



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)

**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!



## 20<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith!  
Let it be done for you as you wish." And the woman's  
daughter was healed from that hour. - Mt 15:28

Excerpt from the Sacramentary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCC

### 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.

August 20, 2023

# Holy Rosary Cluster

## To the Members of Holy Rosary Cluster:

1. I recently had my three-month check-up after my January prostate surgery, and it showed that my PSA number is basically zero: no cancer cells detected. I also had my annual check-up following my kidney surgeries in 2018; it also showed up negative--no concerns whatsoever there as well. Good news on both accounts, for which I thank God and all of you as well for your prayers and concern!

2. Two Mass schedule changes this coming week to note:

there will be no 8 a.m. Mass on Monday, August 21--I have a meeting in Cedar Rapids this Sunday evening (Aug. 20), and then I'll be at my priest support group get-together on Monday morning in Waterloo. I'll be back in Elma by Monday afternoon.

Next **Sunday, August 27**, we will have our **annual cluster picnic in Alta Vista**. As a result, Alta Vista and New Haven will switch their regular weekend Mass days/times: Mass in New Haven will be Saturday, Aug. 26 at 6 p.m., and Alta Vista Mass will be Sunday the 27th at 10:45 a.m.

3. "Don't Forget to Laugh!" With the school year starting up this week, I thought you would enjoy this true story from another Reader's Digest collection:

"During my first meeting with my physically challenged students, I assured them that most people are handicapped in some way. 'Look at me', I said. 'My eyes are so bad, I need to wear glasses. Because I can barely hear, I need a hearing aid. And look at my ears--they're much bigger than they should be.' From the back, a boy added, 'And your nose too.'"

Ouch.... ~ Fr. Kopacek

## What Is God Asking of You?

What are you willing to give for the sake of the kingdom of God? Often, we begin a discussion like this with a story or a few leading thoughts. However, if we are to be serious about who we claim to be as Christians, there should be no beating around the bush. The question is not only important for each of us and our relationship with our God, but it should be important for the relationship each of us has with the entire Body of Christ. Like any good team or family, I need you to have my back, and I need to have yours. If one of us is going to lay it on the line and be all in for our faith, then we *all* need to be as well.

If only all the Christians of the world felt the same way. In some parts of the world, Christians are still being martyred for their faith. Others must worship underground and avoid the government-led police. Then there are those who seem to take faith for granted, and because little is asked by their friends or parish, they give nothing. It is quite a contrast of situations.

On this day, it may seem like little is being asked of you and I by God. Is that because we aren't being asked or because we aren't listening? If you are counting on me and I am on you, we should figure this out sooner than later. Of course, I suspect we actually do know the answer, don't we? — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



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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, Cindy Kirst, Diane Kovarik, Arlene Kuennen, Elsie Lentz, 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 August 21

### Monday, August 21

St. Pius X - Jgs 2:11-19/Ps106:34-37,39-40,43-44/Mt 19:16-22

**NO MASS** - Please Pray for Vocations

### Tuesday, August 22

The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Jgs 6:11-24/Ps 85:9, 11-14/Mt 19:23-30

8:00 AM (Elma) - Russ O'Donnell

### Wednesday, August 23

St. Rose of Lima - Jgs 9:6-15/Ps 21:2-7/Mt 20:1-16

8:00 AM (Elma) - Eugene Meier

### Thursday, August 24

St. Bartholomew - Rv 21:9-14/Ps 145:10-13, 17-18/Jn 1:45-51

Care Center - Bernard & Helen Dunn

### Friday, August 25

St. Louis - Ru 1:1,3-6,14-16, 22/Ps 146:5-10/Mt 22:34-40

8:00 AM (Elma) - Gerald McGee

### Saturday, August 26

Vigil of Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time - Is 22:19-23/Ps138:

1-3,6,8 /Rom11:33-36/Mt 16:13-20

4:00 PM (Lourdes) + Jim Marik

6:00 PM (New Haven) + John Sullivan & Maddie Kruse

### Sunday, August 27

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time - Is 22:19-23/Ps138:1-3,6,8/

Rom11:33-36/Mt 16:13-20

7:15 AM (Elma) + Arlene Keane

9:00 AM (Riceville) Live Streamed + NO MASS

10:45 AM (Alta Vista) + For the People - Cluster Social

## Cluster Mass & Social

### Note the Change in Mass Times

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 at the A.V. Hall.



## Choir for Cluster Social Mass, 10:45 AM at Alta Vista

Everyone is welcome to join St. Bernard's Choir for the Cluster Social Mass on Sunday, August 27 at 10:45 AM. Come sing with us as we praise and worship God.



## Eucharistic Holy Hour

**Tuesday, September 12 at New Haven 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.



## Early Bulletin Deadline

If you have items for the September 10 bulletin, please have them to the church office by August 30. Thank You!



