



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/HolyRosaryClusterStaff>

Rev. Jerry F. Kopacek, Pastor: dbq075@dbqarch.org

Jacob Francois, Seminarian: j.francois@dbqarch.org

Nancy Theis, Business Manager: dbq075sec@dbqarch.org

Renee Burke, Secretary: 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

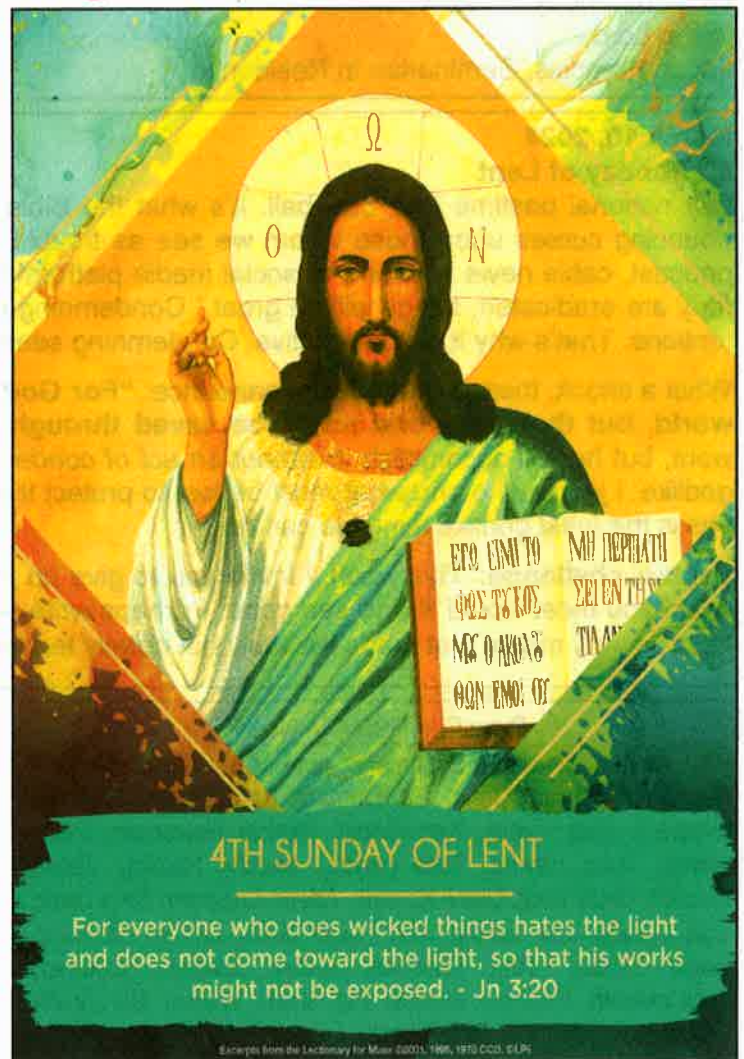
Alta Vista - Saturday, 5:00 - 5:45 PM; when Lourdes has 4 PM
Mass Alta Vista confessions will be 5:15 - 5:45 PM.

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!



4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

For everyone who does wicked things hates the light
and does not come toward the light, so that his works
might not be exposed. - Jn 3:20

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass (2002), 1968, 1970 CCD, ©LPI

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.

March 10, 2024

Holy Rosary Cluster

Praised be Jesus Christ!

At the passing of Fr. Kopacek, the grief and sorrow that we experience should remind us of the death and resurrection of Christ which commemorate in the coming days leading up to Holy Week. As we mourn the loss of our spiritual father, we must remember that death does not have the last word! Death no longer holds any power over the Christian believer because we have a redeemer in Christ Jesus who defeated death itself!



Here at Holy Rosary Cluster our community has a love of Christ, his Church, and most especially your priest, Fr. Jerry Kopacek. I hope that when I am ordained, I could be assigned to a community who takes as good of care of their priest as you have done in the last six years for Fr. Jerry. (However, that would imply I would need to be as holy as Fr. Jerry, which is highly unlikely.)

As always, I am in need of your prayers! I would ask that you say a short prayer for me as I travel this week to Mundelein Seminary in Chicago, IL to take an exam and meet with my formators and spiritual director. (Thus, there will be no word and communion services this week) Don't worry! I will be back in time for stations of the cross on Friday in Alta Vista.

In the Lord,
Jacob Francois, Seminarian in Residence

March 10, 2024

4th Sunday of Lent

Our national pastime isn't baseball. It's what the Bible calls "condemning the world." We generally enjoy pronouncing curses upon those whom we see as trouble, wrong, or evil. Don't believe me? Listen to almost any podcast, cable news network, or social media platform to hear it. It will be some version of: "We all agree that if *they* are eradicated, things will be great." Condemning is almost always clothed in virtue. It basks in its good intentions. That's why it is so attractive. Condemning seems like our best path to saving what is good.

