



St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073

Holy Cross: 12704 NE 98th Street Maxwell Iowa 50161



Second Sunday of Lent

March 4/5, 2023

Dear Good People,

We are moving right along on our Lenten journey. The second Sunday of Lent we hear the account of the Transfiguration 40 days before Easter. We pray that Christ will continue to transform our lives by His grace during this season.

Secondly around this time each year we have our kickoff for the Annual Diocesan Appeal or the ADA. Basically, the ADA is an assessment from the diocese that helps pay for the operating expenses of the diocese. This would include half of my salary (so thank you!). This also helps with seminarian expenses and things like that. The ADA is an assessment like I mentioned before. If we are unable to make our goal, we have to cover the remainder from our operating budget here at the parish.

There may also be some confusion around the difference between the ADA and the Ignite Campaign. The Ignite Campaign was a capital campaign meant to help specific areas such as Catholic schools and faith formation programs around the diocese. This is an extraordinary campaign, while the ADA is the ordinary way that the diocese gets funds for its operating costs. I hope this makes sense. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Obviously, I do not really like talking about money, and I am sure you do not love hearing about it. I would challenge us to be generous, especially in the time of our Lenten almsgiving. May God bless our efforts abundantly. 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.

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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 and Lenten Offerings

Tuesday, March 7

8:00am Mass, St. Mary †Jeff Hurd

Wednesday, March 8

5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross †Nolan Clewell
-Rosary prayed at 6:00pm, St. Mary

Thursday, March 9

8:00am Mass, St. Mary †Rick McQuiston

Friday, March 10

8:00am Mass, St. Mary †Mary Wilson
6:00pm Stations of the Cross, St. Mary

Saturday, March 11

4:00-4:30pm Reconciliation
5:00pm Mass, St. Mary †Lawrence Stokka

Sunday, March 12

8:00am Mass, Holy Cross *People of the Parish*
10:00am Mass, St. Mary †Mark Burke

Lenten Prayer



Lord,
Forgive those things I have done
which have caused you sadness,
and those things I should have done
that would have brought you joy.
In both I have failed myself, and you.
Bring me back to that place
where my journey began,
when I said that I would
follow the way that you first trod.
Lead me to the Cross and meet me there.
Amen.

Welcome To Our New Members!



We welcome the following folks who have joined our Parish:

Kaila Laggat who lives in Maxwell

and

Anna Baldwin who lives in Mingo

New Birth by Water and the Holy Spirit

Celebrate with us in welcoming into our Faith these little ones who have been baptized:



Genesis Rose

Daughter of Jonathan and Christina Weber

Emma Claire

Daughter of Jordan and Laura Hauck

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 or 515-367-2685.

Earthquake Relief for Turkey and Syria:

The strong earthquake that struck Turkey and Syria last month has prompted worldwide calls for prayers and financial assistance. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) is asking the faithful to contribute to Catholic Relief Services to aid in the areas recovery. We will take up a second collection for this next weekend; the Diocese will then pass along the contributions to the Catholic Relief Services, or gifts may be made online at www.dmdiocese.org/giving.



Daylight Saving Time begins next Sunday, March 12.
Spring ahead 1 hour.

Parish Council
Meeting: March 21, 6:30pm, Social Hall
Finance Council
Meeting: March 28, 6:30pm, Social Hall
Stewardship
Meeting: March 13, 6:00pm, Ed Center
Knights of Columbus
March 20, Rosary, 6:40pm SM, Meeting 7:00pm, Hall
Funeral Luncheon Food Donations:
Team 5 from Elkhart and Cambridge

Coming Events

- †**This weekend:** Buildings & Grounds Fund Collection — Kick off for the Annual Diocesan Appeal — Wine & cheese after 5:00pm Mass — Coffee & donuts after 8:00am & 10:00am Masses
- †**Fridays of Lent:** Stations of the Cross, 6:00pm, St. Mary
- †**Friday, March 10:** Fish fry, 5:00-7:00pm, Social Hall
- †**Sunday, March 12:** Choir practice after 10am Mass, SM — Parish provides meal for Emergency Family Shelter
- †**Thursday, March 16:** Crafts, Games & Conversation, 9:00am, Social Hall

2023 Annual Diocesan Appeal (ADA)

This weekend we kick-off this Appeal that ensures we can continue to Sow God's Spirit in Southwest Iowa. The ADA helps us welcome people into communion, prepare disciples for the domestic church, draw our young people deeper into their faith and cultivate a culture of servant leadership. Each household received information and a contribution card from Bishop Joenson. We need every families help to meet our assessment of \$55,196. Each prayer and every gift, regardless of the size, is vital to the success of the Appeal. Thank you for your generosity and kindness!

