



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

October 20, 2024



29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Rather, whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all.” - Mk 10:43-44

WEEKLY CALENDAR:

Tuesday, October 22

3:45 p.m. –Faith Formation classes—school

Thursday, October 24

7:00 p.m. —Adult Choir rehearsal—church

Saturday, October 26

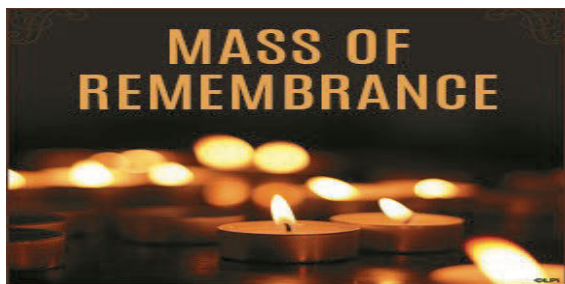
3:30 p.m. —Sacrament of Penance—church



The main altar flower arrangement for the week of October 20—26, 2024 has been donated in loving memory of Angie Barbitto & Bill Cotterill by their families.

IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST:

John J. Palladino



The annual **Mass of Remembrance** will be celebrated on **Sunday, November 3rd** at the **10:30 a.m.** Mass. During the liturgy, we remember all those who died from our parish since November, 2023 and will remember each of our departed brothers and sisters by name. If you have a family member or friend who has died during the past twelve months whose funeral was not from St. Mary Our Mother and you would like to have their name included during this Mass, please contact the parish office and we will include their names on the remembrance list. All are invited to come and share in this special time of remembering our faithful departed loved ones, and offer support for their families and friends.

HANDS OF CHRIST AWARD 2025:

The Hands of Christ is a recognition program to assist parishes in affirming their high school seniors who have been the “Hands of Christ” in their church, home, school, and greater community. You are invited to nominate a high school senior of the class of 2025 for the Hands of Christ recognition.

A nominated high school senior must meet the following criteria:

- *consistently demonstrates a Christian attitude by word and example;
- *has been actively involved in their parish as well as their school community;
- *has been a positive role model for peers and younger children;
- *is a participating member of St. Mary Our Mother parish and attends Mass regularly;
- *is currently a high school senior.

To nominate a senior, please stop at the parish office for a registration form, complete the registration form including the nominee’s name, address, telephone number, and high school along with the examples of the above mentioned criteria. All forms will be reviewed by Father Linsler for approval as pastor. All nominations are due in the parish office by December 1, 2024.

SHARE THE WARMTH: HELP US HELP OUR COMMUNITY: Coat Drive



Come participate in the fourth Annual Coat Drive! September 18th—October 31st. we are accepting new and gently used: coat- scarves - gloves - hats - socks. All sizes for children and adults.

Drop off location bins: IAFL Main Lobby, LECOM at Elmira main lobby; Chemung Valley Montessori School, Alternative School for Math and Science, and St. Mary Our Mother School.

For more information, please contact: elmiracoat-drive@gmail.com.

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:

October is the month when we center our attention on the respect for all life, often times referred to as **Respect Life Month**. It is a time of year when we see significant changes in our weather as the summer comes to an end and autumn activities begin. It is a time when we become aware of the “dying” of the earth as flowers go into their winter slumber, as the trees give up their colorful leaves, as we tend to remain indoors more often, and the cooler days reminds us that winter is not far off.

These seasonal changes invite us to explore our human changes. We become aware of the boundaries of life: living, dying and rising again. We become aware of how very precious each day of life is and how we should treasure each day that God gives us. We also become more aware of those who share life with us and how precious is their life to us and to the world.

Given this reality, we focus once again on the basic tenets of our faith: life begins with God and life ends according to God's plan. The Church teaches us that life begins at conception. As a mother cares for her infant in the womb, she is assisting God in the creative process not only giving birth to new life, but allowing herself to house life and nurture her developing child. We hear and see many debates these days which speak of life in the womb—what can be allowed and what must be forbidden; what can be legislated and what cannot be legislated. We see political debates from those seeking office who attempt to define the church's teaching. The teaching is rather simple—life begins at conception when God chooses to initiate the creation of a new child.

