



St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073

Holy Cross: 12704 NE 98th Street Maxwell Iowa 50161

The Promise of the Holy Spirit



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	515-367-2685
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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	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

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

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

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!

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.

† 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 our website at <https://www.saintmaryhc.org/holy-cross-cemetery-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. Amen.

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-to-be, 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
- † **Saturday, June 10:** Celebration of Fr. Parker's 10 year 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.

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

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.lifefervebloodcenter.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

	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>	
Tithes/Plate/	\$5,821	\$5,944	April 30
Youth/Bldg. Fund	\$3,567	\$5,944	May 7

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

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

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

2023 Annual Diocesan Appeal

<u>Assessed</u>	<u>Pledged</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Unpaid</u>	<u>Amt. Due</u>
\$55,196	\$40,695	\$38,135	\$2,560	\$17,061

Ignite! Diocesan Capital Campaign

<u>Goal</u>	<u>Pledged</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Balance</u>
\$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 - drewsmhpcpc@yahoo.com
Doug Jones - djones@bossard.com
Tammi McClain - tammimcclain71@gmail.com
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Lisa Schoening - lisa.schoening@cbdsm.com

FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS

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

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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BUILDING & GROUND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

John Roberts, Co-Chair - jroberts@huxcomm.net
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Bill Schmitt - isucui@isualum.com
Lynn Schreurs - lschreurs@msn.com

CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Laurie Phelan, *Chair* - Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com
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Mary Winders - mefothergill@yahoo.com

PARISH TRUSTEES

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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 - gjmclain69@gmail.com

