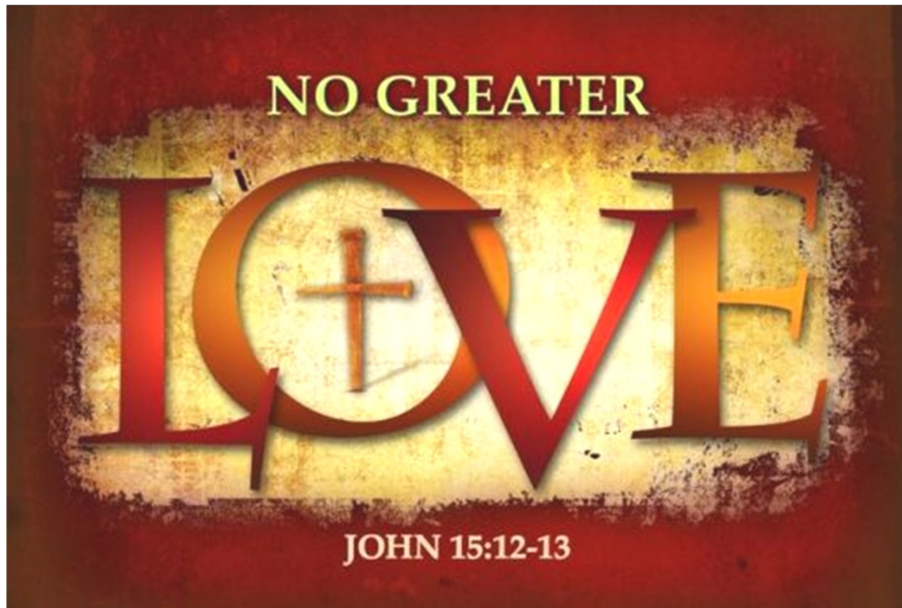




# St. Mary - Holy Cross Parish

460 NW Washington Avenue Elkhart Iowa 50073

Holy Cross: 12704 NE 98th Street Maxwell Iowa 50161



## Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 4/5, 2024

Dear Good People,

I hope this letter finds you well. I just wanted to take a moment to thank all our catechist and adult leaders for the good work they have done this past year in our Faith Formation programs. Handing on the gift of faith is one of the greatest things we can do. So a giant thank you to all those who have contributed to this in any way.

This weekend we are also honoring all those who have graduated from High School. Graduations are a big milestone in young people's lives. Just a continued encouragement for our young people to continue practicing their faith as they move onto the next chapters of their life. Hopefully they also feel that St. Mary Holy Cross Parish is their home and they always feel welcome here.

Finally, we are planning a May Crowning in honor of our Lady next Sunday, May 12 after the 10:00am Mass. I think that will be very cool. Again, blessings to all of you good people! 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](mailto:smhc@saintmaryhc.org)  
**Fr. Ross Parker, Pastor** 515-367-2685/[rparker@dmdiocese.org](mailto:rparker@dmdiocese.org)  
**Nicole Cory** - Confirmation [ncory@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:ncory@saintmaryhc.org)  
**Andrea Fisher** - 7th-12th Ministry [afisher@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:afisher@saintmaryhc.org)  
**Sue Harrington** - Music [sschmidt@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:sschmidt@saintmaryhc.org)  
**Melissa Kahler** - 7th-12th Ministry [mkahler@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:mkahler@saintmaryhc.org)  
**Barb Liske** - Secretary [bliske@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:bliske@saintmaryhc.org)  
**Geneveve Loraditch** - PreK-6 RE [gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:gloraditch@saintmaryhc.org)  
**Tracy Miller** - PreK-6 RE [tmiller@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:tmiller@saintmaryhc.org)  
**Candy Zidon** - Bookkeeper [bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:bookkeeper@saintmaryhc.org)  
**Parish Web Site** [www.saintmaryhc.org](http://www.saintmaryhc.org)  
**Parish Facebook Site** St. Mary's Holy Cross Parish-Elkhart  
**Parish Fax** 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

**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 7

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

### Wednesday, May 8

5:30pm Mass, Holy Cross †*Stephen & Michael Carpenter*

### Thursday, May 9

8:00am Mass, St. Mary †*Edward & Jessie Ross*

### Friday, May 10

8:00am Mass, St. Mary †*Cathy Gallup*

### Saturday, May 11

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

5:00pm Mass, St. Mary †*Bill Devereux*

### Sunday, May 12

8:00am Mass, Holy Cross †*Dennis Cornelius Schmidt*

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, <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@dmdiocese.org](mailto:rparker@dmdiocese.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.dmdiocese.org/living-easter](http://www.dmdiocese.org/living-easter).

