



# 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

May 5, 2024



## 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

“If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and remain in his love.” - Jn 15:10

**MEMORIALS:**

The main altar flowers for the week of May 6-12, 2024 are in happy celebration of our First Holy Communion children.

**OUR WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 21 \$6,549.63**



**IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Doreen Saltsman  
Sally Vazzana  
Fr. Richard Belligotti



**GOSPEL MEDITATION**

Once a man came to the Vatican and asked to see Pope John Paul II, claiming that they had been friends in Poland. When told of the man, the Pope said, “He is mistaken about our friendship. I don’t recall ever having suffered with him.” As it turned out, the man had never known the Pope. Now, I’m not sure if the story is totally factual. But doesn’t the juxtaposition of *suffering* with *friendship* sound exactly like JP II? He understood that the deepest and most lasting friendships are forged in the fires of shared suffering. No suffering, no friendship. Amazing.

This week we hear Jesus say to the apostles and to us, **“You are my friends if you do what I command you”** (John 15:14). In Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection, God entered the world of human suffering and transformed it into an avenue of friendship with Himself. Following His command — to love, to lay down our lives for others — will always entail suffering. But this suffering only deepens our friendship with Him. His suffering is ours; ours is His. We have become friends of God.

This week, how might you share your suffering with the Risen Jesus? How might He be sharing His suffering with you, in the lives of those around you? Be attentive to that, and you’ll find that you are indeed a friend of God, because you’ve suffered together a great deal.

— *Father John Muir*

**CONFIRMATION CELEBRATION**

On Tuesday evening, May 7, our parish will join other parishes in our region for the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation for twelve candidates and their families. Bishop Salvatore R. Matano will preside at this celebration at Immaculate Conception Church, 113 North Geneva Street, Ithaca, New York. All parishioners are invited to join in the Confirmation liturgy which begins at 7:00 p.m.

We ask for your continued prayers and support of these young people as they prepare to receive this sacrament. The following are the Confirmation candidates from St. Mary Our Mother:

We ask for your continued prayers and support of these young people as they prepare to receive this sacrament. The following are the Confirmation candidates from St. Mary Our Mother:

Ivy Barr  
Madeline Blide  
Marco Cipolla  
Mylinn Flint  
Christopher Funair  
Ashley Giammichele  
Adam Lanipao  
Madeline Lee

Libby Meisner  
Brendan O’Brien  
Brody O’Rourke  
William Parker  
Theodore Pronti  
Dominic Wood



**CHURCH ROOF REPLACEMENT:**

Work is continuing to replace the original church roof which has served us well since the church was opened and dedicated in November, 1979. The process will take a number of weeks to complete. Thank you all for your patience.

**PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:**

The Easter season is a time of new life and renewed commitment to our Catholic faith. The phrase "Easter Sacraments" reminds us of the promise of the Risen Lord to be with us always, especially in the "breaking of the bread." This weekend, our parish has the special honor of welcoming the extended families and friends of the 32 children who will celebrate their First Holy Communion. At the 5:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday and the 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday we invite these young children to the Lord's table for the first time. We extend a warm welcome to all our visitors as well as our regular parishioners to St. Mary Our Mother this weekend.

These First Communion children, their parents and families have been preparing for this day for many months. By their faithful and regular participation at Sunday Mass, our parents have been teaching their children by good example what it means to be fed at the Lord's table when receiving the Body and Blood of Jesus. We congratulate our parents on their on-going efforts of what they promised when their children were baptized; in being the first and best teachers of their children in the ways of the Catholic faith.

It is a wonderful moment in the life of every parish to witness our children coming forth and doing what our Lord has instructed us to do when receiving the Eucharist. Those of us who receive the Eucharist often can forget Who we are receiving or take it for granted and allow it to become routine. Your fine example of participating in Mass and receiving Holy Communion each and every Sunday, regularly and reverently, serves as a "teachable moment" not only for our First Communion children but for our entire parish family.

