



# St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073

Holy Cross: 12704 NE 98th Street Maxwell Iowa 50161



## The Ascension of the Lord

May 11/12, 2024

Dear Good People,

This weekend we celebrate the Ascension of our Lord into heaven. This event concludes Jesus' earthly mission and prefigures our hope that one day we will join our Lord in the heavenly kingdom.

We also draw close to our Lady and honor her with a May Crowning after 10:00am Mass. We thank Jack Selby for all his hard work rehabilitating our Marian statue and garden. What a great opportunity to honor our Lady on Mother's Day as she is the mother of our Lord and our mother as well.

Finally, we honor all mothers on this Mother's Day. Here is what Pope Francis wrote about mothers: "A society without mothers would be a dehumanized society, for mothers are always, even in the worst moments, witnesses of tenderness, dedication and moral strength....Dearest mothers, thank you, thank you for what you are in your family and for what you give to the Church and the world."

I certainly echo these sentiments. Blessings to all of you good people! 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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<b>Parish Phone</b>	515-367-2685
<b>Parish General Email</b>	<a href="mailto:smhc@saintmaryhc.org">smhc@saintmaryhc.org</a>
<b>Fr. Ross Parker, Pastor</b>	515-367-2685/ <a href="mailto:rparker@dmdiocese.org">rparker@dmdiocese.org</a>
<b>Nicole Cory - Confirmation</b>	<a href="mailto:ncory@saintmaryhc.org">ncory@saintmaryhc.org</a>
<b>Andrea Fisher - 7th-12thMinistry</b>	<a href="mailto:afisher@saintmaryhc.org">afisher@saintmaryhc.org</a>
<b>Sue Harrington - Music</b>	<a href="mailto:sschmidt@saintmaryhc.org">sschmidt@saintmaryhc.org</a>
<b>Melissa Kahler - 7th-12th Ministry</b>	<a href="mailto:mkahler@saintmaryhc.org">mkahler@saintmaryhc.org</a>
<b>Barb Liske - Secretary</b>	<a href="mailto:bliske@saintmaryhc.org">bliske@saintmaryhc.org</a>
<b>Geneveve Loraditch - PreK-6 RE</b>	<a href="mailto:gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org">gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org</a>
<b>Tracy Miller - PreK-6 RE</b>	<a href="mailto:tmiller@saintmaryhc.org">tmiller@saintmaryhc.org</a>
<b>Candy Zidon - Bookkeeper</b>	<a href="mailto:bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org">bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org</a>
<b>Parish Web Site</b>	<a href="http://www.saintmaryhc.org">www.saintmaryhc.org</a>
<b>Parish Facebook Site</b>	St. Mary's Holy Cross Parish-Elkhart
<b>Parish Fax</b>	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.

**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](http://www.vocationsonline.org)

## Mass and Reconciliation

### Tuesday, May 14

8:00am Mass, St. Mary †Mary Ann Cory

### Wednesday, May 15

5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross †Bill Davis

### Thursday, May 16

8:00am Mass, St. Mary *Special Intention*

### Friday, May 17

8:00am Mass, St. Mary †Elaine Barnwell

### Saturday, May 18

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

5:00pm Mass, St. Mary †Lorraine Campbell

### Sunday, May 19

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

10:00am Mass, St. Mary †Mark Schmidt

## 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 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@dmdioocese.org](mailto:rparker@dmdioocese.org).

## It's Still the Easter Season!



We celebrate the resurrection of Jesus for 50 days until Pentecost on May 19. Diocesan resources and activities to celebrate this season can be found at [www.dmdioocese.org/living-easter](http://www.dmdioocese.org/living-easter).



## Friends & Fellowship

All are invited to join us this Thursday, May 16, 9:00am in the Social Hall to gather with fellow parishioners for social time and treats!

## Blood Drive



This Thursday, May 16, 3:00-7:00pm in the Social Hall. Save lives by making this special donation! Appointments required at [www.lifeservebloodcenter.org/](http://www.lifeservebloodcenter.org/). It takes less than an hour to help others! Questions? Contact Larry Sauer, [sauerld@outlook.com](mailto:sauerld@outlook.com) / 515-710-2421.



## Work Day at Holy Cross

Saturday, May 18 from 9:00am to Noon. Please come to help us keep our buildings and grounds in good shape, especially for the Memorial Day Holiday.

## 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 who need a little help. Your donation this month will assist *The Blessing Box* in Elkhart.



## A Prayer for Mothers

Loving Creator,  
you called upon your servant Mary  
to bring your Son into the world.  
We give thanks for her, and for all mothers  
who bear witness to your love.  
Their generosity and strength  
have blessed generations.  
Bless our mothers.  
Ease their worry for the families  
you entrust to them, guide them  
in times of doubt, and hold them close  
when they are overwhelmed  
by both joy and sorrow.  
May they know our deep gratitude  
for giving us life and love.  
In union with Mary,  
we ask this through Jesus Christ, your Son.  
Amen.

