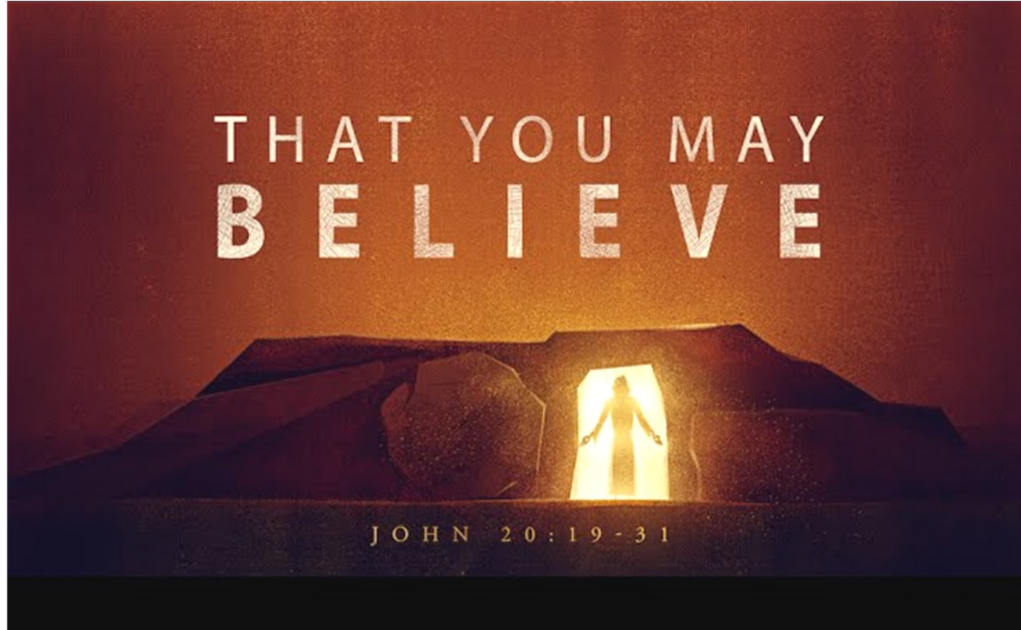




# St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073

Holy Cross: 12704 NE 98th Street Maxwell Iowa 50161



## Second Sunday of Easter

Divine Mercy Sunday

April 15/16, 2023

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*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.*

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### Parish Information

**Parish Phone** 515-367-2685  
**Parish General Email** [smhc@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:smhc@saintmaryhc.org)  
**Fr. Ross Parker, Pastor** 515-367-2685/[rparker@dmdiocese.org](mailto:rparker@dmdiocese.org)  
**Deacon Terry Schleisman** 515-669-6158/[digiterry@netscape.net](mailto:digiterry@netscape.net)  
**Nicole Cory** - Confirmation [ncory@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:ncory@saintmaryhc.org)  
**Andrea Fisher** - 7th-12th Ministry [afisher@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:afisher@saintmaryhc.org)  
**Melissa Kahler** - 7th-12th Ministry [mkahler@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:mkahler@saintmaryhc.org)  
**Barb Liske** - Secretary [bliske@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:bliske@saintmaryhc.org)  
**Geneveve Loraditch** - PreK-6 RE [gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org)  
**Tracy Miller** - PreK-6 RE [tmiller@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:tmiller@saintmaryhc.org)  
**Sue Schmidt** - Music [sschmidt@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:sschmidt@saintmaryhc.org)  
**Candy Zidon** - Bookkeeper [bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org)  
**Parish Web Site** [www.saintmaryhc.org](http://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](http://www.vocationsonline.org)

## Masses



### Tuesday, April 18

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † Jean Hurd

### Wednesday, April 19

5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross † Tom Morris

### Thursday, April 20

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

### Friday, April 21

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † Theresa Kaltenheuser

### Saturday, April 22

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

5:00pm Mass, St. Mary † Mark Schmidt

### Sunday, April 23

8:00am Mass, Holy Cross † Lyle Carpenter

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

## 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 emergency contact Fr. Ross Parker at 515-720-3434. If you or a family member is in a care facility, homebound, or hospitalized, and they wish a visit please contact Fr. Parker at [rparker@dmdiocese.org](mailto:rparker@dmdiocese.org) or 515-367-2685.