Parents and families have helped these children to understand what we believe about the Eucharist. Although the element of bread and wine appear unchanged in the action of the Sacred Liturgy though what we call "transubstantiation," these elements become the very Body and Blood of Christ. As we witness these children receiving Communion for the first time, today is a wonderful occasion for our entire parish to renew our commitment to the Risen Christ, and to assert our belief in the real presence of Christ in the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

Please join me in welcoming all who join us for this First Communion weekend. I also wish to acknowledge and thank Amanda Reeves, our Faith Formation Coordinator for her dedication, enthusiasm, and wonderful leadership not only for our First Communion, but for all of our sacramental preparation programs at St. Mary Our Mother. We also thank our catechists and aides **Lily Barr, Ivy Barr, Willow Barr, Shirley Lant, Jean Oshetski**, as well as **Angela Langendorfer** from the faculty of St. Mary Our Mother School. We thank them for their assistance with our children and their families. We thank you, the people of St. Mary Our Mother, for your continued interest and support of these children and their families as they celebrate this very special day

**MASSES FOR THE WEEK:**

<b>Monday:</b> 6:45 A.M.	<b>May 6, Easter Weekday</b> Mary Amisano - husband, Guy
<b>Tuesday:</b> 6:45 A.M.	<b>May 7, Easter Weekday</b> William Quinn - Josephine Witzel
<b>Wednesday:</b> 6:45 A.M. 5:30 P.M.	<b>May 8, Easter Weekday</b> Faithful Departed Frank Navone - Mary
<b>Thursday:</b> 6:45 A.M.  9:00 A.M.	<b>May 9, Ascension of the Lord</b> Pablo & Elisea Atienza - Macapinlac family Mario Botero - The Enright family
<b>Friday</b> 6:45 A.M.	<b>May 10, Easter Weekday</b> Ms Luz Ferrer - the Lapitans
<b>Saturday:</b> 5:00 P.M.	<b>May 11, Easter Weekday</b> For all Mothers, living and deceased
<b>Sunday:</b> 8:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M.	<b>May 12, Seventh Sunday of Easter</b> For all Mothers, living and deceased For all Mothers, living and deceased

*Pastor's perspective continued.*

It is a wonderful day for our entire parish. Have a great week. Please continue to take care of yourself and each other.

Fr. L.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:**

We congratulate our twenty-seven children who are receiving their First Holy Communion this weekend at St. Mary Our Mother. May our children continue to grow in their love for Jesus in the sacrament of the Eucharist, and receive our Lord each and every Sunday.

Those children receiving their First Holy Communion today include:

<i>Jaden Arvanitis</i>	<i>Kylie Kaiser</i>
<i>Lucas Blauvelt</i>	<i>Collins Labrozzi</i>
<i>Holly Brennan</i>	<i>Ben LaNeve</i>
<i>Westyn Callaio</i>	<i>Zoie Mekos</i>
<i>Angelo Campanella</i>	<i>Samuel Minier</i>
<i>Annabelle Carapella</i>	<i>Karrigan Nichols</i>
<i>Charlie Collins</i>	<i>Lucy Piet</i>
<i>Marycate Farrell</i>	<i>Elijah Pirozzolo</i>
<i>Christianna Fuksman</i>	<i>Luca Pupura</i>
<i>Marguerite Furstoss</i>	<i>Seamus Sherwood</i>
<i>Nora Furstoss</i>	<i>Rose Sinnott-Giobbi</i>
<i>Everlee Hanna</i>	<i>Alivia West</i>
<i>Andrew Hoover</i>	<i>Jonathan Wheeler</i>
<i>Brady Kaiser</i>	

Congratulations and best wishes to our children, their parents, and families on this wonderful occasion!



**NOTRE DAME RETREAT HOUSE SPRING RETREATS AND EVENTS:**

**Social Justice Day - May 20: "Everyday Peace"**  
(Holly Rockwell--Justice & Care for Creation Coordinator for SSJ's Rochester and Sr. Barbara Lum, Sister of St. Joseph Rochester.)

**CATHOLIC HOME MISSION APPEAL:**

Thank you for your generous support of last week's Catholic Home Missions Appeal. With your support the church at home and across the United States is strengthened to spread the Gospel. If you missed the appeal, it's not too late to give! Just visit [www.usccb.org/home-missions](http://www.usccb.org/home-missions).



Your clean, refundable cans and both plastic and glass bottles are worth six cents each to the Horseheads Food Pantry when you drop them off at our parish office. The pantry uses the money to purchase the needed items when food donations fall short. Social Ministry is collecting these deposit containers, redeeming them for 6 cents, and sending the money on to the Food Pantry. Consider joining the several families who have been doing this for years. It will give you a "feel good" feeling, knowing that you are helping out our neighbors in need.