## Parish Council

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

## Finance Council

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

## Stewardship

Meeting: May 13, 6:00pm, Social Hall

## RCIA/Adult Faith Formation

Next Session to be announced

## Knights of Columbus

May 20, Rosary, 6:40pm SM, Meeting 7:00pm, Hall

## Funeral Luncheon Food Donations

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

Fr. Parker does not have set office hours here at the parish.  
To reach him please email, call or text:  
[rparker@dmdioocese.org](mailto:rparker@dmdioocese.org) or 515-720-3434.

## Coming Events

- †**This Weekend:** Blessing of Moms, Step-Moms, Moms-to-be, Grandmas and Godmothers at our Masses
- †**Sunday, May 12:** May Crowning of the Blessed Virgin Mary after 10:00am Mass, outside
- †**Thursday, May 16:** Friends & Fellowship, 9:00am, Social Hall — Blood Drive, 3:00-7:00pm, Social Hall
- †**Saturday, May 18:** Holy Cross Work Day, 9:00am to Noon
- †**Weekend of May 18/19:** Food Pantry Collection for *The Blessing Box*, Elkhart
- †**Sunday, May 19:** Social Hall in use, 4:00-8:00pm
- †**Weekend of May 25/26:** Collection for Holy Cross Cemetery

## In Sympathy and Compassion

Please pray for the repose of the soul of parishioner Anna Prince who passed away last Sunday. May she rest in peace with all the angels and saints in heaven and may her family know the compassionate presence of Christ in this time of great sorrow.

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

## 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

Registration is open for Vacation Bible School! Join us June 18-20 from 5:00-7:30pm. Dinner served for the children each night! Come learn how to model your life after the Saints!

Please consider helping out this year,  
we need people age 13 and older!

<https://forms.gle/UD3koED2AJwSiv2X6>

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

### 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

## Thank You!

Thank you so much for choosing me to be a recipient of the St. Mary/Holy Cross scholarship. I am very honored and grateful to have been chosen by members of the parish. I am blessed to be part of a church community that I love being involved in. I look forward to continuing my education and staying active in the church. God Bless! ~ *Maggie Bruce*

## A Matching Gift

A parishioner has generously donated up to \$2000 in a matching gift in memory and honor of a deceased family member. The monies will go toward capital improvements at St. Mary. If you wish to contribute, please place your gift in the collection basket at Mass or mail it to the Parish Office. Please include "Matching Gift" in the memo line. Thank you.

## Help with Avenue of Flags for Memorial Day!



Could you assist with installing the flags on Saturday, May 25 at 10:00am and/or retiring them on Monday the 27th at 5:00pm? Each session takes about 30-35 minutes. For more information, please contact Lynn Schreurs, 515-577-8147.

## Holy Cross Cemetery Collection

We will have a second collection at our Masses Memorial weekend and at our Memorial Day Mass for Holy Cross Cemetery. The funds will be used for maintenance of the grounds. If you are unable to attend Mass here that weekend or on Memorial Day, you are welcome to mail your donation to the parish office. Please make check out to Holy Cross Cemetery. Thank you in advance for your support to assure Holy Cross Cemetery remains a beautiful resting place.

## Church Sign

**Slow down and enjoy the journey of life.**

## Weekly Collection Financial Update

May 5 Budget Week 45

	<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund	\$8,463	\$6,114

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

<u>Received</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Last Year</u>
\$232,221	\$275,116	\$227,638

*Building Fund Collection: \$1412.00*

*May 4/5 Mass Attendance: 282*

## 2024 Annual Diocesan Appeal

<u>Parish Goal</u>	<u>Pledge Total</u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Amt. Due</u>
\$51,458	\$38,695	\$37,555	<b>\$13,903</b>

## 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 - drewsmhcpc@yahoo.com  
Kim Heger - hegerkim91@gmail.com  
Doug Jones - djones@bossard.com  
Tammi McClain - tammimcclain71@gmail.com  
Lisa Schoening - lisa.schoening@cbdsm.com

### FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBERS

John Fisher, *Chair* - Johnfisher@sienafastener.com  
Julia Coash - jcoash@outlook.com  
Laurie Phelan - Laurie.c.Phelan@gmail.com  
Bill Rooney - 1rooneybill@gmail.com  
Tom Rooney - roondog007@msn.com

### STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Katie Fredericks - katie.fredericks@mercyoneiowa.org  
Beth Hart - mrsmatthart@gmail.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  
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

John & Peg Evans - evansp3@yahoo.com

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS GRAND KNIGHT

Mike Devereux - devoducks@msn.com

## Laudato Si

How can we genuinely teach the importance of concern for other vulnerable beings, however troublesome or inconvenient they may be, if we fail to protect a human embryo, even when its presence is uncomfortable and creates difficulties?" (Laudato Si', paragraph 120) See more: <https://www.saintmaryhc.org/on-care-for-our-common-home>.



