



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

Staffed: Tuesday - Friday 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

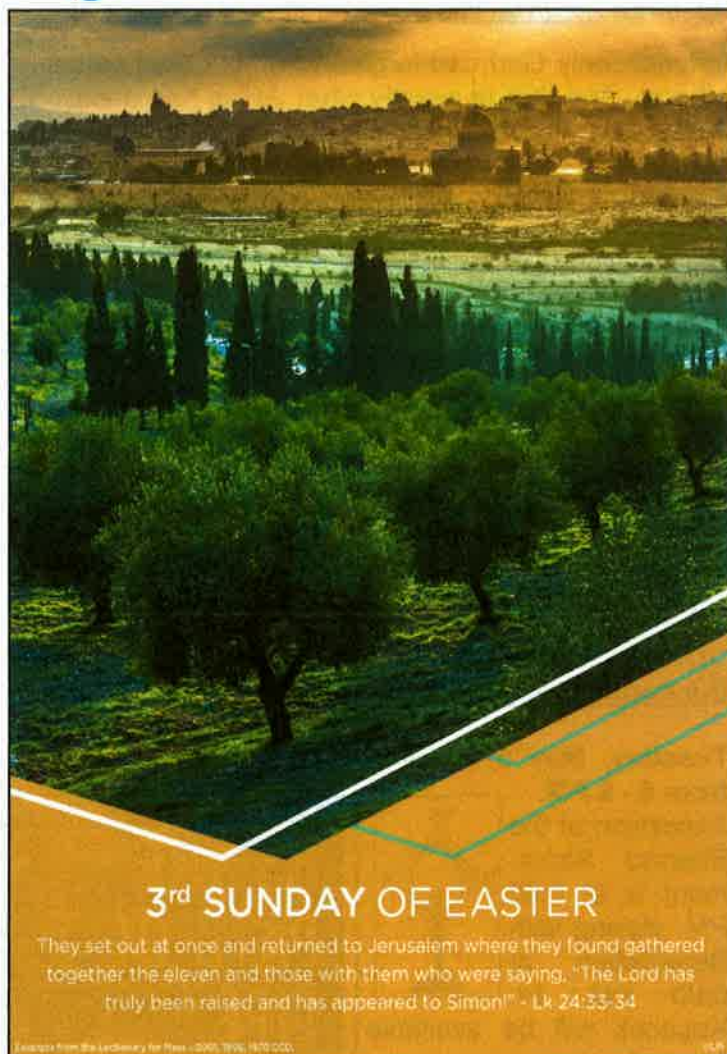
**Alta Vista** - Saturday, 5:00 - 5:45 PM; when Lourdes has 4 PM  
Mass Alta Vista confessions will be 5:15 - 5:45 PM.

**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!



## 3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

They set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered  
together the eleven and those with them who were saying, "The Lord has  
truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" - Lk. 24:33-34

## 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. I'd like to do a quick follow-up on our celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday last weekend. You may remember from the gospel of John that the risen Jesus had appeared to his apostles: "...he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained'" (John 20:22-23). In other words, Jesus gave them a role in the ministry of the forgiveness of sins, and the Church has always understood these words of Jesus as the origin of the sacrament of reconciliation or confession.

Many of our non-Catholic friends are troubled by this sacrament; they wonder how a mere man (a priest) can claim such an authority. But this authority comes from Jesus himself who very clearly gave his apostles this authority. The Catechism of the Catholic Church says it very well:

*"Only God forgives sins. Since he is the Son of God, Jesus says of himself, 'The Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins and exercises this divine power: 'Your sins are forgiven.' Further, by virtue of his divine authority, he gives this power to men to exercise in his name.'" (n. 1441--emphasis added).*

Indeed: only God can forgive sins...but God certainly has the ability and the authority to confer that power on others. And that is exactly what Jesus has done. This is completely in line with the power and authority that Jesus gave the apostles to make disciples of all the nations by baptizing and teaching (Matt. 28:19-20) and to celebrate the Eucharist as he taught them to do at the Last Supper ("...taking bread and giving thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying: 'This is my body to be given for you. Do this as a remembrance of me'" (Luke 23:19--emphasis added).

