



ST. MARY OUR MOTHER CHURCH

MISSION STATEMENT

St. Mary Our Mother is a Catholic community committed to the spiritual growth of all people as we share our faith and serve our community.



816 West Broad Street, Horseheads, New York
(607) 739-3817

March 24, 2019

2019 LENTEN SCHEDULE

DAILY MASSES:

Monday through Friday: 6:45 a.m.
Saturday: 8:00 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE:

3:30 p.m. - Saturdays

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

1:30 p.m. Fridays with St. Mary Our Mother School (except 4/12)
5:30 p.m. - Fridays of Lent
St. Mary Our Mother Living Stations
Friday, April 5 - 1:30 & 5:30 p.m.
Good Friday - April 19 - 5:30 p.m.



LENTEN REGULATIONS

During Lent, the regulations for fast and abstinence are: **all Fridays of Lent** are days of **abstinence**, as is **Ash Wednesday**. **Ash Wednesday and Good Friday** are days of **fasting**;

All persons who are fourteen years of age or older are bound by the law of abstinence;

All persons between the ages of 18 and 59, inclusive, are bound by the law of fasting;

Catholics are especially encouraged to perform acts of penance during the season of Lent.

Abstinence - refrain from eating meat at all meals that day;

Fasting - only one full meal, the other two meals small enough that together they do not equal one full meal.

The season of Lent began on Ash Wednesday and continues through to Holy Thursday. Good Friday has its own rule of fast and abstinence.



REFLECTION

Jesus said to her, "Believe me, woman, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when true worshipers will worship the Father in Spirit and truth."

-Jn 4:21, 23a

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

ST. MARY OUR MOTHER SCHOOL REGISTRATION

St. Mary Our Mother School is accepting student registrations for the 2019/2020 school year for grades pre-k 3 through grade six. Openings will be filled on a first-come, first-serve basis. Parents or guardians who are new to St. Mary Our Mother School will need: birth certificate, baptismal certificate, immunization records and a completed parish commitment form for members of the parish. The non-refundable registration fee is \$150 per family. Both before and after school care are available. For further information, call St. Mary Our Mother School at 739-9157 during school hours from 8:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday, March 25

5:00 PM Mary Queen of Peace - chapel

Tuesday, March 26

3:45 PM Religious Education - school

3:45 PM RCIA - school

5:00 PM Youth Choir - church

6:00 PM Quilter's Prayer Group - school

6:30 PM RCIA - school

Thursday, March 28

2:45 PM Children's Choir - church

Friday, March 29

9:45 AM Best Lent Ever Prayer group - rectory

1:30 & 5:30 PM Stations of the Cross - church

6:00 PM Parents' Night Out - school

Saturday, March 30

3:30 PM Sacrament of Penance - church

Sunday, March 31

5:00 PM Youth Choir - church

5:00 PM Regional Mass - St. Patrick

6:00 PM Confirmation Prep/Years 1 & 2 - school

7:00 PM Adult Choir - church

IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST

John Christofaro Ronald McCluskey
Robert (Bob) Costello Earl Lantzy

MEMORIALS

Votive Candle:

In memory of Raymond Ruhmel - Ann & George Gresock

EASTER FLOWERS

Flowers in the church and the chapel are always available to remember special people, living or deceased, or special times in our lives. The flower calendar for the Easter season is posted on the church bulletin board and will be available until next Sunday, March 31st.

ALTAR MEMORIALS

Our altar memorials continue to be a special way to honor those who have gone before us and those intentions we wish to remember for both the living and the deceased.