What a shock, then, to hear Jesus announce: "**For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him**" (Jn 3:17). He comes to save the world, as we all want, but he will accomplish it *without an act of condemnation*. How hard it is to accept this! Condemning feels godlike. I judge who and what must be lost to protect the good. But in the light of Jesus' endless mercy and love, this is the *least* godlike thing we can do.

Lenten challenge: This week, I invite you to give up the delicious experience of condemning whomever in the world you most would like to see gone. Perhaps write down their names. Secondly, I invite you to consider fasting from any media that feeds the tasty but deadly tendency to condemn. — *Father John Muir* ©LPi

Pray For Those in Need

Pat Arnold, Jerome Boehmer, Jean Cerwinske, Michelle Cerwinske, Roger Dunn, Ed Durnan, Sara Folkers, Sharon Friedhoff, Judy Gebel, Ken Gebel, Patricia Halvorson, Joann Heying, John Heying, Rose Heying, Marsha Hidding, Jimmy Holmen, Cindy Kirst, Diane Kovarik, Arlene Kuennen, Elsie Lentz, Eula Ludwig, Joe Ludwig, Ann Foxen Maas, LaVern McGrane, Roger Nibaur, Tom Rouchka, Abbey Sculley, Rosemary Schwickerath, Kenneth Shatek, Pat Smith, William 'Bill' Smith, Gaynette Snyder, Kathleen Thiele

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MEETINGS

Thurs., March 14 - Social Justice at 6:30 PM

Thurs., April 18 - Parish Life at 6:00 PM

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

St. Bernard's 38th Annual St. Patrick's Grilled Pork Chop Supper

DRIVE-THRU ONLY

Sunday, March 10

(Serving 3:00-6:00 PM)

Alta Vista Municipal Hall

(Snow Date is Sun., March 17)

Cost is \$15 in advance or \$16 at the Door

Raffle: Matching funds by Catholic Order of Foresters, St. Joseph Court #878



Cluster News

Live Streaming & Daily Reflections

Watch Mass live on Sunday mornings at 9:00 AM in Riceville. Mass will be posted on the cluster website under 'Parish Happenings' or the cluster Facebook page.



Mass Intentions Week of March 11

Monday, March 11

Lenten Weekday - Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13/Jn 4:43-54

NO Word & Communion

Tuesday, March 12

Lenten Weekday - Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16

NO Word & Communion

Wednesday, March 13

Lenten Weekday - Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13-14, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30

NO Word & Communion

Thursday, March 14

Lenten Weekday - Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-23/Jn 5:31-47

NO Word & Communion

Friday, March 15

Lenten Weekday - Wis 2:1, 12-22/Ps 34:17-21, 23/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

NO Word & Communion

Saturday, March 16

Vigil of Fifth Sunday of Lent - Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-15/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33

4:00 PM (Lourdes) + Joe Kubik

6:00 PM (Alta Vista) + Joe & Mary McAvoyn

Sunday, March 17

Fifth Sunday of Lent - Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-15/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33

7:15 AM (Elma) + NO MASS

9:00 AM (Riceville) + For the People

10:45 AM (New Haven) + Elizabeth Fox

Prayer for Fr. Jerry Kopacek

We give him back to you, dear Lord, who gave him to us.

Yet as you did not lose him in giving, we have not lost him by his return.

We gift him back to you not as a life lost, but a life fulfilled with love, respect, and dignity.

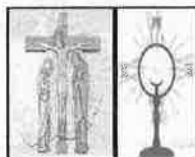
Eternal rest grant unto Father Kopacek O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.



Eucharistic Holy Hour and Stations of the Cross

Friday, Mar. 15 -- Alta Vista (5:30 PM)

Friday, Mar. 22 -- New Haven (5:30 PM)



NO Eucharistic Holy Hour

NO Eucharistic Holy Hour on March 12, 2024 at Elma.



EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINES

Bulletin Items Need to be to the Church Office by:

Monday, March 18 for the March 24 bulletin

Friday, March 22 for the March 31 bulletin



Jesus: The Way, the Truth, and the Life

Our seminarian, Jacob Francois will be leading the parish study. You can contact him with questions via email: j.francois@dbqarch.org

10 Week Session Schedule:

No bible study on March 13. Instead it will be on March 20 in Elma.

4. 2:00PM Wednesday, March 20 (Elma)

5. 2:00PM Wednesday, March 27 (Riceville)

6. 2:00PM Wednesday, April 3 (Elma)

7. 2:00PM Wednesday, April 10 (Riceville)

8. 2:00PM Wednesday, April 24 (Elma)

9. 2:00PM Wednesday, May 1 (Riceville)

10. 2:00PM Wednesday, May 8 (Elma)

There is no cost to attend the study, a free will offering can be given to off-set the cost of the study.

