



# 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

August 25, 2024



## 21<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Jesus then said to the Twelve, "Do you also want to leave?" Simon Peter answered him, "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God." - Jn 6:67-69



### IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST:

Sr. Mary Anne Knight, SSJ  
Robert Lloyd  
Frances Decker

### PRAYER PLAQUE FOR THE SICK:

The prayer plaque listing the names of individuals who have asked for our prayers is posted in the vestibule of the church. If you wish to have your name added to the list, or know of someone who is sick and would like to be added, please call the parish office at 607-739-3817.

### WELCOME FATHER SINGANO:

We welcome **Father Peter Singano**, a priest from the Diocese of Tanga, Tanzania, who will begin his course of study at Elmira College in September. Like Father Richard Kajiru, Father Peter will be residing here at St. Mary Our Mother and assisting us in the parish during this time of study.

### GOSPEL MEDITATION

The famous Russian novelist Fyodor Dostoyevsky said, "Love in action is a harsh and dreadful thing." In the Gospel reading this week, Jesus does something harsh and dreadful — He watches His own disciples abandon Him. What could possibly be loving about that?

Well, we notice the context is Jesus' teaching about eating and drinking His body and blood. His followers hear this and say, "**This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?**" (John 6:60). We shouldn't imagine we'd do anything different, because not even the ones who stay, like Peter, seem to understand what Jesus is saying. Then we hear this devastating line, "**Because of this many of His disciples turned back and no longer went about with Him**" (John 6:66). Besides the night of the Last Supper, only now do Jesus' disciples abandon Him. And, painfully, Jesus just lets them go.

The best way to make sense out of this is love. Jesus is God's love in action. He wants to become one with those whom He loves. He wants to love them as His own body. Yes, the oneness manifested in the Eucharist sounds harsh and dreadful because it is rooted in love which is willing to risk abandonment and separation to attain its goal: to be one body with the beloved. It is both terrifying and wonderful that Jesus will risk losing us in order to be one with us. Our response? Lord, we cannot grasp a love so great, but please help us never to abandon it, either.

### ST. MARY OUR MOTHER SCHOOL ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

If you are looking for a great way to spend a fall afternoon with your friends out on the golf course, we hope you will join us for the 19th Annual St. Mary Our Mother School Golf Classic. You will be able to enjoy your love of golf while raising funds to support our school. The four person scramble tournament will be held on Sunday, September 15th, at Willow Creek. There will be dinner immediately following the tournament.

You can register an individual player, register a team and/or sponsor the tournament by completing a registration form and mailing the form or dropping it off with payment to St. Mary Our Mother School, 811 Westlake Street, Horseheads, NY 14845. Registration forms are available in the church vestibule or at the school. All checks should be made payable to St. Mary Our Mother School. If you have any questions regarding the tournament, please contact the school office at 739-9157.

### ST. MARY OUR MOTHER SCHOOL 2024-2025 REGISTRATION

St. Mary Our Mother School is accepting student registrations for the 2024-2025 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 \$200 per family. Both before and after school care are available. For further information, please call St. Mary Our Mother School at 739-9157 during summer hours from 8:00 a. m. - 2:30 p.m.

### ST. MARY OUR MOTHER SCHOOL WELCOMES STUDENTS AND TEACHERS:

Wednesday, September 4th, we will welcome back our students and families as we begin the 2024-25 school year.

The summer has been extremely busy as we have newly waxed floors in the gymnasium, classrooms, and hallways. We've been cleaning, repairing, and preparing for students to arrive in just a few short weeks.

For the school year 2024-25 we have a few new teachers joining our school family.

We welcome Mrs. Bridget Hallinan as the new Academic Intervention Services teacher. Mrs. Hallinan is excited to help our students be successful in our school and beyond.

We also welcome a new music teacher, Mrs. Katy Piet who will share her knowledge and love of music with grades K-6th.

Both Mrs. Hallinan and Mrs. Piet are looking forward to working with St. Mary Our Mother School staff and students.

Thank you for your continued support of our school, students, staff, and families. We are extremely blessed to have your prayers.

Blessings always,  
Mrs. Heather Bill, School Principal

**PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:**

I hope these August days are providing you times for summer rest and relaxation.

Last week we took a very quick look and brief journey through the history of the evolution of the vestments we use during the celebration of the Eucharist. Originally, these vestments were the ordinary garments of the ancient Roman world. Even when the passing of time dictated a change in fashions, the church has continued to use these. As a result of the Second Vatican Council, the number of vestments worn was simplified, so that today the priest wears an alb, cincture (which is optional), stole and chausible. The style and cut of today's vestments has also been simplified.

