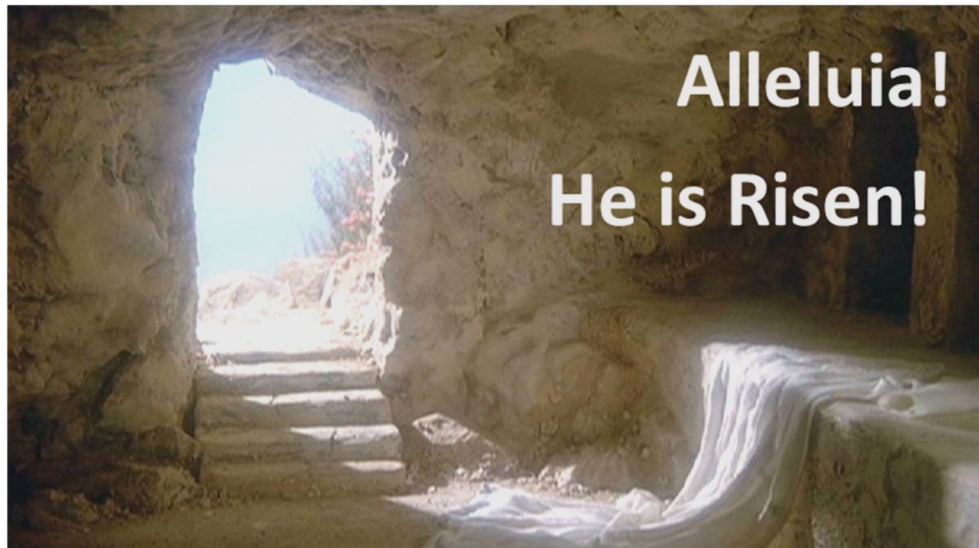


St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073

Holy Cross: 12704 NE 98th Street Maxwell Iowa 50161



Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

March 30/31, 2024

Dear Good People,

Jesus Christ is Risen; He is Risen indeed!!! The ancient Easter greeting is a sign of great hope that Christ the Lord by dying has destroyed our death and by rising has restored our life.

I certainly do not want to leave anyone out as I extend my heartfelt thanks to our staff, musicians, ministers, decorators, and RCIA team. To pull off the Triduum it takes a lot of work. Thank you to all who helped in any way.

My first pastor used to joke that as Jesus comes out of the tomb I go in. Certainly, Lent is an awesome but busy time. I am looking forward to spending a couple of days with my classmate in Oklahoma. I will be gone Monday-Friday. There will be no daily mass on those days. I am looking forward to returning and celebrating one of my other favorite days Divine Mercy Sunday. Please see the information regarding extra confession times at Our Lady's Immaculate Heart Parish. A very happy Easter to all of you and your families! 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 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
Geneveve Loraditch - PreK-6 RE	gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org
Tracy Miller - PreK-6 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
Parish Fax	515-367-7028

Mass Schedule

No daily Mass this week.

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.

Marriage: Please contact the office at least six months prior to the proposed wedding date.

Rite of Christian Initiation: Please contact Fr. Parker

Priesthood/Religious: www.vocationsonline.org

Mass and Reconciliation

No daily Mass this week.

Saturday, April 6

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

5:00pm Mass, St. Mary †Bill Devereux

Sunday, April 7

8:00am Mass, Holy Cross †Patrick Phelan

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. We are glad you are here!

Pastoral Assistance

Fr. Ross is away Monday through Friday. In case of emergency please contact Fr. Ken Halbur of St. Luke's Parish at 515-964-1278 Ext 3.

50 Days of the Easter Season

The resurrection of Jesus is such overwhelmingly Good News that a single day is not enough to celebrate it! The Lord's resurrection is meant to be celebrated intensely for the whole week following Easter (known as the Octave), the whole liturgical Season of Easter (lasting until Pentecost on May 19 this year), and every Sunday thereafter (each as a mini-Easter).

We have two reflections booklets to help you celebrate this Season; *The Little White Book* and *The Word Among Us* are available at St. Mary and Holy Cross.

Diocesan family friendly resources and activities to celebrate the Easter season can be found at www.dmdiocese.org/living-easter.

Easter is a Time of New Beginnings

Just as Jesus' resurrection signaled a fresh start for humanity, it can be a chance for us to reflect on our own lives and make positive changes. One way that we can do that is to volunteer and become more involved with our parish community. Please fill out the time and talent form and submit it to the Parish Office. You can print off the form at <https://www.saintmaryhc.org/events-opportunities>, or pick one up on the table outside the cry room at St. Mary or in the entryway at Holy Cross. If you have questions regarding this form, please speak to a Parish Council representative.

