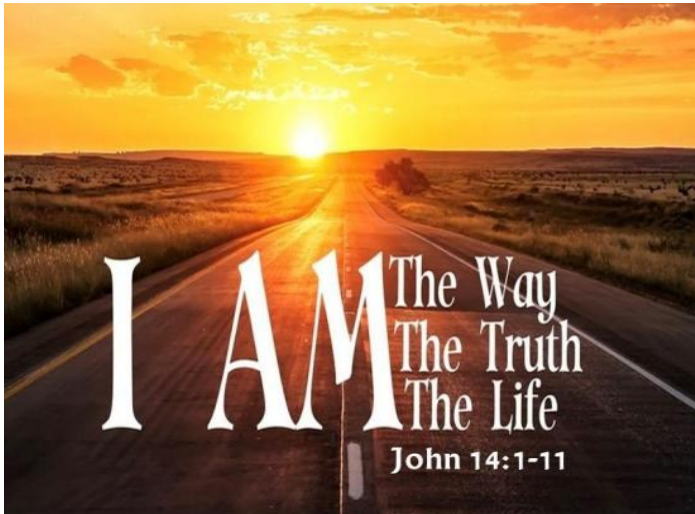




# St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

St. Mary: 460 NW Washington Avenue, Elkhart Iowa 50073

Holy Cross: 12704 NE 98th Street, Maxwell Iowa 50161



## Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 2 & 3, 2026



## Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 9 & 10, 2026

*It is customary at our Parish that 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 passes away. 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,

I just want to gratefully acknowledge all of our young people who have received their First Holy Communion, First Reconciliation, and Confirmation. The outpouring of holiness is palpable. I certainly want to thank Nicole and Tracy for the great work in preparing our young people to receive these sacraments.

From the spiritual to the temporal we have a lot of good things happening in terms of our facilities. This is because of all of your ongoing generosity. The windows at Holy Cross should be complete and re-installed very soon. Sorry for the inconvenience that paving the parking lot at St. Mary's may cause. It will mostly affect daily mass, but if there is some issue for next weekend we will sure communicate that. But what a nice project to complete! It is a nice feeling to get all of these projects done. Thank you again for all that you do! ~ A.M.D.G. Fr. Ross

<b>Parish Phone</b>	515-367-2685
<b>Parish General Email</b>	<a href="mailto:smhc@saintmaryhc.org">smhc@saintmaryhc.org</a>
<b>Fr. Ross Parker, Pastor</b>	515-367-2685/ <a href="mailto:rparker@dmdiocese.org">rparker@dmdiocese.org</a>
<b>Nicole Cory - Confirmation</b>	<a href="mailto:ncory@saintmaryhc.org">ncory@saintmaryhc.org</a>
<b>Andrea Fisher - 7th-12th Ministry</b>	<a href="mailto:afisher@saintmaryhc.org">afisher@saintmaryhc.org</a>
<b>Melissa Kahler - 7th-12th Ministry</b>	<a href="mailto:mkahler@saintmaryhc.org">mkahler@saintmaryhc.org</a>
<b>Barb Liske - Secretary</b>	<a href="mailto:bliske@saintmaryhc.org">bliske@saintmaryhc.org</a>
<b>Tracy Miller - Preschool - 6th RE</b>	<a href="mailto:tmiller@saintmaryhc.org">tmiller@saintmaryhc.org</a>
<b>Candy Zidon - Bookkeeper</b>	<a href="mailto:bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org">bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org</a>
<b>Parish Web Site</b>	<a href="http://www.saintmaryhc.org">www.saintmaryhc.org</a>
<b>Parish Facebook Site</b>	St. Mary's Holy Cross Parish-Elkhart

<b>Mass Schedule</b>	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.

