



St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

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

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



Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

June 27/28, 2026



Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 4/5, 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 Good People,

This weekend will be my final weekend with all of you as Pastor. Next weekend we have the Rite of Candidacy in Council Bluffs for the seminarians so I will be away. Fr. Dan has graciously offered to cover masses that weekend.

It is hard to put into words what all of you mean to me. Certainly, being in a smaller close-knit community, we really are involved in one another's lives. That has been a tremendous blessing to me. With that being said if there is anything I have failed to do or offended you in any way, I am truly sorry and ask for forgiveness. As I have been reflecting on things when I was growing up I would kind of think to myself about being a priest and I would think maybe one day I could be the Pastor of St. Mary Holy Cross, and lo and behold that came true for me. God truly works in mysterious ways! Although my time has been short, this time has really been a blessing to me. That also makes it harder to leave, I suppose because this parish has always been a second home to me. Many of the milestones in my family's life have happened here. I sometimes go into our sacramental books and see the names of my family members. So, I just really want to thank you all for your support and I will leave with some sadness, but most of all gratitude. Certainly, I cannot do everything on my own, so I want to thank the staff and those members of our Councils for their tremendous work. Having two full-time ministries, they really keep things going. So please again join me with thanking them.

Finally, I know you will show the same care and welcome for Fr. Pisut. He will serve this community well. He is very excited to begin his tenure here. Please welcome him and let us support him with our prayers and hospitality.

~ A.M.D.G. Fr. Ross

Parish Phone	515-367-2685
Parish General Email	smhc@saintmaryhc.org
Fr. Ross Parker, Pastor	515-367-2685/ rparker@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

*See inside
for varied
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.

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

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

Priesthood/Religious: www.vocationsonline.org

Mass and Reconciliation

Tuesday, June 30

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † *Cecilia and Mike Morton*

Wednesday, July 1

5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross † *Bill Davis*

Thursday, July 2

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † *Mary Ann Cory*

First Friday, July 3

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

Saturday, July 4

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

5:00pm Mass, St. Mary † *Tom Morris*

Sunday, July 5

8:00am Mass, Holy Cross † *Chris Schreurs*

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

Tuesday, July 7

8:00am Mass, St. Mary † *Living & Deceased Members
of the Hill, Rainey and Pope Families*

Wednesday, July 8

5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross † *Will & Mikey Carpenter*

Thursday, July 9 — No Mass

Friday, July 10 — No Mass

Saturday, July 11

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

5:00pm Mass, St. Mary *Healing for Chris Pritchard*

Sunday, July 12

8:00am Mass, Holy Cross † *Patrick Phelan*

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

Welcome To Our New Members!



Nat and Taylor Lux and their children

Lance and Lovila, who live in Ankeny

Shirley Koeppel, who lives in Ankeny

Scott and Laura Mullen, who live in Ankeny

*Austin and Carley Lomica, and their son Jameson
who live in Pleasant Hill*

New Birth by Water and the Holy Spirit

Celebrate with us in welcoming into our Faith these little ones who have been baptized:



Aurora Winter, Hazel Skye and Willow Rayne

Daughters of Matthew and Anna Dearborn

Emily Dawn

Daughter of James and Christina Rhodes

Sacrament of Matrimony



Congratulations to Kirby Daniel and Abigail Bruce
who were united in Marriage on May 30 at St. Mary's.



Help with Avenue of Flags

Could you assist with raising the flags on Saturday, July 4 at 10:00am and/or retiring them on Sunday, July 5 at 5:00pm? Each session lasts about half an hour. Please contact Lynn Schreurs at 515-577-8147 or lschreurs@msn.com to volunteer, for more information, or if inclement weather.

Independence Day Prayer

Heavenly Father,
We thank you for this Nation.
We thank you for the freedom we enjoy daily.
May we never take for granted
the liberties we have been given.
May we remain humble and conscious
of the blessing we enjoy because of the sacrifices
made by countless men and women.
We thank you for the abundance we enjoy.
May we be sensitive to those around us in need
and may our hearts be quick to help.
We pray for our leaders
and those in authority over us.
We ask that you guide every decision they make.
May they lead us with wisdom, humility and grace.
Father, bless out Nations with Your peace.
May Your love flow through each one of us,
And may we never forget to always give You thanks.
May You receive the glory, honor and praise.
In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.

