

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time July 22/23, 2023

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time July 29/30, 2023

Dear Good People,

I hope this letter finds you well. I had a very nice time re-connecting with some people in Council Bluffs for the wedding I presided at, and I had a nice few days of relaxing with some friends of mine. It is also good to be back though because I felt like I was kind of living in my suitcase for a week there. Thank you again for your understanding. It was kind of weird timing being gone for two consecutive weekends. Fr. Brendan left me a nice note saying how much he enjoyed being at SMHC. So well done there! At this time in the vocations office we are finishing up a lot of loose ends and trying to make the final push to get a last candidate admitted into seminary. Please pray for this young man as I hope it will work out.

I just wanted to remind all of you again that we are seeking members for our Finance and Parish Council's. We will get more information to you about the process, but we would like to move to a discernment model. So this takes some discernment on all our parts. If you are interested in serving on one of these councils please let me or someone else know. I know that all of you have so much going on and it is so hard to commit to things, but the commitment to serve on these councils is about 11 hours per year. I think that is pretty reasonable and we try to be respectful of your time. So maybe spend some time praying about serving on one of the councils.

Finally, I just want to give a big shout out and thank you to all who participated in the garage sale. That was a lot of work! I do not want to mention people by name (for fear of leaving someone out), but there were many nights where I saw people working until very late getting things ready. So again a big thank you to them. These funds will help our High School students attend the National Catholic Youth Conference. It can really be a life changing experience for our young people. So thank you again for the donations and the work that went into making the event a success. A.M.D.G. ~ Fr. Ross Parker

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 Parish General Email Fr. Ross Parker, Pastor Deacon Terry Schleisman Nicole Cory - Confirmation Andrea Fisher - 7th-12th Ministry Melissa Kahler - 7th-12th Ministry Barb Liske - Secretary Geneveve Loraditch - PreK-6 RE Tracy Miller - PreK-6 RE Sue Schmidt - Music Candy Zidon - Bookkeeper Parish Web Site Parish Facebook Site Parish Fax

515-367-2685

smhc@saintmaryhc.org 515-367-2685/rparker@dmdiocese.org 515-669-6158/digiterrry@netscape.net ncory@saintmaryhc.org afisher@saintmaryhc.org mkahler@saintmaryhc.org bliske@saintmaryhc.org gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org tmiller@saintmaryhc.org sschmidt@saintmaryhc.org bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org www.saintmaryhc.org St. Mary's Holy Cross Parish-Elkhart 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: <u>www.vocationsonline.org</u>

Mass and Reconciliation

Tuesday, July 25	
8:00am Mass, St. Mary	+ Cecilia & Mike Morton
Wednesday, July 26	
5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross	† Aiden Phelan Ruden
Thursday, July 27	
8:00am Mass, St. Mary	+ Theresa Modtland
Friday, July 28	
8:00am Mass, St. Mary	<i>† Our Parish Members</i>
Saturday, July 29	
4:00 - 4:30pm Reconciliati	on, St. Mary
5:00pm Mass, St. Mary	+ Jack Sabol
Sunday, July 30	
8:00am Mass, Holy Cross	<i>† Doc Birchmier</i>
10:00am Mass, St. Mary	People of the Parish
Tuesday, August 1	
8:00am Mass, St. Mary	<i>† Rick McQuiston</i>
Wednesday, August 2	
5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross	+ Ashley Carpenter & Mary Beth Bump
Thursday, August 3	, ,
8:00am Mass, St. Mary	† Dick & Veda Dyer
First Friday, August 4	
8:00am Mass, St. Mary	† Roberta Angell
Saturday, August 5	
4:00 - 4:30pm Reconciliati	
5:00pm Mass, St. Mary	† John Richardson
Sunday, August 6	
8:00am Mass, Holy Cross	+ Pat Phelan
10:00am Mass, St. Mary	People of the Parish

Are You New to Our Parish? Welcome

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

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 or 515-367-2685 or Deacon Schleisman at 515-669-6158 or digiterrry@netscape.net.



Breakfast for Our Senior Citizens!

Join us Friday, July 28; we will gather in the Social Hall for food and fellowship following 8:00am Mass. An RSVP is appreciated to the Parish Office by Tuesday, July 25, but come even if you are unable to RSVP!!

Memorial Celebration for Jack Sabol

Please gather with Terry and her family on Saturday, July 29 after the 5:00pm Mass to hear and share memories and stories of Jack.

Church Sign

WAIT! Jesus wants to talk to you!



World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly 2023

The third World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, is celebrated Sunday. July 23, and has the theme, "His mercy is from age to age" (Lk

1: 50). This verse reminds us that God's mercy is manifested in history through the testimonies of those who have experienced it and passed it on to their children and grandchildren. Grandparents and the elderly are called to carry this mercy, to tell through words and life how God has been faithful to His promises and how He continues to love His people. They are also called to receive God's mercy, and to allow themselves to be comforted by His fatherly love that never abandons them.