Your contribution card can be mailed to the Diocese, mailed to the parish office or placed in the collection basket. *If paying by check, please make it out to Diocese of Des Moines.* You can also donate online at <https://www.dmdiocese.org/giving>; and choose our parish from the "Designate" dropdown.

Fish Fry

K of C Fish Fry Fridays are March 10 and 24, serving 5:00-7:00pm in the Social Hall; free-will donation. Take-out available. Join us! Contact Jon Hand if you would like to help, jon79hand@gmail.com or 515-291-8814.

In Sympathy and Compassion

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Jeff Hurd, older brother of Fr. Tim Hurd, who passed away February 22, 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 Coordinators

Geneveve Loraditch, gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org, 515-556-4150
Tracy Miller, miller@saintmaryhc.org, 515-520-7981

During this Lenten time of preparation we focus on the Paschal Mystery of Christ's life. We ponder how this great mystery can help the children discover His deep love for them. We talk about how we can take the church's teaching of prayer, fasting, and alms giving to unite with Him in His suffering.

March 8/11: Regular Sessions
March 15/17: No Sessions- Spring Break
March 22/24: Regular Sessions

S.T.O.R.M. Report

Grades 7-12 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 Dates (7th & 8th Graders)

Sessions: March 8 & 22, 6:00-7:30pm, Social Hall

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

Gatherings: March 8 & 22, 7:30-9:00pm, Youth Area

Grades 9 & 10, Confirmation Coordinator

We have a lot of volunteer opportunities coming up, please check your email for sign ups.

Saturday, March 25: 9:00-11:00am, 10th grade only Teen/
Sponsor Session, Social Hall

Wednesday, March 29: 6:00-8:00pm, Confirmation Session,
Social Hall

Easter Choir Updates

You are cordially invited to join the Easter choir. This group will sing for Holy Saturday, April 8th Mass. All ages and skill levels are welcome. The first practice is next Sunday, March 12, immediately after the 10:00am Mass at St. Mary's. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Sue Schmidt at sschmidt@saintmaryhc.org

How's Your Lent Going?

Grow your personal faith by participating in Stations of the Cross...Sacrament of Reconciliation...attending weekday Mass, use of reflection booklets...fasting...almsgiving. May we all strive to grow in relationship with Jesus our Lord.

The Diocese has created Lenten Resources for families with little ones up to the teenage years. Find these materials at <https://www.dmdiocese.org/ministries-and-faith-formation/religious-education/parent-tools/family-faith-resources/lent>.

1 cross + 3 nails = 4 given.

Weekly Collection Financial Update

February 26 Budget Week 35

	Received	Budget
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund	\$4,653	\$5,944

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

Received	Budget	Last Year
\$181,747	\$208,044	\$207,875

Weekend Mass attendance February 25/26: 250

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 - drewsmhpcp@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

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Jen Linderblood - jlinderb@yahoo.com
Tammi McClain - tammimcclain71@gmail.com
Kathy Petersen - katherine@huxcomm.net
Sue White - charylmyron@q.com

BUILDING & GROUND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Bill Schmitt - isucui@isualum.com
Lynn Schreurs - lschreurs@msn.com

CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Laurie Phelan, *Chair* - Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com
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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

Whenever possible, buy products that originate as close to home as you can. In addition to supporting local businesses and workers, you also will be helping to reduce the environmental impact of product transportation. See more at: <https://www.saintmaryhc.org/on-care-for-our-common-home>

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. For requests or to participate in our Prayer Chain, please contact Barb, bliske@saintmaryhc.org / 515-367-2685. *If the request is not for you, please ask permission of the one it is for to be on our prayer chain.*

Old Palms

There is a container in the vestibule if you would like us to dispose of your blessed palms from last year.

