

# St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073

Holy Cross: 12704 NE 98th Street Maxwell Iowa 50161



## Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time February 10/11, 2024

Dear Good People,

It is hard to believe but Lent is now upon us! I love the season of Lent. I think it really gives us an opportunity to get serious about our faith. Just a couple of things, remember that we have Ash Wednesday Mass at St. Mary at 7AM and 6:30PM on Wednesday February 14th. We will also have Stations of the Cross on Friday's during Lent. Please consider volunteering to lead the Stations. I thought I would share some of what Pope Francis has said about this upcoming Lent.

It is time to act, and in Lent, to act also means to pause. To pause in prayer, in order to receive the word of God, to pause like the Samaritan in the presence of a wounded brother or sister. Love of God and love of neighbor are one love. Not to have other gods is to pause in the presence of God beside the flesh of our neighbor. For this reason, prayer, almsgiving and fasting are not three unrelated acts, but a single movement of openness and self-emptying, in which we cast out the idols that weigh us down, the attachments that imprison us. Then the atrophied and isolated heart will revive. Slow down, then, and pause! The contemplative dimension of life that Lent helps us to rediscover will release new energies. In the presence of God, we become brothers and sisters, more sensitive to one another: in place of threats and enemies, we discover companions and fellow travelers. This is God's dream, the promised land to which we journey once we have left our slavery behind.

To the extent that this Lent becomes a time of conversion, an anxious humanity will notice a burst of creativity, a flash of new hope. Allow me to repeat what I told the young people whom I met in Lisbon last summer: "Keep seeking and be ready to take risks. At this moment in time, we face enormous risks; we hear the painful plea of so many people. Indeed, we are experiencing a third world war fought piecemeal. Yet let us find the courage to see our world, not as being in its death throes but in a process of giving birth, not at the end but at the beginning of a great new chapter of history. We need courage to think like this" (Address to University Students, 3 August 2023). Such is the courage of conversion, born of coming up from slavery. For faith and charity take hope, this small child, by the hand. They teach her to walk, and at the same time, she leads them forward.[1]

I bless all of you and your Lenten journey (https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/ pubblico/2024/02/01/240201c.html) 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.

**Parish Phone** Parish General Email Fr. Ross Parker, Pastor Nicole Cory - Confirmation Andrea Fisher - 7th-12th Ministry Melissa Kahler - 7th-12th Ministry Barb Liske - Secretary Geneveve Loraditch - PreK-6 RE gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org 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 ncory@saintmaryhc.org afisher@saintmaryhc.org mkahler@saintmaryhc.org bliske@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

See inside for Ash Wednesday schedule.	Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday	5:30pm 8:00am 8:00am 5:00pm	St. Mary Holy Cross St. Mary St. Mary St. Mary Holy Cross St. Mary
<b>Reconciliation:</b> 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, Reconciliation and Lenten Offerings

**Tuesday, February 13** 8:00am Mass, St. Mary

**†**Kay Ross

Ash Wednesday, February 14 — Fast and Abstain from meat

7:00am Mass, St. Mary *†John, Robert & Larry Richardson* 6:30pm Mass, St. Mary *†Mary Ann Cory* 

Thursday, February 15 8:00am Mass, St. Mary

Friday, February 16 - Abstain from meat

+Gwen Ward

*†Msqr. Frank Chido* 

8:00am Mass, St. Mary 6:00pm Stations of the Cross, St. Mary

Saturday, February 17 4:00 - 4:30pm Reconciliation, St. Mary 5:00pm Mass, St. Mary **†**Bob & Julie Sexton

Sunday, February 18

8:00am Mass, Holy Cross *†Bill Jorgensen* 10:00am Mass, St. Mary People of the Parish

## 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!

## 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.

## Game Time Snacks! 🏈

Thank you to those who pre-ordered our Youth's snack packs. Please pick them up after Mass this weekend. We will also have "cash & carry" snack packs available. Thank you for supporting our youth!

## 🖉 Ash Wednesday

Join us as we begin our Lenten journey this Wednesday, with Masses at 7:00am and 6:30pm at St. Mary.

Fasting & Abstaining From Meat

Everyone 14 years and older are bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent.

Everyone 18 years old and under 59 years old are bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. On these days, only one full meatless meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals together should not equal a full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and fruit juice are allowed. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, this does not apply.