The chausible, the outer garment worn by the priest, is always the color of the liturgical season. On occasion, the priest may wear a chausible of neutral color, with an outer stole being the color of the liturgical season. The use of color in the liturgy became common practice during the fourth century, and was "institutionalized" by the Church during the twelfth century, during the reign of Pope Innocent III. For those who were unable to read, the liturgical color quickly conveyed to the people the flavor, as it was, of the celebration. There are basically four liturgical colors:

**WHITE**--the color of innocence and triumph, as well as the brightness of the sun. White is used in the Christmas and Easter seasons, on the feasts of Mary, and of the angels and saints, those who were not martyrs. White is also worn on feasts of the Eucharist, such as Holy Thursday and Corpus Christi. We also wear white on the occasions of funerals, a bit more about this later.

**RED**--the color of blood, is used on all feasts of our Lord's Cross and Passion, during the liturgies of Palm Sunday and Good Friday. Red is worn on the feasts of apostles, except John the Evangelist, and all martyrs. Red is also the color used on Pentecost, and in Masses of the Holy Spirit, including the Mass of Confirmation, in honor of the tongues of fire on the first Pentecost.

**PURPLE**--the color of anticipation as well as penance. This color is used during the seasons of Advent and Lent, although the shading of the purple is different. In Advent, the purple is meant to be a deep blue-violet, like the dawning of the winter sky. During the season of Lent, the purple worn is to be more red, leading us to the red of the Passion and Palm Sunday. Purple is also associated with repentance from sin and the sacrament of reconciliation, which is part of our preparation for Christmas and Easter.

**GREEN**--the color of budding and new growth, as well as the symbol of hope. We wear green during the season called Ordinary Time, when we explore and learn through the scriptures and prayer texts about the mission of Jesus, and our own mission in our contemporary world as His followers.

**MASSES FOR THE WEEK:**

<b>Monday,</b> 6:45 A.M.	<b>August 26, Weekday</b> Modesto Alvarez - Osborn family
<b>Tuesday,</b> 6:45 A.M.	<b>August 27, St. Monica</b> Joanne Silverstein - Steve & JoAnn Cowulich
<b>Wednesday,</b> 6:45 A.M.	<b>August 28, St. Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</b> Gay & Floyd Woodhouse - Cindy Saporito
<b>Thursday,</b> 6:45 A.M.	<b>August 29, The Passion of St. John the Baptist</b> Faithful departed
<b>Friday,</b> 6:45 A.M.	<b>August 30, Weekday</b> Special intention of Ronald Leigey, Sr. - , Ann Gresock
<b>Saturday,</b> 5:00 P.M.	<b>August 31</b> Madeline White - her family
<b>Sunday,</b> 8:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M.	<b>September 1, Twenty Second Sunday of Ordinary Time</b> Deceased of the Mills family - family Jim Cronin - Woodworth family

***Pastor's perspective continued:***

I mentioned earlier that the vesture for funerals today is white. Prior to the Second Vatican Council, the color black was used for funeral liturgies. In the early days after the Council around 1967, the color for funerals was modified to purple. Today, we use the color white on these occasions to emphasize our belief in the Easter event and our own resurrection when we are called home to God. We follow the advice of **St. Paul**, who wrote "*so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose, so too will God, through Jesus, bring with Him those who have fallen asleep.*" (Thessalonians 4: 13-15)

I hope you have enjoyed this lesson on the history of liturgical vestments.

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

Fr. L.



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

**Submission as Stewardship.**

We aren't comfortable with the idea of submission. Our society champions equality, and rightly so — but it's a mistake to think that submission is at odds with equality. To submit ourselves fully, we must first be free. We must first be our own masters. God has granted us that freedom with the salvation He offers. We are no longer the slaves of sin. Now He asks us to be subordinate to one another, in the name of Christ.

What a completely uncomfortable task! What He's asking is for us to be subordinate to the person who irritates us the most. The person we really can't stand. The person who doesn't respect us or appreciate what we have to offer. The person we think we're smarter than, more talented than. The person we envy.

That's the real challenge of stewardship, isn't it? Subordination. Inconveniencing myself by giving of time, of money, of relationship. Putting the needs or wants of another above my own when they haven't done anything special to earn it.

I invite you to consider the cross — the most radical expression of submission, and of stewardship, that ever existed. If there was ever someone who deserved superiority, isn't it the God who let Himself be nailed to a tree, who gave so freely of His life, His body, His blood, His everything?

