



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://holyroarycluster.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!



## 23<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault  
between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have  
won over your brother." - Mt 18:15

Excerpts from the Sacramental 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.

# Holy Rosary Cluster

## To the Members of Holy Rosary Cluster:

1. A quick reminder of our next **Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration--this Tuesday, Sept. 12, at St. Peter's in New Haven**. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed at 5 p.m., and Benediction will be celebrated at 6 p.m. I will be available for confessions during that hour.

2. We priests recently received an email from Msgr. Toale, the vicar general for our archdiocese, regarding the installation of Archbishop-elect Zinkula as our new archbishop on Wednesday, October 18. I will be attending, along with the other priests of the archdiocese. The Mass will take place in Nativity Church in Dubuque--that church can seat more people than the Cathedral, and there will surely be a large crowd. Even so, it will not be possible to extend an invitation to the general public.

However, I'm glad to tell you that we pastors will be sent two tickets per parish; with the five parishes in our cluster, I will receive ten extra tickets besides my own. I want to make those tickets available to anyone who may be interested in attending; there will be no cost for the tickets. I'm fully aware that Dubuque is not exactly in our immediate neighborhood--it's a 2-1/2 hour drive from Elma. And I'm sure that the installation Mass will be livestreamed, so you will be able to watch it online. But this is a very important moment in the life and history of the Archdiocese of Dubuque, and it promises to be a beautiful and powerful celebration--there is nothing like being there in person!

If you think you might be interested in attending, please let me know by Saturday, Sept. 30--either by phone or email. If there are more than ten people interested in attending, I'll put the names in a hat and draw out the names of the ten lucky winners. If no one is interested, I'll return those tickets to Dubuque to make it possible for others to attend.

3. "Don't Forget to Laugh!" With our observance of Labor Day this past week, I thought you'd enjoy this true-story adventure in the workplace (thanks, again, to Reader's Digest):

"Winding his way through the office cubicles, my son Mike spotted one of his employees playing a video game on the computer. 'Why aren't you working?' Mike asked him. The employee had an excellent excuse: 'I didn't see you coming.'"

Give that employee an 'A' for honesty, and a much lower grade for goofing off on the job... ~ Fr. Kopacek



**Love and Truth** I think even the most devout, the most pious Catholic reading this could summon to mind, if asked, one or even two examples of Catholic teaching for which they have desperately looked for a loophole. Don't worry, I won't make you share with the group. But bring it to your mind now: the doctrine you once resented, or perhaps still do. The commandment you don't fully understand, the one you bristle against. The rule you find the hardest to follow. The belief you hate explaining to your friends. If it disappeared from scripture or dropped out of the catechism, would your life really be easier? Would you be happier? I am thinking of mine. For a long time, I searched high and low for a way around this particular teaching. I read books and Scripture and tradition, I prayed and reflected and tried to argue with myself. For a time, I gave up complying with it entirely. I threw it to the wind, with a shoulder shrug and a self-satisfied assurance to myself that God, being a loving father, does not want his child to be unhappy. But reader: I was miserable. I was so, so miserable, and I stayed that way until I finally accepted that God is, indeed, a loving father, and desires nothing less than the unhappiness of his children. And so, to ward it off, he has given us the truth, and asked us to share it amongst ourselves like a cherished heirloom, a priceless inheritance. To share truth, you must show love. To show love, you must share truth. One demands the other. Because this is what Christ does for us, and this is the mission of the Church in this world. Loosening and binding. Bearing witness. Giving testimony. Speaking truth, and in speaking truth, showing love. ~ By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

### Eucharistic Holy Hour

Tuesday, September 12 at New Haven from 5 - 6 PM.

Exposition of Blessed Sacrament 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 on the cluster website under 'Parish Happenings' or the cluster Facebook page.



## Mass Intentions Week of September 11

### Monday, September 11

Weekday - Col 1:24-2:3/Ps 62:6-7, 9/Lk 6:6-11

8:00 AM (Elma) - Eleanor Burke

### Tuesday, September 12

Weekday - Col 2:6-15/Ps 145:1-2, 8-11/Lk 6:12-19

8:00 AM (Elma) - Keith & Avis Roethler

### Wednesday, September 13

St. John Chrysostom - Col 3:1-11/Ps 145:2-3, 10-13/Lk 6:20-26

8:00 AM (Elma) - Deceased Members & Spouses of IC Class of 1963

### Thursday, September 14

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross - Nm 21:4-9/Ps 78:1-2, 34-38/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17

Care Center - Charles, Daryl, Kim & Ted McPhail

### Friday, September 15

Our Lady of Sorrows - 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 11/Jn 19:25-27

8:00 AM (Elma) - Sister Mary Smith

### Saturday, September 16

Vigil of Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Sir 27:30-28:7/Ps 103:1-4, 9-12/Rom 14:7-9/Mt 18:21-35

4:00 PM (Lourdes) + NO MASS

6:00 PM (Alta Vista) + Dean Folkers

### Sunday, September 17

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Sir 27:30-28:7/Ps 103:1-4, 9-12/Rom 14:7-9/Mt 18:21-35

