



Our Lady of Lourdes  
Lourdes, IA



Saint Bernard  
Alta Vista, IA



Immaculate Conception  
Elma, IA



Immaculate Conception  
Riceville, IA



Saint Peter  
New Haven, IA

# Holy Rosary Cluster

## Holy Rosary Cluster Office

Address: 203 7th Street Elma, IA 50628-8391

Phone: 641-393-2520

Website: <http://holyrosarycluster.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/HolyRosaryCluster>

### Staff

Rev. Jerry F. Kopacek, Pastor: [dbq075@dbqarch.org](mailto:dbq075@dbqarch.org)

Nancy Theis, Business Manager: [dbq075sec@dbqarch.org](mailto:dbq075sec@dbqarch.org)

Renee Burke, Secretary: [dbq075sec2@dbqarch.org](mailto:dbq075sec2@dbqarch.org)

### Office Hours

The office this week: Closed - Monday & Friday

Staffed: Tuesday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

### Reconciliation

Any time by appointment

15 minutes before weekday Mass in Elma

First Friday 3:00 - 3:40 p.m. at St. Peter, New Haven

First Friday 4:00 - 4:40 p.m. at Immaculate Conception, Riceville

**Lourdes** - Saturday, 3:00 - 3:45 PM

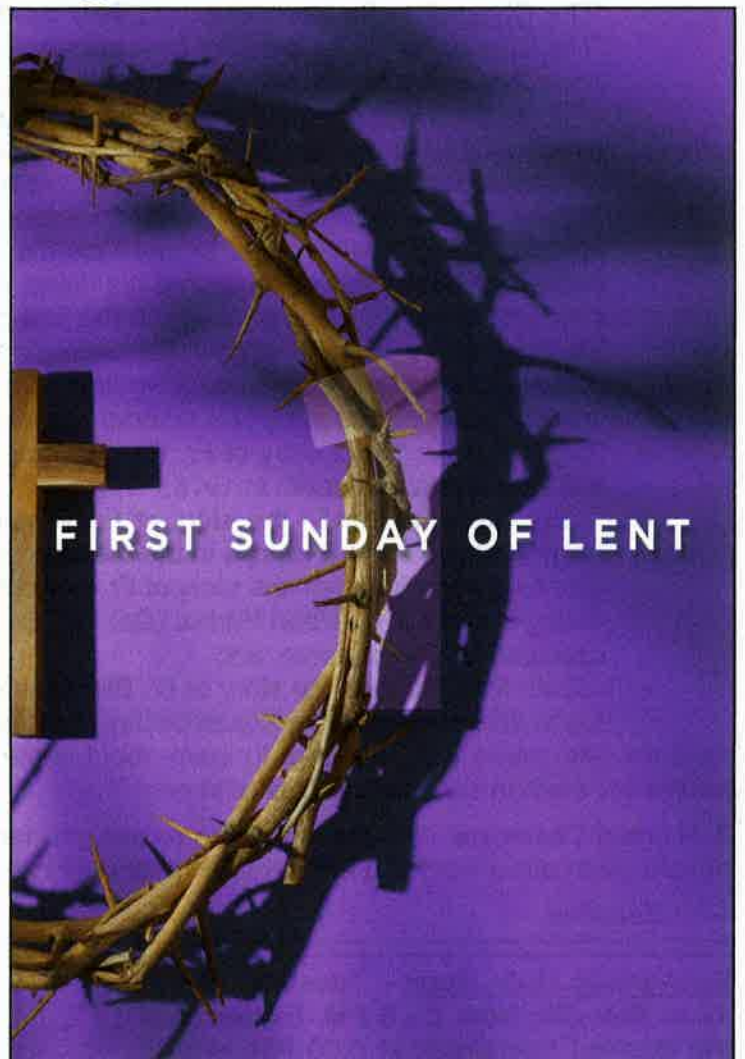
**Alta Vista** - Saturday, 5:00 - 5:45 PM; when Lourdes has 4 PM  
Mass Alta Vista confessions will be 5:15 - 5:45 PM.

