



St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073

Holy Cross: 12704 NE 98th Street Maxwell Iowa 50161



26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 28/29, 2024

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,

I hope this letter finds you well. Just a reminder to keep our farmers in our prayers as they begin the seasonal harvest. It certainly takes a lot of hard work, dedication, and most importantly faith to be a farmer. We are certainly grateful for all that they do.

Secondly, I will be gone this Sunday afternoon through Thursday afternoon for our annual priest workshop. Certainly, this will be a little easier than last year when I had to fly from Italy to Chicago, rent a car and then go to Iowa City. That was kind of crazy. Anyway, this year we will be in Ames so if there is an emergency you can contact me on my cell phone. I look forward to being with my brother priests for a few days.

Again, a giant thank you to all who have signed up for our picture directory so far. The response has been outstanding! Thank you again for all the volunteers and to all who will contribute to the project. A.M.D.G. ~ Fr. Ross

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
Tracy Miller - Preschool - 6th 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

Mass Schedule

<i>See inside for varied Mass schedule</i>	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

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: Please contact Fr. Parker or Nicole Cory

Priesthood/Religious: www.vocationonline.org

Mass, Reconciliation and Rosary

Father Parker will be attending the
Priest Workshop Monday through Thursday;
no Mass those days.

First Friday, October 4

8:00am Mass, St. Mary *For Someone Special*

Saturday, October 5 —Rosary 20 min. before Mass

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

5:00pm Mass, St. Mary †Bill Devereux

Sunday, October 6 —Rosary 20 min. before Masses

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

† Pastoral Assistance

In case of an emergency please contact Fr. Ross Parker, 515-720-3434. To schedule a visit with Father, 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.

Pray the Rosary With Us

Please join us to pray the Rosary 20 minutes before weekend Masses in October.

Could you lead the Rosary Sunday, October 20 at 9:40am?
Email Anne Davis, annedavis06@gmail.com to volunteer.




Picture Time is Coming Up!

Photo sessions are Thursday-Saturday, October 10-12 and Thursday-Saturday, November 7-9. Appointment times are Thursday & Friday, 2:00-8:30pm and Saturday, 10:00am - 4:00pm. You will receive an automated phone message urging you to book your most convenient time. You can sign up at www.ucdir.com by entering IA328 for the church code and photos for the password or in person after Masses this weekend. Everyone that completes a photo session receives a free 8x10 photo and a parish photo directory. *We could still use a few volunteers for check-in the days of photos. Please reach out to Kim Heger at 515-306-4708 or Lisa Schoening at 515-991-0918, if you are able to help.*

Lend a Helping Hand!

We are in need of Ministers for our 8:00am and 10:00am Masses. If you are interested in serving as a Lector, Minister of the Eucharist, Usher or Altar Server, please contact the parish office. Trainings are scheduled in October.

Parish Workdays

Saturday, Oct. 19 at St. Mary and Saturday, Oct. 26 at Holy Cross. We have many tasks to complete inside and outside. If you can't be there for the entire time, come when you can and stay as long as you can!! **Please mark your calendar to help out!** 

Harvest Time Prayer

Gracious and Holy God,

We thank you for the bounty of the land
and for those who plant and harvest
that the world might be fed.

We are grateful for the harvest that has
been successfully and safely completed.
And, we pray that you graciously watch over
those farmers yet to complete their harvest.
Grant them favorable weather conditions
and keep them safe.

Where there is anxiety, give peace.
Where there is depression, restore hope.
Where there is economic uncertainty,
grant protection.

Life-giving God, we trust in your faithfulness
and your promise to abide with us always.
So, we are bold to pray that joy and
gladness be restored to our orchards and
farms and ranches.

We pray in the name of Jesus,
in whom we have our hope and salvation. Amen.

Parish Council

Meeting: October 15, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Finance Council

Meeting: October 22, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Stewardship

