



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 19, 2024



PENTECOST SUNDAY

Jesus said to his disciples: "When the Advocate comes whom I will send you from the Father, the Spirit of truth that proceeds from the Father, he will testify to me." - Jn 15:26

MEMORIALS:

The main altar flowers for the week of May 19-25, 2024 have been donated in loving memory of John Bennett by his wife, Michele and the Bill family.

OUR WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE WEEK ENDING May 5, 2024 \$11,713.17

IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Kate Dobransky
James Hackett
Louise (Weedie) Maloney
Francis (Skilly) O'Connor
Shirley Stage



FAITH FORMATION CELEBRATION:

Our Faith Formation Celebration is scheduled for May 19th following the 10:30 a.m. Mass. This event is open to the whole parish. There will be light snacks, activities, and information regarding our Faith Formation programs, including summer VBS.

MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY:

The American Legion will conduct a ceremony in honor of all service men and women, on May 27th, at 10:15 a.m. in the south cemetery. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

CHURCH ROOF REPLACEMENT

Work continues 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.

GOSPEL MEDITATION - Pentecost Sunday

When I was twenty-two years of age in August of 2000, I experienced World Youth Day in Rome. As for many of my generation, the event was life-changing for me. Surrounded by joyful, hope-filled young people from seemingly every nation and tongue, we were gathered around the Pope, sharing a common Faith and love. The Pope spoke to us of our shared family bond in the Church and invited us to give our lives in service to others. Now twenty-four years later, my life as a priest, like that of so many others from those special days, continues on that same path of love and unity — despite my many weaknesses. What makes that continuation possible?

This week's feast gives the answer: the Holy Spirit. The gift of God — His very life — the third person of the Trinity, is the Spirit who animates the entire Church and each member of it. He makes us one-in-love in a way that utterly exceeds human capacity. For example, he makes the apostles speak with tongues of fire, and everyone hears them in his own native tongue. The Holy Spirit is the means by which Jesus establishes a new family, one that crosses all possible boundaries of time, space, and culture. The Holy Spirit never tires in enthusing us for mission.

Aren't we longing to experience the Holy Spirit in a fresh way? Today we celebrate this untiring flame, once ignited on earth and burning still. So, we humbly cry out: Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and enkindle in us the fire of your love!

Father John Muir



PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:

Today is the **Solemnity of Pentecost**. From the red that is worn to the story of the arrival of the Holy Spirit, we are reminded how blessed we are to be children of God. As we conclude the Easter season today, we should be conscious of the presence of the Holy Spirit in our world today.

For Catholics, the sacramental life of the Church is based on the power of the Holy Spirit. I recall telling our First Communion children *"when you see the priest extending his hands over the bread and wine, he prays that the 'Holy Spirit will change them into the Body and blood of Christ.'*" During Mass, as I participate in that action, I feel the power of that moment, deeply aware that the same Spirit that had come upon the apostles was present now. During the Anointing of the Sick, immediately before we anoint the forehead and hands of the person to be anointed, there is a prayer of thanksgiving, asking that the Holy Spirit be present to those anointed.

During the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation, the Bishop or his delegate, invites the concelebrating priests to extend their hands with him over the confirmands, as the prayer of confirmation is prayed, calling down the same Holy Spirit of Pentecost on those to be confirmed. It is a very powerful moment, where I always feel connected with the apostles in that moment, sharing the power that God so freely gives to us. In celebrating the Sacrament of Penance, the priest raises his hand to offer absolution with the prayer asking God to send the Holy Spirit that our sins may be forgiven through the power of that Holy Spirit, concluding with the words, *"I absolve you from all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."* These sacramental moments take place only because the Holy Spirit is present and real for us today, as Jesus chose to send the Holy Spirit to us.

I believe that all of us share special moments in the lives of others. Oftentimes, it is with family and with friends, on occasion, even with strangers. These moments that the Holy Spirit is truly present, helping us grow, discern, resolve, and live. Very often people might say *"I don't know where the strength or insight came from....but, it was there!"*

In moments and times of prayer, the Holy Spirit is present. In our prayer, we may find something occurring that is much deeper than just our prayer intention. By our prayer, we are inviting God to intervene and help direct our lives. Prayer is more than just kneeling and speaking; it is the sharing of an encounter with God, a God who loves us.