Each participant will be given the workbook, Jesus timeline card and the book. Please bring a bible with you!

Thank you! Jacob Francois

+ St. Bernard +

Vocation Crucifix

March 9 - Jean Cerwinske

March 16 - Bev & Dick White

+ Lourdes +

Rosary Society News

Our Lady of Lourdes Rosary Society will be holding a meeting on **March 13 at 5:30 PM** in the church hall.

'It's time for a change!' Our present rosary officers are seeking people to take over as new rosary officers. The present ones have been in office since 2019! Duties have been streamlined so duties are fewer than in the past. Meetings are minimal. Talk to your friends and form a team. Join us at our meeting.

+ Immaculate Conception-Elma +

Rosary Society Meeting

The Elma I.C. Rosary Society will hold a meeting Tuesday, March 19 at 6:00 PM in the church hall.

+ St. Peter +

Welcome For Jacob Francois

St. Peter, New Haven will have a light luncheon following the 10:45 AM Mass on Sunday, March 10th. Please join us in giving Jacob a warm welcome.

Congratulations

We congratulate Joseph & Courtney Cockrum on the occasion of the baptism of their son Frederick James. Frederick was baptized on March 3. Please welcome and pray for Frederick James as he begins his new life in the Church.

Social Justice

The Social Justice Committee is exploring the needs of our Cluster on the topic of Disability Inclusion Ministry and Advocacy, This Archdiocesan Program includes:

- Promoting parish educational, spiritual, liturgical, and social services that ensure the inclusion of all.
- Providing awareness, assistance, and support to parish advocates and staff to identify and meet the unique needs of individuals with physical and intellectual disabilities.
- Advocating for the educational and sacramental needs of persons with disabilities, and promoting self-advocacy.
- Offering a supportive presence for families and caregivers.
- 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.

Catholic Charities Helps the Most Vulnerable

At Catholic Charities, we have the privilege of renewing hope when all seems lost and walking alongside our brothers and sisters in Christ through their darkest moments. For those who are elderly, disabled, struggling with mental illness, separated from their families, incarcerated, facing homelessness, we are here. Go to <https://catholiccharitiesdubuque.org/donate>. or **Please send your contributions directly to: Catholic Charities, 1229 Mt. Loretta Ave, Dubuque 52003. Thank you!**



**PRAYER
FASTING
ALMSGIVING**

FOURTH WEEK OF LENT

Calendar Events



Annual Swiss Steak Dinner

I.C. North Washington

Sunday, April 7

Serving from 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Drive-Thru Only - Watch for Sign Directions

Cost: \$16 per meal (proceeds go to the upkeep of the church)

Serving: Swiss Steak, Potatoes & Gravy, Corn, Coleslaw and Pie

Raffle Tickets: \$1.00 each (prizes: gift certificates, cash, craft items & more)

Marriage Encounter Weekends

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is like Springtime. It's a weekend of fresh air, the rebirth of romance and new beginnings. If you'd like to make your marriage even more special than it already is sign up now at wwme.org or call Greg & Denise at 563-920-9419.

Upcoming dates: April 12-14 in Epworth, September 27-29 in Dubuque and November 8-10 in Holstein, IA.

Financial Stewardship

March 2/3

Our Lady of Lourdes

Budget Envelopes \$725.00

Offertory 107.00

On-Line Giving 85.00

St. Bernard - Alta Vista (NO MASS)

Budget Envelopes 425.00

On-Line Giving 160.00

Immaculate Conception - Elma

Budget Envelopes 1,643.00

Offertory 78.00

On-Line Giving 192.00

Immaculate Conception - Riceville

Budget Envelopes 1,110.00

Offertory 299.00

On-Line Giving .00

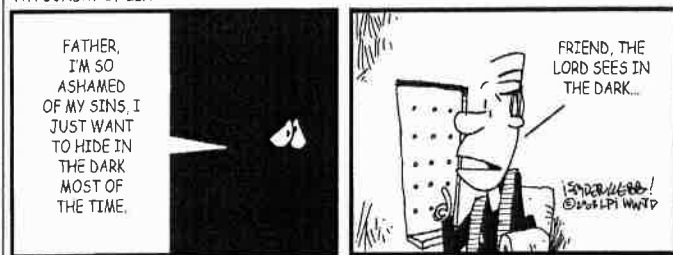
St. Peter - New Haven

Budget Envelopes 5,821.19

Offertory 163.25

On-Line Giving 110.00

4TH SUNDAY OF LENT



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