October 1: Dona Cowman, Sharon Morris
October 8: Sue White, Trish Morris



Recycling a pound of steel saves enough energy to light a 60-watt light bulb for 26 hours.

Life Chain 2023

Join pro-lifers today, Sunday, October 1 from 2:00 - 3:30pm to peacefully and prayerfully stand in remembrance of the many babies lost to abortion. Park at Des Moines Fellowship Church, 950 35th Street, DSM. Please do not park in business or private parking lots. There is road construction near the church. There will be signs at the church for you to pick up and then walk or shuttle to line 35th Street, Kingman Boulevard and 31st Street. Life Chain will take place rain or shine. Stand with us as we thank God for the gift of life and pray for vulnerable women and their babies.

Host a Trunk for Trunk or Treat & More!

Hope to see you at our TRUNK or TREAT Wednesday, Oct. 25 from 6:00-7:00pm at St. Mary. **Please plan to participate in hosting a trunk!** We ask that you have your cars parked (weather permitting) or tables decorated by 5:45pm. If you are unable to participate, please consider donating a large bag or two of candy, snacks, small toys and/or trinkets. We will have a large box in the vestibule at St. Mary for your generous donations. That evening we will be collecting items to donate for an organization called Mary's Helping Hands. This group provides hope, love and support for expecting mothers who need a helping hand with basic needs for their child's first year of life. The items they need are; formula, bottles, diapers, wipes, baby shampoo, baby lotion, and diaper cream. If you have any questions, please reach out to Melissa Kahler or Andrea Fisher. Thank you!



Our Confirmation Students Want to Help You!

On Saturday, October 28, the Confirmation students will team up with the Knights of Columbus for their 6th annual Fall Community Service Day. The rain makeup date will be November 4. If you or someone you know are looking for some help with yard work please fill out the form in the vestibule. We will have boxes set up to collect the forms. You are also welcome to contact Nicole Cory, 515-313-3014, or Doug Jones, 515-238-4745.

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Sept. 30/Oct. 1

Theme: It's not enough to merely say you believe. You must also live your faith.

Reading I: Ezekiel 18:25-28 • Turn from what is sinful to what is just and right.

Reading II: Philippians 2:1-11 • Make my joy complete.

Gospel: Matthew 21:28-32 • Many will enter the reign of God before you if you do not repent.

Question for Children: How do you show your love for Jesus by doing what he asks, even when it is difficult for you?

Question for Youth: Today's parable reminds us that it isn't what we say that counts as much as what we do. How would someone know you are a Christian through your actions?

Question for Adults: How and when were you like each of the sons in the Gospel?