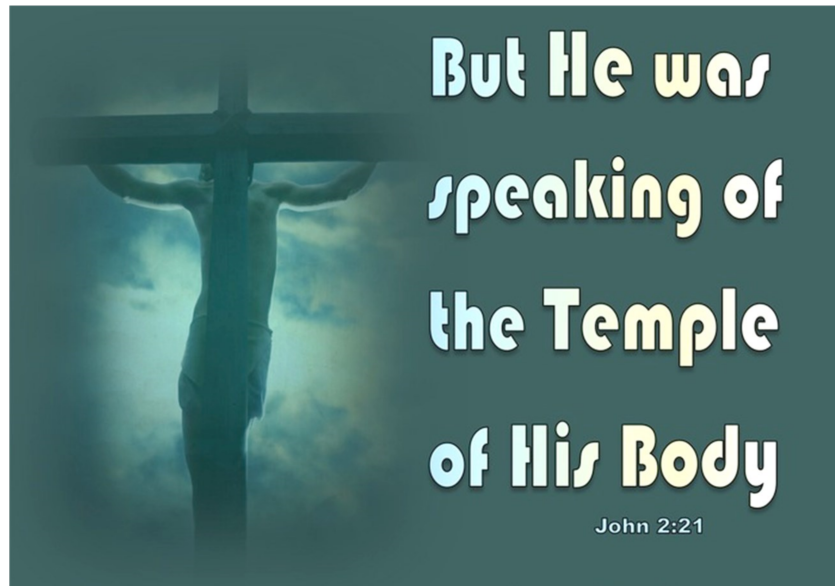




St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073

Holy Cross: 12704 NE 98th Street Maxwell Iowa 50161



Third Sunday of Lent

March 2/3, 2024

Dear Good People,

This weekend we have our kick-off for the Diocese's Annual Diocesan Appeal. We were very close to making our goal last year. Our assessment for this year is \$51,458. This is down from last year. I would like to encourage you to support the Appeal this year. This will help our parish because if we do not make our goal the difference comes out of our operating costs.

The money raised goes to support the diocese and the varied ministries that it is involved in. I am a beneficiary of the ADA in two major ways. First, the ADA supports the seminarians and the vocations office. Secondly, it helps for health care costs for active and retired clergy.

Again, please prayerfully consider supporting the Diocesan Appeal. If you have further questions about it, please do not hesitate to contact me. 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	515-367-2685
Parish General Email	smhc@saintmaryhc.org
Fr. Ross Parker, Pastor	515-367-2685/ rparker@dmdiocese.org
Nicole Cory - Confirmation	ncory@saintmaryhc.org
Andrea Fisher - 7th-12th Ministry	afisher@saintmaryhc.org
Sue Harrington - Music	sschmidt@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
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

Mass, Reconciliation and Lenten Offerings

Tuesday, March 5

8:00am Mass, St. Mary †Fr. Jim Laurenzo

Wednesday, March 6

5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross †Ashley Carpenter & Marybeth Bump

Thursday, March 7

8:00am Mass, St. Mary *Special Intention*

Friday, March 8

— *Abstain from meat*

8:00am Mass, St. Mary †Msgr. Frank Chido

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

Saturday, March 9

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

5:00pm Mass, St. Mary †Mary Ann Cory

Sunday, March 10

8:00am Mass, Holy Cross †Stephen & Michael Carpenter

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

Lenten Prayer

Loving Father,
So many times I turn away from you
and always you welcome me back.
Your mercy and love give me confidence.
Thank you for the invitation to
share, fast and pray so that you
can form a new heart within me.
Your powerful compassion
for my weaknesses
leads me to ask for mercy
and await with great hope
the Easter joy you share with us. Amen.



New Birth by Water and the Holy Spirit



Celebrate with us in welcoming into our Faith

Everhett Allen

Son of Noah and Abigail Rhoades

Welcome To Our New Members!



Matt and Lori Vaske, who live in Rhodes

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 †

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.

† How's Your Lenten Transformation?

We are starting the third week of Lent. How are you doing with your Lenten commitments you began on Ash Wednesday? Are you going strong or easing up? Are you struggling? Talk to God about it!

Grow your personal faith and deepen your understanding of Jesus by participating in Stations of the Cross...Sacrament of Reconciliation...attending weekday Mass...quiet prayer time in church...use of reflection booklets...fasting...almsgiving. Check out the Diocesan *Living Lent* ideas for prayers, projects and more at dmdiocese.org/living-lent.

Help Us Put the Word of God in Our First Communicants' Hands

Cost is \$40 to sponsor one Bible and we have 17 that need sponsored. If you wish to sponsor a child, please mail or drop off a check with "Bible" written in the memo to St. Mary's or Geneveve and Tracy will be available after all Masses this weekend. Thank you for prayerfully considering this lifelong gift to the children. Any additional money donated will go towards the First Communion Retreat.

Parish Council

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

Finance Council

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

Stewardship

Meeting: March 18, 6:00pm, Ed Center

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Gatherings: Sundays, 11:00am-1:00pm, location varies

Knights of Columbus

March 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

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

- † **This Weekend:** Annual Diocesan Appeal Kick-off; Building Fund Collection, Wine & cheese after 5:00pm Mass, Coffee and donuts after 8:00am Mass & 10:00am Mass
- † **Choir Practice for Easter Vigil Mass:** Mar. 5, 6:30pm, Mar. 10, 11am, Mar. 14, 6:30pm, Mar. 24, 11am, St. Mary
- † **Fridays of Lent:** Stations of the Cross, 6:00pm, St. Mary. - Lenten meals March 8 & 22 and fish fry March 15

Easter Music News

You are invited to join our Easter Vigil choir! Practices are Tues. 3/5 6:30pm, Sun. 3/10 11am, Thurs. 3/14 6:30pm and Sun. 3/24 11am, and last one hour. We will sing at the Easter Vigil 8:00pm Mass on Saturday, March 30. Singing is another form of prayer, so, if you like to sing and want to be part of our parish Easter choir, please come to our next practice. For more information, please contact Sue Harrington, Music Coordinator, at 515-689-9949 or sschmidt@saintmaryhc.org.

Fish Fry

The Knights of Columbus are serving their final Lenten fish fry on 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.



Daylight Saving Time begins next Sunday, March 10. Spring ahead one hour!