Parish Council

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

Finance Council

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

Stewardship

Meeting: July 13, 6:00pm, Ed Center

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

*The Parish Office has varied hours during June and is closed
on Thursdays. Please call ahead to be sure
someone is here before stopping by. Thank you.*

The Office is closed Friday, July 3.

Fr. Parker does not have set office hours at the Parish.

*To reach him please email, call or text:
rparker@dmdioocese.org or 515-720-3434.*

Coming Events

† **Farewell Reception for Fr. Parker:** Saturday, June 27 after
5:00pm Mass, Social Hall

† **Family Movie Nights:** Monday, June 29 and Tuesday, July
14, 6:30pm, Social Hall

† **Weekend of July 4 & 5:** Building Fund Collection —
Wine & Cheese after 5:00pm Mass — Coffee & Donuts
after 8:00am (**need host!**) and 10:00am Masses

† **July 8 - 12:** Work needed done around the rectory; contact
the Office to help out

Religious Education: Preschool - 6th Grade

Coordinator

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

Please join us for a family movie night Monday, June 29, *Love God's Will* -The true story of Father Ryan Stawaisz. Our next movie night is Tuesday, July 14, *David* -a historical animated musical film. 6:30-8:30pm. Everyone is welcome to attend! Drinks and snacks will be provided.

Registration for this Fall will be open soon. Watch your email for updates.

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

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 through July 7 please contact Fr. Ross Parker, 515-720-3434. 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 rparker@dmdioocese.org. Beginning July 8, please contact Fr. Pisut at 515-473-2743 / cpisut@dmdioocese.org.



Last Chance!



Join Us For "Work of Our Hands"! Parishioners are invited to participate in our Fair later this year by showcasing your talents, a service you provide, or a product line you sell. To join us or for more details please contact Trish Morris, girardifan@hotmail.com or 515-480-9922 **by July 1**.

Parish History Book: We are updating the family genealogy records for all parishioners. To add information/update exiting records, please go to https://www.saintmaryhc.org/files/ugd/f72588_0af85fcc6899483eb760bc7b8204b4cd.pdf **by July 1** to have your information included in this history book. Contact Larry Sauer, sauerld@outlook.com, with questions.

Readying the Rectory

We are doing some cleaning in and around the rectory before Fr. Pisut moves in. Timeframe to do this is not set in stone but if you have some time on July 8th (maybe) or 9th - 12th, please contact the Office to see what you can help with. Or come pull weeds anytime! Thank you.

Scheduled Maintenance

The Social Hall floor will be waxed July 6 & 7 so no access until July 10. The carpets in the Church and Social Hall will be cleaned July 22-24 so limited access during that time.

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.

Weekly Collection Financial Update

	Received	Budget	
Tithes/Plate/	\$10,941	\$5,536	June 14
Youth/Bldg. Fund	\$2,367	\$5,536	June 21
Year-to-Date	Received	Budget	Last Year
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Guests	\$333,086	\$282,314	\$302,827

Food Pantry Collection: \$565.75

Mass Attendance: June 13/14: 343 June 20/21: 358

2026 Annual Diocesan Appeal

Goal	Pledged	Paid	Unpaid	Refund
\$47,270	\$55,290	\$51,056	\$4,234	\$3,786

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
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Kris LeRoy - klsturtz@gmail.com
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Sue White - charylssue@msn.com

BUILDING & GROUND COMMITTEE

John Roberts, *Co-Chair* - jroberts@huxcomm.net
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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
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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

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.

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 with breakfast to follow. Please mark your calendar!

Summer Bi-weekly Bulletins

Submission deadline: Email by Noon on Wednesdays, July 8 and 22 to bliske@saintmaryhc.org. Thank you!

Ministers for July 4 & 5 are by signup

Please contact the office by Wednesday, July 1 to volunteer.

