



# St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

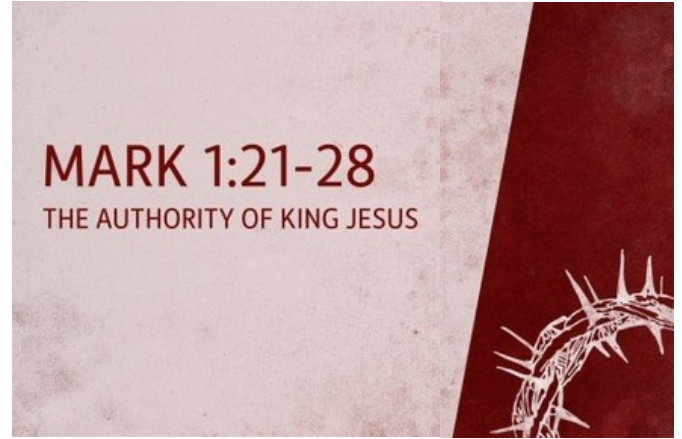
460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073

Holy Cross: 12704 NE 98th Street Maxwell Iowa 50161



## Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 20/21, 2024



## Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 27/28, 2024

Dear Good People,

I hope this letter finds you at least warm. What a storm!!! First of all I want to thank everyone who helped us to dig out from the deep snow. That certainly helped my back! I am sorry that I had to cancel mass at Holy Cross. They tried three times to clear away the snow, but were unsuccessful with all the wind. Again, I will do everything in my power to have mass, but it was quite dangerous this last weekend. Again, please use your best judgement when we are dealing with severe weather of any kind. I had a nice vacation to Florida, but as usual I am happy to be home. This last weekend we also celebrated the wedding of Sue Schmidt and Dan Harrington. Even though the weather was bad, it was a very beautiful wedding. As a parish family we are proud of both Sue and Dan. Please pray for them as they begin married life together. With weddings and all that good stuff happening it is also a good reminder for all of us to continue to pray for vocations, and to pray for those who are in their vocations. Please know of my prayers for all of you and here is hoping for at least some seasonable weather.

A.M.D.G. ~ Fr. Ross

*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.*

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Parish Phone</b>                       | 515-367-2685   |
| <b>Parish General Email</b>               | <a href="mailto:smhc@saintmaryhc.org">smhc@saintmaryhc.org</a>                 |
| <b>Fr. Ross Parker, Pastor</b>            | 515-367-2685/ <a href="mailto:rparker@dmdiocese.org">rparker@dmdiocese.org</a> |
| <b>Nicole Cory - Confirmation</b>         | <a href="mailto:ncory@saintmaryhc.org">ncory@saintmaryhc.org</a>               |
| <b>Andrea Fisher - 7th-12th Ministry</b>  | <a href="mailto:afisher@saintmaryhc.org">afisher@saintmaryhc.org</a>           |
| <b>Melissa Kahler - 7th-12th Ministry</b> | <a href="mailto:mkahler@saintmaryhc.org">mkahler@saintmaryhc.org</a>           |
| <b>Barb Liske - Secretary</b>             | <a href="mailto:bliske@saintmaryhc.org">bliske@saintmaryhc.org</a>             |
| <b>Geneveve Loraditch - PreK-6 RE</b>     | <a href="mailto:gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org">gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org</a>     |
| <b>Tracy Miller - PreK-6 RE</b>           | <a href="mailto:tmiller@saintmaryhc.org">tmiller@saintmaryhc.org</a>           |
| <b>Sue Schmidt - Music</b>                | <a href="mailto:sschmidt@saintmaryhc.org">sschmidt@saintmaryhc.org</a>         |
| <b>Candy Zidon - Bookkeeper</b>           | <a href="mailto:bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org">bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org</a>     |
| <b>Parish Web Site</b>                    | <a href="http://www.saintmaryhc.org">www.saintmaryhc.org</a>                   |
| <b>Parish Facebook Site</b>               | St. Mary's Holy Cross Parish-Elkhart   |
| <b>Parish Fax</b>                         | 515-367-7028   |

### 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 - 4:30pm, 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](http://www.vocationsonline.org)

## Mass and Reconciliation

### Tuesday, January 23

8:00am Mass, St. Mary †Kay Ross

### Wednesday, January 24

5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross †Stephen & Michael Carpenter

