



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 - Note Change in Hours

**The office this week:**

**CLOSED - Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday**

**Staffed: Tuesday 9:00 a.m. – Noon**

### 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

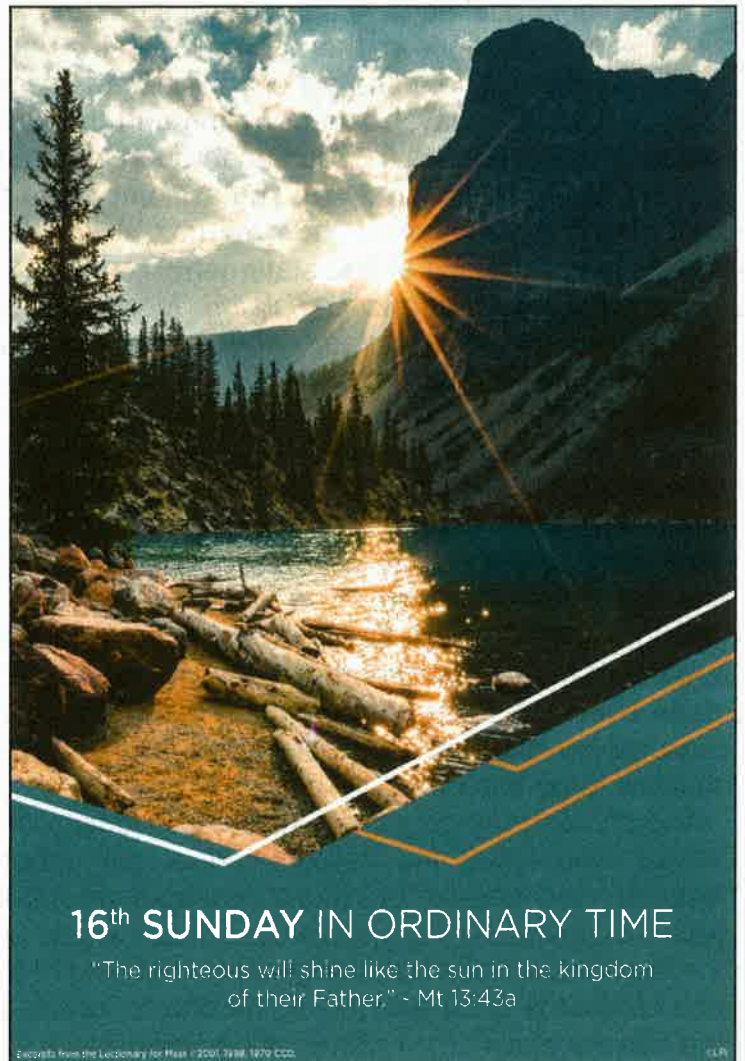
**Alta Vista** - Saturday, 5:00 - 5:45 PM; when Lourdes has 4 PM  
Mass Alta Vista confessions will be 5:15 - 5:45 PM.

**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**

**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!



## 16<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"The righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father." - Mt 13:43a

### 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.

July 23, 2023

# Holy Rosary Cluster

## To the Members of Holy Rosary Cluster:

1. Nancy Theis, our business manager will be riding on RAGBRAI this week (July 23-29), and so she will not be in the office during that time. I will be here, but will have occasional appointments and errands to see to--so don't hesitate to leave a message on the office phone. Also: because Nancy is the one who uploads my daily video reflections onto our cluster social media, I will not be recording those videos this week. Those videos will resume on Monday, July 31. Please pray for Nancy's safety and for that of everyone else on RAGBRAI. May they have favorable weather, not too many steep uphill rides, and arrive safely in Davenport on the 29th!

2. Once again I find myself overwhelmed by all your kindness and generosity: birthday #68 arrived last Wednesday, the 19th, and I thank you SO MUCH for all the cards, gifts, treats, prayers and good wishes. I can only repeat what I've said before: you are way too good to me!! Every year that passes by (and each one goes by faster than the one before...) is an occasion for further thanks and praise to God for the countless ways he has blessed me...especially with the privilege of being your pastor. One of my favorite psalms is Psalm 138 which reads in part: "I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with all my heart, in the presence of the angels I will sing your praise; I will worship at your holy temple and give thanks to your name, because of your kindness and your truth." God's goodness and kindness comes to us in so many ways, especially through the kindness of others--and I have been blessed so abundantly by his goodness that comes through and from you. Again: thank you so much!!