The World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly is an occasion to once again express with joy that the Church wants to celebrate together with those whom the Lord -as the Bible says -- has given "a full life".

Read Pope Francis' message: https://www.vatican.va/content/ francesco/en/messages/nonni/documents/20230531messaggio-nonni-anziani.html?bbeml=tp-PTB0k67Y8k6Tf5hqVlv4cQ.jQR9lrMlxKky3tbMW9xSeEq.rQ1e Lg0dX7Eu5jFWwTWMxIg.IZIvJ9Ng0GEuFJZ5HsmOIEA

Parish Council

Meeting: August 8, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Finance Council Meeting, July 25, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Stewardship Meetings: August 14, 6:00pm, Social Hall

Knights of Columbus August 21, Rosary, 6:40pm SM, Meeting 7:00pm, Hall

Funeral Luncheon Food Donations: Team 5 from Elkhart and Cambridge

The parish office is closed Thursdays during the summer and also on Friday, July 28.

Fr. Parker does not have set office hours when he is here at the parish. To reach him, please email, call or text: rparker@dmdiocese.org or 515-720-3434.

Coming Events

- Friday, July 28: Senior Citizen Breakfast following 8:00am Mass, Social Hall
- * Saturday, July 29: Memorial Celebration for Jack Sabol after 5:00pm Mass, Social Hall
- * Weekend of August 5/6: Buildings & Grounds Collection — Wine & cheese after 5:00pm Mass — Coffee & donuts after 8:00am Mass. And after 10:00am Mass if have hosts.

Coffee & Donuts at St. Mary

If you would like to host this August 6 after 10:00am Mass or learn more about hosting coffee & donuts, please contact the parish office. Thank you!

Religious Education

Preschool - 6th Grade Coordinators

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

Registration is in full swing! This year we have an online option for registration, by following this link: https://forms.gle/ DFn61LKez5juiYx48.

If you'd prefer to send your registration into the office, you can download a form from the website, otherwise forms are available in the vestibule. Sessions start September 6 at 6:30pm with Mass for all sessions. On September 13 we begin with our Good Starts Sessions for the first 45 minutes of each session. We are looking forward to working with your children again this year!

> September 6: 6:30pm Mass for all sessions Sept. 13 & 20: Session A 4:45-6:15pm Session B 6:30-7:45pm Session C 9:00-11:30am

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



We would like to thank the parish for donating and shopping at our garage sale fundraiser this year. We were able to raise over \$2000. The money will go to the youth to help pay for their NCYC ticket. We all appreciate your generous hearts.

Prayer Chain 🦕

If illness or a crisis strikes your family or friends, 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, bliske@saintmaryhc.org.



Make a Difference!

GVELIFE Sign-up to donate your valuable and much needed blood at our Drive on Thursday, August 31, 3:00-7:00pm in the Social Hall. Appointments are required (no walk-ins allowed yet). Reserve your preferred time at www.lifeservebloodcenter.org or in the vestibule of St. Mary. Each blood donation saves up to three lives and more than 100,000 units of blood are needed yearly. May we count on you to donate? It takes about 30 to 45 minutes from checkin to check-out.

Please contact Larry Sauer, sauerId@outlook.com / 515-710-2421 if you wish to help during the drive or bring items for the canteen.

Support the Diocesan Newspaper

If you like getting your monthly edition of The Catholic Mirror to catch up on the news and inspiring stories of faith, be sure to take a subscription for yourself and maybe one for someone who cannot afford it. The Catholic Mirror subscription drive offsets the cost of producing and distributing our newspaper. Send your \$25 subscription to The Catholic Mirror, 601 Grand Ave., Des Moines, IA 50309.

Movie Reviews

See www.catholicnews.com/movies.cfm.

Weekly	Collection	Financia	al Upda	ite
:	Received	<u>Budget</u>		
Tithes/Plate/	\$1,991	\$6,114	July 9	Week 2
Youth/Bldg. Fund	\$8,872	\$6,114	July 16	Week 3
Year-to-Dat	te <u>Rec</u>	eived <u>B</u>	<u>udget L</u>	ast Year
Tithes/Plate/Youth	/Guests \$16	6,062 \$1	8,341	\$12,704
Collections: Food	Pantry: \$65	4 / Missior	<i>hary</i> : \$109	9 to date
Mass Attenda	nce: July 8 &	<mark>8 9:</mark> 219, Ju	ıly 15 & 10	6: 202
202	3 Annual Di	ocesan Ar	opeal	
		•	•	mt. Due
\$55,196 \$4	6,805 \$4	4,645 \$2	,160 \$	610,551
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Councils and Committees

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@g.com

BUILDING & GROUND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

John Roberts, Co-Chair - jroberts@huxcomm.net Scott Turczynski, Co Chair - ScottT@hrtInd.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 - Ischreurs@msn.com

CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Laurie Phelan, Chair - Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com Pat Bishop - pjbishop@midiowa.net Lowell Crouse - I3jl@windstream.net Tracy Irwin - irwin@partnercom.net Stacey Rooney - rooneyslg17@gmail.com Tom Rooney - roondog007@msn.com Lynn Schreurs - Ischreurs@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 Mike and Mary Winders - mwinde59@yahoo.com

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GRAND KNIGHT Garrett McClain - gjmcclain69@gmail.com

Laudato Si

Showering typically uses half the water of taking a bath, possibly even less. To save even more water, spend less time in the shower and make sure it is equipped with a low-flow shower head. See more at <u>https://www.saintmaryhc.org/on-care-for-our-common-home</u>.

