



St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073

Holy Cross: 12704 NE 98th Street Maxwell Iowa 50161



Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 9 & 10

Dear Good People,

I hope this letter finds you well. I just wanted to take a quick moment and acknowledge all of our faith formation leaders and catechists. I have noticed that they have been putting in a tremendous amount of work as they prepare for faith formation this year. So a giant thank you to them. I am sure God will bless their work abundantly. I am so excited to welcome the young people back for faith formation. We kicked off the year with holy mass and we are getting right into the swing of things.

Just an update for me. September is kind of a busy time as I have to help the seminarians transition back into school for the fall, so that takes quite a bit of my time. I am also heading to Rome for the diaconate ordination of Mike Mahoney. I will be gone Sept. 24th-Oct. 1st. I am looking forward to that. Speaking of the seminarians you will be getting some information in the mail about supporting the seminarians financially. We do this every year around this time. Your generosity regarding this is greatly appreciated. We will not do a formal second collection at mass, because again, you will be getting this information in the mail. Thank you again and please pray for an increase of vocations (all vocations) in the diocese of Des Moines. Just know that all of you are prayed for each day and many blessings to all of you! 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 Information

Parish Phone	515-367-2685
Parish General Email	smhc@saintmaryhc.org
Fr. Ross Parker, Pastor	515-367-2685/ rparker@dmdiocese.org
Deacon Terry Schleisman	515-669-6158/ digiterry@netscape.net
Nicole Cory - Confirmation	ncory@saintmaryhc.org
Andrea Fisher - 7th-12th Ministry	afisher@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
Sue Schmidt - Music	sschmidt@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.vocationonline.org

Mass and Reconciliation

Tuesday, September 12

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † Ardy McDermott

Wednesday, September 13

5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross † Pat Phelan

Thursday, September 14 Exaltation of the Holy Cross

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † Mary Newell

Friday, September 15

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † Donnie & Rita Smith

Saturday, September 16

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

5:00pm Mass, St. Mary † Catherine Richardson Fanion

Sunday, September 17

8:00am Mass, Holy Cross People of the Parish

10:00am Mass, St. Mary † John & Fran Cory

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

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 digiterry@netscape.net.

Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross



We celebrate this feast this Thursday with 8:00am Mass at St. Mary.

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross celebrates two historical events: the discovery of the True Cross by Saint Helena, the mother of the Emperor Constantine, in 320 under the temple of Venus in Jerusalem, and the dedication in 335 of the basilica and shrine built on Calvary by Constantine, which mark the site of the Crucifixion. The basilica, named the Martyrium, and the shrine, named the Calvarium, were destroyed by the Persians in 614. The Church of the Holy Sepulcher which now stands on the site was built by the crusaders in 1149. However the feast, more than anything else, is a celebration and commemoration of God's greatest work: his salvific death on the Cross and His Resurrection, through which death was defeated and the doors to Heaven opened.

Becoming Catholic

Would you like to learn more about the Catholic way of life or have you been Catholic all your life, but have not celebrated Baptism, Eucharist, and/or Confirmation and want to do so? All are welcomed into an inquiry community to ask questions, discuss experiences and discover more about who we are as Catholic people. If you or someone you know would like to find out how we can help you on your faith journey, please contact Fr. Parker, rparker@dmdiocese.org. Participation in the inquiry sessions does not require you to commit to joining the Church. We ask only that you be open to learning more about God, the Catholic tradition and yourself.

Prayer Before the Holy Cross

Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,
You have suffered death on the Cross
for our sins.

Oh, Holy Cross of Jesus,
be my true light!

Oh, Holy Cross,
fill my soul with good thoughts.

Oh, Holy Cross, ward off from me
all things that are evil.

Oh, Holy Cross, ward off from me
all dangers and deaths

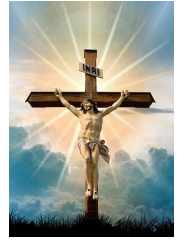
and give me life everlasting!

Oh, Crucified Jesus of Nazareth,
have mercy on me now and forever.

Lord Jesus Christ,

through Your suffering the Cross
grant me strength to bear my Cross
without fear or dread

and give me the grace that I may follow You. Amen.



Parish Council

Meeting: Sept. 19, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Finance Council

Meeting, Sept. 26, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Stewardship

Meetings: Sept. 11, 6:00pm, Social Hall

Knights of Columbus

Sept. 18, Rosary, 6:40pm SM, Meeting 7:00pm, Hall

Funeral Luncheon Food Donations:

Team 5 from Elkhart and Cambridge

Fr. Parker does not have set office hours when he is at the parish. To reach him, please email, call or text:

rparker@dmdiocese.org/515-720-3434.

