



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)

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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!



**32<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

"Lord, Lord, open the door for us!" But he said in reply, "Amen,  
I say to you, I do not know you." - Mt 25:11-12

### 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. Our monthly Eucharistic Holy Hour will be this coming Tuesday, November 14, at Our Lady of Lourdes. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place at 5 p.m. and Benediction at 6 p.m. I will be available for confessions during that time.

2. Two weeks ago in this space I told you about my sister Bonnie who is dealing with dementia and is now in an advanced care facility in Waverly. This past Sunday, November 5, my brother Tom and I went there to see her, along with her three oldest children (one of whom, son Chris, lives in Waverly). I had last seen Bonnie in mid-September; at that time, she was still conversational and able to walk on her own, although rather slowly. She is now in a wheelchair, and conversation is much more difficult. I was glad to be able to offer the sacrament of anointing of the sick for her while we were all there. We had taken along a number of old family pictures to see if she could remember who they were (our parents, other siblings and relatives). There were a number of times she showed a moment of recognition by a smile or trying to say a few words. But it is clear that her condition--both physically and mentally--is deteriorating.

Thank you very much for your concern and your prayers. Please continue to keep Bonnie and her family in your prayers. This is a challenging time for them, as it is for any loved ones of those facing serious physical and/or mental struggles. But they (and we!) know that God's grace is always present and helps us to bear the crosses that come our way.

3. As we enter into the last weeks of this Church year, the Sunday Mass readings direct our attention to the fact that this life on earth is not our final destination and that the Lord Jesus will come to bring each of us into the life beyond this one. The parable of the wise and foolish virgins from today's gospel is a good example of that reminder to be vigilant for, as Jesus said, 'stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour'. Our Catechism puts it very well in saying: "According to the Lord, the present time is the time of the Spirit and of witness, but also a time still marked by 'distress' and the trial of evil which does not spare the Church and ushers in the struggles of the last days. It is a time of waiting and watching" (n. 672). Of course, we must be attentive to our daily responsibilities as well as take time to enjoy the blessings of life, love and family. But may we always be mindful of our final goal--and conduct ourselves to be prepared for that day and hour when the Lord comes.

~ Fr. Kopacek

## Buried in Your Backyard - Every Day Stewardship

I remember watching a television show about a high school that dug up a time capsule that students had buried twenty-five years earlier. They had buried it with the purpose of showing others many years later the trends of the day and how student life was at that time. It was a fun exercise and everyone--the current students as well as those now grown--laughed at the clothing styles, corny photos, and lack of technology from years ago.

I wonder how the former students felt about how they had grown in those twenty-five years. How many of them realized their high school dreams? Did they find their purpose in this world and feel fulfilled in life? Did they use the talents and gifts God gave them to really make a difference in the world?

We have all been given talents and gifts by God to be cultivated and offered back to him and those around us for his glory. As time has passed, hopefully we have taken seriously our stewardship of these gifts. But sometimes out of fear, misunderstanding, or even apathy, we have taken one or more of our gifts and buried them, hiding them away from others and stifling all growth. This is no way to honor God and certainly not a path to fulfillment in life. If we have anything buried in our backyard we might do well to dig it back up, clean it up, and begin building upon it. Like a time capsule, those things will not be buried forever. One day the giver of that gift will ask what you have done with it. When that day comes, I pray you don't need to find a shovel. -Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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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 November 13

### Monday, November 13

St. Frances Xavier Cabrini - Wis 1:1-7/Ps 139:1-10/Lk 17:1-6  
8:00 AM (Elma) - Kae Dallman

### Tuesday, November 14

Weekday - Wis 2:23-3:9/Ps 34:2-3, 16-19/Lk 17:7-10  
8:00 AM (Elma) - Grant Saul

### Wednesday, November 15

St. Albert - Wis 6:1-11/Ps 82:3-4, 6-7/Lk 17:11-19  
8:00 AM (Elma) - Willie & Lillian Chihak

### Thursday, November 16

St. Margaret of Scotland - Wis 7:22-8:1/Ps 119:89-91, 130/Lk 17:20-25  
Care Center - Keith & Avis Roethler

### Friday, November 17

St. Elizabeth of Hungary - Wis 13:1-9/Ps 19:2-5/Lk 17:26-37  
8:00 AM (Elma) - Bernard & Helen Dunn

### Saturday, November 18

Vigil of Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31/Ps 128:1-5/1 Thes 5:1-6/Mt 25:14-30  
4:00 PM (Lourdes) + Neil & Kathy Kappes

6:00 PM (Alta Vista) + NO MASS

### Sunday, November 19

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time - Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31/Ps 128:1-5/1 Thes 5:1-6/Mt 25:14-30

7:15 AM (Elma) + Gerald McGee

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

10:45 AM (New Haven) + Jane Niess



## Early Bulletin Deadlines

Holidays are fast approaching so **Please** keep in mind these dates for early bulletin deadlines:

**Wed., Nov. 15** - Items due for Nov. 26 bulletin

**Fri., Dec. 1** - Items due for Dec. 10 bulletin

**Thurs., Dec. 7** - Items due for Dec. 17 bulletin

**Wed., Dec. 13** - Items due for Dec. 24 bulletin

**Wed., Dec. 20** - items due for Dec. 31 bulletin



## Eucharistic Holy Hour

**Tuesday, November 14 at Lourdes**

**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.



## Parish Annual Reports

The 2022-2023 Parish Annual Reports are available in the entryway of your church. Information on parish leadership, financial stewardship and religious education are included.