In the same vein, life continues until God determines when we should come home to heaven. This has become somewhat complicated with the advance of medicine and the development of technology and medications which can prolong and sustain life. At times, a family may face the question, “*are we sustaining life or simply keeping the body going?*” Families have to decide when enough is enough regarding treatments and medications. This is also a challenge because no one likes to let go of a loved one and no one likes to think that ‘they’ may have ended someone's life. Yet, deciding for comfort care, deciding this is enough pain, deciding that further treatment is not going to add to the quality of life, embracing the idea that it is time to let go and let God bring a loved one home—these are all quality decisions and actually embrace life and the preciousness with which we hold life.

It is easy to appreciate the preciousness of life when we hold a newborn infant in our arms, and experience how beautiful life is. Strangely enough, it is also easy to appreciate the preciousness of life when sitting at the bedside of a dying person, listening to their breathing, hearing their final words, saying silent prayers—there is a deep appreciation for all that sustains life. On a beautiful fall day, when we see the beautiful autumn colors, experience the

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

Monday, 6:45 A.M.	October 21, Weekday Our Faithful departed
Tuesday, 6:45 A.M.	October 22, Weekday Anthony Dandrea—wife, Ida & family
Wednesday, 6:45 A.M.	October 23, Weekday Bernie Matterazzo—his wife, Barbara and family
Thursday, 6:45 A.M.	October 24, Weekday Mary Woodard—daughter, Evelyn & family
Friday, 6:45 A.M.	October 25, Weekday deceased of the Mills family —family
Saturday, 5:00 P.M.	October 26, Weekday Bernie Matterazzo—JoAnn Sabatura
Sunday, 8:30 A.M.	October 27, Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Sonia and Mark Palladino— their family
10:30 A.M.	Jessica Flear Bradbury—James Flear and Kathy

Pastor's perspective continued:

seasonal air, we can sense the wonders and value of human life.

It is more challenging to appreciate life when we are angry with one another, when we have been hurt, when we are frightened or confused. We do not value life when we feel sad or depressed, lost and wonder where are friends are, and don't even value our own lives! Yet, the challenge is always to realize that life is precious! Why? Life is a gift from God—and we cannot take that fact lightly. Life is entrusted to us and we need to be responsible for it and never place any life in jeopardy. Life is something to be experienced, enjoyed, and seen as a means of coming in touch with God. Life always evolves, grows and surprises us—and none of this will happen if we are not open to life.

As we continue our journey during this month of **October Respect Life Month**, take a moment to appreciate the wonderful and unique life God has given just to you.

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

Fr. L

DONATIONS FOR HURRICANE RELIEF:

**Catholic Church, U.S.A., 2050 Ballenger Avenue,
Suite 400, Alexandria, Virginia 22314**

Please send directly to the above address and indicate “Hurricane Relief”.

Thank you!

PRACTICING CATHOLIC: RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS:

Made to Serve

I thought it often in my first year as a mother, when I was every day discovering what this new life of parenthood looked and felt like: doing anything with kids is a hundred times harder than doing it without kids. But it's a thousand times better.

From eating dinner to going to Mass to taking a walk around the block — every single outing, even the simplest ones, had an extra level of logistical complexity. I had to bring diapers and food and extra clothes. I had to be ready to distract, to comfort, to settle, to de-escalate. Before, I just showed up, did the thing and went home. Now, I had to be ready to coordinate.

I had to be ready to serve.

But even while everything had become so much more complicated, so much harder, there was suddenly a joyfulness to these experiences that had not been there before. Yes, I was a mom now, a servant if there ever was one, constantly tending to someone else's needs, and it was difficult. Sometimes terribly so. But it was beautiful (not in a physical way — I was usually covered in baby spit-up — but my soul had that glow, you know?).

It was the first time in my life that I really understood what it was to serve, and the power of that vocation to which we are all called.

This isn't just true of parenthood. It's true of every relationship. When we find someone we can meaningfully, wholeheartedly serve — our spouse, our best friend, our employees, our students, our patients, whoever it is — the effort becomes nothing compared to the joy and the fulfillment we find in the work.