### Thursday, January 25

8:00am Mass, St. Mary †Victoria & Clarence Becker

### Friday, January 26

8:00am Mass, St. Mary †Jack Housby

### Saturday, January 27

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

5:00pm Mass, St. Mary †Jim Fleming

### Sunday, January 28

8:00am Mass, Holy Cross *People of the Parish*

10:00am Mass, St. Mary †William & Caroline Polansky

### Tuesday, January 30

8:00am Mass, St. Mary †John Ayers

### Wednesday, January 31

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

### Thursday, February 1

8:00am Mass, St. Mary *Heather Ward*

### First Friday, February 2

8:00am Mass, St. Mary †Joe Ross

### Saturday, February 3

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

5:00pm Mass, St. Mary †Lee & Colleen Hindman

### Sunday, February 4

8:00am Mass, Holy Cross †Harry & Mary Fisher  
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. We are glad you are here!


## † Pastoral Assistance

In case of an emergency contact Fr. Ross Parker, 515-720-3434. If a family member is in a care facility, home-bound, or hospitalized, and they wish a visit please contact Fr. Parker at [rparker@dmdiocese.org](mailto:rparker@dmdiocese.org).

## RCIA

Are you or someone you know interested in becoming Catholic or just learning more? If so, join us for RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults). All are welcome! Gatherings are held Sundays 11:00am-12:30pm through April 28 (sign for location will be posted). Please contact Nicole Cory for more information, [ncory@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:ncory@saintmaryhc.org), 515-313-3014.

## Blood Drive

 Thursday, January 25, 3:00 - 7:00pm in the Social Hall. There is no substitution for the blood supply that is in so much of a demand. Only you can make the difference in helping to saving lives! Appointments are required; no walk-ins. Schedule at: [www.lifeservebloodcenter.org/](http://www.lifeservebloodcenter.org/). Volunteers and treats are needed; please contact Larry Sauer, [sauerld@outlook.com](mailto:sauerld@outlook.com) / 515-710-2421.

## The Morning Offering

O Jesus,  
through the Immaculate Heart of Mary,  
I offer You my prayers, works,  
joys and sufferings of this day  
for all the intentions of Your Sacred Heart,  
in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass  
throughout the world,  
in reparation for my sins,  
for the intentions of all my relatives and friends,  
and in particular for the intentions  
of the Holy Father. Amen.

### Parish Council

Meeting: February 20, 6:30pm, Social Hall

### Finance Council

Meeting, February 27, 6:30pm, Social Hall

### Stewardship

Meeting: Feb. 12, 6:00pm, Social Hall

### RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Gatherings: Sundays now through April 28, 11:00am-12:30pm, location varies

### Knights of Columbus

Feb. 19, 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 here at the parish. To reach him please email, call or text:  
[rparker@dmdiocese.org](mailto:rparker@dmdiocese.org) or 515-720-3434.

### Parish Office & St. Mary's Building Hours

Mon. Jan. 22 & Tues. Jan. 23: Open 10:00am - 1:00pm  
Wed. Jan. 24: Closed  
Thurs. Jan. 25: Open 10:00am to Noon  
Friday, Jan. 26: Closed  
Mon. Jan. 29 & Tues. Jan. 30: Open 10:00am to 1:00pm  
*If you need in the building at other times, contact Fr. Parker.*

## Coming Events

- † **This Weekend:** Collection for Huxley Food Pantry
- † **Sunday, Jan. 21:** Noon - 4:30pm Social Hall in use
- † **Thursday Jan. 25:** Blood Drive, 3:00-7:00pm, Social Hall
- † **Saturday, Jan. 27:** 9:00am - 3:00pm Social Hall in use
- † **Feb 3/4 Weekend:** Building Fund Collection/Wine & cheese after 5pm Mass/Coffee & donuts after 8am & 10am Masses

## Game Time Snacks!

The Super Bowl just wouldn't be the same without our S.T.O.R.M. "Super Snack Packs"! Order forms will be available in the pews the weekends of January 27/28 and February 3/4. Snack Packs will be distributed after Masses February 10/11. Thank you for supporting the young church!

The February parish calendar will be included in the Feb. 3/4 bulletin, so please hang on to your current calendar as it includes the first few days of February.

