



# St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073

Holy Cross: 12704 NE 98th Street Maxwell Iowa 50161



## Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

April 1/2, 2023

Dear Good People,

I hope this letter finds you well. I cannot believe we are moving ever closer to the Easter mysteries. Exciting times. Holy Week begins this weekend with Passion (Palm) Sunday. On Thursday we will begin the Sacred Triduum. The Church sees the Triduum as one long liturgy spaced out over three days. I would encourage you to attend all of the liturgies if you are able. They are the summit of our liturgical year. I promise you will get something out of all three liturgies that will help you grow in faith.

After Easter I usually take a few days off and visit my classmate in Oklahoma. I am looking forward to that! We will not have daily mass after Easter, but I will return on Saturday and then we will look forward to all the other fun stuff such as first communion, confirmation, and graduations. We are blessed to have so many good things going on. Please know of my sincere prayers for all of you during this most sacred time. A.M.D.G. ~ Fr. Ross

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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	<a href="mailto:smhc@saintmaryhc.org">smhc@saintmaryhc.org</a>
Fr. Ross Parker, Pastor	515-367-2685/ <a href="mailto:rparker@dmdiocese.org">rparker@dmdiocese.org</a>
Deacon Terry Schleisman	515-669-6158/ <a href="mailto:digiterry@netscape.net">digiterry@netscape.net</a>
Nicole Cory - Confirmation	<a href="mailto:ncory@saintmaryhc.org">ncory@saintmaryhc.org</a>
Andrea Fisher - 7th-12th Ministry	<a href="mailto:afisher@saintmaryhc.org">afisher@saintmaryhc.org</a>
Melissa Kahler - 7th-12th Ministry	<a href="mailto:mkahler@saintmaryhc.org">mkahler@saintmaryhc.org</a>
Barb Liske - Secretary	<a href="mailto:bliske@saintmaryhc.org">bliske@saintmaryhc.org</a>
Geneveve Loraditch - PreK-6 RE	<a href="mailto:gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org">gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org</a>
Tracy Miller - PreK-6 RE	<a href="mailto:tmiller@saintmaryhc.org">tmiller@saintmaryhc.org</a>
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Candy Zidon - Bookkeeper	<a href="mailto:bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org">bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org</a>
Parish Web Site	<a href="http://www.saintmaryhc.org">www.saintmaryhc.org</a>
Parish Facebook Site	St. Mary's Holy Cross Parish-Elkhart
Parish Fax	515-367-7028

## Holy Week Schedule

Tuesday	8:00am	St. Mary
Wednesday	5:30pm	Holy Cross
Thursday	7:00pm	St. Mary
Friday	3:00pm	Holy Cross
	7:00pm	St. Mary
Saturday	8:00pm	St. Mary
Sunday	8:00am	Holy Cross
	10:00am	St. Mary

**Reconciliation:** 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)

## Holy Week



### Tuesday, April 4

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † Marj Rohlf

### Wednesday, April 5

5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross † Jim & Margaret Shaw

6:00pm Rosary, St. Mary

### Thursday of the Lord's Supper, April 6 (no 8am Mass)

7:00pm Mass, St. Mary † Leo & Rosemary Overmohle

Adoration after Mass until 10:00pm, Social Hall

### Friday of the Lord's Passion, April 7 (no 8am Mass)

3:00pm Stations and Veneration of the Cross, Holy Cross

7:00pm Passion Service, St. Mary

**Good Friday is a day of fast and abstaining from meat.**

### The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night, April 8

8:00pm Mass, St. Mary † Harry Richardson

**Please gather in the Social Hall.**

(No 5:00pm Mass or 4:00pm Reconciliation)

### Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord, April 9

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

10:00am Mass, St. Mary † Sharon Dunbar

## 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.



## Holy Week

The central days of our life as Catholic Christians are Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil/Easter. Why not make it a priority this year to attend all our services to commemorate the journey from Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, the Last Supper, to the Cross and to the Resurrection accomplished by Jesus on our behalf. These are sacred days which give purpose and meaning to all we do as Catholics.

## A Memorial Gift

We offer you the opportunity to remember a loved one by donating toward the flowers that will decorate St. Mary and Holy Cross Churches this Easter season. A memorial list will be included in next week's bulletin. *Donation envelopes are included with your tithe envelopes and are also available on the table at St. Mary and in the entryway at Holy Cross. Please return your donation by April 3. Thank you.*

## Be a Disciple: Have Your Feet Washed and Stay Awake to Pray!

 We invite **six** more individuals to have their feet washed during our Holy Thursday Mass this week. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is after this Mass until 10:00pm in the Social Hall. A sign up for both of these are in the vestibule at St. Mary and at Holy Cross. 