To look at him in His agony is to truly understand the beauty of submission — of laying down what you have for the good of the other.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



**RCIA FOR ADULTS**

Are you interested in learning more about the Catholic faith. Perhaps you are married to a Catholic and are bringing your children up in the faith and you would like to participate fully in the Mass as well. Maybe it is an interest in Catholic Social teaching or an experience of the sacraments.

Whether you have never been baptized, or attended Sunday school, or were baptized in another Christian faith and are now interested in the Catholic Church, the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) could be for you. The RCIA process in which the faith journey of an individual is honored and together we talk about God and faith and the core beliefs of the Catholic faith.

For more information please call the parish office at 607-739-3817. Please provide your name and contact information for our RCIA coordinator, Amanda Reeves @ 607-739-8214.

**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**, 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**

- Parish Office**
- 816 West Broad Street ..... (607)-739-3817
- Fax ..... (607)-739-5628
- E-mail.....smomc@dor.org
- 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



The beginning of the school year is fast approaching, and that means the start of our parish faith formation classes. Following you will find important dates of when each program will begin.

**CONFIRMATION YRS. 1 & 2:** Sunday, September 15, 2024. There will be a meeting beginning at 5:00 p.m. in the church. All incoming 8th graders (year 1) and 9th graders (year 2) must attend with a parent. If your child will be entering 9th grade or above, has received the Sacraments of Baptism and First Holy Communion, and has not started year 2 Confirmation classes, they are encouraged to attend this meeting as well.

**First Penance:** Saturday, September 21, 2024, there will be a meeting at 9:00 a.m. in the church. All incoming 2nd graders who plan on receiving First Holy Communion in the Spring must attend this meeting with a parent. If your child is in a grade level other than 2nd grade and is at least seven years old and has been baptized and would like to receive First Holy Communion in the Spring, they must attend this meeting for First Penance.

**Tuesday Faith Formation Program:** Our Tuesday program will begin on Tuesday, September 24, 2024 beginning at 3:45 p.m. in the church. Please drop your student off in the church. Pick-up will also be in the church at 5:00 p.m.

**Youth Group:** The first Youth Group meeting of the school year will be held on Sunday, September 29th. at 5:00 p.m. All students in grades 6 and above are encouraged to come and bring a friend.

**Home Study:** Saturday, October 5, 2024, there will be a home study meeting in O'Brien Hall following the 5:00 p.m. Mass.

All registration forms for each program can be found in the back of the church next to the bulletin board or on the parish webpage. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Amanda Reeves or Lily Barr at the parish office- 607-739-8214.

## PRACTICING CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

### To Whom Shall We Go?

A friend of mine, who is a far better Christian than I can ever hope to be, once shared with me that her family sneers at her belief system and lifestyle.

She believes in fairy tales they tell her. She's looking for simple solutions from a kind-faced man in the sky because she doesn't want to grapple with complicated answers to complicated problems. Religion, they argue, is the easy way out.

As she spoke about this, her voice became unsteady. Not with anger, but with emotion. "I would never call this life easy," she said. "If I was looking for something that was easy, I wouldn't choose Catholicism."

What was unspoken was *why* she has chosen Catholicism. I know the answer, but only because I know her. I knew her before she chose it wholeheartedly, and I know her now, and I see the difference. I see that these words are written so clearly across the days of her life: "Master, to whom shall we go?"

Once the truth is known in your soul, you see, it can never be unknown.

Following Christ is not about easy answers and simple teachings. Sure, it all sounds very basic, "love one another as I have loved you". What could be more straightforward?

But what does that mean? What does that look like in daily, modern life, in a world full of the fallen, whose flaws have given us rough edges and weakened wills?

I'll tell you what it looks like - it looks like a struggle. It looks like failure and mess and confusion and losing your way and finding it again, all because you remembered that within you there is a compass pointing due north. It's a constant state of wandering in the dark, following a voice that asks you to go where you're afraid to go. And you follow the voice not because it's the only voice there is and not because it's the voice that says what you want to hear, but because it's the only one that speaks the truth, and the truth pulls on you in a way you can't quite resist.

When Christ asks, "Do you also want to leave?" He is not gaslighting us. It's a genuine question. We are free to go. We are not prisoners.

But we have heard the words of everlasting life, and now we can only have peace if we follow where they lead.

