



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 24, 2024



OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

So Pilate said to him, "Then you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say I am a king. For this I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

- Jn 18:37

WEEKLY CALENDAR:

Tuesday, November 26

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

Thursday, November 28

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

Saturday, November 30

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

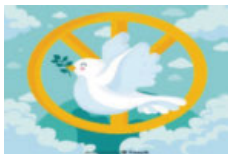


The main altar flower arrangement for the week of November 24—30, 2024 has been donated in loving memory of Joseph Sinkewicz by his wife, Lucinda and family.

The Blessed Mother flowers in the Church for the week of November 24— 30, 2024 have been donated in loving memory of Joseph Sinkewicz by his wife, Lucinda and family.

IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST:

Karl Hertlein
Benjamin Parker



HORSEHEADS FOOD PANTRY:

The clients of the Food Pantry generally are eligible to gather their food supplies only once a month. With Thanksgiving not far off, 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.

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.*



CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS

Sign-up sheets for Christmas flower memorials (poinsettias and wreaths) are posted on the church bulletin board and will be available through 12-4-2024.

PARISH CALENDARS:

Our parish calendars have been delayed this year. There was a production issue at the company which prints our calendars. Hopefully, they will arrive soon. Thank you for your understanding.

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of **Christ the King**, and begin the final week of the Church's liturgical year. Unlike other feasts which were centered on an event in our Lord's life, the Feast of Christ the King celebrates an aspect of Jesus' identity, and thus is categorized as an "idea feast." This feast was originally celebrated each year on the last Sunday in October, but with the first revision of the Roman missal after the Second Vatican Council, this feast was moved to the final Sunday of the liturgical year. By instituting this feast, Pope Pius XI hoped to renew and strengthen the faith of the people of his time and to a world where the influence of totalitarian forms of government such as Communism, Nazism, and Fascism were gaining a strong hold in many countries particularly in Europe. It was Pius XI's hope that this annual celebration would serve as a powerful reminder to all of Jesus' reign in our midst, and would speak powerfully of our belief in God's triumph over evil. Christ Our King continues to be the source of grace as each of us being His living presence into our world.

Thursday of this week we celebrate the American feast of **Thanksgiving**. The President's Official Proclamation calls for all Americans to set aside the fourth Thursday of the month of November as a date to give thanks for the blessings and prosperity that we enjoy. We are aware of the artist's renditions of the early American Thanksgivings and have seen the television specials telling us of Thanksgivings of old. In our Thanksgiving gatherings, we may find ourselves remembering Thanksgivings in the past, recalling fondly those who once sat at table with us and now sit at God's heavenly table. We may simply look around at our family table and see familiar faces and the familiar stories and simply be grateful that we are a part of it all. Wherever our mindset may be, Thanksgiving offers us a moment to pause and simply be grateful for the people we are.

What are you grateful for this Thanksgiving? The list should be endless! Certainly, we need to be aware and grateful for the many sacrifices made by Americans of the past as well as today. We are familiar with the early struggles our ancestors experienced and the eventual "meeting of the minds" with Native Americans who offered their assistance in building, planting, and harvesting. We also received a dream from them for which we must be grateful. This republic was to recognize the common bond that women and men share; the fact that all are created equal by God. America was to stand for possibilities; you can become whomever you choose as long as you are willing to work for it. The gift of freedom is just that—a gift, and Americans will go to any length to assure the reality of freedom in American life. By celebrating Thanksgiving Day, we are saying thanks for these and so many other blessings of life we enjoy in the United States.

On behalf of the entire staff of our parish and school, I wish you a blessed and joyous Thanksgiving holiday. I also extend a special invitation to you to begin your **Thanksgiving Day** by joining us for **Mass at 9:00 a.m.**

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

Monday, 6:45 A.M.	November 25, Weekday Jim LeMark—his wife, Ann
Tuesday, 6:45 A.M.	November 26, Weekday Margaret Bellizia —family
Wednesday, 6:45 A.M.	November 27, Weekday Babette Pfaff—John & Susie Alexander
Thursday, 6:45 A.M.	November 28, Thanksgiving Day For all people of St. Mary Our Mother
Friday, 6:45 A.M.	November 29, Weekday No Mass
Saturday, 5:00 P.M.	November 30, St. Andrew, Apostle George and Theresa Ketchum—their family
Sunday, 8:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M.	December 1, First Sunday of Advent Anthony Dandrea—wife, Ida Lynda Seeley—Donna and Carl Hammond

Pastor's perspective continued:

What a wonderful way to begin this American holiday, and to thank God for the many blessings we are grateful for! May God extend many blessings to you and your family this Thanksgiving!