## Religious Education: Preschool - 6th Grade

### Coordinators

Geneveve Loraditch, [gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org), 515-556-4150  
Tracy Miller, [tmiller@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:tmiller@saintmaryhc.org), 515-520-7981

We have an opportunity coming up this spring to host an adult faith formation opportunity at St. Mary's. We invite those who are wanting to dive into scripture and walk along with us on the journey of spiritual sacredness of the youngest child from conception until age 3. This formation is for anyone wanting to deepen their faith, learn more about the spiritual capabilities of the youngest child, and to assist the adult to help cultivate the child's relationship with God from the beginning. If you would like more information please reach out to Tracy.

### Upcoming Dates

January 24, 31 & February 7: Regular Sessions

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

### Coordinators

Melissa Kahler, [mkahler@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:mkahler@saintmaryhc.org), 515-290-2830  
Andrea Fisher, [afisher@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:afisher@saintmaryhc.org), 515-240-5059  
Nicole Cory, [ncory@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:ncory@saintmaryhc.org), 515-313-3014

### EDGE (7th & 8th Grades)

**Sessions:** Jan. 24, Feb. 7, 21 & 28, 6:00-7:30pm, Social Hall

### Confirmation (9th & 10th Grades)

**Sunday, Jan. 28,** 11:00am (after Mass) - Noon: 10th Grade only session, Youth Room downstairs at St. Mary

**Wednesday, Jan. 31,** 6:00-7:30pm: 9th & 10th Grade family session, Social Hall

**Sunday, Feb. 11,** 11:00am (after Mass) - Noon: 9th Grade only session, Youth Room downstairs at St. Mary

### STORM Youth Group (9th - 12th Grades)

**Gatherings:** Jan. 24, Feb. 7, 21 & 28, 7:30-9pm, Youth Rm

## End of Year Statements

Please email Candy, [bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org) to have you statement emailed or mailed to you.



## Help Needed!

Sign up to help out at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409094EA4A722A2FB6-46550958-sidewalk>. Contact Bill Schmitt, 515-291-8005 / [isucui@isualum.com](mailto:isucui@isualum.com) with questions. A list of activities will be emailed. Thank you in advance!

## Diocesan Solidarity Fund Collection

This fund helps the Diocese of Des Moines/Catholic Charities respond to the immediate needs in our community in the aftermath of any unfortunate disaster-related event and strives to meet critical needs in our local, and at times, global communities, regardless of religious, social or economic backgrounds. A second collection will be taken up January 27/28 weekend. Thank you in advance for your support enabling us to be ready to help when disasters strike.

## Lent is Not Very Far Away

We are looking for volunteers to lead the Stations of the Cross each Friday of Lent and for hosts for our Lenten meal on Fridays, March 3, 17, & 31. Please consider getting involved in your parish in this way; a signup will be available in the vestibule at St. Mary the weekend of January 27/28, or email the office to volunteer or if you have questions.

## Weekly Collection Financial Update

January 14 Budget Week 29

|   | Received  | Budget    |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund                     | \$5,761   | \$6,114   |
| <i>Year-to-Date Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund</i> |           |           |
|   | Received  | Budget    |
|   | \$143,329 | \$177,297 |
|   |           | Last Year |
|   |           | \$150,557 |

Mass Attendance: January 13/14: 52 (2 Masses)

## Church Sign

Come on in – God has been expecting you!

## 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](mailto:hoyhill@partnercom.net)  
Anne Davis - [annedavis06@gmail.com](mailto:annedavis06@gmail.com)  
Terri Hamm - [Theresa.Hamm@mercyoneiowa.org](mailto:Theresa.Hamm@mercyoneiowa.org)  
Drew Hanlon - [drewsmhcpc@yahoo.com](mailto:drewsmhcpc@yahoo.com)  
Kim Heger - [hegerkim91@gmail.com](mailto:hegerkim91@gmail.com)  
Doug Jones - [djones@bossard.com](mailto:djones@bossard.com)  
Tammi McClain - [tammimcclain71@gmail.com](mailto:tammimcclain71@gmail.com)  
Lisa Schoening - [lisa.schoening@cbdsm.com](mailto:lisa.schoening@cbdsm.com)

### FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS

John Fisher, *Chair* - [Johnfisher@sienafastener.com](mailto:Johnfisher@sienafastener.com)  
Julia Coash - [jcoash@outlook.com](mailto:jcoash@outlook.com)  
Diane Gannon - [ddkgannon@gmail.com](mailto:ddkgannon@gmail.com)  
Laurie Phelan - [Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com](mailto:Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com)  
Bill Rooney - [1rooneybill@gmail.com](mailto:1rooneybill@gmail.com)

### STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Katie Fredericks - [katie.fredericks@mercyoneiowa.org](mailto:katie.fredericks@mercyoneiowa.org)  
Beth Hart - [mrsmathhart@gmail.com](mailto:mrsmathhart@gmail.com)  
Kris Sturtz - [ksturtz@gmail.com](mailto:ksturtz@gmail.com)  
Jen Linderblood - [jlinderb@yahoo.com](mailto:jlinderb@yahoo.com)  
Tammi McClain - [tammimcclain71@gmail.com](mailto:tammimcclain71@gmail.com)  
Kathy Petersen - [katherine@huxcomm.net](mailto:katherine@huxcomm.net)  
Sue White - [charylmyron@q.com](mailto:charylmyron@q.com)

### BUILDING & GROUND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

John Roberts, *Co-Chair* - [jroberts@huxcomm.net](mailto:jroberts@huxcomm.net)  
Scott Turczynski, *Co-Chair* - [ScottT@hrtlnd.us](mailto:ScottT@hrtlnd.us)  
Drew Hanlon - [drewsmhcpc@yahoo.com](mailto:drewsmhcpc@yahoo.com)  
Tim Miller - [millertimothyg@gmail.com](mailto:millertimothyg@gmail.com)  
Laurie Phelan - [Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com](mailto:Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com)  
Bill Schmitt - [isucui@isualum.com](mailto:isucui@isualum.com)  
Lynn Schreurs - [lschreurs@msn.com](mailto:lschreurs@msn.com)

### CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Laurie Phelan, *Chair* - [Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com](mailto:Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com)  
Pat Bishop - [pjbishop@midiaowa.net](mailto:pjbishop@midiaowa.net)  
Lowell Crouse - [l3jl@windstream.net](mailto:l3jl@windstream.net)  
Tracy Irwin - [irwin@partnercom.net](mailto:irwin@partnercom.net)  
Stacey Rooney - [rooneyslg17@gmail.com](mailto:rooneyslg17@gmail.com)  
Tom Rooney - [roondog007@msn.com](mailto:roondog007@msn.com)  
Lynn Schreurs - [lschreurs@msn.com](mailto:lschreurs@msn.com)  
Larry Shaw - [shawcattle77@gmail.com](mailto:shawcattle77@gmail.com)

### PARISH TRUSTEES

Sheri Fogarty - [fogarty929@gmail.com](mailto:fogarty929@gmail.com)  
Doug Jones - [djones@bossard.com](mailto:djones@bossard.com)

### PARISH HISTORIAN

Larry Sauer - [sauerld@outlook.com](mailto:sauerld@outlook.com) - 515-710-2421

### PARISH AMBASSADOR TO CATHOLIC CHARITIES

John & Peg Evans - [evansp3@yahoo.com](mailto:evansp3@yahoo.com)

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GRAND KNIGHT

Mike Devereux - [devoducks@msn.com](mailto:devoducks@msn.com)

## Thank You

Dear St. Mary's-Holy Cross Parishioners,

Our family would like to express our gratitude to you all for your prayers offered for mom and our family, especially these last few months. She loved and cherished being a lifelong member of St. Mary's-Holy Cross! The love in this community of faith has been a source of strength and comfort to us all. She most certainly is joining the choir of angels as she once again can use her voice and praise God for His blessings. Your hospitality and presence to us at her visitation and funeral is greatly appreciated. God bless you all!

*With grateful hearts, Fr. Ross, Buffy, Peggy & Kate*

## Feast Day of St. Blaise is February 3



We ask St. Blaise to protect us from all sicknesses of the throat. We will have blessing of throats after weekend Masses on February 3 & 4. silhouette

## Liturgical Ministers for January 27 & 28

### Saturday, January 27, 5:00pm Mass, St. Mary

|                  |                                |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| Lector           | Tim Kautza                     |
| Host Distributor | Mike Devereux                  |
| Cup Bearers      | Susan Stillmunkes, Mary Thomas |
| Altar Servers    | Jack & Tommy Selby             |
| Ushers           | Mike Devereux, Bill Schmitt    |
| Music            | Lisa Jones, Mary Schmelzer     |

