

St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

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



Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe November 25/26, 2023



First Sunday of Advent December 2/3, 2023

Dear Good People,

A very happy and Blessed Thanksgiving to all of you! This Sunday we celebrate Christ the King Sunday. The last Sunday of Ordinary Time. We are reminded that Christ is our true King. Governments and civil leaders come and go, but we remember that no matter what we believe politically, Christ is our sovereign and our head and we are all on a journey to meet Him one day; he is our just judge.

The weekend after Christ the King will be the beginning of Advent. This will begin our new liturgical year. This year it will be quite abbreviated because Christmas falls on a Monday. Information about this schedule is included in this bulletin. Advent means coming to. We are preparing to meet Christ at Christmas. With all the busyness of the season, I would challenge all of us to try and slow down and take some time to prepare for the coming of Christ in our lives. A great way to do that is to go to the sacrament of reconciliation. A thorough examination of our conscience and sacramental reconciliation is a tremendous way for us to prepare ourselves to meet Christ. Blessings to all of you and let us enjoy this wonderful season! 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 Tracy Miller - PreK-6 RE Sue Schmidt - Music Candy Zidon - Bookkeeper Parish Web Site Parish Facebook Site Parish Fax

Parish Information

515-367-2685 <u>smhc@saintmaryhc.org</u> 515-367-2685/<u>rparker@dmdiocese.org</u> <u>ncory@saintmaryhc.org</u> <u>afisher@saintmaryhc.org</u> <u>mkahler@saintmaryhc.org</u> <u>bliske@saintmaryhc.org</u> <u>gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org</u> <u>tmiller@saintmaryhc.org</u> <u>bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org</u> <u>bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org</u> <u>www.saintmaryhc.org</u> <u>St. Mary's Holy Cross Parish-Elkhart</u> 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. Marv

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

Mass and Reconciliation

Tuesday, November 28 8:00am Mass, St. Mary

†Elsbeth Noel

Wednesday, November 29 5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross +Will & Mikey Carpenter

Thursday, November 30 8:00am Mass, St. Mary *+Lawrence* Hanlon

First Friday, December 1 8:00am Mass, St. Mary *†Edward & Jessie Ross*

Saturday, December 2 4:00 - 4:30pm Reconciliation, St. Mary 5:00pm Mass, St. Mary People of Israel

Sunday, December 3 **First Sunday of Advent** 8:00am Mass, Holy Cross *†Bill Jorgensen* 10:00am Mass, St. Mary People of the Parish

Tuesday, December 5 8:00am Mass, Social Hall +Mary Ann Cory

Wednesday, December 6 5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross +Doc Birchmier

Thursday, December 7 8:00am Mass. Social Hall +Deacon Dave Bartemes

Friday, Dec. 8 Holy Day, Immaculate Conception of Mary 7:00am Mass, Social Hall +Leo & Rosemary Overmohle 6:30pm Mass, Social Hall +Harry & Mary Fisher

Saturday, December 9

4:00 - 4:30pm Reconciliation, St. Mary 5:00pm Mass, Social Hall +Bill Devereux

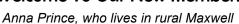
Sunday, December 10 8:00am Mass, Holy Cross +Patrick Phelan 10:00am Mass, Social Hall People of the Parish

New Birth by Water and the Holy Spirit

Celebrate with us in welcoming into our Faith

David Perseus Son of David and Aubrey Sigmund





[†] 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@dmdiocese.org

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

Blessing For Mothers-To-Be

Cross or on our website. We are glad you are here!

At our Masses the weekend of December 2 & 3, we invite all Mothers-To-Be to receive a blessing; that they know of God's presence and strength as they await the birth of their child, for a safe delivery for mom and baby and for a healthy baby.

A Prayer to Christ the King

Lord, Jesus Christ, Our Sovereign King The beginning and end of all things, You have made your Church to be a people that bears witness to the goodness and beauty of your kingdom. By your Holy Spirit, you have united us as one body, called to live as one family of God. Fill our hearts with your grace, that we would be close to you by being close to the vulnerable and marginalized. Give us the patience to share one another's burdens, And give us the courage to always be friends of the truth. May we remain with you always. Amen.

Parish Council

Meeting: January 16, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Finance Council Meeting, January 23, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Stewardship Meeting: January 8, 6:00pm, Social Hall

Knights of Columbus Dec. 18, Rosary, 6:40pm SM, Meeting 7:00pm, Hall

Funeral Luncheon Food Donations Team 6, Alleman, Baxter, Des Moines, Mingo, Mitchellville, Prairie City, Sheldahl, Slater

The Parish Office is closed Nov. 27 through Dec. 1

Fr. Parker doesn't have set office hours at the parish. Reach him at rparker@dmdiocese.org/515-720-3434.

