



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

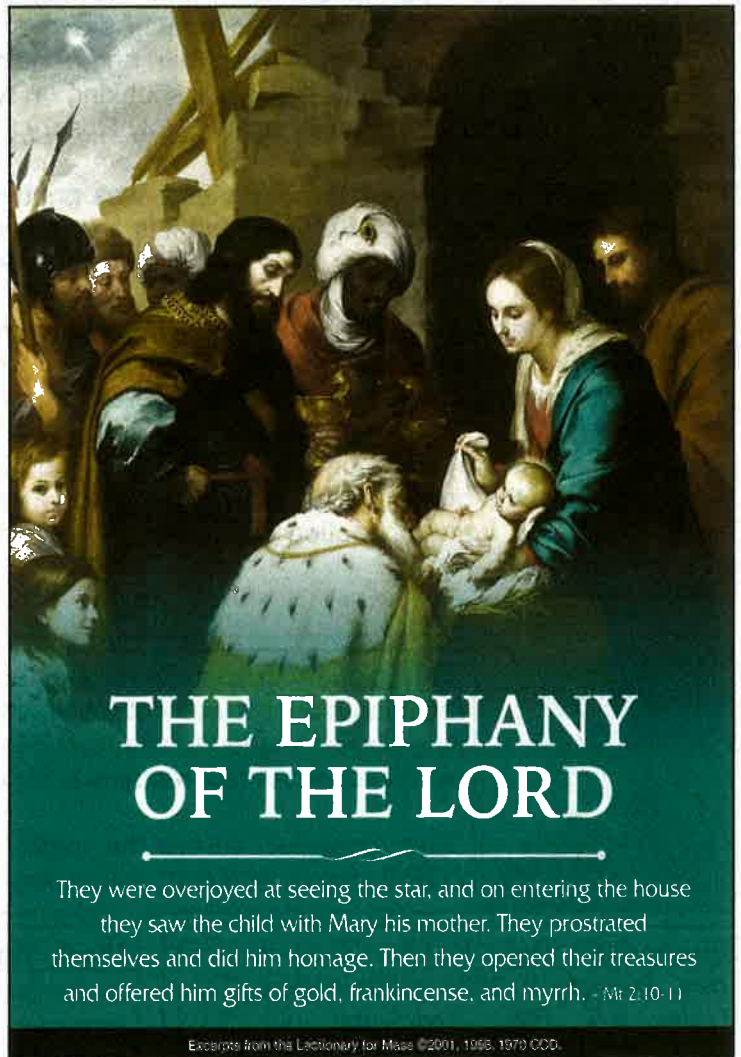
**Alta Vista** - Saturday, 5:00 - 5:45 PM; when Lourdes has 4 PM  
Mass Alta Vista confessions will be 5:15 - 5:45 PM.

**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!



### 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.

January 7, 2024

# Holy Rosary Cluster

## To the Members of Holy Rosary Cluster:

1. In my 'thank you' note in the Dec 31 bulletin, I neglected to mention my deep gratitude to everyone who was involved in any way with the Advent and Christmas celebrations in our cluster parishes--decorating the churches, planning and leading our music, filling all the many liturgical roles (lectors, Eucharistic ministers, ushers, sacristans, servers), all in the cluster office, who helped with coordinating the many details, and everyone else. You all did a wonderful job; your dedication and hard work led to beautiful celebrations of the birth of Jesus into our world and into our lives, and I am deeply grateful. Well done, good and faithful servants!

2. Quick reminder: our monthly time of Eucharistic Adoration will be this coming Tuesday, January 9, at Immaculate Conception in Riceville. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be at 5 p.m. and Benediction at 6 p.m. I'll be available for confessions during that hour. Come and spend some quiet time in prayer with Jesus who became one of us so that we could be with him.

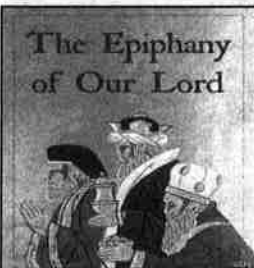
3. John Stierman is a permanent deacon for the Archdiocese of Dubuque and is the director of the Office of the Permanent Diaconate for our archdiocese. As a member of the deacon formation board, I've come to know Deacon John well--he is a man of deep faith and genuine joy. He will be here in our cluster next weekend (Jan. 13-14) and will give the homily; he will be speaking on what we mean by 'vocation' and what that means for all of us. We look forward to welcoming him to Holy Rosary Cluster.

