



St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

St. Mary: 460 NW Washington Avenue, Elkhart Iowa 50073

Holy Cross: 12704 NE 98th Street, Maxwell Iowa 50161



Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 11/12, 2026



Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 18/19, 2026

It is customary at our Parish that 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 passes away. Parishioners near death have expressed the comfort they experience knowing the Parish Community is praying for them. Please join us in this sacred prayer.

Dear New Parishioners,

I'm so glad to be your new pastor. However, I'll be staying with my younger sister for a few weeks while the rectory is being put in order. I also have an older brother. Don't be surprised that you might see them at church from time to time. This is my fourth assignment in my 23 years as a priest. I was an associate pastor at St. Francis of Assisi in West Des Moines from 2003-2006. Next, I studied Canon Law at the Catholic University of America in Washington D.C. from 2006-2008. Following that I was pastor of Sacred Heart in Chariton, St. Francis in Corydon and St. Brendan in Leon from 2008-2015. Lastly, of course I was pastor of St. Augustin from 2015 until just this past week. I have also been the Judicial Vicar for the Diocese of Des Moines since 2009 and I will continue to have care for the Latin Mass Community at St. Augustin. I look forward to getting to know you. It will take me some time to learn names and faces so please be patient with me. The best thing you can do is just say your name every time you see me and hopefully that will help it sink in. For those of you who are not sure how to pronounce my name it's pronounced pea-shoot, like a peashooter. However, don't be afraid if you mispronounce it, it wouldn't be the first time. While I understand you are sad to lose Fr. Parker I am happy that he is the new pastor at St. Augustin. He is a good man and they will no doubt do well by him. I look forward to serving the people of St. Mary/Holy Cross and thank you for so warmly welcoming me as your new pastor. ~ Fr. Pisut

Parish Phone	515-367-2685
Parish General Email	smhc@saintmaryhc.org
Fr. Pisut, Pastor	515-367-2685/ cpisut@dmdioocese.org
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
Tracy Miller - Preschool - 6th 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

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. Pisut
Baptism: Please contact the Office

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

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults: Please contact Fr. Pisut or Nicole Cory

Priesthood/Religious: www.vocationsonline.org

Mass and Reconciliation

Tuesday, July 14

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † *Jack & Mary Newell*

Wednesday, July 15

5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross † *Doc Birchmier*

Thursday, July 16

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † *Mary Hanlon*

Friday, July 17

8:00am Mass, St. Mary *Healing for Chris Pritchard*

Saturday, July 18

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

5:00pm Mass, St. Mary † *Dick Fleming*

Sunday, July 19

8:00am Mass, Holy Cross † *Harry & Mary Fisher*

10:00am Mass, St. Mary *People of the Parish*

Tuesday, July 21

8:00am Mass, St. Mary *Healing for Chris Pritchard*

Wednesday, July 22

5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross † *Karen Bellis*

Thursday, July 23

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † *Frank & Abby Nibaur*

Friday, July 24

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † *Delores Markfort Goche*

Saturday, July 25

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

5:00pm Mass, St. Mary † *Jerry Girres*

Sunday, July 26

8:00am Mass, Holy Cross † *Larry Shaw*

10:00am Mass, St. Mary *People of the Parish*

Prayer

Heavenly Father, eternal shepherd,
we entrust our new pastor to Your care.
Guide his steps and fill him with Your wisdom
and discernment as he takes on
the spiritual leadership of our Parish.
Protect him and surround him with Your grace,
granting him strength, patience, and peace
in this time of transition.
Unite our Parish; prepare our hearts
to welcome him with open arms,
and help us to work together in love
to build up Your kingdom.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Parish Council

Meeting: July 21, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Finance Council

Meeting: July 28, 6:30pm, Social Hall

Stewardship

Meeting: Sept. 14, 6:00pm, Social Hall

OCIA

Interest meeting, Sunday, July 12, 11:00am,
Social Hall

Knights of Columbus

Meeting: July 20, 7:00pm, Social Hall

Funeral Luncheon Food Donations

Team 6: Alleman, Des Moines area, Madrid,
Mingo, Mitchellville, Polk City, Prairie City,
Runnells, Sheldahl, Slater

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, <https://www.saintmaryhc.org/membership>. We are glad you are here!

Pastoral Assistance

In case of an emergency please contact Fr. Pisut, 515-473-2743. To schedule a visit with Father at your home, or if a family member is in a care facility, home-bound, or hospitalized, please contact him at cpisut@dmdioocese.org.