Coming Events

- + Choir Practice: Nov. 28-6:30pm, Dec. 3-after 10am Mass, Dec 12-6:30pm, Dec 17-after 10am Mass & Dec 21-7:10pm
- Buildings & Grounds collection — Wine & cheese after 5pm Mass, Coffee & donuts after 8am & 10am Masses
- Dec. 4-15: Ceiling repair in St. Mary's Church
- Saturday, Dec. 9: Social hall in use 8:30am-1:30pm
- **Monday, Dec. 11:** Ladies Christmas gathering, 6:00pm Mass followed by food, fun and fellowship, St. Mary

Christmas Eve Choir 🎵

Join us to bring the joy of music to this very special Mass. Practices are Tuesday, Nov. 28, 6:30pm; Sunday, Dec. 3 after 10am Mass; Tuesday, Dec. 12, 6:30pm; Sunday, Dec. 17 after 10am Mass and Tuesday, Dec. 21, 7:10pm. For additional information please contact Sue Schmidt, sschmidt@saintmaryhc.org.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary



Join us to celebrate Blessed Virgin Mary and her important role in the celebration of our Faith! Masses for this Holy Day of Obligation are Friday, December 8, 7:00am and 6:30pm at St. Mary. Masses will be in the Social Hall due to the work being done in the Church.

Fourth Sunday of Advent & Christmas Masses

Dec. 23/24 Sunday Obligation Masses

Saturday, Dec. 23, 5:00pm, St. Mary Sunday, Dec. 24, **9:00am**, St. Mary - No morning Mass at Holy Cross -

Sunday Christmas Eve Masses

5:00pm, St. Mary 7:00pm, Holy Cross **Monday Christmas Day Mass** 9:00am, St. Mary



Religious Education: Preschool - 6th Grade

Coordinators

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

Our last session of 2023 is December 13. We will have Confession and Adoration on this day for all sessions. If your child is interested in First Communion in 2024, please attend the parent meeting on January 3, 6:30pm in the Social Hall. Please RSVP by emailing Geneveve. We've emailed links for helpful Advent resources, feel free to reach out to us if you would like more suggestions about how to make Advent a prayerful preparation for the feast of Christmas. We have also emailed the information for the Christmas Ornament contest, the Ladies Christmas event and the Christmas Eve choir. There are lots of ways for your children to participate in the life of the parish at this time of year, we hope you take advantage of some of them!

November 29- Regular Sessions December 6 & 13- Regular Sessions December 20 & 27- No Sessions, Christmas break

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

Coordinators

Melissa Kahler, <u>mkahler@saintmaryhc.org</u>, 515-290-2830 Andrea Fisher, <u>afisher@saintmaryhc.org</u>, 515-240-5059 Nicole Cory, <u>ncory@saintmaryhc.org</u>, 515-313-3014

EDGE (7th & 8th Grades)

No Session Nov. 29 — Sessions Dec. 6 & 13

Confirmation (9th & 10th Grades)

No November Sessions

Sunday, Dec. 10, 11:00am (after Mass) - Noon: 9th grade only session, youth room

Sunday, Dec. 17, 11:00am (after Mass) - Noon: 10th grade only session, youth room

STORM Youth Group (9th - 12th Grades) **No gathering** Nov. 29 — **Gatherings** Dec. 6 & 13

Thank You!

Thank you to all who supported our youth on their NCYC pilgrimage Nov. 16-19. We had an AWEsome trip and a WONDERful time filled with so many encounters with the Holy Spirit. It is always a joy to watch the teens grow as Catholic youth and in their walk with Christ. The teens were granted floor seating and front and center for the For King & Country concert opening night. They went to bed late and awoke early most every day. They had 3 full days filled with inspiring Catholic speakers, Adoration, Reconciliation, and most importantly, they were blessed to attend holy mass with 17 different Bishops, one hundred plus clergy, Deacons, Religious Sisters and 17,000 other Catholic teens. The young church is FULLY ALIVE! Thank you again for your financial and spiritual support! Blessings, Melissa, Andrea & Nicole

Weekly Collection Financial Update November 19 Budget Week 21					
			Receiv	ed	Budget
Tithes/Plate	Youth/Bldg.	Fund	\$8,72	26	\$6,114
Year-to-Date Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund					
<u>Received Budget Last Year</u>					
\$92,109 \$128,287 \$102,820					
Food Pantry Collection: \$702					
Mass Attendance: Nov. 18/19: 274					
2023 Annual Diocesan Appeal					
<u>Assessed</u>	<u>Pledged</u>	Paic	<u>i U</u>	npaid	Amt. Due
\$55,196	\$52,825	\$50,4	45 \$	2,380	\$4,751

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@mercyoneiowa.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 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 - sauerId@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

When visiting your favorite coffee shop, bring along your own travel mug to cut down on paper waste. Use a reusable spoon to stir your coffee and not the stirrers the shop provides — each year an estimated 138 billion straws and stirrers are thrown away in the U.S. See more at: https://www.saintmarvhc.org/on-care-for-our-common-home.

