



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

November 3, 2024



31st SUNDAY *in ordinary time*

When Jesus saw that he answered with understanding, he said to him,
"You are not far from the kingdom of God." - Mk 12:34ab

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

WEEKLY CALENDAR:

Tuesday, November 5th.

3:45 p.m. —Faith Formation classes—school
5:30 p.m. —First Penance Celebration—church

Thursday, November 7th.

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

Saturday, November 9th.

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



The main altar flower arrangement for the week of November 3—9, 2024 has been donated in remembrance of all deceased loved ones.

IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST:

Michael Hollenbeck
Richard Kwasnik
William Olin



CATHOLIC MINISTRY APPEAL

We thank those who have given generously and ask all who have not yet given to prayerfully consider doing so. The CMA helps our Church and our parish in so many ways. Please consider all the ways that God has blessed you and your family and think of how the Church has brought goodness into your lives. Join our appeal and give back what you can so that we remain strong and able to do God’s great work!

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.



Please remove all spring decorations and flowers from the Cemetery by Sunday, November 5th. Holiday decorations are allowed from November 15th through March 1st. Spring and Summer decorations/flowers are allowed from March 15th through November 1st. Any items you do not wish to be discarded should be removed by November 5th.

November 11th will be the observance of Veterans day. In our cemetery we have many veterans from all branches. From the Spanish-American War, World War One and Two, Koren and Vietnam wars. On Veterans Day please keep them in your prayers

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:

November traditionally is the month when we remember our faithful departed. Our Church has long set aside this period of time to join with those who mourn and to rejoice in the deep faith that calls us to see beyond time and space and realize the existence of life after death. For all in the northeastern part of our country, it is a time of year of dying—it is dark in the morning and dark approaches late in the afternoon. It is a time of year when trees lose their leaves, summer flowers are gone, and other than the winter snow, the earth seems to be at rest. There is almost a natural call to reflect on dying and rising.

Occasionally when in the presence of a person who is about to pass, I will hear the person verbalize about a person they look forward to seeing or an adventure they believe they are beginning. Sometimes they have had visions of what is ahead and they anxiously look to embrace it. At times, there is an anomaly, the family weeping the anticipated death, and the dying person anticipating the future. Very often, we draw strength from those who are leaving us, or who have left us. Perhaps they will say or do something which helps us to move to the next step. As people of faith, we don't often think of how dynamic our faith is and how it does move us even when we believe we cannot be moved. November invites us to be part of the process and simply not a bystander.

When I listen to eulogies at funerals, rarely do I hear about business achievements, bank or investment accounts, buildings or politics. What I hear is about a person's character, relationships, lessons learned, examples given, and perhaps the most important, the virtue of love. The speaker will give witness to those intangible aspects of human life that somehow the deceased made tangible and real. The eulogy speaks of the interweaving of human life and the very real fact that most of those qualities extend beyond death. While these may be reflections of the past, they speak of living today and the promise of experiencing them again in the presence of God. Such eulogies remind us of life after death and the mourning is real but also healing.

As we journey through these November days, the Church invites us to remember our loved ones who have passed. It is important to remember because we are people of memory. There is always a certain sadness when we experience death, as well as an occasional wish to have our loved ones come back to us. However, we are reminded that God gives us real time in our world to live our life and has given eternal time to those who have left us. We are a faith people believing in life after death and reuniting with loved ones and friends. All is not lost, everything can be gained.

The month of November ends with Thanksgiving. It is a holiday when we are invited not only to be grateful for what we have but also to anticipate what will be. As we gather at our homes and tables, we pray for one another, remember the past, but also dream for the future. And what comes immediately after Thanksgiving—the season of Advent.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

Monday, 6:45 A.M.	November 4, St. Charles Barromeo, Bishop Deceased of the Curtin family—family
Tuesday, 6:45 A.M.	November 5, Weekday Mamie Woodard—sister, Evelyn and family
Wednesday, 6:45 A.M.	November 6, Weekday Charito Fordley—The Lapitans
Thursday, 6:45 A.M.	November 7, Weekday Mary Amisano—husband, Guy
Friday, 6:45 AM	November 8, Weekday Faithful departed
Saturday 5:00 P.M.	November 9, The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica Greg Schultz—Ed and Mary Lee Fairbrother
Sunday 8:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M.	November 10, The Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Teri Guardi—Bob Dawn E. Reagan

Pastor's perspective continued:

The sacred time of a new beginning, anticipate confirmation of hope, and dreaming of the Second Coming. November is a dynamic month filled with all kinds of human emotions. It is a time to reach into our hearts and remember to be grateful, shed an occasional tear, laugh a lot, dream, and remember that we are children of an everlasting, merciful, and all loving God.

The Annual Catholic Ministries Appeal continues. Many of our parishioners have already made their pledge to this year's appeal, and I thank you. If you have not yet made your gift to the CMA, please consider a gift to the appeal in support of our diocesan Church.

Please remember that Tuesday of this week is Election Day. As responsible Catholic Christians of our country, please take time to be informed on the important issues to this election and vote.