Removal of Decorations at Cemetery

In preparation for Spring, please plan to have all gravesite decorations at Holy Cross Cemetery removed no later than April 1. Any that remain after this date will be picked up by the committee. Thank you!

Divine Mercy Sunday

"Tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy..."



Join Our Lady's Immaculate Heart Church in Ankeny for Divine Mercy Sunday, April 7. Adoration and Confessions from 1:00-3:00pm. Prayer Service and Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:00pm.

Easter Prayer

Risen Lord,
the joyful message is that suffering and death were not the end.
You rose triumphantly in a new and glorified body,
opening the door for all who believe in You to do the same.
Draw me in, Lord, to Your suffering and death so that I may also be drawn into the glory of Your Resurrection.
Give me the courage You had as You endured so much.
Help me to face the crosses in my life with Your strength.
As I do, fill me with hope as I anticipate the new life You will bring from all sufferings united to You. Amen.

Parish Council

Meeting: April 16, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Finance Council

Meeting: April 23, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Stewardship

Meeting: April 8, 6:00pm, Social Hall

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Gatherings: Sundays, 11:00am-1:00pm, location varies

Knights of Columbus

April 15, Rosary, 6:40pm SM, Meeting 7:00pm, Hall

Funeral Luncheon Food Donations

Team 6, Alleman, Baxter, Des Moines, Mingo, Mitchellville, Prairie City, Sheldahl, Slater

The Office is closed Easter Monday.

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

- †Saturday, April 6: Hall in use 10:00am to 3:00pm
- †Next Weekend: Buildings and Grounds collection — Wine & cheese after 5:00pm Mass - Coffee & Donuts after 8:00am Mass — Coffee & Donuts after 10:00am Mass with a welcome for our new members from RCIA
- †Thursday, April 18: Friends & Fellowship, 9:00am, Hall
- †St. Mary Work Day: Saturday, April 20, 9:00am to Noon

Annual Diocesan Appeal (ADA)

Every gift, regardless of the size, is vital to the success of reaching our assessment of \$51,458. Please prayerfully consider how you can support our Diocese which supports our parish. Please mail your gift (check made out to Diocese of Des Moines) to the Diocese or drop in the collection basket at Mass. You can donate online at <https://www.dmdiocese.org/giving>; choose our parish from the "Designate" dropdown. Thank you to those who have already made a gift!

Religious Education: Preschool - 6th Grade

Coordinators

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

We hope you had a Happy Easter. This week in atrium we will do a paraliturgy of the Easter Vigil where the children will proclaim "Jesus died and is risen, he shares his light with us!" We have a few more sessions left to share and meditate on this great mystery!

Beginning next Sunday our First Communion children will begin their special sessions! We meet after 10:00am Mass!

If you haven't paid your fee for this year, please do so soon. Thank you.

Upcoming Dates

April 3- Regular Sessions
April 7- First Communion Special Session #1, 10:45-12:15
April 10- Regular Sessions
April 14- First Communion Special Session #2, 10:45-12:15
April 17- Final Session
April 21- First Communion Special Session #3, 10:45-12:15

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 (7th & 8th Grades)

Sessions: April 3, 10 & 17, 6:00-7:30pm, Social Hall

Confirmation (9th & 10th Grades)

-Friday, April 12: 6:30pm, Confirmation Liturgy Rehearsal Dinner for teens and sponsors

-Saturday, April 13: 2:00pm, Confirmation Liturgy. Teens should arrive by 12:50pm

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

Gatherings: April 3, 10 & 17, 7:30-9pm, Youth Rm



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_s1JAQh9LGHJpwbxL1CVqsJSYcN5WlksB44iBubl/edit?usp=sharing or contact the parish office. Paper applications are also available at St. Mary and Holy Cross. The scholarship application is due by April 26, 2024.

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

Friends & Fellowship

Join us Thursday, April 18, 9:00am in the Social Hall to gather with fellow parishioners for social time!

Mark Your Calendar!

Save
the
Date

Our workday at St. Mary is Saturday, April 20 from 9:00am to Noon. Please come to help us keep our buildings and grounds in good shape. The workday for Holy Cross is Saturday, May 18.

