

St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

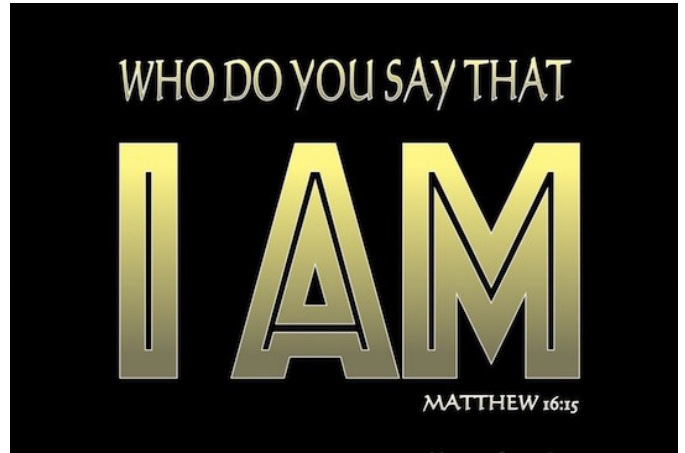
460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073

Holy Cross: 12704 NE 98th Street Maxwell Iowa 50161



Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 19/20, 2023



Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 26/27, 2023

Dear Good People,

I hope this letter finds each of you well. I always get excited this time of year as a former teacher. It is so exciting to get back into the swing of things with Faith Formation, school, RCIA, and of course football!!! I have to decide what High School team I am going to be for since we have so many students from many different school districts.

Secondly, I would really like to get RCIA going forward this year so if you know someone who is interested in becoming Catholic, please let me know. I am still working out what RCIA will look like this year. If you have any ideas of suggestions on that I would be open to speak with you about that as well.

Finally, I want to thank all the young people who volunteer to serve at holy mass. What an opportunity to get closer to our Lord. I loved being a server growing up because I thought it helped me focus. I especially liked serving at funerals because I got a little cash! If you are interested in serving, please let me know. I am a pretty nice guy, so do not be afraid of making mistakes. If you are new you can learn from some older people while you get some experience. I will also make some time to do some training before or after mass as well. Remember there is no age limit on serving. I am 40 and I still serve mass for Bishop Joensen and others. But again a giant thank you to all who are serving currently. Again, if you would like to start please let me know. A.M.D.G. ~ Fr. Ross Parker

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@dmidiocese.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	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.vocationonline.org

Mass and Reconciliation

Tuesday, August 22

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † Elizabeth Rooney

Wednesday, August 23

5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross † Will & Mikey Carpenter

Thursday, August 24

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † Teri Pratley

Friday, August 25

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † Ron Odgaard

Saturday, August 26

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

5:00pm Mass, St. Mary † Julie Sexton

Sunday, August 27

8:00am Mass, Holy Cross † Doc Birchmier

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

Tuesday, August 29

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † Virgil, Marj & Brian Rohlf

Wednesday, August 30

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

Thursday, August 31

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † Jim Campbell

First Friday, September 1

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

Saturday, September 2

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

5:00pm Mass, St. Mary † Bill Devereux

Sunday, September 3

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

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

Prayer for Students and Teachers

Dear Lord,

Give our children a thirst for knowledge,
wisdom and understanding.

May their hearts be ready to learn
at home, school and church.

Open their ears,
that they may crave knowledge
and seek it out.

Protect them and keep them safe.

We pray for our teachers.

Watch over them, guide and sustain them,
enabling them to joyfully interact
with their students and co-workers.

Protect them and keep them safe.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Parish Council

Meeting: September 19, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Finance Council

Meeting, August 22, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Stewardship

Meetings: September 11, 6:00pm, Social Hall

Knights of Columbus

August 21, Rosary, 6:40pm SM, Meeting 7:00pm, Hall

Funeral Luncheon Food Donations:

Team 5 from Elkhart and Cambridge

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

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@dmdioocese.org or 515-367-2685 or Deacon Schleisman at 515-669-6158 or digiterry@netscape.net.

Religious Education Program Assistance

High School Students, College Students and Young Adults: If you are interested in helping with EDGE this year please plan to attend our core team building and planning session on Wednesday, August 30, 6:00-7:00pm in the youth area. We will talk about the upcoming year, discuss EDGE schedule, and get to know each other. We look forward to seeing you soon. If you have questions, please text or call Andrea, 515-240-5059 or Melissa 515-290-2830.