## 50 Days of the Easter Season



The resurrection of Jesus is such overwhelmingly Good News that a single day is not enough to celebrate it! The Lord's resurrection is meant to be celebrated for the whole liturgical Season of Easter until Pentecost (June 5).

We have two reflections books to help you celebrate this Season; *The Little White Book* and *The Word Among Us* which are available on the table at St. Mary and in the entryway at Holy Cross.

Diocesan family friendly resources and activities to truly celebrate the Easter season can be found at [www.dmdiocese.org/Easter2023](http://www.dmdiocese.org/Easter2023).



## Graduating Seniors!

Our parish is pleased to announce a scholarship to be granted to a high school senior pursuing higher education! If interested in applying for this scholarship, please go to: [https://docs.google.com/document/d/188f\\_s1JAQh9LGHJpwbxL1CVqsJSYcN5WlksB44iBub/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/188f_s1JAQh9LGHJpwbxL1CVqsJSYcN5WlksB44iBub/edit?usp=sharing) or contact the parish office. The scholarship application is due by May 5.

## This Thursday



YOU are invited to join us at 9:00am in the Social Hall to play games or work on your crafts and enjoy conversation!

## Mark Your Calendar for a Celebration!

We will be celebrating Fr. Parker's TEN year Ordination (along with a volunteer appreciation dinner) on Saturday, June 10, after the 5:00pm Mass. More information to come!

## Prayer from St. Faustina's Diary

O Lord, I want to be completely transformed into Your mercy and to be Your living reflection. May the greatest of all divine attributes, that of Your unfathomable mercy, pass through my heart and soul to my neighbor.

Help me, O Lord, that my eyes may be merciful, so that I may never suspect or judge from appearances, but look for what is beautiful in my neighbors' souls and come to their rescue.

Help me, O Lord, that my ears may be merciful, so that I may give heed to my neighbors' needs and not be indifferent to their pains and moanings.

Help me, O Lord, that my tongue may be merciful, so that I should never speak negatively of my neighbor, but have a word of comfort and forgiveness for all.

Help me, O Lord, that my hands may be merciful and filled with good deeds, so that I may do only good to my neighbors and take upon myself the most difficult and toilsome tasks.

Help me, O Lord, that my feet may be merciful, so that I may hurry to assist my neighbor, overcoming my own fatigue and weariness (...)

Help me, O Lord, that my heart may be merciful so that I myself may feel all the sufferings of my neighbor. (...)  
May Your mercy, O Lord, rest upon me.

### Parish Council

Meeting: April 18, 6:30pm, Social Hall

### Finance Council

Meeting, April 25, 6:30pm, Social Hall

### Stewardship

Meeting: May 8, 6:00pm, Social Hall

### Knights of Columbus

April 17, Rosary, 6:40pm SM, Meeting 7:00pm, Hall

### Funeral Luncheon Food Donations:

Team 5 from Elkhart and Cambridge

## Coming Events

- † **This Weekend:** Collection for *The Blessing Box*, Elkhart Food Pantry
- † **Thursday, April 20:** Crafts, Games & Conversation, 9:00am, Social Hall
- † **Thursday, May 25:** Blood Drive, 3:00-7:00pm, Social Hall

## An Opportunity To Meet Other Parishioners!



Hosting wine & cheese or coffee & donuts is a great way to meet and get to know other parishioners! Hosting dates are available for the first weekend of May and June at St. Mary. If you have not hosted before, we can pair you up with someone who has. Please contact the parish office with questions or if willing to help one of these months or beyond! Thank you for considering this request!