Meeting: October 14, 6:00pm, Social Hall

Adult Faith Formation

No upcoming events

Knights of Columbus

Meeting: October 21, 7:00pm, Social Hall

Funeral Luncheon Food Donations

Team 4: Bondurant and Altoona

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

- †**Social Hall in use:** Saturday, October 5, 10:30am-3:30pm
- †**Next Weekend:** Pray the Rosary 20 minutes before Masses — Buildings & Grounds Collection — Wine & cheese after 5:00pm Mass — Coffee & donuts after 8:00am Mass (*host needed to have coffee & donuts after 10:00am Mass*)
- †**Photo Sessions:** Thursday/Friday, Oct. 10/11, 2:00-8:30pm and Saturday, October 12, 9:00am-3:00pm, Ed Center
- †**St. Monica's Mothers Prayer Group:** Friday, October 11, 9:30am, Youth Area in the Ed Center
- †**Lector Training:** Sunday, Oct. 13 after 8am & 10am Masses
- †**Altar Server Training:** Wednesday, Oct. 16, 7:00pm for 3rd graders through High School
- †**Parish Workdays:** 9:00am-Noon, Saturday, Oct. 19 at St. Mary and Oct. 26 at Holy Cross
- †**Minister of the Eucharist Training:** Sunday, Oct. 20 after 8:00am & 10:00 Masses
- †**Breakfast Casserole and Coffee Cake Bake Off:** Sunday, October 27 after 10:00am Mass

In Sympathy and Compassion

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Tim Smith, nephew of Char McHone who passed away September 16 and for his family that they know the compassionate presence of Christ in their time of loss.

✠ *Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon him.* ✠

Religious Education: Preschool - 6th Grade

Coordinator

Tracy Miller, tmiller@saintmaryhc.org, 515-520-7981

Our year has been off to a great start. A big thank you to our catechists and volunteers who make it possible to offer our programs. Seeing the children's excitement to grow in their faith and relationship with God is very refreshing.

Are your children wanting to be more involved in Mass? We will be having an Altar Server training coming up October 16 at 7:00 pm.

Upcoming Sessions

- October 2- Regular sessions
- October 9- Regular sessions
- October 16- Regular sessions
- October 16- Altar Server Training 7:00pm for 3rd grade and older

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

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

EDGE and Youth Group had their first gathering, and it was a successful kickoff. We got to know each other and played kickball with Father Ross.

We are looking forward to a wonderful new year.

EDGE (7th & 8th Grades)

Wednesdays, October 2, 9, & 16: 6:00-7:30pm, Social Hall

Confirmation (9th & 10th Grades)

Sunday Oct. 13: 11:00am (after Mass)-12:30pm: 9th grade only session, Youth Room

Sunday Oct. 20: 11:00am (after Mass)-12:30pm: 10th grade only session, Youth Room

Saturday, Nov 2, 8:00am-Noon: **Community Service Day.**
Rain date: Saturday, Nov. 9. A sign up will be sent out soon.

No Wednesday evening Family Session in October.

STORM Youth Group (9th-12th Grades):

Wednesdays, October 2, 9, & 16: 7:30-9:00pm, Youth Area

Parish Council Nominations

The Parish Council wants to ensure the Council membership is representative of the parish community. Thus, the Council, in consultation with Father Parker, is beginning a discernment process for the appointment of new members. Attributes such as faithfulness, integrity, generosity, compassion, and actively deepening a personal relationship with Jesus Christ are desirable in all members of the Council. Skills for effective communication and listening, creative discernment and verbalization of a vision, and working collaboratively with others are essential elements. If you have anyone you would like to nominate (including yourself), please contact Father Ross, rparker@dmdiocese.org / 515-720-3434.

Weekly Collection Financial Update

Sept 22 Budget Week 13

	Received	Budget
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund	\$2,015	\$5,511

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

Received	Budget	Last Year
\$60,811	\$71,639	\$53,427

Food Pantry Collection: \$ \$705

Mass Attendance Sept 22: 258

2024 Annual Diocesan Appeal

Goal	Pledged	Payments	Outstanding	Refund
\$51,458	\$51,620	\$50,800	\$820	\$658

Councils and Committees

PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Celia Shedd, *Chair* - hoyhill@partnercom.net
Anne Davis - annedavis06@gmail.com
Terri Hamm - Theresa.Hamm@mercyoneiowa.org
Drew Hanlon - drewsmhcpc@yahoo.com
Kim Heger - hegerkim91@gmail.com
Doug Jones - djones@bossard.com
Tammi McClain - tammimcclain71@gmail.com
Lisa Schoening - lisa.schoening@cbdsm.com

FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS

John Fisher, *Co-Chair* - Johnfisher@sienafastener.com
Laurie Phelan, *Co-Chair* - Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com
Julia Coash - jcoash@outlook.com
Bill Rooney - 1rooneybill@gmail.com
Tom Rooney - roondog007@msn.com

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Katie Fredericks - katie.fredericks@mercyoneiowa.org
Kathy Gocke - Gocke@aol.com
Beth Hart - mrsmathart@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@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
John Freeman - johnfmingo@hotmail.com
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

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

John & Peg Evans - evansp3@yahoo.com

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GRAND KNIGHT

Mike Devereux - devoducks@msn.com

Laudato Si

Save water by taking shorter showers and not letting the water run continuously while brushing teeth or shaving. In this way we can help bring a future in which impoverished populations around the world will have affordable access to a clean source of this God-given necessity of life.