## Lenten Resources

Please take advantage of these booklets available in the vestibule. They will help God's presence in you become more evident, more of a reality in your everyday life, and they may help God's light shine through you to others in need.

Prayer for Ash Wednesday

God of goodness and mercy, Hear my prayer as I begin this Lenten journey with you. Let me be honest with myself as I look into my heart and soul. noticing the times I turn away from you. Guide me as I humbly seek to repent and return to your love. May humility guide my efforts to be reconciled with you and live forever in your abundant grace. Transform me this Lent, heavenly Father. Give me the strength to commit myself to grow closer to you each day. 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 or 515-720-3434.

## **Coming Events**

- Fridays of Lent: Stations of the Cross, 6:00pm, St. Mary. - Lenten meals February 23 (need host!), March 8 & 22.
  - Fish fry February 16, March 1 & 15
- Weekend of Feb. 17/18: Collection for Catholic Charities Food Pantry

## Your Lenten Journey

We hope you will consider forming your personal faith by participating in our Lenten offerings... Stations of the Cross... Sacrament of Reconciliation... attending weekday Mass... quiet prayer time in the church... making use of the reflection resources available in the vestibule. Welcome Jesus more fully into your life and let Him be the anchor of your soul.

## Try Something Different This Lent

How about leading the Stations of the Cross one Friday? We have a choice of booklets from which to read. For more information, please call the office. To volunteer please sign up in the vestibule at St. Mary or call the office. Thank you!

**God believes in you!** 

For movie reviews see <u>www.catholicnews.com/movies.cfm</u>.

## In Sympathy and Compassion

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Margaret Heger, mother of Doug Heger, who passed away Monday afternoon and for her family that they find strength and comfort in our Lord as they mourn her passing.

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

**Religious Education: Preschool - 6th Grade** 

#### Coordinators

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

We don't meet this week, please attend Ash Wednesday Mass with your families. On February 28, we will be having an enrollment Mass for First Communion. This Mass will be at 6:00pm. The early session will run late that evening and the late session needs to arrive for Mass at 6:00pm. If you have any conflicts please let us know as soon as possible and we will make other arrangements.

#### Upcoming Dates

Feb. 14- Ash Wednesday, please attend Mass with family. February 21- Regular Sessions February 28- Regular Sessions, Enrollment Mass at 6:00pm March 6- Regular Sessions March 13- No Sessions, Spring Break!

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

#### 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 Grades)

No session on Ash Wednesday, please attend Mass with your family.

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

Confirmation (9th & 10th Grades)

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

Sunday, Feb. 25, 11:0am (after Mass) - 2:00pm: 10th Grade Teen/Sponsor Retreat, Social Hall

Wednesday, Feb. 28, 6:00 - 7:30pm: 9th & 10th grade family session, Social Hall

#### S.T.O.R.M. Youth Group (9th - 12th Grades)

No session on Ash Wednesday, please attend Mass with your family.

Gatherings: Feb. 21 & 28, 7:30-9:00pm, Youth Room

## Lenten Meal after Stations of the Cross

We are in need of hosts for our meal after Stations of the Cross on Friday, Feb. 23. Please consider getting involved in your parish in this way. Sign up at St. Mary or email the office to volunteer or if you have questions. Thank you.



The Knights of Columbus are looking forward to serving their Lenten Fish Frys again this year. Please join them to eat or help this Friday, February 16 and also on March 1, and March 15. Serving from 5:00 to 7:00pm; free will donation.

Please contact Jon Hand if you would like to help, 515-291-8814 or jon79hand@gmail.com.

## Weekly Collection Financial Update

February 4 Budget Week 32

Received Budget \$8.467

\$6.114

Year-to-Date Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund Received Budget Last Year \$158,231 \$195,638 \$162,352

Building Fund : \$1,193

Mass Attendance: Februarv 3/4: 320

Jesus - God's Gift to all.