Thanks be to God that we can be assured of the forgiveness of our sins through the sacrament of reconciliation that Jesus gave us! May we never feel afraid or ashamed to approach this sacrament of mercy; let's gratefully allow the Lord to embrace us with the gift of his Divine Mercy.

2. "Don't Forget to Laugh!" Another delight from Reader's Digest:

"After an unusually heated argument with what he considered his overbearing parents, my brother announced that the minute he graduated from high school he intended to join the Navy. No more was said until a few days later, when he walked proudly into the house and declared that he was to report for duty the following morning. 'Why?' my mother asked tearfully. 'Because,' he stormed, 'I am sick and tired of taking orders!'"

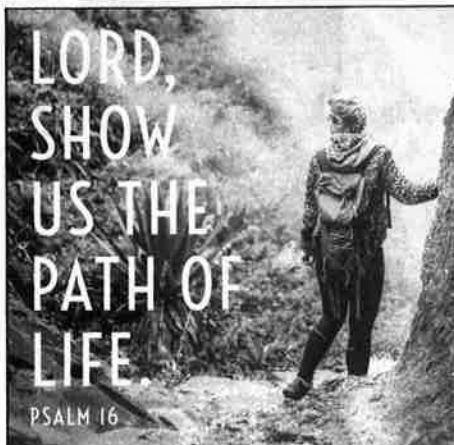
Good luck in the Navy, son....

~ Fr. Kopacek

### Eucharistic Holy Hour

**Tuesday, May 9 at Elma from 5 - 6 PM.**

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is at 5:00 PM, closing with Benediction at 6:00 PM. Fr. Kopacek will be available for confessions.



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### Pray For Those in Need

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# 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 April 24

### Monday, April 24

St. Fidelis - Acts 6:8-15/Ps 119:23-24, 26-27, 29/Jn 6:22-29

8:00 AM (Elma) - Theresa Farrington

### Tuesday, April 25

St. Mark - 1 Pt 5:5-14/Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17/Mk 16:15-20

8:00 AM (Elma) - Eugene Meier

### Wednesday, April 26

Easter Weekday - Acts 8:1-8/Ps 66:1-7/Jn 6:35-40

8:00 AM (Elma) - David Allen Block

### Thursday, April 27

Easter Weekday - Acts 8:26-40/Ps 66:8-9, 16-17, 20/Jn 6:44-51

Care Center -

### Friday, April 28

St. Peter Chanel - Acts 9:1-20/Ps 117:1-2/Jn 6:52-59

8:00 AM (Elma) - Steve Murphy

### Saturday, April 29

Vigil of Fourth Sunday of Easter - Acts 2:14, 36-41/Ps 23:1-6/1 Pt 2:20-25/Jn 10:1-10

4:00 PM (Lourdes) + NO MASS

6:00 PM (Alta Vista) + Jim Marik

### Sunday, April 30

Fourth Sunday of Easter - Acts 2:14, 36-41/Ps 23:1-6/1 Pt 2:20-25/Jn 10:1-10

7:15 AM (Elma) + For the People

9:00 AM (Riceville) Live Streamed + Peter J. Govern

10:45 AM (New Haven) + Dean & Darlene Michels

## + Lourdes +

### Sympathy

We extend our deepest sympathy to the Kathryn Buckley family. Kathy's Funeral was held on Tuesday, April 11. May she rest in peace.

## + St. Bernard +

### Vocation Crucifix

April 22 - Bev & Dick White

April 29 - Donna & Joe Zweibohmer

## + Immaculate Conception-Elma +

### Sympathy

We extend our deepest sympathy to the Hazel Boyle family. Hazel's Funeral was held on Thursday, April 13. May she rest in peace.

## + Immaculate Conception-Riceville +

### Rosary Society News

St. Anne's Rosary Society will meet on Sunday, May 7 at 6:00 PM.

### Sympathy

We extend our deepest sympathy to the Fern Hughes family. Fern's Funeral was held on Thursday, April 13. May she rest in peace.