Coming Events

- † **Weekend of Sept. 16/17:** Maxwell Food Pantry Collection
- † **Sunday, Sept. 17:** Pancake Breakfast after 8:00am Mass, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus
- † **Thursday, Sept. 21:** Crafts, Games & Conversation, 9:00am, Social Hall

Card Shower to Celebrate 101 Years!!

You are invited to celebrate Mary Ann Cory on her 101st birthday this Thursday, Sept. 14! Birthday wishes can be mailed to her at 3230 NW 102nd Ave, Ankeny, IA 50021.

Food Pantry Collection

Please bring non-perishable food items to Mass next weekend; we will also take up a monetary collection. Thank you for your continued generosity in sharing with those in need. Your donation this month will assist the Maxwell Food Pantry.

Religious Education Registration

We are still accepting registrations, but can't guarantee your preferred time for PreS-6th Grades. Register online: <https://forms.gle/DFn61LKez5juiYx48>, or fill out a paper form (on the website and in the vestibule) and send to the office.

Religious Education: Preschool to 6th Grade

Preschool - 6th Grade Coordinators

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

We begin our Sessions this week with Good Starts. Good Starts are abbreviated Sessions aimed at easing the children back into the environment. Good Starts will be the first 45 minutes of each session. This will be for the next two sessions. We look forward to getting back to the classroom with your children and encountering Christ with them!

September 13- Good Starts-45 minute sessions
September 20- Good Starts- 45 minute sessions
September 27- Regular Sessions

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

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 7th & 8th

Sept. 13: EDGE parent AND teen meeting from 6:00-7:00pm, Social Hall.

Sept. 20: EDGE Session Kick Off, 6:00-7:30pm, Social Hall

9th & 10th Confirmation:

9th Grade Session: Sunday, Sept. 10, 11:00am (after Mass) to Noon in the Youth Room downstairs at St. Mary.

10th Grade Session: Sunday, Sept. 24, 11:00am (after Mass) to Noon in the Youth Room downstairs at St. Mary.

Teen (9th/10th) / Adult Session: Wednesday Sept. 27, 6:00 -7:30pm in the Social Hall at St. Mary.

If you haven't already registered your child please do as soon as possible.

Please contact Nicole Cory if you have any questions.

STORM Youth Group (9th - 12th Graders)

Sept. 13: NO Youth Gathering due to EDGE parent meeting

Sept. 20: Youth Gathering/Kick Off, 7:30-9:30pm, Youth Room

Thank You For Your Vote!

Thank you everyone for participating in the ISU/Iowa Bucket Vote NCYC Fundraiser. We made a total of \$241.50. As usual, ISU swept the vote bringing in a whopping \$182.50 while Iowa's voting was \$47. \$14 from those of you who didn't care who won.

Additional Options for Tithing

Auto Debit: Designate a monthly amount for withdrawal from your account on the 15th or 30th of each month. To begin ACH or if you have questions, please contact Candy at bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org. The form is also on the table at church and the home page of our website.

Online Giving: Go to <https://catholicfoundationiowa.org/make-a-donation/parishes-and-schools-relief/> and choose *St. Mary/Holy Cross Parish-Elkhart* to make your tithe donation. No fees! The Foundation sends gift receipts. Thank you!

Thank you to those who already use one of these for tithing.

Weekly Collection Financial Update

September 3 Budget Week 10 Received Budget
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund \$6,013 \$6,114

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

<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
\$43,705	\$61,137	\$42,238

Buildings & Grounds Collection: \$1176

Mass Attendance: September 3/4: 220

2023 Annual Diocesan Appeal

<u>Assessed</u>	<u>Pledged</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Unpaid</u>	<u>Amt. Due</u>
\$55,196	\$50,215	\$47,815	\$2,400	\$7,381

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 - Theresa.Hamm@mercyoneiowa.org
Drew Hanlon - drewsmhpcpc@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

Mike Winders - *President* - mwinde59@yahoo.com
Heidi Ackerman - heidimdittmer@gmail.com
John Fisher - Johntfisher@sienafastener.com
Diane Gannon - ddkannon@gmail.com
Bill Rooney - 1rooneybill@gmail.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@hrtind.us
Drew Hanlon - drewsmhpcpc@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

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

Mike Devereux - devoducks@msn.com