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

Have you or do you know someone who has expressed interest in becoming Catholic or was baptized Catholic but didn't celebrate the Sacraments of Eucharist and/or Confirmation? Please join us for an informational meeting in the Social Hall at 11:00am (after Sunday Mass) on July 12.

Family Movie Night!

Please join us for a family movie night on Tuesday, July 14, 6:30-8:30pm in the Ed Center. The movie is *David*; a historical animated musical film. 6:30-8:30pm. Everyone is welcome to attend! Drinks and snacks will be provided.

Life brings change. God brings peace.

Coming Events

- † **This Sunday, July 12:** OCIA Interest meeting after 10:00am Mass, Social Hall
- † **Family Movie Night:** Tuesday, July 14, 6:30pm, Ed Center
- † **Weekend of July 18/19:** Collection for Huxley Food Pantry
- † **Wednesday, July 22:** Carpets at St. Mary's and Social Hall cleaned — limited access that day.

Social Hall Floor

This floor is looking shiny and new so PLEASE do not drag the tables or chairs across the floor. Thank you!

Liturgical Minsters Needed for 10:00am Mass

Please consider becoming a Lector, Minister of the Eucharist or Usher for our Sunday 10:00am Mass. Training is provided. These are great ways to be involved and assist your Parish! Please contact the Office, bliske@saintmaryhc.org / 515-367-2685 if interested or have questions.

In Sympathy and Compassion

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Rita Clemens, sister of Jacki Ausman who passed away July 4th. She is now in eternal peace with our Lord. Our prayers for Jacki and all the family that they may be comforted in their grief.

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

Religious Education: Preschool - 6th Grade

Coordinator

Tracy Miller, tmiller@saintmaryhc.org, 515-520-7981

Registration is now open for the 2026-27 school year. Check your emails for more details or there are printed forms at both St. Mary and Holy Cross if you prefer that method.

Please join us for another family movie night on Tuesday, July 14, 6:30-8:30, in the Ed Center. We are watching the movie **David** - a historical animated musical film. Everyone is welcome to attend. Drinks and snacks will be provided.

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

Registration for 7th-10th graders for 2026-27: Please go to <https://www.saintmaryhc.org/religious-education> to register your teen; please email/return the form to the Parish Office.

Scheduled Maintenance

The carpets in the Church and Social Hall will be cleaned July 22 so there will be limited access that day.

Senior Appreciation Social



Are you retired (or about that age!) and want to join others for Mass, breakfast, and conversation? Join us at 8:00am for Mass on Friday, August 7, at St. Mary's with breakfast and fellowship to follow.



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.

Summer Bi-weekly Bulletins

Submission deadline: Email to bliske@saintmaryhc.org by Noon on Wednesdays, July 22 and August 5. Thank you.

Have You Enjoyed Wine & Cheese or Coffee & Donuts Recently?

If so, you have seen how easy it is to be the host! We are looking for hosts for... Wine & cheese after 5:00pm Mass on the first Saturday of **August** through December...and for Coffee & donuts after 8:00am Mass on the first Sunday of November and Decemberand for Coffee & donuts after 10:00am Mass on the first Sunday of September through December. *Please contact Barb at the office if you have question or would like to volunteer.*

Weekly Collection Financial Update

	Received	Budget	
Tithes/Plate/	\$7,039	\$5,536	June 28
Youth/Bldg. Fund	\$3,511	\$5,727	July 5

Year-to-Date	Received	Budget
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Guests	\$3,511	\$5,727

Building Fund Collection: \$1,359.64

Mass Attendance: June 27/28: 406 July 4/5: 245

2026 Annual Diocesan Appeal

Goal	Pledged	Paid	Unpaid	Refund
\$47,270	\$56,650	\$53,127	\$3,523	\$5,557

Councils and Committees

PARISH COUNCIL

Anne Davis - annedavis06@gmail.com
Drew Hanlon - dlhanlon@windstream.net
Kim Heger - hegerkim91@gmail.com
Doug Jones - djones@bossard.com
Carolyn Kirby - gurlzmom@gmail.com
Bill Kyle - bill@northiowaair.com
Tim Miller - millertimothyg@gmail.com
Bill Sexton - billsxtn@gmail.com

FINANCE COUNCIL

Laurie Phelan, *Chair* - Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com
Julia Coash - jcoash@outlook.com
Craig Johnson - dad.craig@gmail.com
Anne Power - powerhouse57049@gmail.com
Bill Rooney - 1rooneybill@gmail.com
Tom Rooney - roondog007@msn.com

STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Julia Coash - jcoash@outlook.com
Katie Fredericks - katie.fredericks1@hotmail.com
Beth Hart - mrsmatthart@gmail.com
Kris LeRoy - klsturtz@gmail.com
Jen Linderblood - Linderblood@gmail.com
Tammi McClain - tammimccclain71@gmail.com
Kathy Petersen - katherine@huxcomm.net
Sue White - charylssue@msn.com