## Religious Education

### Preschool - 6th Grade Coordinators

Geneveve Loraditch, [gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org), 515-556-4150  
Tracy Miller, [tmiller@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:tmiller@saintmaryhc.org), 515-520-7981

We enjoyed having your children in class. Thank you for entrusting them to us! We hope they enjoyed their time in Religious Education! We will register for next year beginning in August. If you have any comments, concerns or suggestions for next year, please let us know.

Please pray for the children who are preparing to receive their First Reconciliation and Communion next weekend! This is such an exciting time for the children and your prayers are very much appreciated!

April 16: First Communion Special Session 3, 11:00am  
April 20-21: Optional First Communion Retreat 9am-3pm  
April 22: First Communion Retreat 9am - 3pm  
April 23- First Communion 2pm

## S.T.O.R.M. Report

### Grades 7-12 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

### EDGE (7th & 8th Graders) No activities

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

**Gathering:** April 26, 7:30-9:00pm, Youth Area

### Grades 9 & 10, Confirmation Coordinator

Wednesday, April 19: 6:00-8:00pm: Last Confirmation session, Social Hall  
Friday, April 28, 6:00pm: Liturgy Rehearsal Dinner for 10th graders & their Sponsors.  
Saturday, April 29, 2:00pm: Confirmation Liturgy; 10th graders arrive by 12:50pm to meet with Bishop Joensen.

## A Woman of Many Hats!

Check out the story on the bulletin board to see which parishioner holds this title!



Make an appointment (required) to donate your valuable and much needed blood at [www.lifeservebloodcenter.org](http://www.lifeservebloodcenter.org). If you have difficulties signing up or questions, please call LifeServe Blood Center, 800-287-4903. There's no substitute for YOUR blood. It only takes about 30 – 45 minutes from check-in to check-out and you get to enjoy beverages and homemade treats. Our Drive is Thursday, May 25, 3:00 – 7:00pm in the Social Hall. Parish contact: Larry Sauer, 515-710-2421/[sauerld@outlook.com](mailto:sauerld@outlook.com).

## 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 the Diocese's 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. If paying by check, please make it out to Diocese of Des Moines.** Gifts can also be made at [dmdiocese.org/giving](http://dmdiocese.org/giving) and choose our parish from the "Designate" dropdown. Thank you for your generosity and your support of the Annual Diocesan Appeal.

## Weekly Collection Financial Update

April 9 Budget Week 41

	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund	\$4,015	\$5,944
<i>(\$4,015 includes \$2910 from Easter envelopes)</i>		

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

<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
\$213,043	\$243,709	\$239,814

### 2023 Annual Diocesan Appeal

<u>Assessed</u>	<u>Pledged</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Unpaid</u>	<u>Amt. Due</u>
\$55,196	\$29,805	\$29,335	\$470	<b>\$25,861</b>

*Weekend Mass attendance April 8/9: 408*

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* - heidimdittmer@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@midiaowa.net  
Lowell Crouse - l3jl@windstream.net  
Tracy Irwin - irwin@partnercom.net  
Stacey Rooney - rooneyslg17@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

Take steps to ensure that your home is properly insulated. This will help you to use less energy to stay warm in the winter and cooler in the summer, which also will reduce heating and cooling costs. See more at:

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

## Cards for Home-Bound and in Care Facilities

If you know someone who might like to receive cards from parishioners, please ask them if we may put their address in the bulletin so cards can be sent.

## 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](mailto:bliske@saintmaryhc.org) or 515-367-2685.

## EARTH DAY 2022



*Invest In Our Planet!* This is an annual event on April 22 to support environmental protection. First held in 1970, it now includes a wide range of events coordinated globally by [EarthDay.org](http://EarthDay.org). We need unstoppable courage to preserve and protect our health, our families, and our livelihoods. Everyone accounted for, and everyone accountable. A partnership for the planet.

The Great Global Cleanup® is a worldwide campaign to remove billions of pieces of trash from neighborhoods, beaches, rivers, lakes, trails, and parks - reducing waste and plastic pollution, improving habitats, and preventing harm to wildlife and humans. There are registered clean ups scheduled in Iowa. Go to <https://www.earthday.org/campaign/cleanup/#map> to find out when and where.