Saturday, July 4, 5:00pm Mass, St. Mary

Volunteers Needed: 2 Ushers

Lector	Candy Miller
Host Distributor	Drew Hanlon
Cup Bearers	Joe Rumbaugh, Bob Selby
Ushers	Drew Hanlon, Joe Rumbaugh.
Music	Lisa Jones, Mary Schmelzer

Sunday, July 5, 8:00am Mass, Holy Cross

Volunteers Needed: Cup Bearer, Altar Servers, Ushers

Lector	Lowell Couse
Music	Drew Hanlon, Stacey Rooney

Sunday, July 5, 10:00am Mass, St. Mary

Volunteers Needed: Lector, 1 Altar Server, 4 Ushers

Host Distributor	Bob Coash
Cup Bearers	Angela Collum, Julie Coash
Altar Servers	Elizabeth & David Collum
Music	Jen Linderblood, Celeste Muehlenthaler

Ministers for July 11 & 12

Saturday, July 11, 5:00pm Mass, St. Mary

Lector	Bob Selby
Host Distributor	Mike Devereux
Cup Bearers	Bob Selby, Drew Hanlon
Ushers	Drew Hanlon, Mike Devereux
Music	Garrett McClain, Mary Ortmann

Sunday, July 12, 8:00am Mass, Holy Cross

Lector	Anne Davis
Cup Bearer	Dawn Beukema
Altar Servers	Titus & Zeke Weber
Usher	Todd & Jill Beukema
Music	Drew Hanlon, Pat Hand

Sunday, July 12, 10:00am Mass, St. Mary

Lector	Nicole Cory
Host Distributor	Mike Nehring
Cup Bearers	Nicole Cory, Tracy Miller
Altar Servers	Gabriel Miller, Carter Cory
<i>Cross Bearer: Jackson Cory</i>	
Ushers	Bill & Kelly Dunbar
Music	Jen L., Karon L., Stacey Rooney

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Money Counters

June 28: Dona Cowman, Trish Morris
July 5: Sharon Morris, Sue White
July 12: Kathy Petersen, Dona Cowman



The billions of aluminum cans sent to landfills annually are worth well over \$1 billion of aluminum not being recycled.

Thank You

SMHC Stewardship Committee,
I appreciate the scholarship! It will help buy books and things very soon. Thank you for your generosity. ~ McKenna Welch

Ireland: In the Footsteps of St. Patrick

Travel on a 10-day pilgrimage with **Fr. Pisut** to Ireland September 7-16, 2027! Find out more information or register at stcharlespilgrimages.com/pisut or use this QR code.



Seven Sisters Apostolate

This is a mission committed to prayer support toward a Parish Priest. Seven women commit to praying each one hour a week on a specific day. We would like to begin a group for Fr. Pisut. Please prayerfully consider joining this important group. More information is available at <http://sevensistersapostolate.org/>. If interested, please contact Nancy Breitreutz, 515-778-2415 / nbz7882@gmail.com or Kathy Daup, 515-306-2702 / kadaup@hotmail.com.

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



Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, June 27/28

Theme: Jesus asks his disciples to take their cross and follow him.

Reading I: 2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16a • Elisha is a holy man of God, let him remain.

Reading II: Romans 6:3-4, 8-11 • Buried with Christ in baptism, we shall walk in the newness of life.

Gospel: Matthew 10:37-42 • Whoever does not take up his cross is not worthy of me. Whoever receives you, receives me.

Question for Children: How can you live as a follower of Jesus?

Question for Youth: What does Jesus demand of his followers?

Question for Adults: What does this Gospel teach you about the cost of discipleship and how does it relate to your experience so far?

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, July 4/5

Theme: Jesus refreshes and strengthens us for ministry.

Reading I: Zechariah 9:9-10 • Shout for joy! He comes in peace!

Reading II: Romans 8:9, 11-13 • Live by the Spirit.

Gospel: Matthew 11:25-30 • Come to me all you who are weary.

Question for Children: When you are generous, honest, and loving, how do you know it is Jesus who helps you do that?

Question for Youth: How do you rely on Jesus during times of trouble? When has Jesus helped you?

Question for Adults: As you go about your daily life, dying in love for others, how do you experience Christ giving you consolation and peace?