Advent Reflection Resources



We have various booklets available on the table for PREPARE LESUS you to choose from to help you along your Advent journey. This is a time of looking forward and waiting, both for celebrating Christ's birth and for the time when He comes again.

Ladies Christmas Potluck! 🌜

Join us Monday, December 11 for 6:00pm Mass followed by a potluck and fellowship. Please bring a dish to share. We'll enjoy each others company and sing a few carols. We will collect personal items for *The Blessing Box* if you wish to donate items. Thank you and hope to see YOU there!

Liturgical Ministers December 2 & 3

Saturday, 5:00pm Mass, St. Mary

Lector	Di Schleisman
Host Distributor	Di Schleisman
Cup Bearers	Joe Rumbaugh, Susan Selby
Altar Servers	Jack & Tommy Selby
Ushers	Joe Rumbaugh, Bill Schmitt

Sunday, 8:00am Mass, Holy Cross

Lector Anne Davis Cup Bearer Michele Hand Altar Server Nick Shedd Usher Sandra Hunter

Sunday, 10:00am Mass, St. Mary

Lector	Garrett McClain
Host Distributor	Garrett McClain
Cup Bearers	Di Schleisman, Jacki Ausman
Altar Servers	Jon & Marcus Larsen
Ushers	Tom & Jacki Ausman

Liturgical Ministers December 9 & 10

Saturday, 5:00pm Mass, St. Mary

Tom Froehlich
Tom Froehlich
Tony Kuehn, Linda Froehlich
Volunteers needed
Brodie Gilligan Family

Sunday, 8:00am Mass, Holy Cross		
Lector	Matt Hart	
Cup Bearer	Jon Hand	
Altar Servers	Claire & Oliver Hand	
Ushers	Jerry & Patty Hilton	

Sunday, 10:00am Mass, St. Mary

Lector Jill Swanson Host Distributor Jill Swanson Cup Bearers Greg Feldmann, Mike Nehring Altar Servers Emma Swanson, Hailey Conover Ushers Gregg Richwine, Andrew Cory

Money Counters

November 26: Sue White, Sharon Morris December 3: Dona Cowman, Kathy Daup December 10: Brenda Nehring, Sue White energy than making products from all new materials.

Christmas Memorials

We offer you the opportunity to remember your loved ones by donating towards the flowers that will decorate St. Mary and Holy Cross this Christmas season. A memorial list with the names of your loved ones will be printed in a future bulletin. *Flower donation envelopes are included with your tithe envelopes; additional flower envelopes are on the table. Please return your donation by December 17.*

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, <u>bliske@saintmaryhc.org</u>.

Catholic Campaign for Human Development

This Diocesan collection assists community leaders who work to expand access to affordable housing, health care and education; development of worker-owned businesses and advocates for changes to structures that keep people in poverty. Thank you for your support. *Donation envelopes are on the table; please return this week.*

Find events and resources offered by the Diocese and other parishes at <u>www.dmdiocese.org</u>. Scroll towards end of page.

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, Nov. 25/26

Theme: Jesus' kingdom is a kingdom of actions and deeds, not merely of words.

Reading I: Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17 • I will tend my sheep. *Reading II:* 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28 • Christ has been raised from the dead.

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46 • When did we see you hungry?

Question for Children: Who are the people most in need of help who live around you, and how can you help them?

Question for Youth: What can you do (alone/with friends/ with family) to help those who are without food, shelter, or have other needs? When have you seen Jesus in the poor?

Question for Adults: A very strong, direct and demanding Gospel passage; name the people for whom you have cared personally – or if there are none, those for whom you will offer care in the coming weeks.

First Sunday of Advent, Dec. 2/3 Theme: Active waiting.

Reading I: Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7 • We have not seen any God like you!

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 • He will strengthen you to the end.

Gospel: Mark 13:33-37 • Be constantly on guard!

Question for Children: What special things do you do to get ready for a visitor at your house? What things can you do like that to get ready for Jesus?

Question for Youth: What is one thing that you can do this week to help you remember that Jesus is coming?

Question for Adults: When you're getting ready to receive a guest, what are some things you do? How do you apply this to receiving Christ?