The weekly donation for these memorials remains the same as in the past:

- Sacramental Wine: \$15.00
- Eucharist Hosts: \$10.00
- Sanctuary Candle: \$10.00
- Icon Candle: \$10.00

STEWARDSHIP

March 17, 2019

Sunday Offering: \$9,203.66

SCRIPTURE READINGS

SUNDAY - March 31, 2019

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading: Joshua 5:9a, 10-12

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

IN OUR PARISH

Bulletin Information

Bulletin articles and information for publication should be submitted by 9:00 a.m. on the Monday preceding the Sunday bulletin you wish the information to appear in, to the following email address:

Sue.Wood@dor.org

Lenten "Caring" Project

Our parish of St. Mary Our Mother continues to provide food for our needy neighbors. One thing that we don't often think about is the continuing need for diapers. As a parish, we are asking you to help. Might you be able to bring diapers - any size, but especially size 4/5, and any adult size diapers to the Church (near the food cart) during Lent this year?

Communion Procedures

According to recent statistics from the National Center for Disease Control, New York State is one state which has experienced an increase in the number of reported flu cases. Therefore, we will suspend offering Communion from the cup at all Masses until further notice. We also remind those who suffer from gluten intolerance that we have gluten free hosts available. Just check with Father Chris before Mass. Thank you.

St. Mary Our Mother Website Redesign

Our Stewardship Committee has been reviewing the St. Mary Our Mother website and have determined it needs to be refreshed for ease of use and to be a more valuable resource for the parish. To get the website updated, the Stewardship Committee is sponsoring a Website Redesign team and is looking for volunteers to support this effort.

The team needs help in several areas beyond just the technical aspects of a website so you do not have to be a website expert to contribute to the team. Help is needed in areas such as: determining what content to include, how to organize the information, collecting pictures and information to post on the website, testing the website and providing feedback, etc.

Of course, if you have website technical skills, the team can use that also. If you are interested in having some fun and updating our website, please contact the parish office by email at smome@stny.rr.com or by phone at 739-3817.

(In Our Parish continued on page 4...)

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

One of the disciplines we are called to embrace during the season of Lent is that of almsgiving. It is a word that can bring to mind people who might approach you asking for an occasional handout. In our part of the world, these occasions can be rare, after all, we have social service agencies which deal with these matters. So what significance does "almsgiving" hold for us, especially during the Lenten season?

The daily scripture readings in Lent make it clear that we are talking about the works of mercy and justice. References are found in Isaiah 58:1-9a, Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18, and Matthew 25:31-46. Almsgiving is not just about contributing your loose change to the poor, it is the sharing of our financial and material gifts with others; "paying forward," as you might say, our blessings and recognizing that everything we think we have and own really belongs to God. One bishop in the early Church would remind his people that almsgiving is the responsibility of everyone, no matter how great or small their resources may be. We can all be equal in generosity of the heart for the benefit of our brothers and sisters in need.

As a parish, St. Mary Our Mother is blessed with financial, volunteer, and spiritual resources. A decision was made many years ago to "tith" our Sunday collections, setting aside a certain amount each week, and to designate those monies for some charitable cause or service. We actually don't take a tenth (a true tithe), but we set aside five percent for charitable causes. For example, four times a year we make a donation in the name of our parish to the Food Bank of the Southern Tier to support the Back Pack program, which helps provide nutritious foods for at-risk children on weekends. These monies also help support our Social Ministry Committee's yearly Christmas basket efforts, where we provide Christmas baskets of food and gifts to approximately 250 families each year. In addition, each week our parishioners are most generous in bringing food to help support the various food pantries in our area. You may remember a few years ago, the Food Bank of the Southern Tier recognized our parish as one of the then top contributors to the Food Bank. These are just a few examples of the various causes that we, as a parish, support. So your contributions to St. Mary Our Mother include not only the ministries of our parish and school, but also reach beyond to help unknown numbers of people who are in need.

