

May 1, 2020

Dear Friends,

I hope you and your family are and staying well as we continue to deal with the Corona Virus pandemic. You continue to be remembered in the Masses and prayers I offer. As I pray each day “for you,” I realized that I would much rather be praying “with you!” I look forward to the day when we can be united as God’s people around the Eucharistic table.

With the month of May upon us, a month that is traditionally dedicated to the Blessed Mother. Most years, today we would be celebrating our annual May crowning with our school children. Perhaps during this month, you might consider praying the rosary daily, asking Mary to intercede for us asking God’s mercy, patience, and understanding during these days.

I want to offer you some reminders of what is going on in the parish to help keep us together *while we are apart* as a parish community.

Live-Stream Masses: Please consult our parish website for a listing of these Masses; **St. Mary Our Mother.com**. There are also resources available at the diocesan website—*dor.org*—as well.

Chapel Visits: The chapel will be open for private prayer Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and on Sunday from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon. Remember to practice appropriate social distancing strategies during your visit.

Parish Office: The office is closed, with many of our staff working remotely from home. If you have a non-emergency, please call 607-739-3817; this number is checked regularly.

Emergencies with immediate need: Please call the above number; your call will be returned as soon as possible.

Food donations: There continues to be a great need for food for the local pantries during this pandemic. Please bring your food donations and place them in the food cart in the vestibule.

Financial Contributions: Thank you for your very generous financial support to St. Mary Our Mother during these difficult days. It is inspiring to know people realize this is their faith community and that your financial support is of utmost importance. You may mail your donations to the parish office at 816 West Broad Street, Horseheads, New York 14845. There is also a box in the vestibule to receive your offering. You also may want to check the parish website for online giving opportunities.

Please continue to check the parish website for further parish updates.

Page Two

Please continue to pray for our children who were scheduled to receive their First Holy Communion this weekend, as well as our young people who were to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this month. Both of these will be rescheduled once we return to a “new-normal!”

Thank you for your wonderful support and encouragement these past few weeks. May we open our hearts to our Risen Savior, who continues to walk with us these challenging days. I look forward to the day when I can write the words “see you in church!”

Take care of yourselves and each other!

Father Chris Linsler