BUILDING & GROUND COMMITTEE

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

Laurie Phelan, *Chair* - Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com
Pat Bishop - pjbishop@midiaowa.net
Lowell Crouse - ldcjac82@gmail.com
John Freeman - johnfmingo@hotmail.com
Tracy Irwin - irwin@partnercom.net
Stacey Rooney - rooneyslg17@gmail.com
Tom Rooney - roondog007@msn.com
Lynn Schreurs - lschreurs@msn.com
Jim Stoelk - jim.stoelk@gmail.com

PARISH TRUSTEES

Sheri Fogarty - fogarty929@gmail.com
John Roberts - jroberts@huxcomm.net

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

John Roberts - jroberts@huxcomm.net

It's No Too Early...

to sign up for our Blood Drive on Thursday, August 27, 3:00-7:00pm! Go to <https://www.lifeservebloodcenter.org/donate-blood/#>, click the blood drop, then "Give Blood", use ZIP code 50073 and date of 08-27-2026. Give the gift of life and enjoy some great snacks afterward! Walk-ins are welcome!

Fish Fry in July!

The Knights of Columbus of All Saints Church (650 NE 52nd Ave, DSM) are having a fish fry on Saturday, July 18, 5:00-6:30pm. Menu: Fried fish made with their own recipe, Crispy French fries, mouth watering sweet corn, delicious desserts and thirst quenching beverages. Free Will Donation. Bring your friends and enjoy a great meal and a chance to enjoy others.

Ministers for July 18 & 19

Saturday, July 18, 5:00pm Mass, St. Mary

Lector	Kris Sexton
Host Distributor	Bill Sexton
Cup Bearers	Kris Sexton, Joe Rumbaugh
Ushers	Joe R., Bill K., Lisa M., Larry D.
Music	Drew Hanlon, Mary Ortmann

Sunday, July 19, 8:00am Mass, Holy Cross

Lector	Lowell Crouse
Cup Bearer	Jon Hand
Altar Servers	Claire & Oliver Hand
Ushers	Jerry & Patty Hilton
Music	Drew Hanlon, Mary Snyder

Sunday, July 19, 10:00am Mass, St. Mary

Lector	Greg Feldmann
Host Distributor	Jacki Ausman
Cup Bearers	Greg Feldmann, Tom Ausman
Altar Servers	Rex Roberts, Amelia Muehlenthaler
	<i>Cross Bearer: Aubrey Conover</i>
Music	Sue Harrington, Mary Ortmann

Ministers for July 25 & 26

Saturday, July 25, 5:00pm Mass, St. Mary

Lector	Linda Froehlich
Host Distributor	Tom Froehlich
Cup Bearers	Linda Froehlich, Garrett McClain
Ushers	Bob Selby, 1 volunteer needed
Music	Lisa Jones, Mary Schmelzer

Sunday, July 26, 8:00am Mass, Holy Cross

Lector	Sheri Fogarty
Cup Bearer	Laurie Phelan
Altar Servers	Titus & Zeke Weber
Usher	Jerry & Deb Zenkner
Music	Drew Hanlon, Stacey Rooney

Sunday, July 26, 10:00am Mass, St. Mary

Lector	Kris LeRoy
Host Distributor	Angela Collum
Cup Bearers	Bob & Julie Coash
Altar Servers	Elizabeth Collum, Gabriel Miller
	<i>Cross Bearer: David Collum</i>
Ushers	Bill & Kelly Dunbar
Music	Sue Harrington, Mary Snyder

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

Money Counters

July 12: Kathy Petersen, Dona Cowman
 July 19: Kathy Daup, Kathy Petersen
 July 26: Trish Morris, Sue White



Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to listen to a full album on your iPod.



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



Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, July 11/12

*Theme: Discipleship—opening our hearts
 to Jesus' word and acting upon it.*

Reading I: Isaiah 55:10-11 • My word shall accomplish my will.

Reading II: Romans 8:18-23 • We bear our suffering in light of Christ.

Gospel: Matthew 13:1-23 • A sower went out to sow.

Question for Children: Who helps you to grow deeper in your faith?

Question for Youth: When the sower sowed his seed, not all of it fell in "good soil." What can you do in to make sure that you are open to God in your life? What is getting in the way of your being "good soil?"

Question for Adults: Using the parable of Jesus in this reading, describe how faith has been planted in your life? How long did it take for that seed to land "on good soil?"

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, July 18/19

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?