



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

September 15, 2024



24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



He summoned the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and that of the gospel will save it." - Mk 8:34-35

MEMORIALS:



The Blessed Mother flowers in the Church for the week of September 8—14, 2024 were donated in loving memory of Sue Beering— her husband, Fran.

IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST:

- Helena Barr
- Leonard Danna
- Marlene Fiorini
- Angela Piersimoni
- Angela Rocchi
- Helen Sullivan
- Robert Kosty
- Sean Wawrzusin



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.

CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT:

Please be generous in this week’s special collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. In the United States, over 11% of the population lives in poverty. Through this collection, you support programs that address the root causes of poverty and provide a sustainable future for those struggling across the country. In addition, 25% of the funds we collect remain in our diocese to fund local antipoverty projects. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this collection and those working on the margins. More information about the Catholic Campaign for Human Development can be found at www.usccb.org/cchd.

19th ANNUAL ST. MARY OUR MOTHER SCHOOL GOLF CLASSIC

Please join St. Mary Our Mother School for their 19th Annual St. Mary Our Mother School Golf Classic. The Captain & Crew tournament will be held today, Sunday, September 15th, 10:00 a.m. shot-gun start, at Willowcreek Golf Club. This is one of our biggest fund-raisers of the year, and we invite our school, parish, and community partners to help by supporting this event. The day consists of an 18-hole round of golf, lunch at the turn, along with awards and dinner. Sponsors and golfers are asked to submit a registration form, along with payment, to the school office at 811 Westlake Street, Horseheads, NY, 14845. Checks should be made payable to *St. Mary Our Mother School*. Registration forms can be found on the table outside the sacristy or at the school office. Please call the school office with any questions 739-9157.

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

September 15, 2024
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

This morning, I received a text message that a member of my extended family will likely die of cancer within the next few hours. His name is Luke. He is a 45-year-old husband and father of six. Though I am not as close to him as my sister (she is his sister-in-law and knows him well), I wonder: how can we, including Luke himself, manage such a terribly awful and unfair situation?

The words of this Sunday’s Gospel offer a powerful and challenging path. Jesus says, **“If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me”** (Mark 8:34). Today I see with new freshness the starkness and strangeness of the words **take up**. The cross stands for suffering which is unjust, absurd, seemingly hopeless, and humiliating. Jesus doesn’t say “accept” or “endure” or “tolerate,” but “take up.” Embrace it, actively. Choose it and lift it up for others to see what terrifies and sickens us. But somehow, for Jesus, this is the path to **“saving one’s life.”** A new world is breaking in, one in which love is everything, when no relationship can be wounded or die. I trust that in the embraced suffering of Luke and his loved ones, Jesus is taking up His cross and saving us all.

By the time you read this, barring a miracle, Luke will have died. He will be carrying his cross no longer. But we all still face suffering. This week let’s not just endure, but take up our crosses, big and small. That’s our only hope for saving our lives.

— *Father John Muir*

On-line giving QR code



PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:

Today is **Catechetical Sunday**, a day when we acknowledge and affirm the many dedicated people who serve as teachers and catechists in the various faith formation programs of our parish. This year's theme for Catechetical Sunday selected by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) is "**Lord, when did we see you hungry.**" (Matthew 25:37) Today is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the teaching role each of us plays in being a faith role model for others. Today is also a time to acknowledge and affirm all parents who are the first and best teachers of the Catholic faith to our children.

Today, I have asked **Lily Barr**, who serves as our Faith Formation Associate for our Faith Formation programs at St. Mary Our Mother, to offer us an update on these programs.

Within the past year, our Faith Formation Family has experienced remarkable growth, both in the number of students participating in our programs and the volunteers generously contributing their time and talent. This expansion is a testament to our shared commitment to nurturing our faith and community. This year, our popular on-site Tuesday program will be extended to any pre-k to seventh grade student from 3:45 to 5:00 p.m. We will also offer a Home Study program for parents who wish to take on the role of a catechist at home, with quarterly group check-ins in O'Brien Hall between the 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday Masses. Sacramental preparation for First Penance and First Communion will commence for all students in second grade and above who have completed at least one year of Faith Formation. Sacramental preparation for First Penance and First Communion will commence for all students in second grade and above who have completed at least one year of Faith Formation. From eighth grade, students may be eligible to begin preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation, a two year program with monthly meetings held after the Sunday 10:30 a.m. Mass. For further information on these programs, please contact the Faith Formation Office at 607-739-8214.

I invite you to join me in expressing our heartfelt gratitude to all our dedicated volunteers who have been the backbone of our many programs. Their unwavering commitment and hard work have been instrumental in building our programs into what they are today. A special thank you to Sarah Bancroft, Amy Barr, Kerry Bocko, Karen Fracchia, Kathy Geary, Melanie Gehl, Shirley Lant, Tina Mitchell, Desiree O'Rourke, Jean Oshetski, Kiba Painter, Nick Piet, Jane Pronti, Christina Regula, and Jacqueline Shope. We also extend our thanks to the inspiring youth volunteers who have contributed in numerous ways throughout the school year.