## **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**

Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund

Celia Shedd, Chair - hoyhill@partnercom.net Anne Davis - annedavis06@gmail.com Terri Hamm - Theresa Hamm@mercyoneiowa.org Drew Hanlon - drewsmhcpc@yahoo.com Kim Heger - hegerkim91@gmail.com Doug Jones - djones@bossard.com Tammi McClain - tammimcclain71@gmail.com Lisa Schoening - lisa.schoening@cbdsm.com

#### **FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS**

John Fisher, Chair - Johntfisher@sienafastener.com Julia Coash - jcoash@outlook.com Diane Gannon - ddkgannon@gmail.com Laurie Phelan - Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com Bill Rooney - 1rooneybill@gmail.com

#### **STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Katie Fredericks - katie.fredericks@mercyoneiowa.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@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

#### **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 John & Peg Evans - evansp3@yahoo.com

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GRAND KNIGHT** Mike Devereux - devoducks@msn.com

## Laudato Si

Consider installing LED lights at home. While LEDs cost more up front, they last far longer - up to 23 years. During that time, total operational cost for an LED is about \$38, compared with \$48 for CFLs and \$200 for incandescent bulbs. A big part of the savings is reduced electrical usage for the same brightness. See more at:

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



### Help Needed!

Hard to think about snow removal when the weather has been so nice! Winter is not over yet. Sign up to help at https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409094EA4A722A2FB6-46550958-sidewalk. Contact Bill Schmitt, 515-291-8005 / isucui@isualum.com with questions. A list of parish activities will be emailed to you. Thank you in advance!

## Additional Options for Donating to the Parish

Auto Debit: Please consider using this type of tithing. You designate a monthly dollar amount to be withdrawn from your account on the 15th or the 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 QR Code or by using this secure link: https:// catholicfoundationiowa.org/make-a-donation/ parishes-and-schools-relief/.On the drop down choose St. Mary/Holy Cross Parish-Elkhart to make your Tithe, Building Fund and/or Food



Pantry donation. The Foundation sends gift receipts.

Thank you for considering one of these for your tithing.

## **End of Year Statements**

Please email Candy, bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org to have you statement emailed or mailed to you.

## Liturgical Ministers for Next Weekend

#### Saturday, February 17, 5:00pm Mass, St. Mary

Lorrie Hanlon Lector Host Distributor Tony Kuehn Cup Bearers Lisa Schoening, Drew Hanlon Volunteers needed Altar Servers Drew Hanlon, Bill Schmitt Ushers Teri Hamm, Laura Kutscher Music

#### Sunday, February 18, 8:00am Mass, Holy Cross

Anne Davis	
Jon Hand	
Claire & Oliver Hand	
Sandra Hunter	
Drew & Lorrie Hanlon	

#### Sunday, February 18, 10:00am Mass, St. Mary

Lector Greg Feldmann Host Distributor Greg Feldmann Cup Bearers Tom & Jacki Ausman Altar Servers Jon & Marcus Larsen Ushers Tom & Jacki Ausmam Music Sue Harrington, Mary Ortmann

### Money Counters

February 11: Brenda Nehring, Sue White February 18: Sharon Morris, Dona Cowman SAVWHAT? The average American uses seven trees a year in paper, wood, and other products made from trees. This amounts to about 2,000,000,000 trees per year!

## Food Pantry Collection

Please bring non-perishable food items to Mass next weekend; we will also take up a monetary collection. Thank you for your continued generosity in sharing with those in need. Your donation this month will assist Catholic Charities Food Pantry.

### **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. ncorv@saintmarvhc.org. 515-313-3014.

#### Living Lent

How are you and your family going to live the Lenten season this year? The Diocese has a Lenten planner, some kidfriendly activities, recipes and more! Find family Lenten resources at dmdiocese.org/living-lent.

### Nourish for Careaivers

This is an on-going ministry that gathers once a month to support the practical, emotional and spiritual needs of family caregivers. Nourish gives you the tools and resources to help you connect with your faith and encounter Christ, so you can see the grace and blessings in your caregiving journey. Gatherings focus on issues pertinent to all caregiving, whether you are caring for an aging parent, spouse or disabled child. The next meeting is Wednesday, Feb. 28 from 6-7:30 p.m. at Holy Trinity Parish in the School Media Center. For additional information contact Deacon Dan Maxcy at danm@holytrinitydm.org or Deacon Jim Houston at pastoralcare@saintpluschurch.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").

### **Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing**

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, February 10/11

Theme: Jesus wants to make us whole.

*Reading I:* Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46 • Those who are sick shall live outside the camp.

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1 • Imitate me as I do Christ.

Gospel: Mark 1:40-45 • If you will do so, you can cure me. For Children: What do you want to ask Jesus to do for you?

For Youth: How has Jesus touched your life? How are you changed because of that touch?

For Adults: Name a time when you experienced Jesus' healing touch.