Prayer invites us into a deeper and mysterious level in our relationship with God. It is the power of the Holy Spirit which invites us and guides us in our life of prayer.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

Monday: 6:45 A.M.	May 20, The Blessed Virgin Mary, The Mother of the Church Francis and Thomas Stermer— family
Tuesday: 6:45 A.M.	May 21, Weekday Joseph LeMark— Ann LeMark
Wednesday: 6:45 A.M.	May 22 , Weekday Florence Ruocco—Marianne and Bob Kosty
Thursday: 6:45 A.M.	May 23, Weekday Frank Greco—Jo Witzel
Friday: 6:45 A.M.	May 24, Weekday Deceased of the Mills family— family
Saturday:	May 25, Weekday Bill and Tess Danaher—their family
Sunday: 8:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M.	May 26, The Most Holy Trinity Raymond Sherwood—Deloris and the Alsworths Special Intention

Pastor's perspective continued.

This Pentecost Sunday, we will once again hear of the story of Pentecost. We will hear of the strong winds, the shaking house, the tongues of flames, the speaking in tongues—the experience of Mary and the apostles had in the upper room. Like Mary and the apostles, we are invited into our own Pentecost experience sharing that same Holy Spirit, who continually comes into our lives refreshing and renewing us. Today, we can be grateful that God has chosen us to be part of that story. Today, we can speak with the tongues of faith, knowing that our God is present and walks with us every moment of our lives. Today, we are filled with the knowledge that, while the Easter season may be ending, we are reassured that the Holy Spirit remains constant, consistent and a powerful presence in our lives.

Happy Pentecost! Have a great week. Please continue to take care of yourself and each other!

Fr. L



NOTRE DAME RETREAT HOUSE SPRING RETREATS AND EVENTS:

Social Justice Day - May 20, (Tomorrow): “Everyday Peace”

(Holly Rockwell--Justice & Care for Creation Coordinator for SSJ’s Rochester and Sr. Barbara Lum, Sister of St. Joseph Rochester.)



Today is Diocesan Missions Sunday, a day to honor the missionary efforts of the Sisters of St. Joseph and the Sisters of Mercy working and serving the needs of our brothers and sisters in Brazil and Chile.

We are called to take part in the missionary work of the Church. We may not all have to move to the missionary territories to do so, but impelled by the Holy Spirit, each one of us is to move beyond our daily concerns, important as they are, to help others live in the faith that sustains us.

We are reminded that our missionary activity is a living sign of our faith. The support of our Diocesan Missionaries by the Church of Rochester is a great piece of our history.

May we share the gift of faith today by helping our missionary friends with our prayers and a generous gift.

A BIG THANK FROM OUR CRS COORDINATOR:

Thanks so much to all of you who chose to donate to the Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl Project for your Lenten almsgiving. As a parish, our donations totaled \$3185.70. These funds are going to support CRS in their development work and relief services in the neediest areas of our globe. Twenty-five percent will be sent to the Horseheads Food Pantry as it works to alleviate local hunger.

Thank you, one and all, for embracing the spirit of Lenten almsgiving by so generously supporting Project

A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT:

Today we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit, the birth of the Church and the beginning of its mission in the world. Pentecost Sunday reminds us that our lives are filled with the Holy Spirit and that God has accomplished creative things in us through this gift. We have been entrusted with this great gift of the Holy Spirit. This great gift empowers us to be bold proclaimers of the Gospel in word and deed. It urges us to speak truth to power. It encourages us to use words and exhortations and even arguments that are meant to heal, show care and compassion and to reconcile. Now is a good time to ask: Are we being good stewards of this gift of the Holy Spirit? What creative things have we done to glorify God’s accomplishments in us?

- 1. **Whatever you do, do it enthusiastically, as something done for the Lord and not for men, knowing that you will receive the reward of an inheritance from the Lord. You serve the Lord Christ. – Colossians 3:23-24**

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

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- 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

Coming Back to Church:

Question: I have been away from the Church for a few years and really want to get active again, not so much for me, but for my children. Is this a bad reason to come back to Church? Answer:

If you are on your way to the supermarket, and you are forced to detour from your usual route because of road work, does the food you buy taste different? Is the meal less filling? Are the vegetables less tasty? Of course not. In our faith journey, there are many detours called sin. Some are greater than others, some are even a bit longer. But God's grace comes to us in ways we understand and recognize and need. Your children leading you back to the Church is not as important as the fact that you are back. This is an opportunity for you to renew, strengthen, and deepen your faith. Regardless of how we get to Church, or what draws us closer to God, the fact is we are there. Do what you need to do to get right with God and the Church.



A bit of humor:

What is a mathematician's favorite book of the Bible?
(Numbers)

What size was the lumber that was made to build the ark?
(2x2)

What kind of car would Jesus drive?
(Christler)

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