## 2023-2024 Cluster Religious Education News

Parents of new students or first graders need to call their respective DREs or call the cluster office to register their child for religious education this fall. Please call as soon as possible.



**Chad Buckley (515-290-5867)** - Elma, Alta Vista and Lourdes  
**Debbie Oulman (641-985-2791)** - Riceville

For New Haven students call the Cluster Office (641-393-2520)

## + St. Bernard +

### Vocation Crucifix

August 19 - Donna & Joe Zweibohmer

August 27 - Pat & Gary Halvorson

### Corporate-Finance-Parish Council Meetings

Corporate, Finance and Parish Council meeting will be held Wednesday, August 23 at 6:30 PM in the Elma I.C. Church Hall. All Finance & Parish Council members are asked to attend this meeting.

### Congratulations

Congratulations to Trevor Burgart and Kylie Lantz who were married at St. Bernard, Alta Vista on Saturday, August 12.

## + 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.

### Winners of Steeple Day Raffle

\$1,000-Kim Steinlage; \$500-Steve Kruash; \$100-Dennis Smith, Robert Shatek, Melinda Bielefeld, Grant Ludwig; \$50-Matt Drek, Steve Gebel, Judson Ferries, Connie Ludwig

## + Immaculate Conception-Elma +

### Corporate-Finance-Parish Council Meetings

Corporate, Finance and Parish Council meeting will be held Thursday, August 24 at 6:30 PM in the Elma I.C. Church Hall. All Finance & Parish Council members are asked to attend this meeting.

### I.C. Elma Fall Festival - Dad's Belgian Waffles

Elma will hold its annual Fall Festival on Sunday, September 10 from 8:00 - 11:30 AM in the I.C. Elma Church Hall.





**+ Immaculate Conception-Riceville +**

**Rosary Society News**

St. Anne's Rosary Society will meet on Sunday, August 27 at 7:00 PM in the church hall. All ladies are invited to attend. We will be discussing the Fall Festival.

**Religious Ed. News**

Riceville religious ed. Needs a teacher for 7th grade (4 students) and 8th grade (8 students). Classes will begin on Wednesday, September 20. Please contact Debbie Oulman at 641-985-2791.

**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 +**

**Liturgy Schedules Available**

September and October liturgy schedules are available in the entrance of the church.

**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.

**ArchdioceseOne Update**

New gifts and pledges continue to come in for ArchdioceseOne as we move towards the conclusion of the special appeal at the end of this year. Together, over 6,000 donors have contributed or pledged \$16,502,548 for the four beneficiaries of ArchdioceseOne through July 31, 2023.

We are extremely grateful for all of our donors and their gifts to ArchdioceseOne. The path we are on is God's will, and we have faith that the Holy Spirit will continue to move hearts towards charity and stewardship. This faith is best stated through a line in a hymn, "Where charity and love are, God is there."

If you feel the Holy Spirit calling you to do so, there is still time. Please contact Jeff Schneider at [jeff.schneider@dbqarch.org](mailto:jeff.schneider@dbqarch.org) or at 563-556-2580x219 or Cassie Bird at 563-556-2580x211 or [c.bird@dbqarch.org](mailto:c.bird@dbqarch.org) for information on how to give or any other questions you might have. Thank you and bless you for all your support!

**Calendar Events**

**American Red Cross Blood Drive**

An American Red Cross Blood Drive will be held on Wednesday, August 23 from Noon - 6:00 PM at the Riceville School. For an appointment call Darlene Seidel (641-220-3788). Give the Gift of Life!

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

**Everybody Hurts**, a non-profit group for suicide prevention and mental health awareness, has a support group for those who have lost someone to suicide. The meetings will be held the 4th Sunday of each month from 1:30-3:00 PM at St. John's School of Religion, 823 W. Main St., New Hampton, across the street from the New Hampton High School. If you would like more information or have questions, please contact Audrey Drewelow at 319-610-5873 or Dawn Heying at 641-330-4687.

**World Wide Marriage Encounter Weekend**

Married Couples, enrich your marriage. Rekindle that spark on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. Call 563-920-9419 or sign up at [wwwme.org](http://wwwme.org). Upcoming dates are September 22-24 in Dubuque, IA.

**Financial Stewardship**

August 12/13

**Our Lady of Lourdes (NO MASS)**

Budget Envelopes \$0.00

On-Line Giving 75.00

**St. Bernard - Alta Vista**

Budget Envelopes 180.00

Act of Kindness 77.00

On-Line Giving 60.00

**Immaculate Conception - Elma**

Budget Envelopes 1,550.00

Act of Kindness 71.00

On-Line Giving 75.00

**Immaculate Conception - Riceville**

Budget Envelopes 1,535.00

Act of Kindness 271.00

On-Line Giving 250.00

**St. Peter - New Haven**

Budget Envelopes 435.00

Act of Kindness 31.25

On-Line Giving 95.00

20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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