Weekly Collection Financial Update

March 24 Budget Week 38

	Received	Budget
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund	\$2,054	\$6,114

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

Received	Budget	Last Year
\$201,830	\$238,434	\$201,623

Mass Attendance: March 23/24: 318

2024 Annual Diocesan Appeal

Parish Goal	Pledge Total	Payments	Amt. Due
\$51,458	\$11,140	\$10,380	\$41,078

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
Anne Davis - annedavis06@gmail.com
Terri Hamm - Theresa.Hamm@mercyoneiowa.org
Drew Hanlon - drewsmhpcp@yahoo.com
Kim Heger - hegerkim91@gmail.com
Doug Jones - djones@bossard.com
Tammi McClain - tammimcclain71@gmail.com
Lisa Schoening - lisa.schoening@cbdsdm.com

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Laurie Phelan - Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com
Bill Rooney - 1rooneybill@gmail.com
Tom Rooney - roondog007@msn.com

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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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Laurie Phelan - Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com
Bill Schmitt - isucui@isualum.com
Lynn Schreurs - lschreurs@msn.com

CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Lowell Crouse - l3jl@windstream.net
Tracy Irwin - irwin@partnercom.net
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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

During the warmer days of spring and summer, try to use air-conditioning sparingly on particularly warm days. AC uses more energy and contributes to the accumulation of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, and it also has been demonstrated to have negative health effects, particularly for respiratory and some chronic conditions. See more at: <https://www.saintmaryhc.org/on-care-for-our-common-home>.

Have You Enjoyed Wine & Cheese and Donut Sunday in Recent Months?

If so, you have seen how easy it is to be the host! We are looking for hosts for...
~ Wine and cheese after 5:00pm Mass on the first Saturday of May, June, August & beyond.....*and*
~ Coffee and donuts after 8:00am Mass on the first Sunday of each month for May & beyond*and*
~ Coffee and donuts after 10:00am Mass on the first Sunday of June & beyond.
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.

Additional Options for Tithing

Auto Debit: You designate a monthly dollar amount to be withdrawn from your account on the 15th or 30th. Please contact Candy at bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org if you have questions or would like to begin ACH or find the form on the table at church or on the home page of our website.

Online Giving through the Catholic Foundation of SW Iowa with this QR Code or 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, Building Fund and/or Food Pantry donation. The Foundation sends gift receipts.
Thank you for considering one of these for your tithing.

Liturgical Ministers for Next Weekend

Saturday, April 6, 5:00pm Mass, St. Mary
Lector John Roberts
Host Distributor Linda Froehlich
Cup Bearers Tom Froehlich, Tony Kuehn
Altar Servers *Volunteers needed*
Ushers Drew Hanlon, Mike Devereux
Music Lisa Jones, Mary Schmelzer

Sunday, April 7, 8:00am Mass, Holy Cross
Lector Anne Davis
Cup Bearer Dawn Beukema
Altar Servers Claire & Oliver Hand
Ushers Jerry & Patty Hilton
Music Drew & Lorrie Hanlon

Sunday, April 7, 10:00am Mass, St. Mary
Lector Kris LeRoy
Host Distributor Greg Feldmann
Cup Bearers Tim Loraditch, Tracy Miller
Altar Servers Isaac, Jonah & Gabriel Miller
Ushers Gregg Richwine, Andrew Cory
Music Sue Harrington, Karon Lacey, Celeste Muehlenthaler

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Money Counters

April 2: Dona Cowman, Sue White
April 7: Trish Morris, Kathy Daup



The average American uses seven trees a year in paper, wood, and other products made from trees. This amounts to about 2,000,000,000 trees per year!

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.

Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit Open House

Join us for an open house kick-off on Tuesday, April 9 from 3:00-7:00pm. Come view the Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit and afterwards enjoy snacks and refreshments. The Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit will be on display in the parish hall at St. John's Church in Adel April 9-14, courtesy of Iowa Catholic Radio. More information is available on St. John's website: <https://www.stjohnsadel.org/event-opportunities>.

Emmaus House Mass & Centering Prayer

Emmaus House celebrates Mass on Tuesdays and Thursdays at noon. We also host centering prayer on Tuesday mornings at 7:30 a.m. via Zoom. Visit our website for more information, <https://www.theemmaushouse.org/centering-prayer>.

Healing Service

All are invited to attend a Healing Service at St. Ambrose Cathedral on Saturday, April 14 beginning with Mass at 4:00pm followed by the Healing Service at 5:30pm.
"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

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 Masses or activities, it will be on Channel 8 TV and online only. (Holy Cross may be under "Maxwell" and not "Elkhart").

Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord, March 31
Theme: Jesus has risen.

Reading I: Acts 10:34, 37-43 • After Jesus was raised from the dead, we ate and drank with Him.

Reading II: Philippians 2:6-11 • Your attitude must be Colossians 3:1-4 • You have died!

Gospel: John 20:1-9 • Mary Magdalene came to the tomb.

For Children: What sacrifices do you make for those whom you love?

For Youth: : Even the disciples had a hard time understanding Jesus' Resurrection – it is that surprising. What does Resurrection mean to you? What does Easter mean to you?

For Adults: In what ways has God called you to die in Christ? How is this expressed in your own life?