**Elma** - Sunday, 6:30 - 7:00 AM

**Riceville** - Sunday, 8:15 - 8:45 AM; when there is no 7:15 AM  
Mass at Elma.

**No confession time at the parish that does not  
have weekend Mass.**

**Regular Bulletin Deadline** - Please have bulletin  
items to the office Friday before Noon the week before  
you would like the item in the bulletin. Thank You!



### Marriage

Please contact the priest at least six months in advance.

### Baptism

Make baptism arrangements by phoning the Cluster Office  
(393-2520) during office hours.

# Holy Rosary Cluster

## To the Members of Holy Rosary Cluster:

1. Last weekend I spoke about St. Titus Brandsma--the Dutch Carmelite priest who was killed by lethal injection in the Dachau concentration camp in Nazi Germany in 1942. He is the one who treated the nurse who gave him that injection with great compassion and who promised to pray for her; she was so deeply moved by his outreach that she came to embrace Jesus Christ and the Catholic faith. I had heard of him before, but only learned recently about his impact on that nurse in a very interesting book titled "How Saints Die--100 Stories of Hope" (Ignatius Press, 2021). It gives a brief (2-3 pages each) summary of the lives of 100 different saints from a variety of times and places, with a special focus on how each of them prepared for death. That may sound a bit morbid at first, but in fact it is most inspiring--they all looked forward with such great joy to eternal union with Christ that death was not something that they feared in any way. Another strong recommendation from the Fr. Kopacek library!

2. With another season of Lent upon us, this would be a good time for some inspiring videos as well as reading. The cluster office in Elma has a number of DVDs that you are welcome to borrow and watch in your own home:

- "The Chosen" -- Seasons One and Two (each season has eight episodes). As I've told you before, "The Chosen" is by far the very best portrayal of the gospel accounts of Jesus that I have ever seen. I know that some of our parishioners have watched this as a Lenten activity during Lent the last couple of years and were deeply moved by it. If you are not yet familiar with "The Chosen", this Lent is a great opportunity to do so. By the way, I have pre-ordered DVD sets of Season Three--when they arrive in a couple of months or so, they will be available for borrowing as well.
- "Father Stu"--a movie based on the true story of Stuart Long, a hard-life unbeliever who through an amazing set of events came to embrace the Catholic faith, was ordained to the priesthood, and who served for only a few years before his death in 2014 from a progressive illness. Be aware: there is a whole lot of very coarse language in the first part of the movie; he was a very coarse character before his conversion. But it's a powerful example of the power of God's grace to accomplish miracles of conversion and faith even in our own time.

We also have DVDs telling the story of a number of remarkable priests from our Archdiocese of Dubuque:

- "Cigar Box Ray"--the story of Fr. Ray Herman who ended up serving the poor in Bolivia (South America) until his violent death in 1975;
- "...But Not Forgotten"-- the story of Fr. William Barragy who was killed in 1966 while serving as an Army chaplain for U.S. troops in the Vietnam war;
- "For God and Country"--the story of Fr. Al Schmitt, the first U.S. chaplain killed in World War II: he died during the attack on Pearl Harbor (Dec. 7, 1941) while saving the lives of twelve men trapped inside the capsized USS Oklahoma; and
- "South Pole Padre"--the story of Fr. Bill Menster who, in the 1940's, served as chaplain for a crew sailing to and working in the frozen continent of Antarctica.

Why not take some time this Lent to learn about some of these amazing priests whose love for Christ and his people led them to such heroic lives of service?

3. Lenten Challenge: "If someone were to pay you ten cents for every kind word that you have spoken about people, and collect from you five cents for every unkind word, would you be rich or in debt?" (author unknown)

~ Fr. Kopacek

**Eucharistic Holy Hour - Tuesday, March 14 at Riceville from 5 - 6 PM.** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 5:00 PM, closing Benediction at 6:00 PM. Fr. Kopacek will be available for confessions.