### Sunday, January 28, 8:00am Mass, Holy Cross

|               |                           |
|---------------|---------------------------|
| Lector        | Sheri Fogarty             |
| Cup Bearer    | Tony Kuehn                |
| Altar Servers | Titus & Zeke Weber        |
| Ushers        | Jerry & Patty Hilton      |
| Music         | Drew Hanlon, Maggie Bruce |

### Sunday, January 28, 10:00am Mass, St. Mary

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Lector           | Garrett McClain                                     |
| Host Distributor | Jacki Ausman  |
| Cup Bearers      | Tom Ausman, Garrett McClain                         |
| Altar Servers    | Jon & Marcus Larsen                                 |
| Ushers           | Tom & Jacki Ausman                                  |
| Music            | Garrett McClain, Karon Lacey, Celeste Muehlenthaler |

## Liturgical Ministers for February 3 & 4

### Saturday, February 3, 5:00pm Mass, St. Mary

|                  |                          |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| Lector           | Lisa Jones               |
| Host Distributor | Lisa Jones               |
| Cup Bearers      | Mike Devereux, Bob Selby |
| Altar Servers    | Caleb & Callahan Coffelt |
| Ushers           | Jim Hudson, Doug Jones   |

### Sunday, February 4, 8:00am Mass, Holy Cross

|               |                         |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| Lector        | Matt Hart               |
| Cup Bearer    | <i>Volunteer needed</i> |
| Altar Servers | Nick Shedd              |
| Ushers        | Mike Veasman            |

### Sunday, February 4, 10:00am Mass, St. Mary

|                  |                                  |
|------------------|----------------------------------|
| Lector           | RE Student                       |
| Host Distributor | Tracy Miller                     |
| Cup Bearers      | <i>2 volunteers needed</i>       |
| Altar Servers    | RE Students                      |
| Ushers           | RE Students, Bill & Kelly Dunbar |

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## Money Counters

January 21: Kathy Daup, Trish Morris  
January 28: Dona Cowman, Brenda Nehring  
February 4: Kathy Daup, Trish Morris



Recycling aluminum saves 95% of the energy cost of processing new aluminum.

## World Day for Consecrated Life is February 2

Please pray for all those who have made commitments in the consecrated life, and be sure to thank them on their special day. May they continue to be inspired by Jesus Christ and respond generously to God's gift of their vocation.

***Our deepest appreciation and thanks to Father Ross for accepting the call to priesthood!***



## 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](mailto:bliske@saintmaryhc.org).

## Winter Weather Cancellations



Whenever North Polk School is cancelled, dismissed early, or evening school activities are cancelled due to weather, classes, meetings and activities here at the Parish will be cancelled as well. **In most instances, Masses - both daily and weekend - will not be cancelled, so please use your own judgment.** If the need arises to cancel weekend Masses or activities, it will be on Channel 8 TV and online only. (Holy Cross may be under "Maxwell" and not "Elkhart").

Find events and resources offered by the Diocese and other parishes at [www.dmdiocese.org](http://www.dmdiocese.org). Scroll towards end of page.

## Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

### Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, January 20/21

*Theme: We are called.*

*Reading I:* Jonah 3:1-5, 10 • They believed in God and proclaimed a fast.

*Reading II:* 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 • The time is short.

*Gospel:* Mark 1:14-20 • Come, follow me.

*For Children:* What do you think it was like for the people in today's Gospel to be called by Jesus? What did they have to give up in order to follow him?

*For Youth:* At the start of Jesus' ministry, Jesus invites people to "believe in the Good News." What are some ways that you could be more open to the truth and challenge contained within the Gospels?

*For Adults:* If someone asked you, "To what work has Jesus called you?" how would you answer?

### Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, January 27/28

*Theme: Jesus has power over evil.*

*Reading I:* Deuteronomy 18:15-20 • I will put my words into your mouth.

*Reading II:* 1 Corinthians 7:32-35 • I want you to be free of all worries.

*Gospel:* Mark 1:21-28 • He has authority over all creation.

*For Children:* Name some bad things that you want to pray that Jesus will take away from our world.

*For Youth:* Jesus freed the man from the unclean spirit within him. What do you hope Jesus will free you from? What is happening in the world that needs Jesus' help?

*For Adults:* What are the evils in today's world that you pray God will free us from?