



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 18, 2025



5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

I give you a new commandment:
love one another.” - Jn 13:34a

WEEKLY CALENDAR:

Thursday, May 15

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

Saturday, May 17

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

**Memorials:**

The Sacramental Wine, Eucharistic Hosts, sanctuary candle, icon candle for May 18—24 have been donated in loving memory of Laura Merritt by Jacqueline Alsworth and Kiba Painter.

The main altar flower arrangement for the week of May 18—24th. has been donated in loving memory of Laura Merritt by her daughter, Kiba Painter and her sister, Jacqueline Alsworth.

Christina Regula
Rev. Eugene Weis

**NEW FOOD PANTRY NEEDS:**

Spaghetti
Elbow Macaroni
Canned Peas

Please bring your food items to the main vestibule and place them in the cart that is provided.

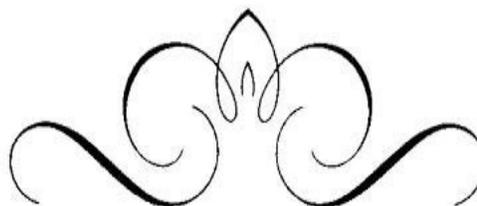
MASS OF THANKSGIVING

The Most Reverend Salvatore R. Matano, Bishop of Rochester, cordially invites the priests, deacons, religious and lay faithful of the Diocese of Rochester to the Diocesan Mass of Thanksgiving for His Holiness, Pope Leo XIV, Monday, May 19, 2025, at 7:00 p.m., at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Rochester.

This Mass is a privileged opportunity for us to unite as a diocesan family, to thank God for our newly elected Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, the 266th successor to Saint Peter and the 267th Vicar of Christ on earth and, at the same time, to express our devotion to and prayerful support of His Holiness as he begins his pontificate.

PRACTICING MERCY LIKE POPE FRANCIS:

The Pope was known for his great love of the poor and suffering. In fact, one of the last things he did was visit a prison on Holy Thursday. He emphasized that every individual deserves respect and love. Because he felt so strongly about mercy, his papal motto was **Miserando atque eligendo** which translates to: “He looked upon him with mercy and chose him.” Here is one of his quotes about God’s mercy: “Jesus’ attitude is striking: we do not hear the words of scorn, we do not hear words of condemnation, but only words of love, of mercy, which are an invitation to conversation. “Neither do I condemn you; go, and do not sin again.” Ah! Brothers and Sisters, God’s face is the face of a merciful father who is always patient. Have you thought about God’s patience, The patience He has with each one of us? That is His mercy. He always has patience, patience with us, He understands us, He waits for us, He does not tire of forgiving us if we are able to return to Him with a contrite heart. “Great is God’s mercy”, say the Psalm. “Pope Francis will be remembered for his constancy in letting us know how much we are loved by God. How can your family be more merciful in your day to day interactions with one another and the world, sharing that immeasurable love? Pope Francis was said to have learned a prayer from his grandmother: **Jesus, make my heart more like yours.** May that be our prayer, as well.



PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:

This past week we observed the Week of Prayer for vocations, which began last Sunday. As Catholics, we believe that through our Baptism God has a plan for our lives. God calls some to marriage, some to the ordained ministry as priests and deacons, and others to consecrated religious life as sisters or brothers, and others to live as generous single people. Fully living our own vocation—and teaching young people how to discern God's call—is a serious duty and responsibility, but also a joyful one.

The word “vocation” means “call.” As Catholics, we believe God calls individuals to fulfill certain roles in the Church, both for their own holiness, and the good of the entire Church as the people of God. After the decision to follow Christ and seriously pursue holiness, our vocation is the most important decision in life.

Marriage: Most people are called to marriage—to wholeheartedly love their spouses and joyfully welcome children. The purpose of marriage is for each spouse to bring out the best in their partners, help each other to one day reach heaven, and to teach their children to do the same. Like any vocation, marriage must be the discerned, not assumed.

Consecrated Religious Life: Both women and men can join religious communities such as the Franciscans, Dominicans, Benedictines, the Sisters and Brothers of Mercy, the Sisters of St. Joseph, the school Sisters of Notre Dame, etc. The life, ministry and work of religious orders varies greatly—some are primarily devoted to prayer; others work actively in schools, hospitals, orphanages, social services, pastoral ministry, prison and jail ministry, etc. Common to all religious communities are the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. The Sisters of Charity founded by St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta adds one more vow; that of service to the poor.

Priesthood and Diaconate: Priests bring Jesus to people and people to Jesus through preaching and the sacraments. Priests are active as they counsel people, teach classes, celebrate the liturgy and sacraments, prepare homilies, administer parishes and much more. Some surveys show that priests are the happiest people in the world! Deacons also share in the sacrament of Holy Orders.

Dedicated Single Life: Some people serve God as single people, without marrying or making special promises or vows. Single people “contribute greatly to the good of the human family.” (CCC2231) *“Some live their situation in the Spirit of the Beatitudes, serving God and neighbor in exemplary fashion.”* (CCC 1658). There are many single people who serve the Church with incredible generosity.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

Monday, 6:45 A.M.	May 19—Easter Weekday Joseph LeMark—Gramma Ann
Tuesday, 6:45 A.M.	May 20—Easter Weekday Margaret Bellizia—family
Wednesday, 6:45 A.M.	May 21—Easter Weekday Denis Amisano—Guy Amisano
Thursday, 6:45 A.M.	May 22—Easter Weekday Our Faithful Departed
Friday, 6:45 A.M.	May 23—Easter Weekday Deceased of the Mills family—family
Saturday, 5:00 P.M.	May 24—Easter Weekday Florence Ruocco—daughter, Mari- anne Kosty
Sunday, 8:30 A.M.	May 25—Fifth Sunday of Easter Henry J. Weachock—Janet Howe and Greg Benson
10:30 A.M.	John Gough—his family

Pastor's perspective continued:

“Each of you has a personal vocation which God has given you for your own joy and sanctity. When a person is conquered by the fire of God's gaze, no sacrifice seems too great to follow God and give God the best of ourselves. This is what the Saints have always done, spreading the light of the Lord—and transforming the World into a welcoming home for everyone.” - Pope Benedict XVI.