3. Last weekend I shared with you at homily time the statement from the four Catholic bishops of Iowa regarding the passage of the new law by the Iowa legislature granting more protection to the unborn. Here is the text of that statement:

*"We commend the Iowa Legislature for passing a law that would prohibit abortions after a child's cardiac activity can be detected. As Pope Francis has said 'Let us respect and love human life, especially vulnerable life in a mother's womb.' For us, this is a matter of personal rights and dignity and the common good. Human life is precious and should be protected in our laws to the greatest extent possible.*

*"As a state and as a society, we should commit ourselves to working for the protection of all vulnerable populations from violence--wherever individuals and groups are at risk. We urge people of good will in Iowa both to work for an end to the practice of abortion and to join us in tireless, unremitting and compassionate solidarity with pregnant women in distress, with the men who fathered these children, and with families in need."*

Unfortunately, a Polk County district court judge recently granted a temporary injunction blocking enforcement of this new 'heartbeat' law at the request of Planned Parenthood and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)--both of which reject any legal protection whatsoever for the unborn child. This case will no doubt end up before the Iowa Supreme Court; please pray that the courts will allow this new law to go into effect.

And please pray especially for the conversion of all in Planned Parenthood, the ACLU, and all other groups who reject the personhood of the unborn child. They couch their arguments in terms of 'freedom' and 'choice', but those concepts are not and cannot be absolute and determined only by oneself--if that was the case, then utter chaos would be the inevitable result. The Catechism of the Catholic Church describes well the genuine meaning of freedom: "There is no true freedom except in the service of what is good and just. The choice to disobey and do evil is an abuse of freedom and leads to 'the slavery of sin'" (n. 1733, quoting Rom. 6:17).

~ Fr. Kopacek

## 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, Cindy Kirst, Diane Kovarik, Arlene Kuennen, Eula Ludwig, Joe Ludwig, Ann Foxen Maas, Gladys McGrane, LaVern McGrane, Roger Nibaur, Fran Palmersheim, Randy Rodriguez, Tom Rouchka, Abbey Sculley, Rosemary Schwickerath, Kenneth Shatek, 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 on the cluster website under 'Parish Happenings' or the cluster Facebook page.



## Mass Intentions Week of July 24

### Monday, July 24

St. Sharbel Makhlef - Ex 14:5-18/Ex 15:1-6/Mt 12:38-42

8:00 AM (Elma) - Phu Vu

### Tuesday, July 25

St. James- 2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 126:1-6/Mt 20:20-28

8:00 AM (Elma) - Eugene Meier

### Wednesday, July 26

St. Joachim & St. Anne - Ex 16:1-5, 9-15/Ps 78:18-19, 23-28/Mt 13:1-9

8:00 AM (Elma) - Fay & Berenice Freidhof

### Thursday, July 27

Weekday - Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20/Dn 3:52-56/Mt 13:10-17

Care Center - Elsie Ludwig

### Friday, July 28

Weekday - Ex 20:1-17/Ps 19:8-11/Mt 13:18-23

8:00 AM (Elma) - Kristy & Mark Shultz

### Saturday, July 29

Vigil of The Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12/Ps 119:57,76-77,127-130/Rom 8:28-30/Mt 13:44-52

4:00 PM (Lourdes) + Janet Flaherty & Linda Smith

6:00 PM (Alta Vista) + Living & Deceased Members of St. Bernard Rosary Society

### Sunday, July 30

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12/Ps

119:57,76-77,127-130/Rom 8:28-30/Mt 13:44-52

7:15 AM (Elma) + For the People

9:00 AM (Riceville) Live Streamed + Dean Byrnes

10:45 AM (New Haven) + NO MASS

## Eucharistic Holy Hour

Tuesday, August 8 at Riceville from 5 - 6 PM.

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



## A Prayer as We Await a New Archbishop

O God, you send your Son, Our Lord Jesus, as priest, prophet, and king. We thank you for your abundant blessings bestowed upon our Archdiocese, and thank you for the ministry of Archbishop Jackels. In your grace, send us a bishop like Jesus: a priest of deep and true prayer, a teacher with a loving heart and firm resolve, and a shepherd of joy and peace, who desires above all to do your will. We ask this through Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

Prayer Cards are available in the entrances of the churches. Please take one with you and pray it daily.

## Office Hours This Week



The Cluster Office is CLOSED the following days this week: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday.

Staffed: Tuesday, July 25 from 9:00 AM - Noon.

## MEETINGS

Tues., Aug. 8 - Faith Formation at 6:30 PM

Thurs., Aug. 10 - Social Justice at 6:30 PM

Meetings will be held in the I.C. Elma church basement.

