

# St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073

Holy Cross: 12704 NE 98th Street Maxwell Iowa 50161



Sixth Sunday of Easter May 13/14, 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.

#### Dear Good People,

I hope this letter finds you well as we are continuing to celebrate the Easter Season. It always seems like December and May are the two busiest months of the year. Good things are happening all around. Let us continue to pray for those who are transitioning to a new state of life whether that is graduations, new employment, or retirements. These transitions can be difficult and it is good for us to remember our brothers and sisters who are going through one of these life transitions.

Just a few housekeeping notes. Next Saturday Fr. Tom a priest originally from India, but serving down in Shenandoah, Iowa (our diocese) will be switching with me for just for the Saturday evening mass and confessions. They are having a vocations holy hour, and dinner following mass and he asked if I would come down for that. He then has to get back because they are doing something for their graduates. Fr. Tom is a good man and he has had many important assignments in the diocese. I am sure you will like him. Please welcome him. I was kind of relieved that we are not switching for the whole weekend as they have a 6:30AM mass on Sunday. Do not get any ideas! Like I mentioned before there are going to be times when I have to be away because of vocations commitments. I will try my best to balance the needs of our parish, with the needs of my role as vocation director. Thank you again for your understanding.

Finally, the Ascension of our Lord is moved to Sunday in our diocese so Thursday is not a holy day of obligation, but please feel free to come any time to daily mass as it is a great opportunity to start our day with the Holy Eucharist. Please know of my continued prayers and blessings for all of you. A.M.D.G. ~ Fr. Ross Parker

Parish Phone				
Parish General Email				
Fr. Ross Parker, Pastor				
Deacon Terry Schleisman				
Nicole Cory - Confirmation				
Andrea Fisher - 7th-12th Ministry				
Melissa Kahler - 7th-12th Ministry				
Barb Liske - Secretary				
Geneveve Loraditch - PreK-6 RE				
Tracy Miller - PreK-6 RE				
Sue Schmidt - Music				
Candy Zidon - Bookkeeper				
Parish Web Site				
Parish Facebook Site				
Parish Fax				

515-367-2685				
smhc@saintmaryhc.org				
515-367-2685/rparker@dmdiocese.org				
515-669-6158/digiterrry@netscape.net				
ncory@saintmaryhc.org				
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bliske@saintmaryhc.org				
gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org				
tmiller@saintmaryhc.org				
sschmidt@saintmaryhc.org				
bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org				
www.saintmaryhc.org				
St. Mary's Holy Cross Parish-Elkhart				
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

### Masses and Reconciliation

Tuesday, May 16

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † Evelyn Schmidt

Wednesday, May 17

5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross † Patrick Phelan

Thursday, May 18

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

Friday, May 19

8:00am Mass, St. Mary *† Susanne Campbell* 

Saturday, May 20

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

5:00pm Mass, St. Mary † Mark Schmidt

Sunday, May 21

8:00am Mass, Holy Cross + Craig Hand

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

# 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 of St. Mary or Holy Cross or on our website. We are glad you are here!

## It's Still the Easter Season!



We celebrate Jesus' resurrection through Pentecost on June 5. There are a few copies of The Little White Book and The Word Among Us at each Church to help you celebrate the remainder of this season. Diocesan family friendly resources and activities to truly celebrate the Easter season can be found at www.dmdiocese.org/Easter2023.

## T Pastoral Assistance

In case of emergency contact Fr. Ross Parker at 515-720-3434. If you or a family member is in a care facility, homebound, or hospitalized, and they wish a visit please contact Fr. Parker at rparker@dmdiocese.org or 515-367-2685.

## Food Pantry Collection



This collection is next weekend. Please bring non-perishable food items to Mass; we will also take up a monetary collection. Thank you for your continued generosity in sharing with those who need a little help. Your donation this month will assist Impact Community Action Partnership in Ankeny. Thank you for your continued support.

## Purchase a Flag for Holy Cross Cemetery

Memorialize your special someone with a flag to be flown on Memorial weekend, Fourth of July, Labor Day weekend and Veteran's Day in Holy Cross Cemetery along with our current 150 American flags. Price of \$200 includes flag, pole, identifying tag with laser engraving of the honoree and the donor, base installation, raising and lowering the flag and storage. An order form can be found at both churches and on website at https://www.saintmaryhc.org/holy-crosscemetery-committee. Orders and payment due by May 15. Contact Lynn Schreurs with questions, 515-577-8147. A reminder that we only install new flags once a year prior to Memorial weekend.

Note: Flags are currently on back order and will be installed as soon as possible.



## A Prayer in Gratitude for Our Mothers

Good and Gentle God. we pray in gratitude for our mothers and for all the women of theory who have joined with you in the wonder of bringing forth new life. You who became human through a woman, grant to all mothers the courage they need to face the uncertain future that life with children always brings.

Give them the strength to live and to be loved in return, not perfectly, but humanly.

Give them the faithful support of family and friends as they care for the physical and spiritual growth of their children.