*"As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." - Joshua 24:15*

Listen for  
*God's Voice*  
In everything you do

*'Serving Our Parish Faithfully'*  
**Lynch Funeral Home Inc.**  
**739-1301**

318 West Broad Street, Horseheads, NY  
 Family Owned & Operated by: James J. Lynch II  
 James J. Lynch II & Heather Ann Lynch  
 Licensed Funeral Directors

739-0489  
  
 COMMERCIAL ROOFING,  
 CRANE SERVICE & SHEET METAL  
 2054 Grand Central Ave., Horseheads, NY

**TERRY ELECTRIC**  
 Fast Professional Service with Reasonable Rates  
 Paul Terry - Over 30 Years Experience  
 Residential or Commercial  
 Quality Work • Fully Insured • Free Estimates  
**607-739-4484 • 607-857-5429**

**GEROULD'S**  
 PROFESSIONAL PHARMACIES, INC.  
 'PRESCRIPTION DELIVERY SERVICE'  
 130 S. Main St. • 733-6696  
 215 Hoffman St. • 732-0597  
 2887 Westinghouse Rd. • 796-2193  
 98 W. Pulteney • 936-3233

*Yee Olde*  
**HICKORY HOUSE RESTAURANT**  
 American, Chinese & Italian Cuisine  
 New Hours: Open Monday-Saturday 4pm-11pm  
 739-2405 • 3543 Watkins Rd, Horseheads

  
 Italian Family Restaurant  
 Village Plaza • Horseheads, NY • 796-2677  
 Minier's Plaza • Big Flats, NY • 562-7000  
 Amot Mall Food Court • Horseheads, NY • 739-4641

**SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!**

**WOODBROOK**  
 A Tradition of Quality Assisted Living  
 Woodbrook Assisted Living Residence  
 ~ Elmira ~  
 Phone: 607-734-7741 • www.woodbrookhome.com

  
**Alsworth Capital Management, LLC**  
 Investment Management • Tax Planning  
 Insurance Planning • Estate Planning  
 Financial Planning  
 (607) 973-2665  
 www.AlsworthCapital.com

  
**SULLIVAN'S FUNERAL HOME**  
**607-739-2035**  
 Kevin R. Sullivan 365 E. Franklin St.  
 Licensed Funeral Director Horseheads, NY

  
**Plumbing Heating Electric AC/R**  
 www.bcinc.info 562-2023

  
**Delivery Through instacart**  
**Open Daily 6am-10pm**  
 2898 Westinghouse Rd, Horseheads, NY 14845  
 (In Village Plaza)  
**(607) 796-2191** Follow Us On:  
**horseheadsjubilee.com** 

  
**ADT-Monitored Home Security**  
 Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust  
**833-287-3502**  
 • Burglary • Flood Detection  
 • Fire Safety • Carbon Monoxide

**SHORT STAFFED?**  
 Place an ad here to find new local talent for your business.  
  
**CALL 800-477-4574**

FAITHFULLY SERVING OUR PARISH COMMUNITY  
  
**BARBER FUNERAL HOME**  
 413 SOUTH MAIN STREET, HORSEHEADS, NEW YORK 14845-2490  
 (607) 739-4801 • INFO@BARBERFUNERALHOME.COM  
 FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED FOR NEARLY  
 100 YEARS OF COMFORT, CONCERN, & SERVICE

  
**PARMENTER**  
 Tire, Auto and Truck Service • Team Tiremasters  
**www.parmenterinc.com**

  
**BOUGIES** 607-739-5321  
 ...Of Course!  
 Wedding Gowns, Tuxedo & Prom Gowns  
 Mother of the Bride/Groom Gowns  
 819 South Main St. in Horseheads

**LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS**  
 Place Your Ad Here and Support Our Parish!  
**CONTACT ME Lorne Searight**  
 lsearight@4LPi.com • (800) 477-4574 x6460

  
 2058 College Ave, Elmira Heights, NY  
**(607) 734-1492**  
 Your Neighborhood Destination for  
 Heartfelt Gifts and Beautiful Cards!

Call today for a free estimate  
**607.527.3256**  
  
**ELLIOTT CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, LLC**  
**RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL SITE WORK**  
 EXCAVATION • SITE DEVELOPMENT • ASPHALT  
 CONCRETE: PADS, SIDEWALKS, RETAINING WALLS & FOUNDATIONS  
 SEPTIC SYSTEM INVESTIGATION & INSTALLATION • UTILITY WORK  
 GRAVEL, STONE, & TOPSOIL DELIVERIES  
**CO. RTE. 125, CAMPBELL, NY 14821**  
**WWW.ELLIOTTCS.COM**

  
**Bzostek's**  
 AUCTION SERVICE, INC.  
 REAL ESTATE AUCTION CO., INC.  
 We do Auctions anywhere in NY!  
**Bernard J. Bzostek, CAI**  
 Licensed Real Estate Broker and Certified Auctioneer  
 Real Estate, Estates, Businesses & more!  
 No Commission charged to Sellers on Real Estate Auctions!  
**www.askbernie.com**  
 Call: Bernie's SELL # (315) 447-5177