## Cluster Mass & Social - Save the Date

The Parish Cluster Picnic sponsored by the Parish Life Committee will be held at St. Bernards in Alta Vista on Sunday, August 27 with Mass at 10:45 AM. Picnic to follow. Watch the bulletin for more details.



## + St. Bernard +

### Vocation Crucifix

July 22 - Fran & Jerome Boehmer

July 29 - Jean Cerwinske

## + Lourdes +

### Help Needed with Liturgical Ministries

We are asking for parishioners to sign up for liturgical ministries: gift bearers, ushers, lectors, Mass servers, etc. We thank those who are already helping but we can use more volunteers. If you can help with these ministries or have questions contact Doris Anderson at 641-330-0011.

### Save the Date - Our Lady of Lourdes Steeple Day -

#### Saturday, July 29

10 AM - Tractor Pull/Registration at 9 AM;

Cash Pay Back in all classes; Lawn Chairs & Tents welcome; Call Tom Shatek (641-330-8626 or Dennis Smith (641-330-8843)

11 AM - Kids Pedal Tractor Pull (Sanctioned) Call George or Julie Freidhof at 641-257-8665.

Time TBD - Garden Tractor Pull (call Bryce Stumme)

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM - Bingo in the Church Hall

1:30 PM - Visit "Stone City" - Our Lady of Lourdes Cemetery with Storytelling

### 4 PM - MASS

Cash Raffle: \$20 per ticket, multiple winners, top prize of \$1,000. Food Truck: Reno's Roadkill Smokehouse

Proceeds from Steeple Day support parish projects and improvements. For general information contact Brad Shatek at 641-330-8646.

Everyone is invited. See you there!



**+ Immaculate Conception-Elma +**



**Welcome**

We'd like to welcome back Jayden Burke to IC, Elma. We are happy to have you back with us in our parish.

**+ Immaculate Conception-Riceville +**

**Save the Date**

Immaculate Conception, Riceville will hold its annual Fall Festival on Sunday, October 1. It will be a drive-up meal, serving beef and ham. Watch the bulletin for more details.

**+ St. Peter +**

**Needed – Director of Religious Education**

We are looking for someone to fill the position of DRE for the St. Peter Religious Education program. The position opens on July 1, 2023. Anyone interested in this part-time position is asked to contact the cluster office for more details.

**Church Cleaner Needed**

We are in need of someone to clean St. Peter Church once a month and do some additional cleaning during the year. If you are interested contact the Holy Rosary Cluster Office (641-393-2520) for more details.

**Calendar Events**

**Senior Healthcare in Mitchell County Meeting**

Potential replacement of the Faith Home building! Join us for a discussion on the proposed construction and funding of a new nursing home. Please plan to attend this meeting on Thursday, July 27 at 7:00 PM at St. Peter Catholic Church Hall in New Haven. Your Input is Important! Presentation will take about a half hour and then questions will be welcomed and addressed. This is NOT a fundraiser event. No funds will be requested. "Leave your checkbook at home." No RSVP is required.

**Support Group Meeting for Those Who Have Lost Someone to Suicide**

Next meeting: Sunday, July 23 from 1:30-3:00 PM  
Location: St. John's School of Religion, New Hampton  
Questions: Contact Audrey Drewelow (319-610-5873) or Dawn Heying (641-330-4687).



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Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.



16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time • Matthew 13:24-43

**Financial Stewardship**

July 15/16

**Our Lady of Lourdes**

Budget Envelopes	\$1,375.00
Act of Kindness	121.00
On-Line Giving	75.00

**St. Bernard - Alta Vista**

Budget Envelopes	440.00
Offertory	40.80
On-Line Giving	60.00

**Immaculate Conception - Elma (NO MASS)**

Budget Envelopes	320.00
On-Line Giving	75.00

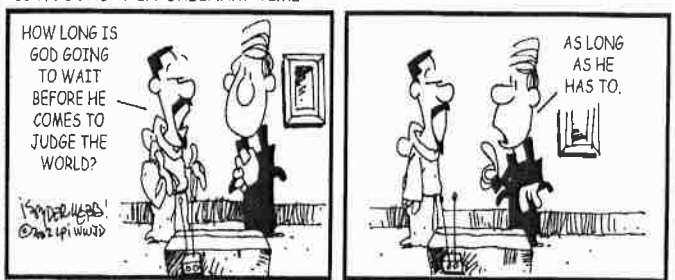
**Immaculate Conception - Riceville**

Budget Envelopes	2,215.00
Offertory	178.00
On-Line Giving	105.00

**St. Peter - New Haven**

Budget Envelopes	915.00
Offertory	47.85
On-Line Giving	95.00

16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME





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