



St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073
Holy Cross: 12704 NE 98th Street Maxwell Iowa 50161



The Epiphany of the Lord

January 7/8, 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.

Parish Information

Parish Phone 515-367-2685
Parish General Email smhc@saintmaryhc.org
Fr. Michael Amadeo, Admin. 515-249-5015 / frmichael@olih.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

Wednesday	5:30pm	Holy Cross
Thursday	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

Baptism: Please contact the office.

Rite of Christian Initiation: Please contact the office.

Marriage: Contact the office at least six months prior to the proposed wedding date.

Priesthood/Religious: www.vocationsonline.org

Mass, Rosary and Reconciliation

Wednesday, January 11

5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross †Bill Roberts
-Rosary prayed at 6:00pm, St. Mary

Thursday, January 12

8:00am Mass, St. Mary †William & Caroline Polansky

Saturday, January 14

4:00-4:30pm Reconciliation

5:00pm Mass, St. Mary †Helen & Dick Opperman

Sunday, January 15

8:00am Mass, Holy Cross People of the Parish
10:00am Mass, St. Mary †Edward & Lorraine Polansky

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

Please contact Fr. Dan Krettek, 515-423-2888, or Deacon Terry Schleisman, 515-669-6158, for pastoral emergencies or if a family member is in a care facility, home-bound, or hospitalized, and they wish a visit.

It Is Not Too Late...



to enter into our chili cook-off/cinnamon roll bake off-contest on Saturday, January 21 after 5:00pm Mass. We hope all parishioners have this marked on their calendar, as you don't want to miss this meal and the fun! To enter one (or both!) of the contests, contact Tammi, tammimcclain71@gmail.com.

Seeking Peace in Life?

You're not alone. Many of us are continually searching for greater peace in our minds, hearts, and lives.

Please plan to attend "An Evening of Peacemaking and Reconciliation."

Date: Thursday, January 12

Time: 6:30 – 8:00pm

Location: St. Mary in Elkhart Social Hall



The session is open to everyone and will include prayer, discussion, and a look at what helps individuals, families, and parishioners move toward peace together. We will learn practices we can apply immediately in our minds, hearts, speech, and relationships.

The time together is intended to help us grow and move forward as a more compassionate, merciful, and unified parish community.

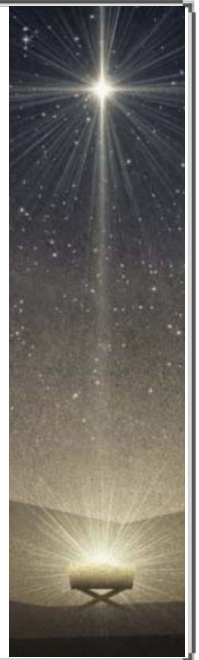
Ignite! Update

Next weekend we will host Commitment Weekend, where we will ask all families attending Mass to participate by filling an in-pew pledge card. If you have already participated, there will be a box on the card that you can check. If you haven't pledged, this will be a great opportunity to make your commitment. A major fundraising effort like this must be shouldered by all Catholics in our diocese. Join us and help drive our Ignite! Campaign to success!

You can mail your pledge to the parish office or pledge online at: dmdiocese.org/giving/ignite/give-now. Thank you!

Be Our Daily Star An Epiphany Prayer

*God of all heaven and earth,
From the breath of your love
came the creation of the world.
We are amazed at the vast beauty
of the night sky and at the intimate nature
of the love you have for us, your children.
Be our daily star,
Guiding us to search for kingdom love.
May we always follow your light of truth
in all that we do,
Forever trusting, hoping
and believing in your word.
Lift our eyes in the evenings
to see your eternal life shining brightly,
Leading us home. Amen.*



Parish office closes at 12:30pm this Friday, January 13.