**Marriage:** Please contact the Office at least six months prior to the proposed wedding date.

**Order of Christian Initiation of Adults:** Please contact Fr. Parker or Nicole Cory

**Priesthood/Religious:** [www.vocationonline.org](http://www.vocationonline.org)

## Mass and Reconciliation

### Tuesday, May 5

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † Lam Voong

### Wednesday, May 6

5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross † Larry Shaw

### Thursday, May 7

8:00am Mass, St. Mary Andrew & Matthew Ward

### Friday, May 8

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † Fr. Aquinas Nichols

### Saturday, May 9

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

5:00pm Mass, St. Mary † JoAnn Moody

### Sunday, May 10

8:00am Mass, Holy Cross † Dennis Cornelius Schmidt

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

### Tuesday, May 12

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † Ira & Mary Ann Cory

### Wednesday, May 13

5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross † Stephen & Michael Carpenter

### Thursday, May 14

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † Delores Markfort Goche

### Friday, May 15

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † Donnie Schmitt

### Saturday, May 16

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

5:00pm Mass, St. Mary † Kenny Stevens,  
Mark Schmidt, Mary Harrington

### Sunday, May 17

8:00am Mass, Holy Cross † Lyle Carpenter

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

## Welcome To Our New Members!



Dave and Dana Schon, who live in Polk City

Matthew and Anna Dearborn and daughters  
Aurora, Willow and Hazel who live in Cambridge

Michael Fisher and Elizabeth Kibby  
and daughter Violet who live in Sheldahl

## † Pastoral Assistance

In case of an emergency please contact Fr. Ross Parker, 515-720-3434. To schedule a visit with Father at your home, or if a family member is in a care facility, home-bound, or hospitalized, and they wish a visit, please contact him at [rparker@dmdiocese.org](mailto:rparker@dmdiocese.org).

## 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, <https://www.saintmaryhc.org/membership>. We are glad you are here!



## It's Still the Easter Season!

The Lord's resurrection is celebrated for the entire Season of Easter; which ends with Pentecost on May 24.

## Food Pantry Collection

Please bring non-perishable items to Mass May 16/17; we also take up a monetary collection. Thank you for sharing with those who visit *The Blessing Box* in Elkhart.

**May 10th!**

Happy  
Mother's  
Day!



to all our Moms!

## A Prayer for Mothers

Loving Creator,  
you called upon your servant Mary  
to bring your Son into the world.  
We give thanks for her, and for all mothers  
who bear witness to your love.  
Their generosity and strength  
have blessed generations.  
Bless our mothers.  
Ease their worry for the families  
you entrust to them, guide them  
in times of doubt, and hold them close  
when they are overwhelmed  
by both joy and sorrow.  
May they know our deep gratitude  
for giving us life and love.  
In union with Mary,  
we ask this through Jesus Christ, your Son.  
Amen.

### Parish Council

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

### Finance Council

Meeting: May 26, 6:30pm, Social Hall

### Stewardship

Meeting: May 11, 6:00pm, Social Hall

### OCIA / Grow in Your Catholic Faith

No gatherings scheduled

### Knights of Columbus

Meeting: May 18, 7:00pm, Social Hall

### Funeral Luncheon Food Donations

Team 6: Alleman, Des Moines area, Madrid,  
Mingo, Mitchellville, Polk City, Prairie City,  
Runnells, Sheldahl, Slater

The Parish Office is closed May 4, 5 & 6.

Fr. Parker does not have set office hours at the Parish.

To reach him please email, call or text:  
[rparker@dmdiocese.org](mailto:rparker@dmdiocese.org) or 515-720-3434.

## Coming Events

- † **May 2 & 3 Weekend:** Blessing of High School Seniors during Masses — Building Fund Collection — Wine & cheese after 5:00pm Mass — Coffee & donuts after 8:00am Mass — OCIA & New Member Welcome Reception after 10:00am Mass
- † **May 9 & 10 Weekend:** Blessing of Mothers and Mothers-to-be during Masses
- † **Parish Work Day:** Saturday, May 16, 9:00am to Noon at St. Mary and Holy Cross
- † **Blood Drive:** Thursday, May 21, 3:00-7:00pm, Social Hall

## Congratulations

to these students who received the Sacrament of Confirmation. Please keep them in your prayers as they continue their faith journey.

Tanner Heaps	Maddox Mumford
Jonathan Larsen	Augustin Schaffer
Justice Loraditch	Austin Shugar
Grace Manley	Johan Vasek
Kevin Marquez	Brooklyn Volz
Jaxson Mumford	Tyler Weber

## Best Wishes

to our students graduating from high school! We pray that they call on God for guidance in their future endeavors.