4. In a recent issue of Our Sunday Visitor was printed "A Prayer for the New Year". The author is unknown (perhaps someone on the OSV staff), but it is a *very* fine prayer. What follows is part of that prayer; the remainder will be given in this column in next weekend's bulletin:

"Heavenly Father, Lord of time and eternity, as we stand at the threshold of this new year, we thank you for all the blessings you have bestowed upon us. In your infinite wisdom and love, you have guided us through the past year according to the designs of your mercy. We are grateful for your unfailing presence.

We pray for a healthy and holy year ahead. May your grace be our constant companion, guiding our decisions and actions. In the coming year help us to live according to the teaching of your Son. May we work to protect every human life, from conception to natural death, and to serve our neighbors in need."

~ Fr. Kopacek



The Epiphany marks the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles. It is a celebration of truth reaching places it was not expected to reach, of brightness illuminating corners of the world long ago consigned to shadow. It is a reminder that the battle has already been won, the night is over. All that remains is for us to decide: will we step into the light?

*"See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples; but upon you the LORD shines, and over you appears his glory." — Isaiah 60:2 ©LPi*

**Eucharistic Holy Hour - Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at Riceville 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

Pat Arnold, Jerome Boehmer, Jean Cerwinske, Michelle Cerwinske, 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, Tom Rouchka, Abbey Sculley, Rosemary Schwickerath, Kenneth Shatek, Pat Smith, William 'Bill' Smith, Kathleen Thiele

# 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 January 8

### Monday, January 8

The Baptism of the Lord - Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-6/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11

8:00 AM (Elma) - Fr. Mark Nemmers

### Tuesday, January 9

Weekday - 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-8/Mk 1:21-28

8:00 AM (Elma) - Francis Dietrich

### Wednesday, January 10

Weekday - 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2, 5, 7-10/Mk 1:29-39

8:00 AM (Elma) - Kendra O'Brien

### Thursday, January 11

Weekday - 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/Mk 1:40-45

Care Center - Msgr. Jim Barta

### Friday, January 12

Weekday - 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22/Ps 89:16-19/Mk 2:1-12

8:00 AM (Elma) - Kenny Chihak

### Saturday, January 13

Vigil of Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - 1 Sm 3:3-10, 19/Ps

40:2,4,7-10/1 Cor 6:13-15,17-20/Jn 1:35-42

4:00 PM (Lourdes) + Leo & Mildred Kobliska

6:00 PM (Alta Vista) + For the People

### Sunday, January 14

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time - 1 Sm 3:3-10, 19/Ps 40:2,4,7-

10/1 Cor 6:13-15,17-20/Jn 1:35-42

7:15 AM (Elma) + Art & Isabel Gansen

9:00 AM (Riceville) + NO MASS

10:45 AM (New Haven) + Clarence Sweeney

## MEETINGS

**Tues., January 9, 2024 - Faith Formation at 6:30 PM**

**Thurs., January 18 - Liturgy Committee at 6:30 PM**

**Thurs., January 25 - Parish Life at 6:00 PM**

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

## Act of Kindness

Act of Kindness collections will be taken the weekend of January 13/14. Riceville's collection will be taken on January 21. Designated charities this month are: St. Bernard - Newman Catholic Center, U of I; I.C. Elma - Newman Catholic Center, U of I; Our Lady of Lourdes - Newman Catholic Center, U of I; St. Peter - Newman Catholic Center, U of I; and I.C. Riceville - Newman Catholic Center, U of I.

## Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who helped with decorating the churches for Christmas and everyone who helped out in any way with the advent season and Christmas Masses (liturgical ministers, servers, music and choirs, sacristans, etc.) All your time and effort make for a special and blessed Christmas celebration.



## + St. Bernard +

### Vocation Crucifix

January 6 - Charlene & Larry Meirick

January 13 - Jane & Bernie Huegel

### Thank You

Thank you to St. Bernard Rosary Society for a donation to be used for energy expenses.

### Rosary Society News

1. A meeting for St. Bernard Rosary Society will be on Tues., January 9 at 6:00 PM at Schucky's.
2. Officers for 2024: Pres. Amy Laures, VP Kate Felder, Sec. Dana Lentz & Treas. Paula Breitbach; Chairs & Co-Chairs: Circle 1- Rebecca Meirick & Val Kolbet, Circle 2-Dawn Schackleton & Bev White, Circle 3 - Carol Bullerman & Liz Geerts

### Raffle Items for Pork Chop Dinner

Anyone wanting to donate raffle items please contact Becky Mahoney at 641-330-6347 by January 31. Items can be dropped off at Becky Mahoney's.