See more at:

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

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 or 515-367-2685.

Might You.....

consider hosting coffee & donuts after 10:00am Mass at St. Mary next Sunday, October 6? For more information or to volunteer, please contact the office by Tuesday of this week.

SMHC t-shirts

We are excited to offer SMHC t-shirts as a fundraiser for EDGE and Youth Ministry activities. Check out the link: <https://pmapparel.chipply.com/StMaryHolyCross/>. As always, we appreciate your support of our young church. Ordering closes next Sunday, October 6 at 11:59pm.

Church Sign

Everyone has a problem that only God can fix.

Trunk or Treat

EDGE is looking for donations of small, good, clean items to be given away at our annual *Trunk or Treat* event. Examples of items are: happy meal toys, hot wheels, small stuffies or any small items you would like to recycle and give to us for kids. We, of course, will also be taking donations of candy or small packaged snacks. As always, your supports means so much to us!

Liturgical Ministers October 5/6

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

Lector Susan Selby
Host Distributor Bob Selby
Cup Bearers Tom & Linda Froehlich
Ushers Bob, Jack & Tom Selby

Sunday, Oct. 6, 8:00am Mass, Holy Cross

Lector Jackie Crouse
Cup Bearer Tony Kuehn
Altar Servers Titus & Zeke Weber
Usher Jerry & Patty Hilton

Sunday, Oct. 6, 10:00am Mass, St. Mary

Lector Jill Swanson
Host Distributor Jill Swanson
Cup Bearers Tom Ausman, Tim Loraditch
Altar Servers Peyton & Justice Loraditch
Ushers Tom Ausman, Andrew Cory

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Money Counters

Sept. 30: Dona Cowman, Brenda Nehring
Oct. 6: Kathy Daup, Kathy Petersen

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Mothers Prayer Group

Would you like to gather with other mothers to pray for your children? We will begin a mothers prayer group called St. Monica's on Friday, October 11 at 9:30am in the Youth Area in the Ed Center. Plan about an hour for prayer and fellowship. Children welcome. Grandmothers also welcome to pray for your grandchildren. For questions please call/text Andrea Fisher at 515-240-5059.

Thank You

St. Mary-Holy Cross:

Thank you for allowing us and helping us celebrate the life of Al Moreland on Tuesday, August 27th.

-Dan Moreland & Pam, Shelby and Kelli Moreland

Parishioners of St. Mary-Holy Cross:

Our hearts go out to you dear relatives and friends for your love, friendship and support during Emilie's illness and her passing. Thanks for the flowers, cards, memorial food, visits and hugs. To doctors and nurses for medical care, Father Parker for spiritual support, and the Altar & Rosary Society for serving food. To Soderstrum-Riis Funeral Home for helping with the arrangements. Emilie was so fortunate to live most of her life in this community. God bless you all.

-The Family of Emilie S. Zehr

Save the Dates November 2 & 3

Your opportunity to purchase early Christmas gifts from parishioners at our annual Work of Our Hands (WOOH) festival will be November 2 & 3. Come visit with service providers, hobbyists, and those willing to provide their services or goods for a fee or barter in the parish social hall 3:00 – 4:45pm. Nov. 2 and after both weekend Masses at St. Mary. Several popular former exhibitors and five new ones will be on hand. And, it's fun to share in fellowship over wine and cheese after Mass Nov. 2 or coffee and donuts Nov. 3. If you're interested in becoming a WOOH participant yourself, please contact Lisa Kautza at kautza@netins.net or 515-238-5557. To be added to the new directory of Work Of Our Hands participants which will be distributed parish-wide, or to make changes from last year's directory, please contact Lisa before October 10.

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Sept. 28/29

Theme: God wants us to be just and right.

Reading I: Numbers 11:25-29 • Moses shared his gifts among the people.

Reading II: James 5:1-6 • Let the rich be warned!

Gospel: Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48 • Anyone who is not against us is for us.

For Children: In what specific ways do you share with the poor from what you have been given?

For Youth: Who are the people you have met who are against you? Are there people who persecute you because of your faith? How do you treat these people?

For Adults: In today's worldwide community, who are the rich and what does God want of them?