Give them joy and delight in their children to sustain them through the trials of motherhood. Most of all, give them the wisdom to turn to you for help when they need it most.

#### **Parish Council**

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

#### **Finance Council**

Meeting, May 23, 6:30pm, Social Hall

#### **Stewardship**

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

#### **Building & Grounds**

Meeting: May 18, 6:30pm, Social Hall

#### **Knights of Columbus**

May 15, Rosary, 6:40pm SM, Meeting 7:00pm, Hall

#### **Funeral Luncheon Food Donations:**

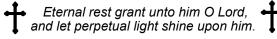
Team 5 from Elkhart and Cambridge

## **Coming Events**

- This Weekend: Blessing of Moms, Step-moms, Moms-tobe, Grandmothers and Godmothers
- ↑ Thursday, May 18: Crafts, Games & Conversation, 9:00am, Social Hall
- ↑ May 20/21 Weekend: Food Pantry collection for Impact Community Action Partnership in Ankeny
- ⊕ Sunday, May 21: Social Hall in use 4:00-8:00pm
- Thursday, May 25: Blood Drive, 3:00-7:00pm, Social Hall
- ₱ Sunday, May 28: Pancake Breakfast after 8:00am Mass at Holy Cross
- Ordination Anniversary and Volunteer appreciation, after 5:00pm Mass, Social Hall

## In Sympathy and Compassion

Pray for the repose of the soul of Lawrence Cook, brother of Chris Schreurs, who passed away April 28, and for his family that they find peace and strength at this most difficult time.



## **Religious Education**

#### **Preschool - 6th Grade Coordinators**

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

Save the date for Vacation Bible School, June 20-22, from 5:00-7:30pm. We'll have dinner for the kids each night, along with fun activities! We'd love to have your children join us! Registration is online this year! We are always looking for volunteers! Let us know if you are willing to help out!

https://forms.gle/UD3koED2AJwSiv2X6

## S.T.O.R.M. Report

#### **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

## Give Blood, Give Life



Thursday, May 25, 3:00 – 7:00pm, Social Hall. Appointments required; sign up to donate at www.lifeservebloodcenter.org, in the vestibule of St. Mary or on the parish Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/groups/smhcelkhart/. Larry Sauer is our Parish contact: 515-710-2421 / sauerld@outlook.com.

## Help with Avenue of Flags for Memorial Day!

Could you assist with installing the flags on Saturday, May 27 at 10:00am and/or retiring them on Monday the 29th at 5:00pm? Each session takes about 30-35 minutes. For more information, please contact Lynn Schreurs, 515-577-8147.



#### Outdoor Pancake Breakfast

The Knights of Columbus will be serving breakfast outside at Holy Cross Church on Sunday, May 28 following 8:00am Mass. Come for some great food and conversation!

## Memorial Day



This day was established after the Civil War as a means to unify the country with a national day of remembrance. Please join us for 10:00am Mass at Holy Cross Church on Monday, May 29. The Maxwell Legion and the McKinsey Guard Bagpipers will be present following Mass. Come see our Avenue of Flags. We will also have a self-guided walking tour available at the church and cemetery.

## Holy Cross Cemetery Collection

We will have a second collection at our Masses Memorial weekend and at our Memorial Day Mass for Holy Cross Cemetery. The funds will be used for maintenance of the grounds. If you are unable to attend Mass here that weekend or on Memorial Day, you are welcome to mail your donation to the parish office. Please make checks out to Holy Cross Cemetery. Thank you in advance for your support to assure Holy Cross Cemetery remains a beautiful resting place.

## Weekly Collection Financial Update

Received Budget

Tithes/Plate/ \$5,944 \$5,821 April 30 Youth/Bldg. Fund \$3,567 \$5,944 May 7

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

Received <u>Budget</u> Last Year \$234,335 \$267,485 \$264,551

Weekend Mass Attendance: April 29/30: 212 May 6/7: 249

#### 2023 Annual Diocesan Appeal

Amt. Due <u>Assessed</u> <u>Pledged</u> <u>Paid</u> **Unpaid** \$55,196 \$40.695 \$38,135 \$2,560 \$17.061

#### Ignite! Diocesan Capital Campaign

<u>Go</u>al Pledged Paid Balance \$360,000 \$278,960 \$126,683 \$152,278

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 - thamm@mercydesmoines.org

Drew Hanlon - drewsmhcpc@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

Heidi Ackerman, - President - heidimdittmer@gmail.com

John Fisher - Johntfisher@sienafastener.com

Diane Gannon - ddkgannon@gmail.com

Bill Rooney - 1rooneybill@gmail.com

Mike Winders - mwinde59@yahoo.com

#### STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Katie Fredericks - katie.fredericks@commonspirit.org

Beth Hart - mrsmatthart@gmail.com

Kelly Hoffmeier - nkhoff@msn.com

Kris Sturtz - klsturtz@gmail.com

Jen Linderblood - ilinderb@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 - iroberts@huxcomm.net Scott Turczynski, Co Chair - ScottT@hrtInd.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 - Ischreurs@msn.com

