



St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073

Holy Cross: 12704 NE 98th Street Maxwell Iowa 50161



The Ascension of the Lord

May 20/21, 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,

This Sunday we celebrate the Ascension of our Lord into heaven. This feast can often time be overlooked because it falls right before Pentecost, but we should not overlook the great mystery of our Lord's Ascension. "The Ascension of Jesus into heaven," Pope Francis said, "acquaints us with this deeply consoling reality on our journey: in Christ, true God and true man, our humanity was taken to God. Christ opened the path to us. If we entrust our life to him, if we let ourselves be guided by him, we are certain to be in safe hands, in the hands of our savior." Jesus opens the way for us to be with him. For where he is, we also want to be. Although Jesus physically leaves this reality on earth, he does not leave us orphans. For Christ is truly present in the sacraments of our holy Church. May we avail ourselves to receive this grace that Christ so generously gives.

I pray that all of you have a great week. May God bless all of you abundantly. A.M.D.G. ~ Fr. Ross Parker

Parish Information

Parish Phone	515-367-2685
Parish General Email	smhc@saintmaryhc.org
Fr. Ross Parker, Pastor	515-367-2685/ rparker@dm-diocese.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.vocationsonline.org

Masses and Reconciliation



Tuesday, May 23

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † *John Krettek*

Wednesday, May 24

5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross † *Tom Morris*

Thursday, May 25

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

Friday, May 26

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

Saturday, May 27

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

5:00pm Mass, St. Mary † *Virginia Schmelzer*

Sunday, May 28

8:00am Mass, Holy Cross † *Lawrence Cook*

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

Sunday, May 29 Memorial Day

10:00am Mass, Holy Cross † *Mike Phelan*

Ascension of the Lord

Loving Jesus,
You promise that I will see you again
and that my heart will rejoice.
Hold me close in my fears
and give me the courage
to live my life openly as your witness.
You say to me: "Go on speaking,
and do not be silent, for I am with you."
I ask that your presence in my life
gives me the courage
to live out your gospel with my life
I ask that in every trial in my life,
I have the grace to suffer
with you and for you.
Help me to seek Heaven above,
where you are seated at the right hand
of God the Father!
Amen.

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!



The Easter Season Continues!

We celebrate Jesus' resurrection through Pentecost which is next weekend. There are a few copies of *The Little White Book* and *The Word Among Us* at each Church to help you celebrate the last week of this season. Diocesan family friendly resources and activities for the remainder of this season are at www.dmdiocese.org/Easter2023.

Pastoral Assistance †

In case of emergency contact Fr. Ross Parker at 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 or 515-367-2685 or Deacon Schleisman at digiterry@netscape.net or 515-669-6158



Give Blood, Give Life This Thursday!

Sign-up to donate your valuable and much needed blood! Appointments are required so reserve your preferred time today at www.lifesevebloodcenter.org, in the vestibule of St. Mary or on the parish Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/gsmhcelkhart/>.

Haven't donated before — give it at try! It only takes about 30 – 45 minutes from check-in to check-out and you get to enjoy beverages and homemade treats at our canteen. We look forward to seeing you at our drive this Thursday in the Social Hall from 3:00 – 7:00pm. Larry Sauer is our Parish contact: 515-710-2421 / sauerld@outlook.com.

Help with Avenue of Flags for Memorial Day!

Could you assist with raising 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 or if inclement weather, please contact Lynn Schreurs, 515-577-8147.

Parish Council

Meeting: June 20, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Finance Council

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

Stewardship

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

Building & Grounds

No meeting scheduled

Knights of Columbus

June 19, Rosary, 6:40pm SM, Meeting 7:00pm, Hall

Funeral Luncheon Food Donations:

Team 5 from Elkhart and Cambridge

Coming Events

- † **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 — Hall in use 11:00am – 5:00pm
- † **Saturday, June 10:** Celebration of Fr. Parker's 10 year Ordination Anniversary and Volunteer appreciation, after 5:00pm Mass, Social Hall

Liturgical Ministers Needed

Ministers are by sign up for our Masses over the Memorial Day holiday. Please sign up this weekend at Church or contact the office if you are able to help out. Thank you.



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!

Check your email for the new Mass Appeal Newsletter!

Religious Education

Preschool - 6th Grade Coordinators

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

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! Register at <https://forms.gle/UD3koED2AJwSiv2X6>. We are always looking for volunteers! Let us know if you are willing to help out!

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

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.

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. Come join the fun!

Bring a side dish (last name A-M) or dessert (last name N-Z) to share. 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>.

Thank You

Dear Saint Mary-Holy Cross,

Thank you so much for granting me this scholarship. It will help so much with expenses and anything else necessary in what lies ahead in my education. Thank you so much again!