Rylie Campbell	Jessica Schoening
James Collum	Thomas Selby
Ava Koudelka	Natalie Shedd
Leah McClannahan	Sawyer Smeltzer
Olivia Naragon	Elyse Walmsley
Marissa Richardson	McKenna Welch

## Religious Education: Preschool - 6th Grade

### Coordinator

Tracy Miller, [tmiller@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:tmiller@saintmaryhc.org), 515-520-7981

Our catechist appreciation dinner is Wednesday, May 13 from 6:00-8:00pm at St. Mary's. We are so thankful to our many volunteers who serve tirelessly each week. We look forward to a fun evening of great food and fellowship.

Registration for next year will be out this summer.

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

### Coordinators

Melissa Kahler, [mkahler@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:mkahler@saintmaryhc.org), 515-290-2830

Andrea Fisher, [afisher@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:afisher@saintmaryhc.org), 515-240-5059

Nicole Cory, [ncory@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:ncory@saintmaryhc.org), 515-313-3014


## St. Mary's Parking Lot

Inroads Paving Company will be asphaltting the week of May 4 - 8; the parking lot will be closed during that time. Parishioners attending Mass that week or needing in the building should park along the shoulder/grass of NW Washington Avenue or at the City park and walk in. We expect the parking lot to be useable for May 9 & 10 Masses!

## Parish

Mark your calendar for Saturday, May 16, 9:00am to Noon to help keep our buildings and ground at both St. Mary and Holy Cross in good order. Holy Cross will have special attention in getting ready for Memorial Day. If you can't come for the entire come, stay as long as you are able. Your assistance is greatly appreciated!

## Help with Avenue of Flags for Memorial Day!

 Could you assist with raising the flags on Saturday, May 23 at 10:00am and/or retiring them Monday, May 25 at 4:00pm? Each session takes 30-35 minutes. For more information, contact Lynn Schreurs, 515-577-8147.

Where God guides, God provides.

## Weekly Collection Financial Update

April 26 Budget Week 43

	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund	\$2,735	\$5,536

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

<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
\$282,680	\$238,029	\$252,824

Mass Attendance April 25/26: 316

## 2026 Annual Diocesan Appeal

<u>Goal</u>	<u>Pledged</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Unpaid</u>	<u>Amt. Due</u>
\$47,270	\$36,630	\$34,776	\$1,864	\$12,504

## Councils and Committees

### PARISH COUNCIL

Anne Davis - [annedavis06@gmail.com](mailto:annedavis06@gmail.com)  
Drew Hanlon - [drewsmhpcpc@yahoo.com](mailto:drewsmhpcpc@yahoo.com)  
Kim Heger - [hegerkim91@gmail.com](mailto:hegerkim91@gmail.com)  
Doug Jones - [djones@bossard.com](mailto:djones@bossard.com)  
Carolyn Kirby - [gurlzmom@gmail.com](mailto:gurlzmom@gmail.com)  
Bill Kyle - [bill@northiowaair.com](mailto:bill@northiowaair.com)  
Tim Miller - [millertimothyg@gmail.com](mailto:millertimothyg@gmail.com)  
Bill Sexton - [billsxtn@gmail.com](mailto:billsxtn@gmail.com)

### FINANCE COUNCIL

Laurie Phelan, *Chair* - [Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com](mailto:Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com)  
Julia Coash - [jcoash@outlook.com](mailto:jcoash@outlook.com)  
Craig Johnson - [dad.craig@gmail.com](mailto:dad.craig@gmail.com)  
Anne Power - [powerhouse57049@gmail.com](mailto:powerhouse57049@gmail.com)  
Bill Rooney - [1rooneybill@gmail.com](mailto:1rooneybill@gmail.com)  
Tom Rooney - [roondog007@msn.com](mailto:roondog007@msn.com)

### STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Julia Coash - [jcoash@outlook.com](mailto:jcoash@outlook.com)  
Katie Fredericks - [katie.fredericks1@hotmail.com](mailto:katie.fredericks1@hotmail.com)  
Beth Hart - [mrsmatthart@gmail.com](mailto:mrsmatthart@gmail.com)  
Kris LeRoy - [klsturtz@gmail.com](mailto:klsturtz@gmail.com)  
Jen Linderblood - [jlinderb@yahoo.com](mailto:jlinderb@yahoo.com)  
Tammi McClain - [tammimcclain71@gmail.com](mailto:tammimcclain71@gmail.com)  
Kathy Petersen - [katherine@huxcomm.net](mailto:katherine@huxcomm.net)  
Sue White - [charylsue@msn.com](mailto:charylsue@msn.com)

### BUILDING & GROUND COMMITTEE

John Roberts, *Co-Chair* - [jroberts@huxcomm.net](mailto:jroberts@huxcomm.net)  
Scott Turczynski, *Co-Chair* - [ScottT@hrtnd.us](mailto:ScottT@hrtnd.us)  
Drew Hanlon - [drewsmhpcpc@yahoo.com](mailto:drewsmhpcpc@yahoo.com)  
Tim Miller - [millertimothyg@gmail.com](mailto:millertimothyg@gmail.com)  
Laurie Phelan - [Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com](mailto:Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com)  
Bill Schmitt - [isucui@isualum.com](mailto:isucui@isualum.com)  
Lynn Schreurs - [lschreurs@msn.com](mailto:lschreurs@msn.com)

### CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Laurie Phelan, *Chair* - [Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com](mailto:Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com)  
Pat Bishop - [pjbishop@midiaowa.net](mailto:pjbishop@midiaowa.net)  
Lowell Crouse - [ldcjac82@gmail.com](mailto:ldcjac82@gmail.com)  
John Freeman - [johnfmingo@hotmail.com](mailto:johnfmingo@hotmail.com)  
Tracy Irwin - [irwin@partnercom.net](mailto:irwin@partnercom.net)  
Stacey Rooney - [rooneyslg17@gmail.com](mailto:rooneyslg17@gmail.com)  
Tom Rooney - [roondog007@msn.com](mailto:roondog007@msn.com)  
Lynn Schreurs - [lschreurs@msn.com](mailto:lschreurs@msn.com)

### PARISH TRUSTEES

Sheri Fogarty - [fogarty929@gmail.com](mailto:fogarty929@gmail.com)  
John Roberts - [jroberts@huxcomm.net](mailto:jroberts@huxcomm.net)

### PARISH HISTORIAN

Larry Sauer - [sauerld@outlook.com](mailto:sauerld@outlook.com) - 515-710-2421

### PARISH AMBASSADOR TO CATHOLIC CHARITIES

John & Peg Evans - [evansp3@yahoo.com](mailto:evansp3@yahoo.com)

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GRAND KNIGHT

John Roberts - [jroberts@huxcomm.net](mailto:jroberts@huxcomm.net)



## Blood Drive

Thursday, May 21, 3:00-7:00pm in the Social Hall. Walk-ins welcome! More donors mean saving more lives! Sign up at <https://www.lifefervebloodcenter.org/donate-blood/>. Volunteers and treats needed the day of the Drive; contact the Parish Office, [bliske@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:bliske@saintmaryhc.org), to help.

## Prayer Chain

If illness or crisis strikes your family or friends, please don't hesitate to contact us so members of our Parish can offer prayers for them. *If the request is not for you, please ask permission from the one it is, to be on our prayer chain.* For requests or to participate in our prayer chain, please contact the Office at [bliske@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:bliske@saintmaryhc.org) or 515-367-2685.

