



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

May 4, 2025



3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

[Jesus] said to him, "Follow me." - Jn 21:19b

WEEKLY CALENDAR:**Thursday, May 8**

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

Saturday, May 10

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

Memorials:

Our main altar flowers for April 27—May 3 were donated in memory of John Kordyl on our wedding anniversary —his wife, Evie



The Eucharistic Breads or Hosts for the week of May 4—10, 2025 have been donated in memory of Josephine and Henry Ryan by Mary and Jim Carr.



The Votive light before the Icon is burning for the week of May 4—10, 2025 in memory of Josephine and Henry Ryan by Mary & Jim Carr

IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST:

Kaleb Quick

**THE WITNESSES OF WHAT MAKES NO SENSE:**

It never fails to amuse me that the disciples in today's Gospel don't recognize Jesus until He asks them to do something that makes absolutely no logical sense.

He's just some random stranger on the shore — until He gives them an order that, in any other circumstances, would have them rolling their eyes into the backs of their head: Drop the nets again. I know you haven't caught anything all night. I know you're tired. Just do it one more time. Trust Me again, that's when they recognize Him.

The disciples display such poor recognition of Jesus after the resurrection. I'm sure there's a good, theologically sound reason for it, one I am not smart enough to explain. Whatever that reason is, it's very clear that God was carefully orchestrating these moments of realization. He is trying to tell us something about how we recognize the Risen Christ — the One who has conquered sin, the One whose love was stronger than death. The One who never made any sense, and never will, because His kingdom is not of this world, and to understand Him — to recognize Him — you have to detach from the priorities, the expectations, the limitations of this present world.

You have to be willing to do what makes no sense.

Love — again, even when it doesn't make sense. Forgive — again, even when it doesn't make sense. Believe — again, even when it doesn't make sense.

"We are the witnesses of these things," Peter tells the Sanhedrin (Acts 5:32). Peter, who was so full of joy when he recognized Jesus that he leapt into the sea, fully clothed, desperate to be near Him.

It makes no sense, and that's okay. That's kind of our whole thing as Christians. We are the witnesses of the things that make no sense.



PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:

The Easter season is a time of new life and renewed commitment to our Catholic faith. The phrase "Easter Sacraments" reminds us of the promise of the Risen Lord to be with us always, especially in the "breaking of the bread." This weekend, our parish has the special honor of welcoming the extended families and friends of the 16 children who will celebrate their First Holy Communion. At the 5:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday and the 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday we invite these young children to the Lord's table for the first time. We extend a warm welcome to all our visitors as well as our regular parishioners to St. Mary Our Mother this weekend.

These First Communion children, their parents and families have been preparing for this day for many months. By their faithful and regular participation at Sunday Mass, our parents have been teaching their children by good example what it means to be fed at the Lord's table when receiving the Body and Blood of Jesus. We congratulate our parents on their on-going efforts of what they promised when their children were baptized; in being the first and best teachers of their children in the ways of the Catholic faith.

It is a wonderful moment in the life of every parish to witness our children coming forth and doing what our Lord has instructed us when receiving the Eucharist. Those of us who receive the Eucharist often can forget who we are receiving or take it for granted and allow it to become routine. Your fine example of participating in Mass and receiving Holy Communion each and every Sunday, regularly and reverently, serves as a "teachable moment" not only for our First Communion children, but for our entire parish family.

Parents and families have helped these children to understand what we believe about the Eucharist. Although the element of bread and wine appear unchanged in the action of the Sacred Liturgy through what we call "transubstantiation," these elements become the very Body and Blood of Christ. As we witness these children receiving communion for the first time, today is a wonderful occasion for our entire parish to renew our commitment to the Risen Christ, and to assert our belief in the real presence of Christ in the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

Please join me in welcoming all who join us for this First Communion weekend. I also want to acknowledge and thank **Lily Barr**, our Faith Formation Coordinator for her dedication, enthusiasm, and wonderful leadership not only for our First Communion but for all our sacramental preparation programs at St. Mary Our Mother. We also thank our catechists and aides: **Amy Barr, Ivy Barr, Willow Barr, Shirley Lant, Jean Oshetski** as well as **Angela Langendorfer**, from the faculty of St. Mary Our Mother School. We thank them for their

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

Monday, 6:45 A.M.	May 5th.—Easter Weekday Frank Navone—his family
Tuesday, 6:45 A.M.	May 6th.—Easter Weekday Our Faithful departed
Wednesday, 6:45 A.M.	May 7th.—Easter Weekday Bridget Wetmore—Patti Pautz
Thursday, 6:45 A.M.	May 8th.—Easter Weekday Our Faithful departed
Friday, 6:45 A.M.	May 9th.—Easter Weekday Pablo & Elisea Atienza—Macapinlac family
Saturday, 5:00 P.M.	May 10th.—Easter Weekday For All Mothers- living and deceased
Sunday, 8:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M.	May 11th.—Third Sunday of Easter For All Mothers-living and deceased For All Mothers-living and deceased

Perspective continued:

assistance with our children and their families. We thank you, the people of St. Mary Our Mother, for your continued interest and support of these children and their families as they celebrate this very special day. It is a wonderful day for our entire parish!

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

Fr. L

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:

We congratulate our sixteen children who are receiving their First Holy Communion this weekend at St. Mary Our Mother. May our children continue to grow in their love for Jesus in the sacrament of the Eucharist and receive our lord each an every Sunday.