## + Immaculate Conception-Elma +

### 2024 Rosary Society Officers

President - Sheila Kobliska, Vice-Pres. - Colleen Heying, Secretary - Diane Gardner and Treasurer - Barb Smith. Thank you to outgoing officers: Callie Weigel and Mary Jo Friedrich and thank you to the 2024 officers for volunteering your time and talent!

## + Immaculate Conception-Riceville +

### Sympathy

We extend our deepest sympathy to the John Mans family. John's Funeral was held on Thursday, December 28. May he rest in peace.

### Rosary Society Meeting

St. Anne's Rosary Society will have a meeting on Sun., January 7, 2024 at 6:00 PM in the church hall.

## + 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. If interested contact the cluster office for more details.

**2024-Start your New Year by Volunteering! Giving of your Time & Talent brings new life into the Church!**

### Retirement Fund for Religious

Donations for the Retirement Fund for Religious will be taken until January 28, 2024. Make check payable to your parish and in the Memo write (RFR). Your gift provides necessities to Senior Catholic sisters, brothers and priests. Please be generous. Thank You!

### Volunteers for Totus Tuus

The Archdiocese is looking for college-aged disciples of Jesus to serve with other men and women as Totus Tuus missionaries for the summer of 2024. Contact Joanne Pohland at [j.pohland@dbqarch.org](mailto:j.pohland@dbqarch.org).

### Calendar Events

#### 2024 Archdiocesan Women's Conference: Beauty in Christ

**Saturday, January 27, 2024, 8:00 AM to 1:30 PM**

The theme this year is, "Reviving Our Hearts!". Key-note presentations by national speaker Mari Pablo and local speaker, Mary Pedersen. Start planning to host a group at your parish or cluster.

Information 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).

#### World Wide Marriage Encounter Weekend

Call Greg & Denise (563-920-9419) or sign up at [wwme.org](http://wwme.org). Upcoming dates are February 16-18, 2024 in Marshalltown.

## Financial Stewardship

December 23/24 (Weekend Masses)

### Our Lady of Lourdes

Budget Envelopes	\$13,475.00
Christmas	1,125.00
Offertory	120.00
On-Line Giving	75.00

### St. Bernard - Alta Vista (NO MASS)

Budget Envelopes	1,090.00
Christmas	150.00
On-Line Giving	760.00

### Immaculate Conception - Elma

Budget Envelopes	4,288.49
Christmas	1,035.00
Offertory	108.00
On-Line Giving	50.00

### Immaculate Conception - Riceville (NO MASS)

Budget Envelopes	60.00
Christmas	.00
On-Line Giving	350.00

### St. Peter - New Haven

Budget Envelopes	3,432.50
Christmas	100.00
Offertory	84.50
On-Line Giving	895.00

## Financial Stewardship

December 24/25 (Christmas Masses)

### Our Lady of Lourdes

Budget Envelopes	\$2,240.00
Christmas	2,250.00
Offertory	273.25

### St. Bernard - Alta Vista

Budget Envelopes	3,213.00
Christmas	1,685.00
Offertory	233.00

### Immaculate Conception - Elma (NO MASS)

Budget Envelopes	1,650.00
Christmas	2,690.00

### Immaculate Conception - Riceville

Budget Envelopes	7,085.00
Christmas	2,745.00
Offertory	658.00

### St. Peter - New Haven

Budget Envelopes	2,295.00
Christmas	2,015.00
Offertory	260.00

December 30/31 (Weekend Masses)

### Our Lady of Lourdes (NO MASS)

Budget Envelopes	\$4,300.00
Christmas	40.00
On-Line Giving	75.00

### St. Bernard - Alta Vista

Budget Envelopes	1,985.00
Christmas	350.00
Offertory	121.00
On-Line Giving	160.00

### Immaculate Conception - Elma

Budget Envelopes	1,032.00
Christmas	45.00
Offertory	94.00
On-Line Giving	222.00

### Immaculate Conception - Riceville

Budget Envelopes	3,130.00
Christmas	.00
Offertory	249.25
On-Line Giving	200.00

### St. Peter - New Haven

Budget Envelopes	6,560.00
Christmas	.00
Offertory	73.95
On-Line Giving	105.00

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