



# ST. MARY OUR MOTHER CHURCH

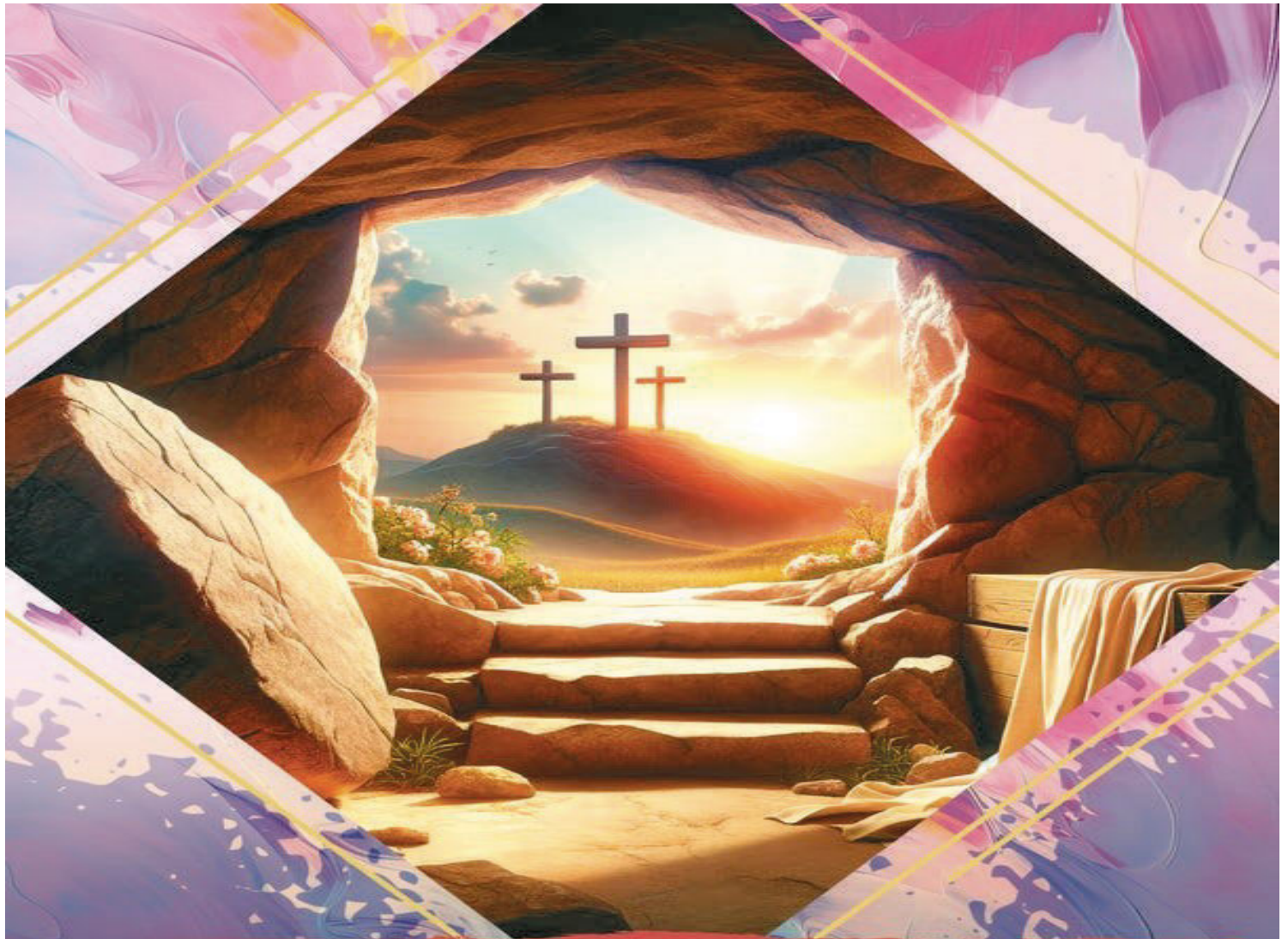
## *MISSION STATEMENT*

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

April 20, 2025



## EASTER SUNDAY

They found the stone rolled away from the tomb.  
- Lk 24:2

## WEEKLY CALENDAR

## PARISH OFFICES CLOSED:

The parish offices will be closed on Monday, April **21st** in observance of Easter. The offices will re-open on Tuesday, April 22, at 9:00 a.m.

## MEMORIAL:

Eucharistic Breads and Sacramental Wine for Easter Week (April 20—26) have been donated in loving memory of Ann Barcomb by Gene and Nancy Barcomb.

The Paschal Candle for this year of 2025 has been donated in loving memory of Joe & Olive Kempf and Florence & AL Edwards by the Kempf and Edwards families.

## IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST:

Nancy Bea Hefley  
Patricia Reimsnyder  
Sherry Spencer



## Easter Flower donations continued from insert:

In memory of the deceased Stermer family—Debbie Blauvelt  
In loving memory of Mario Botero—the Enright family  
In loving memory of John Bennett—the Bennett & Bill families  
In loving memory of Ruhmel & Narde families—Chuck & Joan Ruhmel

In memory of George Gresock—his wife, Ann  
Happy Easter, God, Jesus, Holy Spirit, Holy Mother, St. Joseph, Mom & Dad—Suaan Maio

In memory of Bryan J. Lanahan, Sr.—his wife, Adele  
In memory of deceased family members—Vinnie & Beth Azzarelli

In memory of deceased Gorman family—Ann Gorman  
In memory of Anna & Howard Minchin—Jackie Conklin  
In memory of Warren & Florence Conklin—Jackie Conklin  
In memory of deceased Callahan family—Ann Gorman  
In thanksgiving for all we have—Hanne & Jeff O'Donnell  
In loving memory of MaryAnne Kane—Killeen McCarthy and family  
In loving memory of Brendan McCarthy—his wife, Killeen and their children

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Easter Blessings! As we celebrate the joy and hope of Easter, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to our parish community for your unwavering support, prayer, and presence in the life of our school. Your kindness and generosity help nurture the faith and education of our students, and we are truly blessed to have you as part of our school family.

During this sacred season of renewal and rejoicing, may the risen Christ fill your hearts with peace, love, and abundant blessings. Please continue to keep our students in your prayers as they grow in faith, knowledge, and service.

Our students and staff will be on Easter break from April 14th—21st. We look forward to returning refreshed and renewed as we continue our journey through this school year together.

Wishing you and your loved ones a blessed and joyful Easter!

Mrs. Heather Bill  
Principal, St. Mary Our Mother School

## GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE

## John 20: 1-9

When I was a young boy, my parents told me about their wedding. Then a few years later, they showed me my mother's wedding dress and my dad's suit. It was astonishing to see and touch garments that connected me to the event that led to my existence. Of course, I already believed they were married based on their word. But these holy garments made the event real and tangible for me.

Something like this is at play when St. John reports encountering in Jesus' tomb, **"the cloth that had covered His head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place"** (John 20:7). Those two separate cloths, for His head and for His body respectively, meant a great deal to St. John and to the early Christians. Some years after the resurrection, there surfaced reports of two cloths with unusual characteristics, one bearing the image of a crucified man's body, another smaller one with the image of a wounded man's face. Some call them the Shroud of Turin and the Veil of Manoppello; they both can be seen today.

These two cloths have a long and complicated history, and scholars debate aspects of them. If you're curious, I encourage you to read about them. To be clear, I believe in the resurrection of Jesus because of the testimony of eye-witnesses and the gift of faith in the Church. Nevertheless, seeing these two mysterious cloths have made the life-giving event of Jesus' resurrection more real and tangible for me. Maybe they will for you, too.

— Father John Muir

**PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:**

**Happy Easter!** We are delighted to have you join us this Easter weekend! If you are a long standing parishioner, new to the church, visiting our area, or coming to Mass for the first time in a long time, we welcome you. On behalf of the staff of our parish and school, we hope you feel welcome and "at home" at St. Mary Our Mother!

There is no day to compare with Easter Sunday. It stands out from the conflicts and turmoil of our world; it lifts our minds and hearts with joy and love so complete that it conquers death. Early that first Easter morning, a mighty act of God took place—Christ rose from the dead, changing the past and shaping the future. Nothing can be the same again. This makes Easter the primary day of the entire Church year. Everything that we believe as Christians stems from the Easter event. Easter reminds us that there is a way out of darkness, transformation is possible, and change can take place in our lives.

Easter reminds us that death is not the final answer or the end of us. We are meant for more than the present life and are not anchored to this world. Human life is not limited to the cycle of birth to death. Easter is the answer to the tears that are shed at the graves of our loved ones as it reminds us that we have a future greater than the one we believe in, provided we open our heart to the grace that the resurrected Jesus won for us. Christ has shared the gift of life with us, and His resurrection from the dead points to the resurrection of all people.

The Easter event is the turning point inviting us to live an entirely new way that goes beyond the limits of this world. Each of us is challenged to become part of a new creation, inspired by the life of God given to each of us at baptism. Life depends on a person's perspective. At times, life can seem like a series of Good Fridays, an empty tomb, full of bitterness and confusion. There are also times when life is full of joy, hope, and endless possibilities. The challenge facing each of us is to appreciate God and to see God's plan in the events that surround our lives. This can be done if we remain faithful to our baptismal promises, and are aware of God's grace and presence in our lives.