## Join Us After 10:00am Mass Today!

We are offering an adult faith formation session focusing on the Mass and the Eucharist after Mass until 1:00pm. Location is to be determined. All are welcome to join us for great discussion and communion. Please contact Nicole Cory with any questions you may have, [ncory@saintmaryhc.org](mailto:ncory@saintmaryhc.org), or 515-313-3014.

## Thank You!

Thank you to all who donated to and supported my Eagle Scout project. It is almost complete. We will be finishing the project with a May Crowning of the Blessed Virgin Mary after the 10:00am Mass next Sunday, May 12. I hope to see you there! ~ Jack Selby

## 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!!



## Easter Prayer

My heart is filled with joy, Loving God as I sing your praise.

You have done such wonders in my life and made me a part of your redemption.

Sing your song in me today, my God and guide me in the darkness when I do not see you with me.

Strengthen my faith and my witness of you as I wait to see you in my life again.

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

Sunday, May 5, 11:00am-1:00pm & Saturday, May 18, 10:00am to Noon, location varies

### 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@dmdiocese.org](mailto:rparker@dmdiocese.org) or 515-720-3434.

## Coming Events

- †**This Weekend:** Blessing of High School Seniors — Building Fund collection — Wine & Cheese after 5:00pm Mass — Coffee & donuts after 8am and 10am Masses
- †**Sunday, May 5:** Adult Faith Formation session after 10am Mass
- †**Social Hall and Ed Center in use:** Sunday, May 5, 11am-5:30pm & Monday, May 6, 8am to 5:30pm
- †**Sunday, May 12:** May Crowning of the Blessed Virgin Mary after 10:00am Mass, outside
- †**Thursday, May 16:** Blood Drive, 3:00-7:00pm, Social Hall
- †**Saturday, May 18:** Holy Cross Work Day, 9:00am to Noon



## Blood Drive

Next Thursday, May 16, 3:00-7:00pm in the Social Hall. Only you can make the difference in helping to save lives by making this special donation! Appointments required, please schedule at [www.lifefervebloodcenter.org/](http://www.lifefervebloodcenter.org/). It takes less than an hour to help others!! Volunteers and snacks are needed; to help please contact Larry Sauer, [sauerld@outlook.com](mailto:sauerld@outlook.com) / 515-710-2421.

**Most things wrong in your life started by forgetting the things that were right.**

## Best Wishes

to our students graduating from high school! We pray that they call on God for guidance in their future endeavors.

Matthew Aschoff	Courtney Kiley
Magdelyn Bruce	Kaylee Koudelka
Patrick Cory	Tyler Laffey
Lauren De Costa	Stephen Lawler
Abigail Devereux	Peyton Loraditch
Maleaha Doyle	Josie Moore
Dawson Ehlers	Landon Murch
Hunter Halligan	Brock Phelan-Ruden
Jocelyn Hobbs	Kylie Rasmussen
Tyson Hockensmith	Daniel Schoening
Joseph Hoffmeier	Kayla Soyer
Jack Irwin	Cael Tollefson
Samantha Irwin	Katie Tollefson
Vivian Kahler	Kyle Volz
Paige Kerr	Beau Warg

## 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

Congratulations once again to the children on their First Holy Communion! It is such a blessing to journey with these children! Look for next year's registration to be out at the end of May. The journey continues!

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

<https://forms.gle/UD3koED2AJwSiv2X6>

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

## 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

### Confirmation

Our sessions for 2024-2025 9th & 10th graders will begin in September.

## 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.

## Work Day at Holy Cross

Save  
the  
Date

Our workday at Holy Cross is 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.