In addition, each Lent we offer the Operation Rice Bowls, asking you to participate in helping to feed hungry people throughout the world through Catholic Relief Services. Many families put money in their bowls at meal time as they say grace and pray for the poor of the world. Others put money in their bowls when they find themselves using inappropriate language, or when they are gossiping or saying unkind words about another. These rice bowls are returned at Easter.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Monday, March 25 - The Annunciation of the Lord

6:45 AM For the Faithful Departed

Tuesday, March 26 - Lenten Weekday

6:45 AM Stephen Costello - Don & Tammie Goodman

Wednesday, March 27 - Lenten Weekday

6:45 AM Howard Miller - Bob & Becky Corcoran

Thursday, March 28 - Lenten Weekday

6:45 AM Elizabeth & George Bartosch

Friday, March 29 - Lenten Weekday

6:45 AM Bernie Weigle - Rossi Lanes

Saturday, March 30 - Lenten Weekday

8:00 AM For the Faithful Departed

5:00 PM Florence Stuck - Mary & Jim, Charlotte & Al

Sunday, March 31 - Fourth Sunday of Lent

8:30 AM Theresa Dobek - her family

10:30 AM Joseph Piersimoni - Carol Farr & family

5:00 PM Regional Mass - St. Patrick

The season of Lent is also a good time for each of us to examine our level of our charitable giving. Two weeks ago, we heard the chairperson of our Finance Council, Shane Alsworth's presentation on the need for each of us to review and possibly adjust and increase our financial contributions to the parish. When you do so, you are supporting our parish, our school, and the ways we are as a parish demonstrate our concern for the less fortunate.

Have a great third week of Lent. See you in church!

Fr. L.

IN OUR PARISH CONTINUED...

Catholic Ministries Appeal

| | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Parish Goal: | \$112,153.00 |
| Pledged as of March 8: | \$78,334.27 |
| Number of Pledges: | 300 |
| Percent of Goal: | 69.81% |
| Short of Goal: | \$33,818.73 |

If you have not made a pledge to this year’s Catholic Ministries Appeal, would you consider a pledge to the appeal? Additional pledge cards are available in the vestibule, or you can pledge online at www.dor.org. St. Mary Our Mother’s parish number is **264**. Please keep in mind that we are responsible for any shortfall of our goal, which we would have to take out of parish savings.

Catholic Relief Services

Next weekend, **March 30 & 31st**, our parish will join with Catholic parishes across the diocese and country to take up the annual Catholic Relief Services (CRS) collection.

This special national collection helps support the U.S. Catholic community’s global social ministry carried out in your name by six U.S. Catholic agencies, including Catholic Relief Services, Catholic Migration and Refugee Services, U.S. Bishops’ Justice, Peace and Human Development Ministry, and the Holy Father’s Relief Fund. These agencies touch the lives of more than 100 million brothers and sisters all over the world annually.

This annual CRS collection is different from the Lenten Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl program. The alms we contribute through Rice Bowl provide funding for specific projects while the annual CRS collection provides basic funding for the Catholic agencies. Thank you for your generous spirit.

REGIONAL EVENTS

CRS Rice Bowl

Sri Lanka continues to recover from a decades-long civil war and the devastating effects of recurrent natural disasters, including the 2004 tsunami. Many families fled to India during the civil war and returning home to Sri Lanka found their farms destroyed. They need support to begin again.

Catholic Relief Services’ New Dawn project helps families who have returned to Sri Lanka after living in refugee camps in India by strengthening agriculture livelihoods, training in employable skills, reducing violence, and obtaining civil documents. CRS collaborates with local partners to sponsor the National Peace Program, designed to bring people together from across ethnic and religious divides to ease tensions that were the roots of the civil war.

So, this week let us pray for the people of Sri Lanka and give to our Rice Bowls to support the work of CRS there. We care for each other so we can be the people God calls us to be.

Caring for God’s Creation

After the recent introduction in the U.S. Congress of the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019, Bishop Frank Dewane (Venice, FL.), Chairman of the U.S. Bishops’ Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development, welcomed the legislation as an important step forward in addressing climate change. He states, “this bipartisan bill is a hopeful sign that, more and more, climate change is beginning to be seen as a crucial moral issue; one that concerns all people. If enacted, this proposal is expected to result in significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. At a time when the dangerous effects of climate change are becoming increasingly apparent, the need for legislative solutions like this is more urgent than ever.