Fr. L

FROM OUR SCHOOL PRINCIPAL:

As Thanksgiving approaches, we give thanks for the gift of community and the support that each of you brings to our school and parish. Your prayers, encouragement, and generosity allows us to provide a nurturing, faith-filled environment for our students as they grow in both knowledge and in Christ.

We are blessed to be part of a parish community that values Catholic education and stands united in faith. This Thanksgiving, may you feel the peace and love of God in your heart and homes.

With gratitude and blessings,
Mrs. Heather Bill

Principal, St. Mary Our Mother School



NOTRE DAME RETREAT HOUSE EVENTS:

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

January 10-12—Men & Women– The 12 Steps & Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatious of Loyola. “The Journey From Reformation to Transformation” w/Fr Gerry McKeon, S.H.

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!

If you would like your CMA gift to be credited in 2024:

-Please plan to mail your check as early as possible in December.

-Credit/debit card gifts are effective on the date the card is charged.

-Stocks/securities transferred electronically are effective on the date of transfer. If you wish to gift stock certificates, please begin the process by December 6, 2024. For stock transfer instructions, please go to www.dor.org/cma or contact cma@dor.org

-Checks from Retirement Funds must be dated **on or before December 31, 2024.**

Donor Assistance During the holidays:

Pastoral Center offices are closed on Tuesday, December 24, Wednesday, December 25th, Thursday, December 26th, Tuesday, December 31st and Wednesday, January 1st.

Please contact us at GiftProc@dor.org or cma@dor.org or (585)328-3210. E-mail and phone messages will be monitored and returned as soon as possible.

MAKE A GIFT TO THE CMA FROM YOUR IRA: A Special Opportunity if you are 70-1/2 or older

You can give any amount (up to \$105,000 per year) from your IRA without having to pay taxes on the amount given as part of your annual income. Gifts of any value less than \$105,000 or less are eligible for this benefit and you can feel good knowing that you are making a difference for the Diocese of Rochester and your parish. This popular gift option is commonly called the **charitable IRA rollover**, but you may also see it referred to as a **qualified charitable distribution (QCD)**.

Your disbursement must come directly from the administrator of your IRA to the diocese– you should not receive the funds first.

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

CHRISTMAS CARING PROGRAM 2024

Over the years, we, at St. Mary Our Mother, have reached out to help the needy of Horseheads and its many surrounding rural areas. We have done this in partnership with the Horseheads Food Pantry, which serves these families by providing food assistance. Parishioners have generously been supporting the pantry year-long by donating grocery items to the vestibule food cart and by donating clean, empty deposit bottles to the parish office. Furthermore, 25% of the Rice Bowl proceeds that are returned by CRS are then given to help with the expenses of our local pantry.

As the Christmas season of giving and caring approaches, we, at St. Mary Our Mother, will be reaching out to the clients of the Food Pantry in **four** special ways:

1. **Making a monetary donation so the pantry can supply meat and fresh food for the Christmas meal and the holiday week.** Envelopes will be provided on the tables in back of the church for this purpose.

2. **Increasing our donations of canned and dried food** to the vestibule food cart so the pantry clients have healthy and adequate food for the Christmas holidays.

3. **Bringing a Christmas ornament that you offer to a needy family.** You would hang the ornament on our Christmas Caring tree located in the back of the church. The ornaments will be taken to the pantry so the families and children can pick an ornament for their tree as a reminder that we care for them.

4. Purchasing a new book for a young child (age preschool through elementary school age) for a child whose family visits the pantry. Place the book in the box provided in the vestibule.

The program will kick off this weekend of November 23rd-24th, when donation envelopes will be available in the vestibule and the Christmas Caring tree will be standing proudly in the back of the church awaiting your ornaments. The program will conclude the week of December 8th.

The Social Ministry Committee invites and encourages all parishioners to participate in this, our Christmas Caring Program, in any one or more of the four ways above. So please be involved in spreading joy and showing love and concern for our neighbors in need,



The Solemnity of Christ the King of the Universe

The Liturgical Year Ends

The Solemnity of Christ the King is the final Sunday of the liturgical calendar – the last Sunday of Ordinary Time. The season of Advent begins the following Sunday. In the Catholic Church it is a Solemnity and a Holy Day of Obligation and priests wear white.

The purpose of this feast is to draw our minds and hearts closer to acknowledging the authority and sovereignty of Christ in a society that often forgets or denies His power and kingship. The reign of Christ does not refer to an earthly power but a divine one. There are many references to Christ as King in the Bible. In Revelation (19:16) Jesus is referred to as “King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

In John 18:33, 36-37 the divine authority of Christ is made clear: [Pilate] said to [Jesus], “Are you the King of the Jews?” ... Jesus answered, “My kingdom does not belong to this world.” ... So Pilate said to Him, “Then you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say I am a king. For this I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth.



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