: Erica and Maddison Bancroft, Ivy and Willow Barr, Emma Berkovich, Makenzie Blauvelt, Mylynn Flint, Aaron Kaiser, Adam Lanipao, Liliana Mata, Hawkins Mitchell, Adelaide Pronti, Lillian and Lucia Shope, and Tanner Watson. These youth catechists have been given such a fantastic gift from God, and we are so happy to have them be such an integral part of our Faith Formation Program.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

Monday, September 16, St. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs
6:45 A.M. Mary Amisano—Guy

Tuesday, September 17, Weekday
6:45 A.M. Faithful Departed

Wednesday, September 18, Weekday
6:45 A.M. Buddy Blasco—Osborn family

Thursday, September 19, Weekday
6:45 A.M. Faithful Departed

Friday, September 20, St. Andrew Kim, Priest
6:45 A.M. Intentions of the 6:45 a.m. Mass family

Saturday, September 21, St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist
5:00 P.M. Lynda Seeley—Phyllis Dahlhaus

Sunday, September 15, Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:30 A.M. Dan and Stephanie Dewey—the Palladino family
10:30 A.M. Paul Wyak — his wife, Nan

Pastor's Perspective continued:

Of course, we would like to thank Father Chris for always supporting our programs, children, and parish. His hard work and dedication have made Saint Mary Our Mother such a blessed community.

We will see you all soon! God Bless!

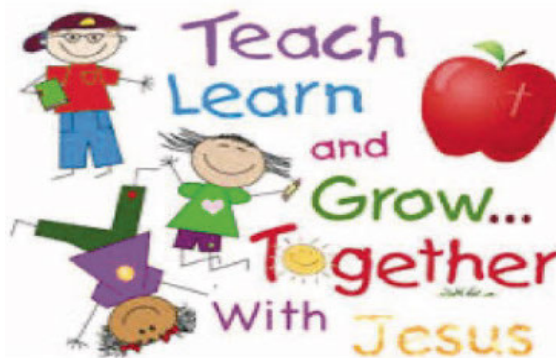
Lily Barr
Faith formation Associate

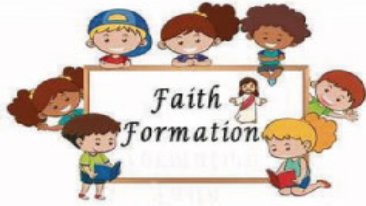
Thank you, Lily.

"Catechists are people who keep the memory of God alive; they keep it alive in themselves and are able to revive it in other." - Pope Francis I

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

Fr. L





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

The Horseheads Food Pantry is requesting the following much needed food items: **crackers** (saltine or ritz type), **cereals** (oatmeal or cold cereals), and **“frosting for cake mixes.”**

CONFIRMATION YRS. 1 & 2: Sunday, September 29, 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.

The pantry is always in need of **personal care items** as they are not available from the Food Bank. This includes: **body soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and feminine personal hygiene items.** They cannot accept over the counter medicines or vitamins.

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 must attend this meeting for First Penance.

MINISTERIAL STAFF

- Rev. Christopher E. Linsler**, Pastor
- Rev. Richard F. Kajiru**, In Residence
- 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

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.

PASTORAL COUNCIL

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

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

CONTACT INFORMATION

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

- 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

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 Lily Barr at the parish office-607-739-8214.

PRACTICING CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Take Up Your Cross

When I'm interviewing people for my job as a staff writer at an archdiocesan newspaper, I like to ask them this question: at the end of your life, when you meet God, what do you want to hear Him say?

I've gotten a lot of interesting answers.

"I called and you listened."

"What tee time would you like tomorrow?"

"What were you thinking?"

"Your service made things better."

It's a question I've thought a lot about, personally. What I want to hear God say when I finally see His face is this: "You can put it down now."

When Jesus asks His disciples "Who do you say that I am?" He is not just asking them to verbalize an answer. He is asking them to do something: pick up the cross. Find the problems in this world, in this life, and throw your arms around them. Drag them to God, even if it kills you. It's not enough to stand by the sidelines, watching Christ ascend to Calvary, nodding your head in approval. *Yes, I agree. Yes, I believe. Yes, Jesus, good job!* You have to follow in every bloody footprint He leaves in the dust. Set your face like flint. And when you meet Him at the top, you better not be empty-handed. He has a cross, He will expect you to have one, too.

I hope that I can do it. I hope that I am strong enough. I am not one of those great, hardy souls. I stumble terribly under the weight of my very small cross. I grumble as I shift it from shoulder to shoulder. But every time I have been almost at the point of giving up, almost ready to lay it down, there is something — someone — who supports my drooping arm. The Lord God is my help.

If, at the end of everything, I hear the words, "You can put it down now," then I will know I have made it. I will know I have not failed: I took up the cross.

"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." Matthew 16:24

©LPi

CATHOLIC HUMOR;



The pope just landed in New York, and is escorted to a limo. He approaches the driver and says "Look, they never let me drive in the Vatican anymore. Could you please let me drive? I promise I won't tell anyone."

At first the limo driver refuses, the pope isn't on their insurance, it's an awkward vehicle to drive, but the pope insists and eventually he gives in and hops in back. The pope gets in the driver's seat and floors it: 30... 40... 50... 60... 70 down the airport road. The driver is in back grabbing the seat and screaming for the pope to slow down, but he just keeps accelerating until the blue and red lights start flashing behind him. He slows down and pulls over.

The cop gets out of his car and comes up to the driver's window, takes one look at the pope behind the wheel and returns to his squad car and radios command:

"Chief? I just pulled over someone in a limo going 80 in a 35."

"Well, what are you calling in for, ticket him!"

"The thing is, I think he might be too important to ticket."

"What do you mean? Was it the mayor?"

"Nope, more important"

Nope, more important"

"Governor?"

"More important"

"President?"

"Nope, still more important"

"Who is more important than the president?"

"I think it might be God Himself"

"Why on earth do you think that it is God Himself that you just pulled over?"

"Well, He has the pope for a limo driver!"-

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