Summer Bulletin Submissions

Please email the parish office, <u>bliske@saintmaryhc.org</u>, by Wednesday, August 2 for the August 6 & 13 bulletin and by August 16 for the August 20 & 27 bulletin. Thank you.

Moved? Had a baby? Dropped your landline? New email? Have you provided your email and cell phone number? Please email the parish office with any changes. Thank you!

Liturgical Ministers July 29/30

Saturday, 5:00pm Mass, St. Mary

Lector	Lisa Jones
Host Distributor	Lisa Jones
Cup Bearers	Tony Kuehn, Joe Rumbaugh
Altar Servers	Callahan Coffelt
Ushers	Doug Jones, Joe Rumbaugh
Music	Terri Hamm, Maggie Bruce

Sunday, 8:00am Mass, Holy Cross

Sheri Fogarty
Jon Hand
Claire & Oliver Hand
Mike Veasman
Drew & Lorrie Hanlon

Sunday, 10:00am Mass, St. Mary

Lector	Jill Swanson
Host Distributor	Jill Swanson
Cup Bearers	Tom & Jacki Ausman
Altar Servers	Emma Swanson, Hailey Conover
Ushers	Tom & Jacki Ausman
Music	Jen Linderblood, Celeste Muehlenthaler

Liturgical Ministers August 5/6

Saturday, 5:00pm Mass, St. Mary

Lector	Bob Selby
Host Distributor	Susan Selby
Cup Bearers	Di Schleisman, Deacon Terry
Altar Servers	Jack Selby
Ushers	Bill Schmitt, Jim Hudson
Music	Drew & Lorrie Hanlon

Sunday, 8:00am Mass, Holy Cross

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Lector	Heidi Ackerman
Cup Bearer	Deacon Terry
Altar Servers	Titus & Zeke Weber
Usher	Sandra Hunter
Music	Drew Hanlon, Stacey Rooney

Sunday, 10:00am Mass, St. Mary

LectorGarrett McClainHost DistributorGarrett McClainCup BearersTim Loraditch, Deacon TerryAltar ServersPeyton & Justice LoraditchUshersBill & Kelly DunbarMusicSue Schmidt, Emma DeVries

Money Counters

July 23: Sharon Morris, Sue White July 30: Brenda Nehring, Kathy Daup August 6: Sharon Morris, Dona Cowman a Styrofoam cup to decompose. It takes an orange peel six months to decompose.

Interested in Helping Young Couples Prepare for Marriage?

Register to attend the Diocesan Sponsor Couple Training **Saturday, August 26**, 9:00-11:30 am at OLIH in Ankeny.

Sponsor couples are the backbone of the Diocese's marriage preparation, helping engaged couples prepare for the sacrament. This training equips sponsor couples to use a tool called FOCCUS (Facilitate Open, Caring Communication, Understanding and Study). In a series of three to five meetings with the engaged couple, FOCCUS prompts discussions on a myriad of important issues couples face throughout their lives together: communication, family of origin, commitment, sacramentality, finances, raising children, and more. It fosters a deeper understanding of marriage and a deeper appreciation of each other. It helps engaged couples identify and navigate the kind of challenges that every couple faces.

If this appeals to you and your spouse, sign up for the training class online at www.olih.org under 'Parish Events'. This training requires the attendance of both husband and wife and that they must have been married for at least 5 years.

When you travel this summer....check out Mass times and Catholic Church locations at www.Masstimes.org.



Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, July 22/23

Theme: The reign of God is like ...

Reading I: Wisdom 12:13, 16-19 • Your might is the source of justice.

Reading II: Romans 8:26-27 • The Spirit helps us pray.

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-43 • The Reign of God is among us.

Question for Children: What are the things that keep you from being a friend of Jesus?

Question for Youth: The good and the bad have the same opportunity to rule our life. What are you doing (bad habits, poor choices, etc.) that you need to weed out? Who can help you with that?

Question for Adults: How would you describe "the weeds" which have polluted your own faith?

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, July 29/30

Theme: The kingdom of God is a treasure beyond price.

Reading I: 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12 • Give your servant an understanding heart.

Reading II: Romans 8:28-30 • God makes all things work together for good.

Gospel: Matthew 13:44-52 • The reign of God is a treasure.

Question for Children: If you could be with Jesus, what would you trade from your own things for that?

Question for Youth: God's kingdom is worth sacrifice. What do you need to sacrifice in order to follow God in your own life? Why are you willing to make that sacrifice?

Question for Adults: What is the Reign of God like for you personally? Use a parable to describe it.