During this week and beyond, let us take seriously our responsibility to encourage the young people in our lives to understand the various vocations open to them. Let us also encourage our young to consider that they might have a vocation to which God may be calling them, as we all seek holiness and to build up the Kingdom of God in our world through our particular vocation in life.

Have a great week. Continue to enjoy these Easter days. Please continue to take care of yourself and each other.
Fr. L

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

God our father, You call each of us to use our gifts in the Body of Christ.

Inspire your people with a desire to know you, the grace to understand your will, and with the strength of the Holy Spirit, the courage to respond with love and freedom.

Send workers into your great harvest so that the Gospel is preached, the poor are served with love, the suffering are comforted, and your young people are strengthened by the sacraments.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

AMEN

(from the diocese of Seattle)

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER:

“I give you a new commandment: love one another.” With these words, Jesus sums up the law and the prophets in one concise phrase. Love one another. After 2,000 years, you’d think we’d have it figured out by now! But all too often we fail in this commandment. Perhaps we mistake “love” for mere “common decency.” Perhaps we’ve been betrayed, or our own visions of love have been tarnished or misrepresented in our lives. Blessedly, Jesus doesn’t leave us without a guide.

“As I have loved you, so you also should love one another.” Jesus himself modeled what this love should look like. So what are some of the characteristics of the love of Christ? Humility, for one. St. Paul writes that Jesus “emptied Himself.” In becoming man, Jesus puts aside the full splendor of the godhead. Not only does He become human, but He takes on many of the mundane privations of human life. He spent most of His life in relative poverty—especially by our standards—as a common laborer. When He began gaining popularity as a preacher, He still traveled on foot and spent nights in other people’s homes or outdoors.

Jesus’ love is generous. He was always available to the crowds and to being interrupted by people in need. He invested time in His disciples and patiently taught them about the kingdom of God. The love of Jesus is also courageous. He encountered many people deemed less worthy of human respect, due to being public sinners or having a physical or mental disability. Jesus was brave in breaking these social boundaries to show care and concern to the outcast. These traits are possible for us to imitate! Indeed, we are hardly identifiable as Christians without them. “This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”



FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK: Come Be a Part of Our St. Mary Our Mother School Family!

Exciting things are happening at St. Mary Our Mother School, and we would love for your family to be a part of it! Registration for 2025—2026 school year is now open, and seats are filling quickly.

At St. Mary Our Mother, we provide a faith-centered, academically enriching environment where students learn, grow, and thrive. Our dedicated teachers nurture the mind, body, and spirit, fostering a love for learning, service, and faith. From our engaging curriculum to our strong sense of community, we strive to ensure that every child is set up for success.

If you are considering a Catholic education for your child, we warmly invite you to schedule a tour and see firsthand the exceptional learning experience we provide. Come walk our halls, meet our amazing staff, and feel the welcoming spirit that makes our school so special.

To schedule a tour or learn more, call our school office at 607-739-9157. We can’t wait to welcome you into our St. Mary Our Mother family!

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**
- 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

NOTRE DAME RETREAT HOUSE SCHEDULE:

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

June 18th.— John Dady and Friends Concert
6:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m.

June 22nd.—27th.—Women Religious Retreat “Mary in
the Scriptures”—with Fr. Elliott Dees

July 13-18—Preached Retreat for Men & Women
“Meeting God: The Path of Entering Quiet in the
Midst of Everyday Life”—with Sr. Julie Vieira, IHM

July 20 –25—Silent Directed Retreat with Fr. Dennis
Billy, C.Ss.R.; Sr. Elaine Englert, SSJ; Fr. Peter Mur-
ray, SJ and Jodie Scordo

JUBILEE YEAR REFLECTION/ACTION- TANGIBLE SIGNS OF HOPE

During this holy Jubilee Year, our beloved late Pope Francis asked us to be alert to the opportunities to be a tangible sign of hope for brothers and sisters who experience hardships of any kind. Our risen Lord shows us how to respond with compassion to neighbors-in-need. Following Jesus, the Catholic Church is committed to providing comfort, hope, and relief to those who are poor and suffering through Catholic Charities agencies, Catholic hospitals, long term care facilities, and parishes who serve our most vulnerable neighbors with dignity providing a range of help. The Church’s closeness to the poor informs our advocacy on their behalf. We know first-hand that many brothers and sisters are struggling. Medicaid, SNAP (food stamps), the Child Tax Credit, community services that help our elders age well, all help.

Please contact our US House of Representative, Nick Langworthy (Corning office 607-377-3130.

Our Message: *As congress works towards budget reconciliation legislation, please protect programs such as Medicaid, SNAP, the Child Tax Credit, and services that help elders age well. Tax cuts that favor wealthier persons should not be made possible (continued in next column)*

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.

Continued from column one:

through cuts to healthcare, food and other vital services for those struggling to make ends meet and should not place additional burdens on the most vulnerable.

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.



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