## Volunteers Needed at the Riceville Food Pantry

Holy Rosary Cluster members are asked to help volunteer at the Riceville Food Pantry in the months of October and November. If you are available or a youth needs volunteer hours here is the perfect opportunity. You can work part of a shift or a whole shift. Call Ellen Grady-Mans (641-985-2254) or Diane Setka. You may also just show up to help.



**November Dates:** Wed., Nov. 15th (4-6 PM)

Tues., Nov. 14th & 28th (6-7 PM)

## Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service

Zion Lutheran Church in Alta Vista will host the Annual Ecumenical Thanksgiving Prayer Service on **Monday, November 20 at 7:00 PM.** Refreshments will be served afterwards in the VFW Hall in Alta Vista. The collection will be donated to Chickasaw County Food Pantry. All are welcome to attend.



## IRA Rollover Gift

If you are 70 1/2 or older you can make a charitable gift of up to \$100,000 from your IRA. The best part is, if you must make an IRA required minimum distribution (RMD) your gift will qualify for that RMD and you will not have to pay federal income tax on the amount given. To make an IRA Rollover gift, contact your IRA administrator to see how you can roll over into tax savings while helping support your parish. There is a specific process and forms that need to be used and they can help you through those simple steps.



## Gift of Grain

Fall Harvest is a good time to consider giving the 'Gift of Grain' to your church. IRS regulations require the farmer to inform the elevator that he/she is gifting the grain to their parish. The farmer needs to sign a donation form to the elevator. The elevator will complete the form and inform the parish office of the gift. The parish will immediately tell the elevator to sell the grain and send proceeds to the parish. At no time in this process can the farmer receive payment from the elevator for the grain; the grain must be gifted through the elevator to the parish. If you have questions contact the cluster office.

**+ Immaculate Conception-Riceville +**

**Sacristans Needed**

We are in need of sacristans at I.C. Riceville. If anyone is interested or has questions contact Janet Pridgen at 850-529-5285.

**+ St. Peter +**

**Needed – Director of Religious Education**

We are looking for someone to fill the position of DRE for the St. Peter Rel. Ed. program. If interested contact the cluster office for more details.

**Liturgical Ministers Needed**

We are asking for parishioners to sign up for Liturgical Ministers: Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Gift Bearers and Rosary Leaders. We thank those who are already helping but we could use more volunteers. If you can help with these ministries or have questions contact Nancy Theis at 641-330-4593.

**+ Knights of Columbus +**

**Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Drive**

KC Council #11592 will be having their Tootsie Roll Drive following Mass at Riceville and New Haven on Sunday, November 19. The Special Olympics, the Clear Lake One Vision and the Charles City Comprehensive Systems are the recipients of these funds.



**New Parish Portal Tool Now Available!**

This tool is your guide to county-specific resources from Catholic Charities and other social service agencies serving your area. Website is [catholiccharitiesdubuque.org/parishportal/](http://catholiccharitiesdubuque.org/parishportal/). Bookmark the page for a quick access to this one-stop shop.



**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 \$16,575,733 for the four beneficiaries of ArchdioceseOne through September 29, 2023.

If you feel the Holy Spirit calling you to do so, there's still time to make a new gift or pledge before Dec. 31, 2023 for it to count toward the goals of the special appeal. Gifts can be made online at [www.archdioceseone.org/support](http://www.archdioceseone.org/support) or by mail to **ArchdioceseOne, 1229 Mt. Loretta Ave, Dubuque, IA 52003**. Thank you for your generous support!



**Calendar Events**



**St. Mary's, Waucoma  
Annual Pork Cutlet Dinner**

St. Mary's Parish in Waucoma is having their Annual Pork Cutlet Dinner Sun., November 19 at the Waucoma Event Center 10:30 AM-1:00 PM.

Serving: Pork Cutlets, Mashed Potatoes/Gravy, Dressing, Vegetable, Salad, Pies, Desserts & Beverage.

Cost is \$15 for Adults and \$10 for Children at the Door. Eat In or Take Out available.

**Save the Date - 2024 Archdiocesan Women's Conference: Beauty in Christ**

Saturday, January 27, 2024

8:00 AM to 1:30 PM (tentatively)

The theme this year is, "**Reviving Our Hearts!**". Keynote presentations by national speaker Mari Pablo and local speaker, Mary Pedersen. Start planning to host a group at your parish or cluster. More information coming soon at [www.archwomensconference.org](http://www.archwomensconference.org). Registration is now open. Contact Joanne Pohland at [j.pohland@dbqarch.org](mailto:j.pohland@dbqarch.org).

**Financial Stewardship**

November 4/5

**Our Lady of Lourdes**

Budget Envelopes	\$425.00
Offertory	146.00
On-Line Giving	75.00

**St. Bernard - Alta Vista**

Budget Envelopes	975.00
Offertory	59.95
On-Line Giving	160.00

**Immaculate Conception - Elma**

Budget Envelopes	937.00
Offertory	128.00
On-Line Giving	242.00

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

Budget Envelopes	1,410.00
On-Line Giving	75.00

**St. Peter - New Haven**

Budget Envelopes	1,180.00
Offertory	165.00
On-Line Giving	95.00

32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



**Veteran's Day  
November 11  
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your service.**

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