The children receiving their First Holy Communion today include:

*Massimo Allis
Lawrence Berry
Kasey Blodgett
Madilynn Bocko
William Brand
Emily Brennan
Luciana Choi
Ferruccio Cleary*

*Maisy Collins
Marzio Hale
Nicholas Hoover
Gracelyn Kinner
Ryan Langendorfer
Lila Murphy
Layla Mustico-Sweet
Simon Painter*

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION:

We offer our congratulations and prayerful best wishes to nine of our young people who recently received the Sacrament of Confirmation.:

*Madison Bancroft
Makenzie Blauvelt
John Graham
Liliana Mata
Christopher O'Brien*

*Chloe Owen
Max Tenbus
Aliciana Villegas
Tanner Watson*

The Confirmation liturgy was celebrated Tuesday evening, April 22nd, at St. Mary Church of All Saints Parish, Corning with the Most Reverend Salvatore Matano presiding. We ask for your continued prayers and support for these

FROM OUR SOCIAL MINISTRY GROUP: Jubilee Year Reflection/Action:

TANGIBLE SIGNS OF HOPE

During this Holy Jubilee Year, Pope Francis asks us to be alert to the opportunities to be a *tangible sign of hope* for brothers and sisters who experience hardships of any kind. Pregnant and parenting moms-in-need are in our parishes, our neighborhoods, and in the wider community. As Pope Francis reminds us, our parishes need to be “islands of mercy in the midst of the sea of indifference.” 72 million people nationwide rely on Medicaid and the Child Health Insurance Program for health care, this includes many low-income pregnant women, new mothers and their babies/children. Programs like Medicaid help neighbors-in-need access otherwise unaffordable health care—this promotes human dignity and the well-being of our people, especially the children. A healthy population is a national security issue.

Contact our US House Representative, Nick Langworthy (Corning office 607-377-3130) and leave this message:

Please oppose any proposals that cut or restrict access to Medicaid or the Child Health Insurance Program. Many of our neighbors, especially pregnant women and children, need this health insurance. We are happy that our taxes help our neighbors access health care.

Be sure to leave your name and county. This phone call will take a minute or two, but can make a big impact. Thank you for caring.

NOTRE DAME RETREAT HOUSE SCHEDULE:

FILL YOUR SOUL DAY: May 13, 2025
9:00 a.m.– 3:00 p.m., \$35.00

“Blessed Are You: A Closer Look at the Fundamental Message of Jesus, with Sr. Carol Cimino, SSJ.

This day-long reflection will examine each of the Beatitudes in the context of Jesus’ total message and how they can transform our own “attitude” toward our lives. Register online at www.notredameretreat.org or 585-394-5700.

WOMEN’S RETREATS:

Walking in Friendship with God: “Pilgrims of Hope”—
Friday, May 16th.—May 17th.

May 13th.—Fill Your Soul Day

“Blessed Are You: A Closer Look at the fundamental Message of Jesus”—with Sr. Carole Cimino, SSJ

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



THE WOUNDED HEALERS’ BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP.

The Wounded Healers’ Bereavement support group meeting will be offered on Tuesday, May 13, 2025 at 7:00 p.m., in person, at St. Mary Our Mother School, 811 Westlake St., Horseheads, NY. Please use the door of the school across from the playground. You may want to bring a picture or two of your loved one who died, or a memento of significance. Each one has a personal grief journey so we are open to listen, and are careful to not dogmatize. 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.” For information: 607-796-2795. Christine Lloyd

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

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

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK:**Celebrating Our Amazing Teachers During Teacher Appreciation Week!**

At St. Mary Our Mother School, we are blessed with a dedicated and faith-filled team of educators who nurture our students academically and spiritually each day. During Teacher Appreciation Week, we take the opportunity to express our gratitude for their hard work, patience, and commitment to Catholic education.

Throughout the week, our students will be sharing sweet treats, heartfelt notes, and special cards with their teachers as tokens of appreciation. Additionally, our wonderful Parent Association has planned daily surprises for our staff, including delicious breakfasts, donuts, and a special lunch to show how much they are valued.

We invite our parish and school community to join us in praying for our teachers, thanking them for their service, and recognizing the incredible impact they have on our children's lives.

Thank you to our teachers for all they do to inspire, educate, and lead with faith! Below is a list of our devoted staff members, please take a moment to share your appreciation with them!

Mrs. Knuth
Mrs. Heffner
Mrs. Langendorfer
Mrs. Meehan
Mr. Ketchum
Mrs. Stowell
Mrs. Steed
Mrs. Koehler
Mrs. Lawson
Mrs. Piet

Mrs. Winkels
Mrs. Hoyt
Ms. Pelkey
Mrs. Nagle
Mrs. Enright
Mrs. Disbrow
Mrs. Lewis
Mrs. Thurston
Mrs. O'Brien

Blessings,
Mrs. Heather Bill, Principal

**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.

CATHOLIC HOME MISSION:

Thank you for your generous support for last week's Catholic Home Missions Appeal. As a parish, our contributions will help to strengthen the Church at home and spread the Gospel across the United States. If you missed the appeal, it's not too late to give! Just visit www.usccb.org/home-missions. #GiveCatholic Together also accepts funds online for the collection—see usccb.givecatholictogether.org.

ANNUAL BABY SHOWER

Our Social Ministry Committee will once again be sponsoring their annual Baby Shower the weekends of May 10th and 11th and May 17th and 18th. Please bring new, unwrapped baby items to Mass and place them in the bassinets. Monetary donations may also be placed in the box provided.

In addition to welcoming the new babies, we would like to expand this event to include new mothers. These new moms need encouragement, love and support while navigating the emotional and physical journey of pregnancy and childbirth. We have compiled a list of gifts that are needed. These lists can be found in the basket near the bassinets. Your donations will be given to needy mothers-to-be, mothers, and their newborns through the work of Mosaic of the Southern Tier, formerly known as Southern Tier Pregnancy Resource Center.

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