## 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](mailto:bliske@saintmaryhc.org) or 515-367-2685.

## Memorial Day



This day was established after the Civil War as a means to unify the country with a national day of remembrance. Please join us for 10:00am Mass at Holy Cross Church on Monday, May 27. The Maxwell Legion and the McKinsey Guard Bagpipers will be present following Mass. Come see our Avenue of Flags! We will also have a self-guided walking tour available at the church and cemetery.



## Be Involved!

If you have not had an opportunity to fill out our Time and Talent form, there are copies at both churches and it is on our website under the *Get Involved* tab on the *Events and Opportunities* page, <https://www.saintmaryhc.org/events-opportunities>. Please return your completed form to the office, in the collection basket or on the table in the basket provided at St. Mary. Thank you for making our parish better by being involved!!

Liturgical Ministers for our Masses Memorial Weekend will be by sign up. Please call the office to volunteer or sign up at Church.

## Liturgical Ministers for Next Weekend

### Saturday, May 18, 5:00pm Mass, St. Mary

Lector Linda Froehlich  
Host Distributor Joe Rumbaugh  
Cup Bearers Tom & Linda Froehlich  
Altar Servers *Volunteers needed*  
Ushers Joe Rumbaugh, Drew Hanlon  
Music Drew & Lorrie Hanlon

### Sunday, May 19, 8:00am Mass, Holy Cross

Lector Sheri Fogarty  
Cup Bearer Laurie Phelan  
Altar Servers Claire & Oliver Hand  
Ushers Sandra Hunter  
Music Drew Hanlon, Stacey Rooney

### Sunday, May 19, 10:00am Mass, St. Mary

Lector Garrett McClain  
Host Distributor Garrett McClain  
Cup Bearers Tom & Jacki Ausman  
Altar Servers Caleb & Callahan Coffelt  
Ushers Tom & Jacki Ausman  
Music Christine Muehlenthaler, Karon Lacey, Mary Ortmann

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## Money Counters

May 12: Sue White, Sharon Morris  
May 19: Brenda Nehring, Kathy Daup

## Ascension Day Prayer



Dear Lord Jesus Christ,  
Right before your Ascension into heaven you told your apostles to be His witnesses to the ends of the earth upon receiving the Holy Spirit. May I be similarly inspired to spread your Gospel message in word and deed, according to your will for me.  
And may I do so prudently and joyfully, with your help, your guidance, and your grace!  
And remembering this glorious event, help me to seek what is above, Heaven, where you are seated at the right hand of God the Father! Amen.



One drip per second from a faucet wastes 540 gallons of water a year.

## Blessings Offered

If you would like a blessing for your fields, flocks, pets, house or another blessing, Fr. Parker is more than happy to come to your home for any of these. Please email him for more information at [rparker@dmdiocese.org](mailto:rparker@dmdiocese.org).

## Annual Diocesan Appeal (ADA)

Thank you to everyone who has given a gift to this Appeal; we have paid \$37,555 toward our assessment of \$51,458. Please mail your gift (check made out to Diocese of Des Moines) to the Diocese or drop in the collection basket at Mass. Pledge cards are also available at both Churches. You can also donate online at <https://www.dmdiocese.org/giving>; and choose our parish from the "Designate" dropdown.

**Please email the office if your adult children have moved away and/or joined another parish or with any other family changes so we can update our records. Thanks!**

## How to Make Health Care Decisions

Do you need help making health care decisions that are in alignment with Catholic moral teaching? The Iowa Catholic Conference (ICC) released a new webinar for its project called Supportive Care Iowa. Find it at their YouTube channel. To be connected with a trained person who can assist in completing advance care directive documents, email Tom Chapman at [tom@iowacatholicconference.org](mailto:tom@iowacatholicconference.org).

## Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

### The Ascension of the Lord, May 11/12

*Theme: We are sent, and Christ is with us.*

*Reading I:* Acts 1:1-11 • He was lifted up before their eyes.

*Reading II:* Ephesians 1:17-23 • May God grant you a spirit of wisdom.

*Gospel:* Mark 16:15-20 • Proclaim the gospel everywhere.

*For Children:* How do you experience the divine power of Christ-among-us in your daily life?

*For Youth:* Even after Jesus ascended into heaven, he worked through the disciples to spread the Gospel. We are Jesus' disciples today. How can you open yourself up more to let Jesus work through you to be Good News in the world today?

*For Adults:* Jesus helps us be brave when we need to be. When do you need to be brave?