Our Social Ministry Committee is once again sponsoring their annual baby shower. The weekend of May 11- 12 is your last chance to bring new, unwrapped baby items to Mass and place them in the bassinet. Monetary donations may also be placed in the box provided.

In addition to welcoming the new babies, we would like to expand this event to include the new mothers. These new moms need encouragement, love and support while navigating the emotional and physical journey of pregnancy and childbirth. We have compiled a list of gifts that are needed. These lists can be found in the basket near the bassinet. Your donations will be given to needy mothers-to-be and mothers and their newborns through the work of the Elmira Pregnancy Resource Center.



The Wounded Healers' Bereavement Support Group Meeting will be offered on Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at 7:00 PM, in person, at St. Mary Our Mother School, 811 Westlake St., Horseheads, NY. You may wish to bring a picture or two of your loved one who died, or a momento of significance. Each one has a personal grief journey so we are open to listen, and are careful to not dogmatize. We welcome those who are grieving the death of a loved one to this sharing; as you are each hoping to find encouragement, insight, and normalization from each other. You may share or you may just listen. We encourage you to be sensitive to your own needs. All are welcome. We strive to provide a safe, confidential, and open place where our motto remains, "We see healing in the very act of helping."

Christine Lloyd

**MINISTERIAL STAFF**

- Rev. Christopher E. Linsler**, Pastor
- Rev. Richard F. Kajiru**, In Residence
- Mrs. Amanda Reeves**, Coordinator of Faith Formation
- Miss Lily Barr**, Faith Formation Assistant
- Mrs. Cathy Peckham**, Director of Music
- Mrs. Heather Bill**, School Principal
- Mrs. Adriana Enright**, School Secretary
- Michelle Card**, Business Manager
- Mrs. Joyce Pirozzolo**, Parish Secretary
- Ms. Wendy Slater**, Office Assistant
- Mr. Doug Johnson**, Cemetery Manager
- Mrs. Barbara Matterazzo**, Bulletin Editor
- Ms. Jenna Crandall**, Maintenance
- Mr. Roger Williams**, Maintenance

**PASTORAL COUNCIL**

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

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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 Parish Web Site.....[www.StMaryOurMother.com](http://www.StMaryOurMother.com)  
**St. Mary Our Mother School**  
 811 Westlake Street.....(607)-739-9157  
 E-mail.....[smoms@dor.org](mailto:smoms@dor.org)  
 School  
 Web Site.....[www.stmaryourmother.school](http://www.stmaryourmother.school)  
**Religious Education Office**  
 816 West Broad Street.....(607)-739-8214

### EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

#### Choosing to Love One Another

Love one another. The greatest commandment, the simplest commandment — and if you’ve ever loved anyone, you know it’s also the hardest.

I’m man enough to admit it. I’ve seen one or two of those cheesy Hallmark movies that are especially popular around the holidays. Boy meets Girl. Boy and Girl encounter a catastrophic roadblock to their relationship — they’re coaches of rival high school volleyball teams, or he runs a dog kennel and she works at a feline rescue, so it could never work out, right? But sprinkle a little movie magic over the whole situation and Boy and Girl find what Hallmark tells us is true love.

I could make a list of all the inaccurate things about these movies, and something I would put right near the top — maybe even above the sometimes unbelievable storylines — is the idea that love is a feeling.

I’m not sure if it’s accurate to call these movies love stories. Attraction stories, sure. But if you’ve ever forgiven someone who’s hurt you, nursed a dying parent, gotten up for an infant’s night feeding, or let your kid have the last piece of cake, you know that real love is a verb. It’s something you do. And it is almost always a choice.

### CATHOLIC TRIVA:

1. What does the word “Messiah” mean in English?
2. Who was the very first Pope to visit the Holy Land?
3. What do Catholics call the eve of a feast day?
4. According to tradition what event took place in the home of the apostle Mark’s mother?

### Everyday Stewardship continued:

Love one another. How often do we hear this? How often do we think about what it really means? How often do we take a moment to consider the action Jesus is asking us to take and the choice He is asking us to make?

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Answers to Catholic Trivia: 1. The Anointed One 2. Pope Paul VI 1964 3. Vigil 4. The Last Supper

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