Preschool — 6th Grade Program: We are looking for catechists; no experience is necessary - just a love of the faith and a willingness to serve the children. Please contact Geneveve, 515-556-4150/gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org or Tracy, 515-520-7981/tmiller@saintmaryhc.org, if interested.

Fr. Parker does not have set office hours when he is here at the parish. To reach him, please email, call or text:

rparker@dmdioocese.org or 515-720-3434.

Coming Events

- † **Weekend of August 19/20:** Collection for Catholic Charities Food Pantry
- † **Sunday, August 20:** Social Hall in use 1:00-4:00pm
- † **Thursday, August 31:** Blood Drive, 3:00-7:00pm, Hall
- † **Weekend of Sept. 2/3:** Collection for Buildings and Grounds — Wine & Cheese after 5:00pm Mass — Coffee & Donuts after 8:00am and 10:00am Masses

Can We Fill the Sign-Up?



Our Blood Drive is Thursday, August 31, 3:00-7:00pm in the Social Hall. We have numerous appointment times (no walk-ins). It only takes about 30 to 45 minutes from check-in to check-out. 16 and 17 year olds can donate with a signed consent form. Sign-up in the vestibule of St. Mary or at www.lifeservebloodcenter.org to donate your much needed blood. Contact Larry Sauer, sauerld@outlook.com / 515-710-2421 to help during the drive or bring items for the canteen.



Help with Avenue of Flags

Could you assist with raising the flags on Saturday, Sept. 2 at 10:00am and/or retiring them on Monday, Sept. 4 at 5:00pm? Each session lasts about half an hour. Please contact Lynn Schreurs, lschreurs@msn.com/515-577-8147, to volunteer, for more information, or if inclement weather.

In Sympathy and Compassion

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Elizabeth "Betty" Rooney who passed away August 4 in Minneapolis, and for her family that they know the compassionate presence of Christ in their time of loss.

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

Registration for Preschool - 10th Grade Religious Education

We are still accepting last minute registrations, but cannot guarantee you will get your preferred time. Online registration option: <https://forms.gle/DFn61LKez5juiYx48>, or you may send in your registration into the office. You can download a form from our website, or you can pick up a form in the vestibule.

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

Classes begin in September. We will start with Mass for each session on September 6 at 6:30pm. This will be an awesome opportunity to meet other families walking this faith journey with you, please plan to join!

On September 13 and 20 all children will attend their usual session. These sessions are our Good Starts and they will last 45 minutes each. This will be a great opportunity to meet your teacher and get acclimated to our environment again!

Let us know if you have any questions! We look forward to seeing you soon!

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 and Youth Group 9th-12th

We begin September 6 at 6:30pm with Mass; please plan to attend with your family.

September 13 we have our EDGE parent AND teen meeting from 6:00-7:00pm in the social hall.

We are blessed to be ministering along with you and look forward to seeing you soon.

9th & 10th Confirmation:

Parent/Teen Meeting: Sunday, August 27, 11:00am (after Mass) in the social hall at St. Mary.

If you haven't already registered your child for the upcoming year, please do as soon as possible.

Please contact Nicole Cory if you have any questions.

Thank You

To Father, Barb and my Church family,

Just a note to thank all of you for being there in this trying time of loosing Jack. He was watching down on all of us and smiling. Thank you also for attending his memorial celebration that Saturday night. It brought love to my heart and smiles to our faces. God bless you all!

~ Terry & Matthew Sabol

Weekly Collection Financial Update

	Received	Budget		
Tithes/Plate/	\$2,561	\$6,114	Aug. 6	Week 6
Youth/Bldg. Fund	\$2,189	\$6,114	Aug. 13	Week 7
<i>Year-to-Date</i>	<i>Received</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Last Year</i>	
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Guests	\$27,046	\$42,796	\$25,418	

Buildings & Grounds Collection: \$979

Mass Attendance: August 5/6: 221, August 12/13: 187

2023 Annual Diocesan Appeal

Assessed	Pledged	Paid	Unpaid	Amt. Due
\$55,196	\$48,735	\$46,205	\$2,530	\$8,991

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@mercycioneiowa.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

Mike Winders - *President* - mwinde59@yahoo.com
Heidi Ackerman - heidimdittmer@gmail.com
John Fisher - Johntfisher@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
Kelly Hoffmeier - nkhoff@msn.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@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 - 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 - rooneyslg17@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

Make energy efficiency a primary consideration when buying items such as a furnace, dishwasher or refrigerator. Products labeled "Energy Star" are recognized for superior efficiency, which benefits the environment.