Parish Council

Meeting: Jan. 24, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Finance Council

Meeting, Jan. 17, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Stewardship

Meeting: Jan. 9, 6:00pm, Social Hall

Knights of Columbus

Mon. Jan. 16, Rosary, 6:40 SM, Meeting 7:00pm, Hall

Funeral Luncheon Food Donations:

Team 4 from Bondurant and Altoona

Coming Events

- †**Weekend of Jan. 7/8:** Buildings and Grounds Collection
- †**Saturday, Jan. 7:** Wine & cheese after 5:00pm Mass
- †**Thursday, Jan. 12:** Evening of Peacemaking and Reconciliation, 6:30-8:00pm, Social Hall & Church
- †**Weekend of Jan. 21/22:** Collection for Huxley Food Pantry
- †**Saturday, Jan. 21:** Chili Cook off and Cinnamon Roll Baking contest and meal after 5:00pm Mass
- †**Thursday, Jan. 26:** Blood Drive, 3:00-7:00pm, Social Hall

Distribution of the Precious Blood at Mass

We hope to soon add the distribution of the Precious Blood at our Masses. If you are interested in becoming a minister of the Eucharist, or were previously a minister and wish to returning to this ministry, please contact the office soon. Training provided. Our greatest need is for 10:00am Mass. *We are not allowed to return this distribution at any of our Masses until we have enough ministers for all Masses.*

End of Year Statements

To receive your year end statement, please email Candy, bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org or contact the office, 515-367-2685, with a request to email or print/mail your statement. We do not automatically mail out these statements to everyone.

In Sympathy and Compassion

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Larry Morton, brother of Don Morton, who passed away December 29, and for his family that they know the compassionate presence of Christ and 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

Sessions resume this week. We look forward to having your children in class once again. In several of the classes, we begin by announcing the adoration of the magi, the presentation in the temple and the flight into Egypt. The message of Christmas is too important to celebrate for a day and then move on. In the atria we ponder it for weeks as the new year begins. What does this birth and the subsequent events mean in regards to us, to salvation history? This and much more we consider as we head into ordinary time!

January 11/13-Regular Sessions
January 18/20-Regular Sessions
January 25/27- Regular Sessions

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

EDGE Dates (7th & 8th Graders)

Sessions: Jan. 11 & 18, 6:00-7:30pm, Social Hall

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

Gatherings: January 11 & 18, 7:30-9:00pm, Youth Area

Grades 9 & 10, Confirmation Coordinator

Wednesdays, Jan. 25 and February 15: 6:00-8:00pm, Sessions, Social Hall

Saint Displays due for 10th graders at February session

Volunteers Still Needed to Provide Parish Meal for Homeless Families

Our parish has been preparing a meal for the families at the Catholic Charities Emergency Family Shelter on the second Sunday of each month for more than twenty years. **We need volunteers** currently for April, July, August, September, and December 2023. One or more families or groups can volunteer to prepare and deliver a meal (about 10 families up to 34 people). Covid precautions are taken and up to 3 people can now prepare the meal on-site. Volunteers can pay for the meal themselves, be reimbursed by the parish, or receive a Gift-In-Kind receipt that can be used for a tax deduction. To volunteer or to find out more, please contact Lisa or Tim Kautza at kautza@netins.net or 515-964-7687.

We are grateful to the following parishioners who have already volunteered to provide meals in 2023: Arlene and Todd Anderson family, Religious Education students, Pat and Gail O'Connor, Kathy and Rick Daup, Knights of Columbus, Matt and Angie Miller family and Stacey and Tom Rooney. Your generosity is much appreciated by the homeless families.

Weekly Collection Financial Update

	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>	
Tithes/Plate/	\$3,835	\$5,944	Dec. 25
Youth/Bldg. Fund	\$6,638	\$5,944	Jan. 1

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

<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
\$141,929	\$160,488	\$161,838

Ignite! Campaign

<u>Goal</u>	<u>Pledged</u>	<u>Collected</u>
\$360,000	\$223,625	\$93,075

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@cbdsdm.com

FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Heidi Ackerman, *Co-President* - heidimdittmer@gmail.com
Sue Tollefson, *Co-President* - suet@iowacubs.com
John Fisher - Johntfisher@sienafastener.com
Diane Gannon - ddkgannon@gmail.com
Bill Rooney - 1rooneybill@gmail.com
Mike Winders - mwinde59@yahoo.com

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Arlene Anderson - arlene@4andersons.com
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, *Chair* - jroberts@huxcomm.net
Drew Hanlon - drewsmhcpc@yahoo.com
Bill Schmitt - isucui@isualum.com
Lynn Schreurs - lschreurs@msn.com
Scott Turczynski - ScottT@hrtInd.us

CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Laurie Phelan, *Chair* - Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com
Karen Bellis - puzzlenuts@aol.com
Pat Bishop - pjbishop@midiowa.net
Lowell Crouse - l3jl@windstream.net
John Freeman - johnfmingo@hotmail.com
Tracy Irwin - irwin@partnercom.net
Lynn Schreurs - lschreurs@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 - gjmccclain69@gmail.com

Laudato Si

Designate certain rooms in your home, or certain hours of the day (or both!), as tech-free zones. This allows more time for contemplation, reading books or newspapers, or praying. It also allows more time for meaningful interaction with family members and friends, all of which leads to a greater appreciation of our world.

See *On Care for Our Common Home* at:

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



Snow Removal

Can you help with weekend and/or week day snow removal of sidewalks, etc., at St. Mary? We have the equipment, but need the people power! Thank you! Sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409094ea4a722a2fb6-snow1#/>.

2023 Youth Tithes

Children are encouraged to take a tithe packet located in the vestibule, and on the paper provided, write their name by the number of the packet they have taken.

Packets are a little different this year; we have these dated by first Sunday of January, 2nd Sunday of January and so forth. If there is a 5th Sunday of the month, an envelope for that is in the back of the book.

Blood Drive

Our blood drive is Thursday, January 26 from 3:00 to 7:00pm in the Social Hall. **Please sign up today!!** Cancer patients are the number one recipients of blood and blood products and can need up to eight units of blood a month? You can join the fight against cancer by donating blood!

Please schedule an appointment (required, no walk-ins yet) by signing up on the bulletin board in the vestibule at St. Mary or visiting www.lifeservebloodcenter.org/. If you have difficulties or questions, please call LifeServe Blood Center, 800-287-4903, and tell them you wish to sign up to donate at the Elkhart Community Blood Drive. Volunteers and treats for the canteen are also needed.

Please contact Larry Sauer if you wish to help, sauerld@outlook.com / 515-710-2421.

Liturgical Ministers January 14/15

Saturday, 5:00pm Mass, St. Mary

Lector John Roberts
Host Tony Kuehn
Ushers Bill Schmitt, Mike Devereux
Music Terri Hamm, Mary Ortmann

Sunday, 8:00am Mass, Holy Cross

Lector Heidi Ackerman
Altar Servers Claire & Oliver Hand
Usher Mike Veasman
Music Stacey Rooney

Sunday, 10:00am Mass, St. Mary

Lector Kris LeRoy
Host Distributor Garrett McClain
Ushers Tom & Jacki Ausman
Music Christine Muehlenthaler, Karon Lacey, Celeste Muehlenthaler

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

Money Counters

January 8: Dona Cowman, Sue White
January 15: Kathy Daup, Dona Cowman



There is no limit to the amount of times aluminum can be recycled.

Prayer 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. For requests or to participate in our Prayer Chain, please contact Barb, bliske@saintmaryhc.org / 515-367-2685. *If the request is not for you, please ask permission of the one it is for to be on our prayer chain.*

Jesus Is The Only Reason For Every Season!

Additional Options for Tithing

Auto Debit: 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 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 donation. No fees! The Foundation sends gift receipts.

Thank you for considering using one of these for your tithing.

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 activities, it will be on three major TV networks and WHO radio.

Sarah Hart Concert

Sunday, January 15, 6:30pm, at St. Francis of Assisi Church
This concert offers an energetic, insightful, welcoming experience that is intergenerational and inclusive. She weaves stories throughout her concert as she shares her love for songwriting through the depth of her songs. Involvement from the congregation is most welcome! Child Care available.

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

The Epiphany of the Lord, January 7/8

Theme: The mystery of the incarnation - Jesus is a gift to all humanity.

Reading I: Isaiah 60:1-6 • Your light has come!

Reading II: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6 • We all share the same promise!

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12 1 They opened their coffers and presented him with gifts.

Question for Children: In your life, who helps you to see Jesus in other people such as a classmate or a friend?

Question for Youth: Life can sometimes be rough: losing your home, moving, feeling fear or danger. How do you experience God being and staying with you in such times?

Question for Adults: How this past week did you demonstrate God's love at home and at work?