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## Pray For Those in Need

Jean Cerwinske, Michelle Cerwinske, Eileen A. Chihak, Roger Dunn, Ed Durnan, Sara Folkers, Sharon Friedhoff, Ken Gebel, Joann Heying, John Heying, Rose Heying, Jimmy Holmen, Diane Kovarik, Arlene Kuennen, Todd Lentz, Joe Ludwig, Ann Foxen Maas, Gladys McGrane, LaVern McGrane, Roger Nibaur, Fran Palmerheim, Randy Rodriguez, Tom Rouchka, Abbey Sculley, Rosemary Schwickerath, Pat Smith, William 'Bill' Smith

# Cluster News

## Live Streaming & Daily Reflections

Watch Mass or Daily Reflections live with Fr. Kopacek. Mass is Sunday mornings at 9:00 AM in Riceville. Reflections are posted after daily Mass. Find them on the cluster website under 'Parish Happenings' or on the cluster Facebook page.



## Mass Intentions Week of February 27

### Monday, February 27

St. Gregory of Narek - Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8-10, 15/Mt 25:31-46

8:00 AM (Elma) - Fr. Mark McGovern

### Tuesday, February 28

Lenten Weekday - Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-7, 16-19/Mt 6:7-15

8:00 AM (Elma) - Arlene Klobassa

### Wednesday, March 1

Lenten Weekday - Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19/Lk 11:29-32

8:00 AM (Elma) - Vick & Helen Zobeck

### Thursday, March 2

Lenten Weekday - Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-3, 7-8/Mt 7:7-12

Care Center - Nicholas & Mary Kolbet

### Friday, March 3

First Friday - Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-4, 7-8/Mt 5:20-26

8:00 AM (Elma) - Kendra O'Brien

### Saturday, March 4

Vigil of Second Sunday of Lent - Gn 12:1-4/Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22/2

Tm 1:8-10/Mt 17:1-9

4:00 PM (Lourdes) + Danielle Cowley Intention

6:00 PM (Alta Vista) + For the People

### Sunday, March 5

Second Sunday of Lent - Gn 12:1-4/Ps 33:4-5, 18-20, 22/2 Tm 1:8-10/Mt 17:1-9

7:15 AM (Elma) + Bernard & Helen Dunn

9:00 AM (Riceville) + NO MASS

10:45 AM (New Haven) + Theresa Wemhoff

## Lenten Regulations (Fasting & Abstinence)

1. Everyone 14 years of age or over is bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays of Lent.
2. Everyone 18 years of age and under 59 years of age is bound to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.
3. On these two days of fast and abstinence, only one full meatless meal is allowed. Two other meatless meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted on these two days, but liquids, including milk and fruit juices, are allowed. When health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not apply.
4. Catholics should not lightly excuse themselves from the fast and abstinence prescribed by the Church.
5. Lent is the principal season of penance in the Christian year. **Priests, religious and laity are strongly urged to develop and follow a program of voluntary self-denial, serious prayer, and a performance of works of charity and mercy.**



## CRS Rice Bowls

Join our Catholic communities to help other countries overcome hunger and malnutrition by participating in the Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Rice Bowls Lenten journey. Rice Bowls are available in your church entrances and can be put in the offering baskets in church at the Easter Masses OR donate directly to CRS online at [crsricebowl.org/give](http://crsricebowl.org/give).

## Lenten Daily Reflection Books Available

Two versions of Lenten Daily Reflection books are available in the church entrances. One book is, *The Magnificat Lenten Companion* and the other book is *Daily Reflections for Lent*. Please take to use during the Lenten season.

## Catholic Charities Helps the Most Vulnerable

As the Social Arm of the Catholic Church contributions to Catholic Charities make up nearly 50% of their annual operating budget. **Please send your contributions directly to: Catholic Charities, 1229 Mt. Loretta Ave, Dubuque 52003.**

+ Lourdes +

## Thank You

Thank you to the Kathleen (Ptacek) Anderson Family for the donation to Our Lady of Lourdes Church in memory of Kathy.

## MEETINGS

**Tues., March 7** - Faith Formation at 6:30 PM

**Thurs., March 9** - Social Justice at 6:30 PM

**Thurs. March 30** - Liturgy Comm. At 6:30 PM

Meetings are in the I.C., Elma Church basement.