7:15 AM (Elma) + Joe Gansen

9:00 AM (Riceville) Live Streamed + For the People

10:45 AM (New Haven) + Joan Wegman

## 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, Lourdes

**Debbie Oulman (641-985-2791)** - Riceville

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

## Religious Education Starting Dates

### Combined Religious Ed.

- Wed., Sept. 13 - Registration (In-person with parents)

- Wed., Sept. 20 - First Class

**Riceville Begins** - Wed., September 20

**New Haven Begins** - Sunday, September 10 at 9:30 AM

- Pancake breakfast and Parent Meetings

## MEETINGS

**Thurs., September 14 - Liturgy Meeting, 6:30 PM**

**Thurs., October 19 - Parish Life at 6:00 PM**

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



## Cluster Movie Day

Sunday, September 24 at 2:00 PM in the Elma I.C. church basement.

All Cluster members are invited to join us for a movie about Mother Teresa. Snacks will be provided.



## I.C. Riceville Fall Festival Beef & Ham Dinner (Drive Thru Only)

Sunday, October 1st

Serving: Beef, Ham, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Sweet Corn, Bun, Fruit and Homemade Pie

Cost: \$15 a meal

**Raffles:** Quilt, 2-\$100 cash, 4-\$50 cash, 2-\$50 gift certificates to the 10th Hole.

## Suicide Prevention Awareness Month

Suicidal thoughts, much like mental health conditions, can affect anyone regardless of age, gender, or background. If you or someone you know is struggling with suicidal thoughts or a mental health condition **Call** or **Text 988** or **Chat** [988lifeline.org](https://www.988lifeline.org) to reach the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline.



## Social Justice - Needs of our Cluster

The Social Justice Committee is exploring the needs of our Cluster on the topic of Disability Inclusion, Ministry and Advocacy. This Archdiocesan Program includes: **(1)** Promoting parish educational, spiritual, liturgical and social services that ensure the inclusion of all. **(2)** Providing awareness, assistance and support to parish advocates and staff to identify and meet the unique needs of individuals with physical and intellectual disabilities. **(3)** Advocating for the educational and sacramental needs of persons with disabilities and promoting self-advocacy. **(4)** Offering a supportive presence for families and caregivers. **(5)** Collaborating with Catholic Charities, the Knights of Columbus and other charitable and supportive organizations.

### Our committee wants to hear from you.

Are there local needs in the area of Disability Inclusion that are not being met? If so, please contact Father Kopacek or a member of the Social Justice Committee (Scott Niess, Bob Shatek, Elaine Govern or Bruce Weigel).

**+ St. Bernard +**

**Vocation Crucifix**

September 9 - LouAnn & John Huegel  
September 16 - LeRoy Geerts

**+ 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 or have questions contact Doris Anderson at 641-330-0011.

**+ Immaculate Conception-Riceville +**

**Religious Ed. News**

Riceville religious ed. needs a teacher for 7th grade (4 students) and 8th grade (8 students). Please contact Debbie Oulman at 641-985-2791.

**+ 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. 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 interested contact the Holy Rosary Cluster Office (641-393-2520).

There is no retirement age from the work of proclaiming the Gospel and handing down traditions to your grandchildren.

— POPE FRANCIS —



Lord God almighty, bless our grandparents with long life, happiness, and health. May they remain constant in your love and be living signs of your presence to their children and grandchildren. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**23<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**



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**Calendar Events**



**Drive-Thru Pork Loin Sandwich Supper  
Visitation Catholic Church - Stacyville  
604 N. Broad St.**

Sunday, September 18, serving from 4:00-6:00 PM  
**Menu:** Pork Loin Sandwich, BBQ Baked Beans, Chips, Cookie, Water or Milk  
Games, Raffle Baskets and the Mitchell County Dairy Trailer from 2:00 - 6:00 PM  
Free Will Offering

**St. John's Parish, Fort Atkinson  
Rendezvous Days**

**September 22, 23, & 24**

\*Kolaches and Homemade Pies for sale at the Fort Atkinson Community Center  
**Sunday, September 24**

*Breakfast at the Fort Atkinson Community Center*  
Serving from 8:00 AM - Noon; Menu: Scrambled Eggs & Toppings, Ham, Sausage, Breakfast Potatoes, Fruit, Cinnamon Rolls, Toast, Juice, Milk & Coffee

**Weekly Collection**

Due to an early bulletin deadline the bulletin was submitted on September 1. The financial stewardship for September 2 & 3 will be in the next bulletin.

**PUZZLE**

Unscramble words from today's Gospel.

Moses lifted snake  
perish save world  
loved heaven desert

- soMes M o s e s
- havnee \_\_\_\_\_
- letfid \_\_\_\_\_
- saken \_\_\_\_\_
- dseret \_\_\_\_\_
- levod \_\_\_\_\_
- wrod \_\_\_\_\_
- preshi \_\_\_\_\_
- seva \_\_\_\_\_

**MISSION**

When you catch yourself doing something wrong, stop. Ask Jesus to help you.





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