The gospel for Easter tells us that the stone at the entrance to Christ's tomb has been rolled away. The question that is before each of us is: *Have I risen to the new life of Christ, or are the stones of one kind or another still weighing me down and keeping me imprisoned: difficult relationships, disappointments, sorrows, losses, reflections, and so on?* The good news of Easter is that the boulders, stones, and restraints that weigh on us have been rolled away by the power of Jesus' resurrection. The tomb of Christ is empty; Jesus lives; and as people who share in life, we live as well.

**MASSES FOR THE WEEK:**

<b>Monday,</b>	<b>April 21— Monday within the Octave of Easter</b>
6:45 A.M.	Chuck Schrock—the Gallagers
<b>Tuesday,</b>	<b>April 22—Tuesday within the Octave of Easter</b>
6:45 A.M.	Mary Amisano—her husband, Guy
<b>Wednesday,</b>	<b>April 23—Wednesday within the Octave of Easter</b>
6:45 A.M.	Deceased Curtin family
<b>Thursday,</b>	<b>April 24—Thursday within the Octave of Easter</b>
6:45 A.M.	Margaret Mary Amisano—daughter, Adele Lanahan
<b>Friday,</b>	<b>April 25— Friday within the Octave of Easter</b>
6:45 A.M.	Bob Lantzy—his wife, Lois and family
<b>Saturday,</b>	<b>April 26—Saturday within the Octave of Easter</b>
5:00 P.M.	John Kordyl—wife, Evie
<b>Sunday,</b>	<b>April 27—Second Sunday of Easter</b>
8:30 A.M.	Walter Dobek—family
10:00 A.M.	Eddie Jadoski—family

Pastor's perspective continued:

The alleluias we sing today and throughout the fifty days of Easter are acclamations of great gladness and joy that Jesus is risen, and the hope of our resurrection as well. The joy and enthusiasm of Easter cannot be limited to a single day; thus the reason we continue to celebrate the joy of Easter Sunday for fifty days!

The entire staffs of St. Mary Our Mother parish and school join me in wishing you a very Blessed, Happy, and Joyous Easter! Please continue to take care of yourself and each other!

Fr. L.

You can celebrate Easter with baskets of treats *and* hearts filled with love of God. And it doesn't require elaborate prayers. Pray these simple prayers with your kids to keep Jesus at the center of the day:

- Jelly Bean Prayer: Red is for the blood You gave, and black is for the empty grave. Yellow is for the shining sun, white is for the new life begun. Green is for the grass and trees and purple is for your majesty. Orange is for the edge of night, and pink is for the morning light. Amen!
- Jesus, thank You for Your sacrifice. Jesus, thank You for my life. Today is Easter so we pray, that we'll join You in heaven someday.
- Today is a very special Sunday. We thank You, God, for all the love You've given us and for the gift of Jesus. On this Easter, we pray in Your name. Amen.



## St. MARY OUR MOTHER SCHOOL ANNUAL LEGACY GALA:

St. Mary Our Mother School invites you to our annual Legacy Gala—a special evening of celebration and support for Catholic education! **This year's event will take place on Friday, May 30th, from 7:00 P.M. to 11:00 P.M. at the Elmira Country Club.**

Enjoy an exciting night of entertainment, including live music, a live auction, a silent auction, heavy hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar, and multiple raffles, including our **Big Money Raffle!**

**Big Money Raffle Tickets are \$100 each, giving you a chance to win one of three prizes: \$500, \$1,000, or \$5,000!** Tickets will be available for purchase after Saturday 5:00 P.M. Mass and Sunday 8:30 A.M. & 10:30 A.M. Masses on select weekends.

We hope you will join us for this wonderful evening and help support St. Mary Our Mother School. Your generosity directly benefits our students and ensures the continued success of our school community.

## CRS RICE BOWL UPDATE:

Rice Bowl is the official global assistance program of the Catholic Church. We, as a parish, are proud to be a part of this effort. CRS Rice Bowl programs are working to alleviate hunger in over 120 countries. At this time when government funding for global assistance is being eliminated, your rice bowl donation is more important than ever. **We ask that you bring your Rice Bowl donation to Church this weekend or as soon as possible after that.**

Continue to pray for the people served by CRS, for the CRS workers in the field around the world, and for those here at home who promote and support CRS projects.

Jesus, Bread of Life, as we encounter You in the Eucharist this Lent, nourish us with your love, unite us in communion with our brothers and sisters, showing us how we are connected. Transform our hearts, that we may be moved to share bread for life with our global family and work for a world where all can thrive. AMEN.

## CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL:

Next week we will take up the Catholic Home Mission Appeal. Today, nearly 40% of dioceses in the United States and its current and former territories are unable to fund the essential pastoral work their communities need. Your support for this appeal helps them meet these faith formation and sacramental needs. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this appeal. Find more information at [www.usccb.org/home-missions](http://www.usccb.org/home-missions)

## MASS OF RECOGNITION OF THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY:

*You are cordially invited to a Mass of Recognition of the Sacrament of Matrimony.*

Please join The Most Reverend Salvatore R. Matano, Bishop of Rochester and couples celebrating anniversaries of Matrimony next Sunday, April 27, 2025 at 11:15 a.m., at Sacred Heart Cathedral, 296 Flower City Park, Rochester, NY 14615.

All married couples and their guests are welcome to attend and renew their vows with Bishop Matano. Those celebrating milestone jubilees will be given special recognition.

Please help us plan by letting us know you are coming by registering at <https://forms.gle/UVdG2SUKbvJw81ok8> or emailing [Donald.smith@dor.org](mailto:Donald.smith@dor.org).

Additionally, the June issue of the Catholic Courier will feature a Wedding Jubilee section. If you would like your name and anniversary (25, 50, and above) to be included, please send an email or a letter with the following information:

**Names, Church, Town where you were married, wedding date/year, and a wedding photo (optional).**

### MINISTERIAL STAFF

**Rev. Christopher E. Linsler**, Pastor  
**Rev. Peter T. Singano**, in Residence  
**Miss Lily Barr**, Faith Formation Assistant  
**Mrs. Cathy Peckham**, Director of Music  
**Mrs. Heather Bill**, School 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

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 Parish Web Site..... [www.StMaryOurMother.com](http://www.StMaryOurMother.com)

#### St. Mary Our Mother School

811 Westlake Street ..... (607)-739-9157  
 E-mail..... [smoms@dor.org](mailto:smoms@dor.org)  
 School Web Site..... [www.stmaryourmother.school](http://www.stmaryourmother.school)

#### Religious Education Office

816 West Broad Street ..... (607)-739-8214

## PRACTICING CATHOLIC – BENEATH THE SURFACE

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

**Mini Reflection:** Everybody's trying to find God. They may not admit it. They may not even know it. But the search defines them, and it defines us.

### The Search

Everybody's trying to find God. They may not admit it. They may not even know it. They may talk around it, shy away from saying the name, both to others and to themselves: *God*. But I know for a fact that every person who was ever born into this world spent their lives searching for Him - somewhere, somehow, even if the only place they thought to look was in money or drugs.

It's a comforting fact, really — a reminder of how alike we all are. Catholic, Jewish, Muslim, Atheist, rich, poor, black, white. When it comes right down to it, the history of humanity is a never-ending Easter morning scene that plays in perpetuity. The sorrow, the shock, the confusion. Again and again, as each newborn baby opens their eyes, the search begins anew. *Where did He go? What has happened? Where can I find Him?*

Catechesis isn't enough. Even those who learn about Jesus Christ, who accepts His word, hang hesitantly outside the tomb, afraid to go in. Jesus' best friend — the disciple whom He loved — ran faster than Peter, so desperate he was to find his Lord. But when he got to the tomb and saw it empty, he got spooked. He froze.

Sometimes, we expect God to be right where we left Him — in a certain parish, with a certain priest, in a certain relationship, at a certain job. We show up, and we're heartbroken to see that our expectations have been turned upside down. *He's left us*, we think dejectedly, but we're wrong.

There is no one who has been abandoned by God. There are only those who stop looking for Him.

Don't let the empty tombs define you. It's the search that defines you.



The Horseheads Food Pantry is most thankful to the people of St. Mary Our Mother for their ongoing food donations. The top three on their wish list now are:

- \* boxes of instant mashed potatoes
- \* Jiffy corn muffin mix
- \* cake mixes and icings

## NOTRE DAME RETREAT HOUSE RETREAT SCHEDULE:

### May 2nd—4th: Women's Retreat

**"Walking in Friendship with God: Pilgrims of Hope"** With Fr. Eugene O'Reilly, C.Ss.R., Sr. Joan Sobala, SSJ, Sr. Donna DelSanto, SSJ and Jodie Scordo.

### May 13th—Fill Your Soul Day

**"Blessed Are You: A Closer Look at the fundamental Message of Jesus"**—With Sr. Carole Cimino, SSJ

### May 16-18—Women's Retreat

**"Walking in Friendship with God: Pilgrims of hope"** with Fr. Philip Sutherland, SJ, Elena Kiley, Jodie Scordo

**June 17th—Fill Your Soul Day—"Poetry and Prayer-A presentation for our Jubilee Year"** with Fr. Peter Murray, SJ



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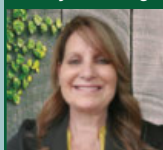
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