## Liturgical Ministers April 22/23

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

Lector	Susan Selby
Host	Di Schleisman
Cup Bearers	Bob & Susan Selby
Altar Servers	Jack & Tommy Selby
Ushers	Bill Schmitt
Music	Terri Hamm, Sue Schmidt, Celeste Muehlenthaler

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

Lector	Anne Davis
Cup Bearer	Jon Hand
Altar Servers	Claire & Oliver Hand
Usher	Mike Veasman
Music	Jen Linderblood, Maggie Bruce

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

Lector	Greg Feldmann
Host Distributor	Garrett McClain
Cup Bearers	Jill Swanson, Greg Feldmann
Altar Servers	Emma Swanson, Hailey Conover
Ushers	Bill & Kelly Dunbar
Music	Christine Muehlenthaler, Karon Lacey, Mary Ortmann

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## Money Counters

April 16: Sue White, Sharon Morris

April 23: Trish Morris, Dona Cowman

**SAVWHAT?** Recycling one ton of plastic saves the equivalent of 1000 – 2000 gallons of gasoline.

## NE 126th Avenue Exit 96 Bridge Replacement

This project over Interstate 35 (exit 96) west of Elkhart is expected to go through November 2023, weather permitting. Visit [511ia.org](http://511ia.org) for detour routes or call 511; stay connected with 511 on Facebook or Twitter (links at <https://iowadot.gov/511/511-social-media-site>); or download the free app. Subscribe to *Your 511* and receive email/text alerts. Visit <https://new.511ia.org/#login>.

## Philip, Apostle and Martyr, First Century

Philip was from Bethsaida in Galilee and is thought to have been a disciple of Saint John the Baptist when Jesus called him. In John's Gospel, it says Jesus "found Philip" and instructed him to "Follow me." Philip brought his friend, Nathaniel (Bartholomew), to Jesus. Philip was present at the marriage feast at Cana and at the feeding of the five thousand; where Jesus tested Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?", he asked Philip. Philip, not recognizing that Jesus was about to perform a sign for all of them, replied, "Six months wages worth of food would not be enough for each of them to have a little." Jesus then took the five barley loaves and two dried fish and fed the crowd after which the disciples gathered twelve baskets of fragments of the barley loaves. Philip is the Apostle at the Last Supper who asks Jesus to show them the Father. Jesus responded to Philip, "Whoever has seen me has seen the Father," which is a message to all of us. The Acts of the Apostles note that Philip was with the other ten Apostles in the upper room awaiting the Holy Spirit. Early Church Tradition states that Philip preached the Gospel at Phrygia and later died at Hierapolis, said to be crucified upside down. His remains were eventually brought to Rome and have been preserved in the basilica of the Apostles since A.D. 561.

Saint Philip shares a Feast day with the Apostle, James the Younger on May 3. *Phillip's message today:* Just as Jesus tested Philip about feeding the crowd, Jesus sometimes tests our faith with adversity. While these trials can seem overwhelming, we should remember that God is with us even when we cannot feel his presence. *Do you trust that God is with you when you experience hard times in your life? Renew your trust that God is always with us.*

## Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

### Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy), April 15/16

*Theme: Jesus gives us the power of the Holy Spirit.*

*Reading I:* Acts 2:42-47 • They devoted themselves to a communal life.

*Reading II:* 1 Peter 1:3-9 • There is cause for rejoicing here.

*Gospel:* John 20:19-31 • Peace be with you, he said.

*Question for Children:* Even though you can't see him with your eyes, how do you "see" Jesus in others?

*Question for Youth:* Jesus gave us the gift of the Holy Spirit and gave us the power to forgive sins. How do you offer forgiveness to your friends and family? How do you seek forgiveness for yourself?

*Question for Adults:* When and how do you experience the "new birth" which we are given in Christ? When someone has forgiven you? When you have forgiven others? When you celebration reconciliation? At other times?