Sincerely, Luke Huntruds

Dear Saint Mary-Holy Cross,

Thank you for rewarding me with this scholarship. It will be extremely helpful in college and I promise to make good use of it. I am excited for college and this will help tremendously. Once again, thank you! *Sincerely, Blake Huntruds*

Dear Saint Mary-Holy Cross,

Your church has done so much for me and my family. This scholarship is truly a blessing as I embark on my adventure at college. *Sincerely, Jace Huntruds.*

Weekly Collection Financial Update

May 14 Budget Week 46

	Received	Budget
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund	\$8,569	\$5,944

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

Received	Budget	Last Year
\$242,904	\$273,430	\$275,814

Weekend Mass Attendance: May 13/14: 254

2023 Annual Diocesan Appeal

Assessed	Pledged	Paid	Unpaid	Amt. Due
\$55,196	\$43,695	\$41,135	\$2,560	\$14,061

Ignite! Diocesan Capital Campaign

Goal	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* - heidimittmer@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 - 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@hrtlnd.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 - rooneysl7@gmail.com
Tom Rooney - roondog007@msn.com
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

When making major purchases, be mindful of the environmental impact, particularly production and transportation, and seek ways to minimize it. The poor and destitute in all parts of the world contribute the least to environmental degradation and suffer the most from it. See: <https://www.saintmaryhc.org/on-care-for-our-common-home>

Enjoyed Wine & Cheese or Donut Sunday?

We hope so! For these to be offered at St. Mary's in June, we need hosts! If you have not hosted before, we can pair you up with someone who has. Contact the office with questions or if willing to help. Thanks!

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.

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. *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.

Liturgical Ministers May 27/28 & 29 are by sign up.

Saturday, 5:00pm Mass, St. Mary

Lector Susan Selby
Host Distributor Joe Rumbaugh
Cup Bearers Susan Stillmunkes, Bob Selby
Altar Servers Jack & Tommy Selby
Ushers Joe Rumbaugh, *1 Volunteer Needed*
Music Lisa Jones, Mary Schmelzer

Sunday, 8:00am Mass, Holy Cross

Volunteers Needed
Lector, Cup Bearer, 2 Altar Servers, 1 Usher
Music Drew & Lorrie Hanlon

Sunday, 10:00am Mass, St. Mary

Volunteers Needed
Lector, Host Distributor, Cup Bearers, 2 Altar Servers, 2 Ushers
Music Karon Lacey, Christine Muehlenthaler, Maggie Bruce

Monday, 10:00am Mass, Holy Cross Memorial Day

Volunteers Needed
Lector, Cup Bearer, 2 Altar Servers, 1 Usher
Music Drew Hanlon, Stacey Rooney

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Money Counters

May 21: Sue White, Trish Morris

May 30: Dona Cowman, Brenda Nehring



Recycling a pound of steel saves enough energy to light a 60-watt light bulb for 26 hours.

Knights of Columbus Council 15347 Recognition

Each quarter, our local council selects Knights and their families for special recognition. These individuals have served as an inspiration to our parish, community and council through their dedicated support. We would like to recognize the following for their contributions to a very successful Fish Fry season:



The families of Nick and Todd Volz

Mike Devereux's family

Jon Hand's family (including Pat!)

Brian Pottebaum's family (including his father-in-law!)

Patrick O'Connor – for expert negotiating on the cost of our fish, which reduces our input cost significantly and allows us to give back even more

Larry Sauer – for doing the vast majority of the shopping for the many supplies we needed

We would also like to thank all the Knights' wives and families for their support, whether it be with food prep, serving the meal and desserts, or cleanup - we are extremely grateful for their help! And to all others who pitched in to help, please know that it is greatly appreciated.

- Garrett McClain, *Grand Knight*

What is a Prayer Shawl?

It's a soft comfy reminder for those going through a rough time that they are not alone and we are praying for them. If you know someone who could use a shawl, contact Dona Cowman, rcefans@iowatelecom.net/515-383-4482.

Biking for Babies

Join us Saturday, June 24 at St. Luke's Catholic Church in Ankeny for this ride! Join Bishop Joensen and fellow cycling enthusiasts for a fun day with family and friends. With three options of a 22-mile, 48-mile (to the High Trestle Trail Bridge) or a free 5-mile children & family fun ride, there's a route for everyone! Riders and volunteers needed to support this great cause - so join *Biking for Babies* today! Proceeds from this ride support three local pro-life organizations: Agape Pregnancy Resource Center, Innervations Healthcare, and Martha's House of Hope. Register at <https://bit.ly/4145sod>.

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

The Ascension of the Lord, May 20/21

Theme: We are sent, and Christ is with us.

Reading I: Acts 1: 1-11 • Why are you standing there looking up at the sky? Jesus has been taken into heaven.

Reading II: Ephesians 1:17-23 • We are Jesus Christ's complement.

Gospel: Matthew 28: 16-20 • All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Question for Children: Jesus tells us to make disciples wherever we are. A disciple is one who follows Jesus. Name one way that you can be a disciple of Jesus this week.

Question for Youth: Jesus commanded his disciples to go and make disciples of all people. How can you help to make disciples of your peers?

Question for Adults: Jesus commissioned the disciples to go out to proclaim the Gospel. When have you proclaimed the Good News of Jesus by how you act and live each day?