We were made for greatness, and Christ tells us that to be great is to serve. So don't be afraid of greatness. Don't be afraid to serve.

Romans 12:11 Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people, because you know that the Lord will reward each one for whatever good they do.



WORLD MISSION SUNDAY:

Today is World Mission Sunday. We celebrate this day by remembering our baptismal call—to bring the Gospel to all! The collection today for the Society of the Propagation of the Faith supports the work and witness of the Mission Church, as it provides for priests, religious and lay leaders who offer the Lord's Mercy and concrete help to the most vulnerable communities in the Pope's missions. Thank you for your generosity.



MINISTERIAL STAFF

- Rev. Christopher E. Linsler**, Pastor
- Rev. Peter Singano**, 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

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

PARISH CENSUS:

The Diocese of Rochester is currently in the process of carrying out a census initiative. The purpose of this census is to gather accurate and up-to-date information about all our parishioners, as well as those Catholics not yet registered in our parishes. By conducting this comprehensive survey and obtaining accurate contact information, we aim to strengthen pastoral care, stewardship, and enhance communication by having a reliable means of informing you about events, programs, ministries, and greater opportunities for spiritual growth at your parish and throughout the diocese.

Kindly be assured that all information provided will be handled with the utmost confidentiality. The data collected will be used solely for pastoral, stewardship, and communication purposes.

PARISH CENSUS ACTION STEPS:

Over the coming months, every Catholic in the Diocese has been asked to participate in the census. You will receive an email with a link asking you to complete the digital census. This email is not spam, and I encourage you to complete it. Should you feel uncomfortable completing the census shared in the email, we will have opportunities today to complete the census form.

Should you have any questions about the census process, please contact the parish office (607-739-3817). I appreciate your participation in this initiative.



NATIONAL ELECTIONS 2024-LEARN ABOUT THE ISSUES:

Participation in public life requires judgements about concrete circumstances. On these complex matters, it is our responsibility to form our consciences and grow in the virtue of prudence-to approach the many and varied issues of the day with the mind of Christ. An important starting point is to consider from what sources I get my information. Are these sources reputable? Are they neutral or connected with a particular political party or bias? How can I check claims that I hear to ensure their accuracy? It is our responsibility to learn more of Catholic teaching and tradition, to participate in Church life, to learn from trustworthy sources about the issues facing our communities, to consider not only the candidates positions on issues but their character and integrity as well.

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

October 20, 2024
29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

From a young age, I loved winning at sports. I confess that winning was a bit of an addiction. It was probably coming from a deep desire for attention and affirmation from others. Nevertheless, it was a driving motivation for me. Baseball, soccer, track, table tennis, and whatever else I could find was a chance to win. Competition was my obsession.

Another John, and his brother James, demonstrate a kind of wildly competitive obsession when they dare to say to Jesus: **“Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory”** (Mark 10:37). Their audacity arouses an indignant reaction from the other apostles, who are clearly raw that these two are out to win the highest spots.

How does Jesus respond to us in our desires for greatness? The same way He does to James and John. He does not criticize them for their desire for glory. But He does highlight their ignorance (**“you do not know what you are asking.”**). Then He invites them to be champions of true greatness: by drinking not the cup of worldly victory, but His cup of self-giving suffering love, to be the **“slave of all.”** The true winners are slaves of love. This week, dare to tell Jesus what your ambitions truly are. Hear Him call you to an even greater victory.

— *Father John Muir*



CATHOLIC MINISTRY APPEAL:

We hope you have received the Catholic Ministries Appeal mailing and have had a chance to review the materials. The theme of this year’s campaign is **“Extending Christ’s Mission.”** This annual appeal affords each of us an opportunity to support the larger Church so that it can meet real needs throughout the diocese. Your support enables the Church to be responsive and caring. Please be generous in your response to this appeal. Every gift is needed and important! If it is easier, you can make your pledge at www.dor.org. You can also pay your pledge in six installments. Please pray for the success of our efforts. Thank you!

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