#### **CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Laurie Phelan, Chair - Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com

Pat Bishop - pjbishop@midiowa.net

Lowell Crouse - I3jl@windstream.net

Tracy Irwin - irwin@partnercom.net

Stacey Rooney - rooneyslg17@gmail.com

Tom Rooney - roondog007@msn.com

Lynn Schreurs - Ischreurs@msn.com

Larry Shaw - shawcattle77@gmail.com

Mary Winders - mefothergill@yahoo.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

Garrett McClain - gjmcclain69@gmail.com

#### Laudato Si

To conserve water, wash your car less frequently and use a commercial car wash. Estimates are that an average homeowner uses more than 100 gallons of water to wash a car, while most car washes use far less and properly dispose of the dirty water. Runoff from car washing in a driveway, street or parking lot can pollute the environment.

See more at:

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

## Parish CELEBRATION

We have SO many wonderful volunteers that make SMHC a great place to worship, learn, and give thanks to God. Please plan to attend our appreciation dinner, where we will honor all of the volunteers and also celebrate Fr. Parker's 10 Year Ordination. This will take place on Saturday, June 10, immediately following Mass. Bring a side dish (last name A-M) or dessert (last name N-Z) to share. Come join the fun!

A survey (so we don't mistakenly leave anyone out) about how you have volunteered this past year, can be found at https://forms.gle/T7u4LhwRcjJMa4HE6.

## Praver 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. 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 at bliske@saintmaryhc.org or 515-367-2685.

Movie Reviews: See www.catholicnews.com/movies.cfm.

## **Lituraical Ministers Needed**

Memorial weekend is coming up and ministers for our Masses are by sign up. Please volunteer at Church or contact the office if you are able to help out. Thank you!

## **Liturgical Ministers May 20/21**

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

Lector Volunteer Needed Host Susan Stillmunkes

Cup Bearers Lisa Jones. 1 Volunteer Needed Altar Servers Drew Gilligan, Callahan Coffelt

**Brody Gilligan Family** Ushers Drew & Lorrie Hanlon Music

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

Jackie Crouse Lector Dawn Beukema Cup Bearer Titus & Zeke Weber Altar Servers Usher Sandra Hunter

Drew Hanlon, Stacey Rooney Music

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

Jill Swanson Lector Host Distributor Jacki Ausman

Tom Ausman, Jill Swanson Cup Bearers Emma Swanson, Hailey Conover Altar Servers

Ushers Tom & Jacki Ausman

Music Garrett McClain, Karon Lacey,

Celeste Muehlenthaler

## ++++++++++++

## **Money Counters**

May 14: Sue White, Kathy Daup May 21: Sue White, Trish Morris

## Join us This Thursday! XXX

Bring your craft to work on or play games and enjoy social time! We gather at 9:00am in the Social Hall. All are invited!

### Annual Diocesan Appeal (ADA)

Every person's gift brings us closer to our assessment of \$55,196. If you have not made a gift, please join us in supporting Diocesan programs and services. Simply fill out the contribution card from Bishop Joensen and place it in the offertory basket or drop it in the mail. Pledge cards are also available at St. Mary and Holy Cross. Please make checks payable to Diocese of Des Moines. Gifts can also be made at dmdiocese.org/giving and choose our parish from the "Designate" dropdown. Thank you for your generosity and your support of the Annual Diocesan Appeal.

### **Additional Tithing Options**

Auto Debit: Designate a monthly amount for withdrawal from your account on the 15th or 30th. If you have questions or would like to begin ACH, please contact Candy at bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org or find the form on the table at church or on the home page of our website.

Online Giving: This is available through the Catholic Foundation of SW Iowa with this secure link: https:// catholicfoundationiowa.org/make-a-donation/parishes-andschools-relief/. On the drop down choose St. Mary/Holy Cross Parish-Elkhart to make your tithe donation. No fees! Thank you for considering using one of these for your tithing.

## **Education Savings Account**

Are you interested in enrolling your child in a Diocesan Catholic School for the upcoming school year? With an Education Savings Account, tuition may be more affordable than you think! Application deadline is June 30. Don't miss the opportunity to experience education filled with faith, excellence and community! Contact the Catholic Schools Office at 515-237-5040 to learn more.

## Married Couples!

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is like Springtime. It's a weekend of fresh air, the rebirth of romance and new beginnings. If you'd like to make your marriage even more special than it already is, sign up at wwme.org. The next weekend is September 22-24 in Dubuque. For more information please call 563-920-9419.

## Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

## Sixth Sunday of Easter, May 13/14

Theme: We have the spirit of truth to guide us.

Reading I: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17 • They prayed to receive the Holy Spirit.

Reading II: 1 Peter 3:15-18 • Christ died for sins once for

Gospel: John 14:15-21 • If you love me, obey my commandments.

Question for Children: Jesus promises to be our friend forever. How do friends treat each other?

Question for Youth: Jesus promised us that the Holy Spirit

(the Advocate) would remain with us always. When have you experienced the Spirit?

Question for Adults: Which one of the promises in today's Gospel gives you the most hope?