## Prayer for Holy Week

All-powerful, eternal God,  
you have chosen to give mankind  
a model of humility;  
our Savior took on our flesh,  
and subjected himself to the Cross.  
Grant us the grace to preserve faithfully  
the lessons He has given us in His Passion  
and to have a share in His resurrection.  
This we ask of you  
through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son.  
Amen.

### Parish Council

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

### Finance Council

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

### Stewardship

Meeting: April 10, 6:00pm, Ed Center

### Knights of Columbus

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

### Funeral Luncheon Food Donations:

Team 5 from Elkhart and Cambridge

*The Office is closed Good Friday and Easter Monday.*

## Coming Events

- † **Choir Practice for Easter Vigil:** Sunday, April 2 after 10:00am Mass until 12:30pm; Tuesday, April 4 at 6:30pm.
- † **This weekend:** Buildings and Grounds collection — Wine and cheese after 5:00pm Mass — Coffee & donuts after 8:00am and 10:00am Masses
- † **Monday, April 3:** 6:30pm Choir practice for Holy Thursday Mass, St. Mary
- † **Good Friday, April 7:** Collection for the Holy Land
- † **Weekend of April 15/16:** Collection for *The Blessing Box*, Elkhart Food Pantry

## Holy Land Collection

On Good Friday we take up a collection for the works of the Church in the Holy Land. Your donation helps those who care for these holy places and shrines which carry great significance for our faith. They are most grateful for your support. Pray that the Holy Land, with all its history, becomes an example of reconciliation among people and religions.

## Easter Reflection Resources

*The Little White Book* and *The Word Among Us* are available for your use during the 50 days of the Easter Season. Find them in the vestibule at St. Mary and in the entryway at Holy Cross.

## Removal of Decorations at Cemetery

In preparation for Spring, all grave site decorations at Holy Cross Cemetery should be removed by now. Any remaining will be picked up by the committee. Thank you.

## In Sympathy and Compassion

Please pray for the repose of the soul of

**Doc Birchmier** who passed away March 20

**Zayne Osborn**, friend of Joel Kahler family,  
who passed away March 21

**Bev Whittler**, sister of Larry Sauer,  
who passed away March 24

and for their families that they find peace and strength  
at this most difficult time.

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

## 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

With the gesture of Epiclesis we see the movement of the gesture go from Heaven to Earth, with the Offering we see the movement from Earth to Heaven. Both vertical gestures. With our next gesture, the Sign of Peace, we see the movement is horizontal. This gesture connects us to one another through Christ in a kind of Cosmic communion. Peace is a gift God gives to us, but it's also a gift we extend to those around us. The more fully our hearts accept and extend this peace the more we bring about God's kingdom here on earth.

### Upcoming Sessions

April 2: First Communion Special Session 2, 11:00am

April 5: Regular Sessions / April 7: No Session Good Friday

April 12/14: Final Regular Sessions

April 16: First Communion Special Session 3, 11:00am

## 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 Dates (7th & 8th Graders)

**Sessions:** April 5 & 12, 6:00-7:30pm, Social Hall

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

**Gatherings:** April 5, 12 & 26, 7:30-9:00pm, Youth Area

### Grades 9 & 10, Confirmation Coordinator

*Parents: Please check your email regularly for  
volunteer opportunities and important information.*

Wednesday, April 19: 6-8pm last Confirmation Session, Hall

Friday, April 28: 6:00pm Liturgy Rehearsal Dinner

Saturday, April 29: 2:00pm Confirmation Liturgy

## Graduating Seniors!

Our parish is pleased to announce a scholarship to be granted to a high school senior pursuing higher education! Money used to fund the scholarship was collected at the dessert table at each of the KOC fish fries and with parishioner donations. If interested in applying for this scholarship, please go to: [https://docs.google.com/document/d/188f\\_sJJAQh9LGHJpwbxL1CVqsJSYcN5WIKsB44iBubl/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/188f_sJJAQh9LGHJpwbxL1CVqsJSYcN5WIKsB44iBubl/edit?usp=sharing) or contact the parish office. The scholarship application is due by May 5, 2023.

If you are interested in donating money for future scholarship opportunities, please contact a member of the Stewardship Committee.