See more at

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

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.

Forgiveness will take away the bondage of hurt and anger with a new lease on life.

Liturgical Ministers August 26/27

Saturday, 5:00pm Mass, St. Mary

Lector Kris Sexton
Host Distributor Bill Sexton
Cup Bearers Kris Sexton, Mary Thomas
Altar Servers Jack Selby
Ushers Doug Jones, Joe Rumbaugh
Music Lisa Jones, Mary Schmelzer

Sunday, 8:00am Mass, Holy Cross

Lector Sheri Fogarty
Cup Bearer Tony Kuehn
Altar Servers Titus & Zeke Weber
Usher Sandra Hunter
Music Drew Hanlon, Stacey Rooney

Sunday, 10:00am Mass, St. Mary

Lector Kris LeRoy
Host Distributor Mike Nehring
Cup Bearers Garrett McClain, Jill Swanson
Altar Servers Emma Swanson, Hailey Conover
Ushers Bill & Kelly Dunbar
Music Jen Linderblood, Celeste Muehlenthaler

Liturgical Ministers Sept. 2 & 3 are by sign-up

Saturday, 5:00pm Mass, St. Mary

Volunteers Needed:

Lector, 2 Cup Bearers, 2 Altar Servers, 1-3 Ushers

Host Distributor Joe Rumbaugh
Usher Joe Rumbaugh
Music Drew & Lorrie Hanlon

Sunday, 8:00am Mass, Holy Cross

Volunteers Needed:

Lector, Cup Bearers, 2 Altar Servers, 1-2 Ushers

Music Drew & Lorrie Hanlon

Sunday, 10:00am Mass, St. Mary

Volunteers Needed:

Lector, 2 Cup Bearers, Hosts Distributor, 2 Altar Servers, 2-4 Ushers

Music Garrett McClain, Karon Lacey, Mary Snyder

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Money Counters

August 20: Trish Morris, Dona Cowman

August 27: Kathy Daup, Brenda Nehring



According to USEPA, people are urged to "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle," in that order. Reducing waste generation (the best) conserves natural resources and avoids other negative environmental impacts throughout a product's life. Reusing beverage containers, carry-out containers, canvas bags, etc. is better than recycling which is better than having items incinerated or burying them in a landfill, but it still consumes energy and resources.

Interested In Us? Find Out More!

Does your heart burn within you when you worship with us, or socialize with us or serve others with us and 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.*

Moved? Had a baby? Dropped your landline? New email? Please email the parish office with any changes so our records can be as accurate as possible. Thank you!

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, August 19/20

Theme: Trust in God and never be afraid to ask Him for anything.

Reading I: Isaiah 56:1, 6-7 • Observe what is right and do what is just.

Reading II: Romans 11:13-15, 29-32 • God's gifts can never be taken back.

Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28 • She insisted that Jesus help her, and he did.

Question for Children: What is your favorite way to talk with Jesus? What words do you use?

Question for Youth: Do you trust that God hears your prayers? Do you believe that your prayer makes a difference?

Question for Adults: When you pray, how do you know that Jesus will really respond?

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time, August 26/27

Theme: God is creating a church, built on rock.

Reading I: Isaiah 22:19-23 • David will rule the people.

Reading II: Romans 11:33-36 • How deep is the wisdom of God!

Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20 • On this rock, I will build my church.

Question for Children: What are three things you know about Jesus?

Question for Youth: Today's Gospel is about identity – the revealing of Jesus' true self. How difficult is it to you to reveal your true self? What holds you back from being who God created you to be?

Question for Adults: If Jesus turned and asked you the same question, who would you say he is? How would you describe Jesus to someone who did not know him?