## Weekly Collection Financial Update

April 28 Budget Week 44

	Received	Budget
Tithes/Plate/Youth/Bldg. Fund	\$2,242	\$6,114

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

Received	Budget	Last Year
\$223,758	\$269,002	\$221,917

April 27/28 Mass Attendance: 266

## 2024 Annual Diocesan Appeal

Parish Goal	Pledge Total	Payments	Amt. Due
\$51,458	\$38,295	\$37,155	\$14,303

## 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* - Johntfisher@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@midiowa.net  
Lowell Crouse - l3jl@windstream.net  
Tracy Irwin - irwin@partnercom.net  
Stacey Rooney - rooneysl7@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

"... In some places, where the facades of buildings are derelict, people show great care for the interior of their homes, or find contentment in the kindness and friendliness of others. A wholesome social life can light up a seemingly undesirable environment." — Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'*, paragraph 148. See more at: <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.

## Catholic Youth Camp



CYC Sessions are filling up for this summer! Register today at [stmcenter.com](http://stmcenter.com). Volunteer counselor applications are also available at [stmcenter.com/counselors](http://stmcenter.com/counselors). *Our parish pays \$100 of each of our student's fee to attend CYC. Please contact the office after registering your child for this camp.*

## 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](mailto: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, May 11, 5:00pm Mass, St. Mary

Lector Olivia Jones  
Host Distributor Susan Stillmunkes  
Cup Bearers Mike Devereux, Susan Selby  
Altar Servers Jack Selby  
Ushers Mike Devereux, Doug Jones  
Music Lisa Jones, Mary Schmelzer

### Sunday, May 12, 8:00am Mass, Holy Cross

Lector Anne Davis  
Cup Bearer Dawn Beukema  
Altar Servers Titus & Zeke Weber  
Ushers Todd & Jill Beukema  
Music Drew Hanlon, Stacey Rooney

### Sunday, May 12, 10:00am Mass, St. Mary

Lector Jill Swanson  
Host Distributor Mike Nehring  
Cup Bearers Jill Swanson, Tracy Miller  
Altar Servers Isaac, Jonah & Gabriel Miller  
Ushers Bill & Kelly Dunbar  
Music Sue Harrington, Mary Ortmann

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

## Money Counters

May 5: Sue White, Trish Morris  
May 12: Sue White, Sharon Morris



Recycling a pound of steel saves enough energy to light a 60-watt light bulb for 26 hours.

## 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).

## Healing Service

On Saturday, May 11 all are invited to attend a Healing Service at St. Ambrose Cathedral 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."*

## St. Luke's Blue-Red Mass

On Thursday, May 16, St. Luke the Evangelist in Ankeny will celebrate a special Mass at 5:30pm to not only remember first responders who made the ultimate sacrifice, but to thank the women and men who serve and protect us each day and to pray for their safety. Come and show your support!

## National Eucharistic Procession

Mark your calendar for June 23-25, when the National Eucharistic Procession makes its way to several stops in our Diocese with the Eucharistic Lord as it moves toward Indianapolis for the summertime Eucharistic Congress. We will welcome our Lord at Corpus Christi in Council Bluffs, Holy Rosary in Glenwood, St. Patrick in Imogene and St. Mary in Shenandoah. For initial planning information, go to [eucharisticpilgrimage.org](http://eucharisticpilgrimage.org). We are on the St. Junipero Serra route. Additional information can be found at <https://www.dmdiocese.org/eucharistic-pilgrimage>.



## Married Couples

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend Experience is like Spring-time. It's a weekend of fresh air, the rebirth of romance and new beginnings. If you'd like to make your marriage even more special than it already is - call now! Iowa Weekend dates: September 27-29 in Dubuque and November 8-10 in Holstein. Call Denise & Greg for more information or sign up at [www.wwme.org](http://www.wwme.org).

Find events and resources offered by the Diocese and other parishes at [www.dmdiocese.org](http://www.dmdiocese.org). Scroll towards end of page.

## Readings and Questions for Faith Sharing

### Sixth Sunday of Easter, May 4/5

*Theme: Love one another.*

*Reading I:* Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48 • A person from any nation is called to follow Christ.

*Reading II:* 1 John 3:18-24 • Let us love one another.

*Gospel:* John 15:9-17 • So I have loved you.

*For Children:* Jesus commanded us to love one another. Who is most in need of your love and kindness right now? How can you be more loving to those most in need this week?

*For Youth:* Jesus commanded us to love one another. Who is most in need of your love and kindness right now? How can you be more loving to those most in need this week?

*For Adults:* Concretely, how do you show love to others?