Please Consider Helping Your Parish By....

Removing snow on the weekend and/or week day at St. Mary. More snow will come...we need people power! Go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409094ea4a722a2fb6-snow1#/> to sign up or contact Bill Schmitt with questions, 515-291-8005.

Hosting any of the following:

- Wine & Cheese after Mass on the first Saturday of April, May or June
- Coffee and donuts after 10:00am Mass on the first Sunday of April or June

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. Thank you.

Church Sign

Tears are prayers that lips can't speak.

Liturgical Ministers March 11/12

Saturday, 5:00pm Mass, St. Mary

Lector	John Roberts
Host	Tony Kuehn
Cup Bearers	Mary Thomas, Di Schleisman
Ushers	Mike Devereux, Glenn Hobin
Music	Lisa Jones, Mary Schmelzer

Sunday, 8:00am Mass, Holy Cross

Lector	Sheri Fogarty
Cup Bearer	Laurie Phelan
Altar Servers	Natalie & Nick Shedd
Usher	Todd & Jill Beukema
Music	Jen Linderblood, Maggie Bruce

Sunday, 10:00am Mass, St. Mary

Lector	Greg Feldmann
Host Distributor	Greg Feldmann
Cup Bearers	Tom & Jacki Ausman
Altar Servers	Jon & Marcus Larsen
Ushers	Tom & Jacki Ausman
Music	Karon Lacey, Christine Muehlenthaler, Mary Ortmann

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Money Counters

March 5: Sharon Morris, Sue White
March 12: Kathy Daup, Dona Cowman



An aluminum can thrown away today will still be a can 500 years from now!

Stations of the Cross

Come pray these powerful Stations every Friday of Lent, 6:00pm at St. Mary, and follow Jesus on his way to Calvary.

Following the Stations on March 17 & 31 we have a Lenten meal and fellowship.

(We are looking for hosts for the March 17 meal. Contact the office to volunteer.)

Lenten Reconciliation

Father Parker has scheduled additional individual time for Reconciliation at St. Mary:

Tuesday, March 28, 5:30-6:30pm
Wednesday, March 29, 6:30-7:30pm
Thursday, March 30, 5:30-6:30pm

Reconciliation Services at other parishes:

Tuesday, March 7, 6:00pm, St. Boniface, Waukee
Tuesday, March 7, 7:00pm, St. Pius X, Urbandale
Wednesday, March 22, 7:00pm, St. Theresa, DSM
Sunday, March 19, 3:00pm, St. Mary of Nazareth, DSM
Wednesday, March 29, 6:30pm, Assumption, Granger
Wednesday, March 22, 7:00pm, Sacred Heart, WDM
Thursday, March 30, 7:00pm, Ss. John and Paul, Altoona
Saturday, March 18, 10:00am, St. Anthony, DSM

2022 End-of-Year Statements

To minimize costs (and thus maximize your contributions), we do not automatically mail these out. Please email bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org or contact the office with a request to email/mail your statement. Thank you.

Winter Weather Cancellations

Whenever North Polk School is cancelled, dismissed early, or evening school activities are cancelled due to weather, classes, meetings and activities here at the Parish will be cancelled as well. **In most instances, Masses - both daily and weekend - will not be cancelled, so please use your own judgment.** If the need arises to cancel weekend activities, it will be on TV channels 5, 8 and 17.

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Second Sunday of Lent, March 4/5

Theme: Transfiguration - with the Spirit of Jesus living within us, we will be transformed.

Reading I: Genesis 12:1-4a • I will make of you a great nation.

Reading II: 2 Timothy 1:8b-10 • God has called us to a holy life.

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9 • Get up! Do not be afraid!

Question for Children: Share about a time when you felt especially close to God or Jesus.

Question for Youth: Have you ever had a "mountain top" experience where you felt exceptionally close to God? How was your life changed by that experience?

Question for Adults: Perhaps this reading calls us, not to cling to the familiar, but to leave the comforts of the parish and reach out to the world around us. In your community or neighborhood, who is waiting to hear the Good News?