## Liturgical Ministers May 9 & 10 and 16 & 17

### Saturday, May 9, 5:00pm Mass, St. Mary

Lector Lorrie Hanlon  
Host Distributor Joe Rumbaugh  
Cup Bearers Drew Hanlon, Mike Devereux  
Ushers Joe Rumbaugh, Drew Hanlon  
Music Mary Snyder

### Sunday, May 10, 8:00am Mass, Holy Cross

Lector Matt Hart  
Cup Bearer Jon Hand  
Altar Servers Claire & Oliver Hand  
Usher Sandra Hunter  
Music Drew Hanlon, Stacey Rooney

### Sunday, May 10, 10:00am Mass, St. Mary

Lector Greg Feldmann  
Host Distributor Greg Feldmann  
Cup Bearers Jacki & Tom Ausman  
Altar Servers Aubrey Conover, Amelia Muehlenthaler  
*Cross Bearer: Rex Roberts*  
Ushers Jacki & Tom Ausman  
Music Garrett McClain, Mary Ortmann

### Saturday, May 16, 5:00pm Mass, St. Mary

Lector John Roberts  
Host Distributor Lisa Jones  
Cup Bearers Mike Devereux, Susan Stillmunkes  
Ushers Doug Jones, Jim Hudson, Mike Power, Bill Schmitt  
Music Sue Harrington, Mary Snyder

### Sunday, May 17, 8:00am Mass, Holy Cross

Lector Jackie Crouse  
Cup Bearer Laurie Phelan  
Altar Servers Titus & Zeke Weber  
Usher Mike Veasman  
Music Drew & Lorrie Hanlon

### Sunday, May 17, 10:00am Mass, St. Mary

Lector Kris LeRoy  
Host Distributor Tracy Miller  
Cup Bearers Mike Nehring, Garrett McClain  
Altar Servers Gabriel Miller, Carter Cory  
*Cross Bearer: Jackson Cory*  
Ushers Bill & Kelly Dunbar  
Music Jen Linderblood, Mary Ortmann

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## Money Counters

May 3: Sue White, Sharon Morris  
May 10: Dona Cowman, Brenda Nehring



Once an aluminum can is recycled, it can be part of a new can within six weeks.

## Memorial Day

This was established after the Civil War as a means to unify the country with a national day of remembrance. Join us for 10:00am Mass at Holy Cross Church on Monday, May 25. The Maxwell Legion and McKinsey Guard Bagpipers will be present following Mass. Come see our Avenue of Flags and take a self-guided walking tour of the Church and Cemetery.

## Parish History

We've recently updated our one-hundred-fifty-year history book. We'd now like to update the family genealogy records for both churches to preserve our parish records for future generations. Here's the link to a Family Questionnaire [https://www.saintmaryhc.org/files/ugd/f72588\\_0af85fcc6899483eb760bc7b8204b4cd.pdf](https://www.saintmaryhc.org/files/ugd/f72588_0af85fcc6899483eb760bc7b8204b4cd.pdf)

that you can use to add new information or update existing records. If you prefer not to include vital records, simply leave those sections blank. However, if you wish to share your information but maintain privacy, we can keep those details confidential within the database.

**Deadline is July 1, 2026 to have the current information printed into the current 150 year book.**

## Mary's Meals Race to Feed Kids

Saturday, May 9 at the Women of Achievement Bridge in Des Moines. Scan this QR code for further information and to register.



## Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

### **Fifth Sunday of Easter, May 3**

*Theme: Jesus, our cornerstone.*

*Reading I:* Acts 6:1-7 • They chose leaders to care for the poor.

*Reading II:* 1 Peter 2:4-9 • Come to the Lord, a living stone.

*Gospel:* John 14:1-12 • If you know me, you know my Father also.

*Question for Children:* What are some ways that you can act like Jesus would if he were in your situation?

*Question for Youth:* Jesus is "the way, the truth, the life". How do you try to follow Jesus' way?

*Question for Adults:* How are the promises of this Gospel made real in your own life? How do you experience yourself doing greater works than even Jesus did?

### **Sixth Sunday of Easter, May 10**

*Theme: We have the spirit of truth to guide us.*

*Reading I:* Acts 8:5-8, 14-17 • They prayed to receive the Holy Spirit.

*Reading II:* 1 Peter 3:15-18 • Christ died for sins once for all.

*Gospel:* John 14:15-21 • If you love me, obey my commandments.

*Question for Children:* Jesus promises to be our friend forever. How do friends treat each other?

*Question for Youth:* Jesus promised us that the Holy Spirit (the Advocate) would remain with us always. When have you experienced the Spirit?

*Question for Adults:* Which one of the promises in today's Gospel gives you the most hope?