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

Fr. L.

**NATIONAL ELECTIONS 2024:
Being a faithful citizen:"**

Please pray for all those seeking election to public office. As we prepare to vote on November 5th. Our U.S. Catholic Bishops ask us to pray and reflect: What is the connection between our faith which offers a vision of hope where justice and mercy abound and the desire to change the world for the better? What kinds of leaders does our society need? For what should they stand and how should they lead?

NOTRE DAME RETREAT HOUSE EVENTS:

November 6 —Fill Your Soul Day:

“Looking Godward: Noticing God’s Presence in Prayer and in life”

(Jim Krisher with Center for Spiritual Direction, Syracuse)

November 15—Senior Luncheon Series

“Easy To Do Strength and Stretching”

(with Jennifer Muscato, UR Thompson Health & Wellness)

November 15-17—Men & Women Silent Weekend Retreat:

“Just as you Are”-encountering God in the Sacred Heart of Jesus- (Fr. Danial Ruiz, Fr. Larry Searles, S.J. & Jodie Scordo)

December 7— Advent Day Retreat

“God Present and Coming: The Reigning of God in our Day” (with Sr. Mary McGlone, CSL)

December 11— Fill Your Soul Day

“Time Management: Making time for God, Self and Others”—Michael Wischnowski.Phd

WOUNDED HEALERS’ BEREAVEMENT GROUP:

The meeting will be offered on Tuesday, November 12th., at 7:00 P.M, in person at St. Mary Our Mother School 811 Westlake St., Horseheads, NY. Use the door of the school across from the playground to enter the school. You may want 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 with “shoulds.” 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.”

HORSEHEADS FOOD PANTRY:

The clients of the Food Pantry generally are eligible to gather their food supplies only once a month. With Thanksgiving coming up shortly, the pantry is requesting the following traditional Thanksgiving foods:

- Boxed Instant Mashed potatoes
- Turkey Stuffing Mix
- Pie Crust Mix
- Pumpkin Pie Filling

The pantry staff hopes to be able to supply each family that comes in the next month with these four popular Thanksgiving foods. Please consider donating one or more of these items. Please bring your food offerings to the pantry box located in the vestibule of the Church.

Your continued support of the Food Pantry is greatly appreciated

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

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEP-ER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE:

Americans have long been fascinated with public debates. Farmers stood in muddy fields for hours to hear Lincoln and Douglas dispute each other in the 1860 presidential run-up. The televised debate between Kennedy and Nixon in 1960 fascinated the nation. These days, cable news outlets and social media parse every word spoken by candidates. We still love seeing public, rational disputes in the service of our nation.

In His day, Jesus also captured attention as a public debater. Mark tells us, “And one of the scribes came up and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that He answered them well, asked Him, ‘Which commandment is the first of all?’” Jesus’ brief but all-encompassing response is the double command to love God and neighbor. Notice that He includes the importance of loving God with “all your mind.” Loving God is not simply a question of affection, loyalty, good deeds, and religious dedication. It demands honest and intense intellectual engagement — just like an accomplished debater.

How do we do this practically? One simple way is by embracing ourselves as life-long learners. Setting aside time for reading, book studies, online classes, and, perhaps most difficult, engaging in open, honest, and curious conversation with those who think differently from us. These are all great ways to love God with our minds. Our country and our Church depend greatly on souls who love God in this way with their minds. Let’s commit to loving God with all our minds in tireless pursuit of truth.

— Father John Muir

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE:



A Christian missionary is walking through the jungle when suddenly a lion attacks him. When he is about to be eaten he lifts his eyes and says:

Our Father, for you everything is possible, touch the heart of this lion and make him a follower of Christ.

A light comes from heaven and the lion stops and says:

Bless us, oh Lord, and these Thy gifts which we are about to receive...

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS:

The Daily Examen of Stewardship;

“Stewardship” can get a bum rap these days. When folks hear the term “stewardship” from the pulpit, their eyes tend to kind of glaze over. “Here’s Father asking for more money,” they groan inwardly, “Get ready for the passing of the pledge cards.”

Christ refutes this idea when He gives us what He calls the greatest commandments — instructing us to love God and to love our neighbor. Now, Christ is a man who chose His words carefully. He meant exactly what He said — and He didn’t say that the greatest commandments were to tithe and to give money to charity. If He had wanted stewardship to be only about money, He would have said so.

Sometimes we are indeed called to show our love for God and neighbor in the form of a financial gift. But the concept of Everyday Stewardship — living mindfully in prayer, grateful for our blessings, and gracious to our neighbors, committed to God, and accountable to each other — is about so much more.

I propose a twist on the long-held practice of the “Daily Examen” — a pious devotion wherein, at day’s end, we go over the events of the last 24 hours and discern God’s will. A Daily Examen of Stewardship might contain questions like this:

How did I love God today? In whom did I love Him?

What did God give me today? With whom did I share it? What did I give to Him?

To whom did I reach out today? Who reached out to me? Where was God on my list of priorities today? First? Second? Third, fourth?



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