### First Communion

Congratulations to our First Holy Communion students. These children received their First Holy Communion on April 16: Veronica Bird, Peyton Condon, Myles Conway, Leonardo Delfin-Rosales, Neva Dohlman, Harper Holgerson, Kinzlee Koenigs, Alec Larrison, Evan O'Donnell and Alexandra Smith.

## MEETINGS

### Pastoral and Finance Meetings

The last meeting for our cluster parishes will be on:

- Tues., April 25--Riceville (at Riceville)
- Meeting is at 6:00 PM

We will review the usual financial statements, but the main task will be to begin the goal-setting process for each parish in accord with the archdiocesan pastoral planning process.

### May Crowning

May Crowning will be at the following Masses:



- Saturday, May 6** (4:00 PM) Our Lady of Lourdes  
**Saturday, May 6** (6:00 PM) St. Bernard, Alta Vista  
**Sunday, May 7** (9:00 AM) IC Riceville  
**Sunday, May 7** (10:45 AM) St. Peter, New Haven

## + St. Peter +

### First Holy Communion

Please pray for our First Holy Communion students as they make their First Communion today, Sunday, April 23.

Everyone is invited to join us for donuts, juice and coffee in the church hall following Mass.

### Thank You

Thank you to everyone who worked on repairing our church steps. We know you're busy and we are grateful you took the time to help with this project. The steps look great!

### Digital Liturgy Schedules

St. Peter liturgy schedules are now available in a digital form. If you would like the digital liturgy schedule emailed to you call the cluster office at (641-393-2520) or email Nancy at [dbq075sec@dbqarch.org](mailto:dbq075sec@dbqarch.org).



### CRS Rice Bowls

Thank you for participating in the Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl collection. You may put the rice bowls in specially marked offering baskets in the churches at the Masses through April 30th OR donate directly online at [crsricebowl.org/give](http://crsricebowl.org/give).



### Cemetery Clean Up

Holy Rosary Cluster is thinking Spring! **ALL** flowers and decorations that are not attached to a monument or cement base should be removed from all the cluster cemeteries to get ready for the mowing season. We appreciate your cooperation.



## AVAILABLE NOW! PRINT & DIGITAL AD SPACES

Build your business and help us grow a vibrant faith community!

Terri Roe from LPi, our bulletin printer, will be working securing new ads for our church over the next several weeks. As a valuable member of the business community, we invite you to expand your reach and grow your business with a print ad in our parish bulletin and/or a digital ad featured on ParishesOnline.com.



Terri Roe  
319-329-0005  
[troe@4lpi.com](mailto:troe@4lpi.com)

## GROWING WITH THE Gospel

CYCLE A

### esl COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



3rd Sunday of Easter • Luke 24:13-35

## Calendar Events

### Tri-County Citizens for Life Meeting

Tri-County Citizens for Life will meet on Tuesday, April 25 at 6:30 PM in the IC Elma Church Hall.

### American Red Cross Bloodmobile

The American Red Cross Bloodmobile will be in Riceville at the RAC (Riceville School) on April 26 from 12:00-6:00 PM---for an appointment call Darlene Seidel at 641-220-3788.

Give the Gift of LIFE!!!!

### World Wide Marriage Encounter Weekend

**Married Couples.** Would you like to relive the excitement, romance and passion from your honeymoon? Rekindle that spark on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend Experience. For more information call 563-920-9419 or you can sign up at [wwme.org](http://wwme.org). Upcoming dates September 22-24 in Dubuque, IA.

## Financial Stewardship

April 15/16

### Our Lady of Lourdes

Budget Envelopes	\$625.00
Easter	325.00
Offertory	105.00
On-Line Giving	75.00

### St. Bernard - Alta Vista

Budget Envelopes	150.00
Easter	1,425.00
Offertory	97.25
On-Line Giving	110.00

### Immaculate Conception - Elma

Budget Envelopes	610.00
Easter	410.00
Offertory	84.00
On-Line Giving	85.00

### Immaculate Conception - Riceville

Budget Envelopes	2,390.00
Easter	390.00
Offertory	299.00
On-Line Giving	135.00

### St. Peter - New Haven (NO MASS)

Budget Envelopes	150.00
Easter	50.00
On-Line Giving	95.00

3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER





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