## Weekly Collection Financial Update

March 25 Budget Week 39

	Received	Budget
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund	\$2,106	\$5,944

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

Received	Budget	Last Year
\$203,114	\$231,821	\$230,186

### 2023 Annual Diocesan Appeal

Assessed	Pledged	Paid	Unpaid	Amt. Due
\$55,196	\$27,355	\$26,885	\$470	\$28,311

Weekend Mass attendance March 24/25: 280

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

Arlene Anderson - arlene@4andersons.com

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

Karen Bellis - puzzlenuts@aol.com

Pat Bishop - pjbishop@midiowa.net

Lowell Crouse - l3jl@windstream.net

Tracy Irwin - irwin@partnercom.net

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

Buy reusable mesh bags to use for fresh produce items when you are grocery shopping. That will eliminate the need to use the grocer's plastic produce bags, which are difficult to recycle. Mesh bags, available from a number of retailers, can be laundered and kept with your reusable grocery bags for convenience. See more at:

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

## Additional Options for Tithing

**Auto Debit:** Designate a monthly amount for withdrawal from your account on the 15th or 30th. If you have questions or would like to begin ACH, please contact Candy at [bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org) or find the form on the table at church or on the home page of our website.

**Online Giving:** This is available through the Catholic Foundation of SW Iowa with this secure link: <https://catholicfoundationiowa.org/make-a-donation/parishes-and-schools-relief/>. On the drop down choose St. Mary/Holy Cross Parish-Elkhart to make your tithe donation. No fees! The Foundation sends gift receipts.

Thank you for considering using one of these for your tithing.

## 2023 Annual Diocesan Appeal (ADA)

Each and 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. *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.



## Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Married Couples, would you like to relive the excitement, romance and passion from your honeymoon? Rekindle that spark on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend Experience. For more information call 563-920-9419 or you can sign up at [wwme.org](http://wwme.org). Upcoming dates are April 22-23 in Epworth, Iowa and September 22-24 in Dubuque, Iowa.

## Liturgical Ministers Needed Through Easter Sunday

A sign up is in the vestibule at St. Mary and at Holy Cross or call the Parish Office to volunteer. Thank you for sharing your time and talents for our Liturgies!

**Holy Thursday, April 6, 7:00pm Mass, St. Mary**  
3 Ushers

**Good Friday, April 7, 7:00pm Service, St. Mary**  
4 Ushers

**Easter Vigil, April 8, Saturday, 8:00pm Mass, St. Mary**  
Fourth Reader ~ 1 Altar Server ~ 3 Ushers

**Easter Sunday, April 9, 8:00am Mass, Holy Cross**  
2 Altar servers ~ 1 Usher

**Easter Sunday, April 9, 10:00am Mass, St. Mary**  
2 Cup Bearers ~ 2 Host Distributors ~ 3 Servers ~ 3 Ushers

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## Money Counters

**April 2:** Kathy Daup, Dona Cowman

**April 9:** Trish Morris, Kathy Daup



At one time, aluminum was more valuable than gold!

## Catholic Relief Services Collection

This Diocesan collection supports agencies providing relief to suffering people as well pastoral outreach and advocacy to improve lives. *Collection envelopes are available on the table through April 10. Please return in the collection basket or mail to the parish office. Thank you for your continued generosity.*

## 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. To request prayers or to participate in our prayer chain, please contact the office, [bliske@saintmaryhc.org](mailto: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.*

## Thank You

The St. Mary - Holy Cross Knights of Columbus would like to thank everyone who attended and/or helped with our fish fries this year. Because of your generosity, we are able to pass along financial blessings to our parish, the greater Catholic Church, and some of the nearby community. We look forward to doing it again next year!

## Catholic Youth Camp



Back to summers unplugged and running around outside. Days spent splashing in the pool. Growing in faith and courageous discipleship. Making and strengthening friendships. Evenings filled with games, face paint, snowcones, and s'mores. Experience all of this and more during a week of summer camp. Find out more or register at <https://stmcenter.com/>. Our parish pays \$100 of the camp fee for children of the parish attending CYC. Please let the parish office know that you have registered your child(ren).

## Bridge Replacement on NE 126th Avenue

This project over Interstate 35 (exit 96) east of Elkhart is underway and expected to go through November 2023, weather permitting. Visit [511ia.org](http://511ia.org) for current 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>.

## Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

**Palm Sunday, April 1/2, 2023**

*Theme: Holy Week — the mystery of our faith.*

*Reading I:* Isaiah 50:4-7 • The Lord God is my help.

*Reading II:* Philippians 2:6-11 • Your attitude must be Christ's.

*Gospel:* Matthew 26:14-27:66 • The passion of our Lord.

*Question for Children:* Share how you sometimes make sacrifices for the good of others.

*Question for Youth:* Take time to really reflect on Jesus life, death and resurrection. How might you be changed?

*Question for Adults:* Name one specific way that you live your baptismal call to enter into the death of the Lord by forgiveness, generosity, hospitality, or other ways.