(Regional Events continued on page 5...)

MINISTERIAL STAFF

- Rev. Christopher E. Linsler**, Pastor
- Rev. Richard F. Kajiru**, In Residence
- Mrs. Barbara Matterazzo**, Coordinator of Faith Formation
- Mrs. Cathy Peckham**, Director of Music
- Mrs. Jean Yorio**, School Principal
- Mrs. Kathryn Rayne**, Business Manager
- Mrs. Elizabeth Berliner**, RCIA Coordinator
- Mrs. Joyce Pirozzolo**, Parish Secretary
- Mrs. Jeanne Carney**, Facilities Coordinator
- Mrs. Maribeth Leipold**, Faith Formation Secretary
- Mrs. Amy Barr**, Faith Formation Associate
- Mrs. Sue Wood**, Bulletin Editor
- Mr. Doug Johnson**, Cemetery Manager
- Mrs. Kim Roemmelt**, School Secretary
- Mr. Michael Bravo**, Maintenance
- Ms. Jenna Crandall**, Maintenance

PASTORAL COUNCIL

- Mr. Vincent Moschetti**, Chairperson
- Mrs. Richelle Riina**, Recording Secretary

CONTACT INFORMATION

- Parish Office**
- 816 West Broad Street (607)-739-3817
- Fax (607)-739-5628
- E-mail..... smomc@stny.rr.com
- Parish Web Site.....www.StMaryOurMother.com
- St. Mary Our Mother School**
- 811 Westlake Street (607)-739-9157
- E-mail.....smoms@dor.org
- School Web Site.....www.stmaryourmother.school
- Religious Education Office**
- 816 West Broad Street (607)-739-8214
- E-mail.....smomfaithformation@gmail.com

REGIONAL EVENTS CONTINUED...

Lenten Program

Bridges to Contemplative Living

The regional Lenten program, Bridges to Contemplative Living, will be held on Mondays - March 25, April 1, 8, and 15 at St. Mary's rectory, Franklin Street, Elmira from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Using readings from Thomas Merton and other spiritual writers, the Bridges to Contemplative Living series invites participants to enter into individual reflection, contemplative dialogue and group prayer as avenues of spiritual growth. Bridges encourages participants to mine the spiritual treasures of their life experiences.

The series stresses that our everyday life is our spiritual life and provides insights for integrating contemplation and action and spirituality and religion in our daily life. Thomas Merton was a Catholic Cistercian monk, and the series is an excellent resource for all.

Please register or for further information, call St. Mary parish office at 733-3484.

Horseheads Food Pantry

Non-perishable food and grocery items are being collected for the Horseheads Food Pantry this month. The Horseheads Food Pantry is in need of all food items and especially asks for canned fruit for the month of March. For your convenience, please place all donations in the cart located across from the bulletin board. Thank you for your generosity!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Best Lent Ever - Adult Formation

Is Lent a time when you give up something you enjoy, just to go back to it after Easter? Would you want your Lent to be a transformative experience? Again this year, we invite you to join hundreds of others in participating in **Best Lent Ever 2019**. It's free and you can access the daily devotionals whenever it is convenient for you by signing on to DynamicCatholic.com/BestLent.

If you decide to sign up, let us know. We are planning discussion and prayer gatherings, on the Fridays of Lent from 9:45 to 11:00 a.m. in the rectory meeting room. For interested participants who cannot come on Friday, we invite you to consider Tuesday evenings from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the music classroom in the school.

For questions and more information, email the Faith Formation office at smomfaithformation@gmail.com or phone 739-8214.

Returnable Bottles and Cans

Do you wish to dispose of your empty returnable bottles and cans? Our Religious Education Department will take them off your hands. Returnable bottles and cans are collected throughout the year and the money received is donated to the poor. You can drop your returnables off at the parish office, Monday through Thursday from 9:00 - 4:00 p.m. or if you have a large quantity, call Barbara at 739-8214 to make a delivery appointment.

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