**St. Bernard Church-St. Patrick's 37th Supper DRIVE-THRU ONLY (Serving 3:00-6:00 PM) Sunday, March 12 (snow date March 19) Alta Vista Municipal Hall**

**Meal:** Grilled Pork Chop, Dressing, Green Beans, Potatoes & Gravy, Coleslaw, Pie

**Cost:** Adults & Children/\$14 in advance; \$15 day of

**Tickets available from:** Parishioners, New Hampton Fareway, AV Express, Security State Bank in Elma & New Hampton. Raffle sponsored by: Catholic Order of Foresters, St. Joseph Court #878

**+ St. Bernard +**

**Vocation Crucifix**

February 25 - Julie & Gary Swehla  
 March 4 - Irene & Ed Huegel

**+ Immaculate Conception-Elma +**

**Volunteers for Communion at Colonial Manor**

We have resumed taking communion to Colonial Manor and Afton Oaks on the first Sunday of the month. If you would like to help out please contact Renee Burke at 319-240-9192.

**+ Immaculate Conception-Riceville +**

**Coffee & Rolls**

Coffee and Rolls will be served following the 9:00 AM Mass on Sunday, February 26th. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**First Friday Confessions**

Confessions will be heard on First Friday, March 3 from 4:00 – 4:40 PM at Immaculate Conception in Riceville.

**Rosary Society News**

St. Anne's Rosary Society will hold a meeting on Sunday, March 5 at 6:00 PM in the church basement. All I.C. parish women are invited to attend.

**+ St. Peter +**

**First Friday Confessions**

Confessions will be heard on First Friday, March 3 from 3:00 – 3:40 PM at St. Peter in New Haven.

**ArchdioceseOne Appeal**

Over 14 million has been raised for the ArchdioceseOne special appeal. Thank you to everyone who has made a sacrificial gift to support the special appeal through a financial contribution or your prayers. If you would like to make a gift to support the special appeal, or make an additional gift, you can do so by mailing it directly to: ArchdioceseOne at 1229 Mt. Loretta Ave, Dubuque, IA 52003 or visiting the ArchdioceseOne website at: [www.archdioceseone.org/support](http://www.archdioceseone.org/support)



**Totus Tuus Missionaries Needed**

Contact Joanne Pohland with questions at [j.pohland@dbqarch.org](mailto:j.pohland@dbqarch.org) or to fill in an application go to: [www.dbqarch.org/Totus-Tuus](http://www.dbqarch.org/Totus-Tuus).

1st SUNDAY OF LENT



**Calendar Events**

**Archdiocese of Dubuque Men's Conference**

**Saturday, March 25, 2023** you are invited to the 27th Annual Archdiocese of Dubuque Men's Conference. Location is Mount Mercy University in Cedar Rapids (with live-stream available). Focus of the conference will be on the role of the Blessed Virgin Mary in our lives. Keynote speaker will be Dr. Edward Sri, co-founder of FOCUS. Mass with Archbishop Jackels and breakout sessions. Go to [www.archmensconference.org](http://www.archmensconference.org) to register.

**Iowa Catholic Youth Conference (ICYC)**

Registration is now open for ICYC. This event is targeted toward middle school youth in grades 6-8, and their parents. This day-long event will take place on **Sunday, March 26 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM** at Mount Mercy University in Cedar Rapids. The day will feature national artist Dana Catherine, breakout sessions, hands-on activities, lunch, and a closing Mass. Parishes that are not able to coordinate a group can still encourage their families to attend on their own. Promotional materials, registration, and more information can be found at [www.iowaCYC.org](http://www.iowaCYC.org).

**Financial Stewardship**

February 18/19

<b>Our Lady of Lourdes (NO MASS)</b>	
Budget Envelopes	\$1,800.00
On-Line Giving	75.00
<b>St. Bernard - Alta Vista</b>	
Budget Envelopes	280.00
Act of Kindness	60.00
On-Line Giving	85.00
<b>Immaculate Conception - Elma</b>	
Budget Envelopes	612.00
Offertory	40.00
On-Line Giving	85.00
<b>Immaculate Conception - Riceville</b>	
Budget Envelopes	775.00
Offertory	242.00
On-Line Giving	100.00
<b>St. Peter - New Haven</b>	
Budget Envelopes	1,175.00
Act of Kindness	31.00
On-Line Giving	595.00

1st SUNDAY OF LENT





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