



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

June 29, 2025



STS. PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES

"You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys to the Kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." - Mt 16:18-19

WEEKLY CALENDAR:**Saturday, June 28**

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

The parish offices will be closed on Friday, July 4th in observance of the **Independence Day** holiday weekend. The offices will reopen on **Monday, July 7th** at 9:00 a.m. We wish everyone a very happy and safe holiday weekend.

Memorials: The Eucharistic Hosts and Sacramental Wine for June 29—July 5, 2025 have been donated in loving memory of Judi Lynch by her children and grandchildren.

The main altar arrangement for June 29—July 5 has been donated in loving memory of Judi Lynch by her husband, Ben.

In The Peace of Christ:

Peter Johnson
Michael Karney
Al Moschetti
Charles Sindelar

**PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION:**

Today is the Peter's Pence Collection, a worldwide collection that supports the work of the Universal Church, including the work of the Holy See and the charitable works of Pope Leo. Take this opportunity to join with Pope Leo to be a sign of mercy to our suffering brothers and sisters. Please be generous today. For more information, visit www.obolodisanpietro.va/en.html.

PRACTICING CATHOLIC – BENEATH THE SURFACE; By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Mini Reflection: People have a lot of opinions about God. But when the world asks, “Who do you say that Jesus is?” We know the answer. Will we speak up?

At first, the Apostles try to dodge the question.

When Jesus confronts them — and make no mistake, it is a confrontation — with the question “Who do you say that I am?” they act like a man whose wife has just asked him if she looks fat in these jeans.

The evasiveness of their answer puts politicians to shame: “Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”

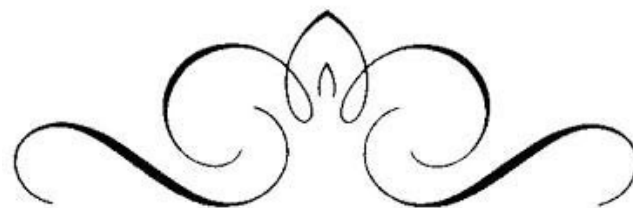
But Jesus doesn't let them off easy. He repeats himself. He wants an answer. “Who do you say that I am?”

They all know the answer. They all believe the answer. And they all know the answer could get them thrown in prison or killed. Only Peter is brave enough to say it: “You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God.”

People have a lot of opinions about God. They always have. They have a lot of opinions about Jesus and the Bible, about the Catholic Church and the Pope. Some of these opinions are well-founded, well-researched. Some of them are based in ignorance. Many are born of painful misunderstandings. But they are all just that: opinions.

We know who Jesus is. We know who the Eucharist is. We know what the truth is. Amid the chaos and the violence and the excruciating loudness of this fallen world and all the words it shouts into the void about God and Jesus and right and wrong, we know.

But will we answer?



PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:

The month of June has been a month of celebrations. We have witnessed celebrations of graduations, weddings, and anniversaries. Four of the five Sundays this month have seen us celebrate a different feast of the Church calendar. With the way these feasts fall this year, it gives us a special opportunity to think about some of the great elements of our faith and two very important figures in Catholic faith tradition.

All of these feasts are called a “solemnity,” which is the highest ranking feast of the Church’s liturgical year. The first of these special feasts was the **Solemnity of Pentecost**, which we celebrated on June 8th, where we celebrated the sevenfold gifts of the Holy Spirit to the early Church. One week later, we celebrated the **Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity**, acknowledging the belief that we have a God who reveals Himself to us in three divine persons—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Last week, we celebrated the **Solemnity of The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ**. This feast calls us to remember the presence of Christ in the Sacrament of the Eucharist. We believe that Christ is present to us in many ways: through His Word, through the praying community, through His ministers, and in all the sacraments. But Christ is uniquely and completely present in the Sacrament of His Body and Blood.

Because June 29th falls on a Sunday this year, provides us the opportunity to celebrate the fourth special feast, the **Solemnity of Saints Peter & Paul**. These two important saints of the early Church are celebrated together to demonstrate the unity of our apostolic faith, although they were not always in agreement when they lived, as was evidenced in the Act of the Apostles. As we are reminded today, “each in a different way gathered together the one family of Christ.” St. Peter was the first to acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah of God and was appointed “the Rock” of the early Church community, and Paul, who was an outstanding preacher of the gospel to many nations. Today’s feast reminds us of the very beginnings of our faith, and the firm foundation on which our faith is built.

Friday of this week we will commemorate the **249th anniversary** of the ratification of the **Declaration of Independence**, a day to thank God for our nation that began on **July 4, 1776**. Our nation has offered a quality of life unparalleled in history to so many people. It has brought freedom unimagined of by earlier generations. We know that, like every nation, we are not perfect and do not always live up to the ideals and principles of our founding fathers. We have yet to fully enshrine in our culture and society a right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for all citizens, especially those most vulnerable among us—the sick, the unborn, immigrants, and those who have special challenges of mind and body. In America, we can achieve these goals by working together. We are a nation of believers, dreamers, and builders, capable of much good that makes life better for others.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:**Monday, June 30—Weekday**

6:45 A.M. Living and deceased members of the
6:45 a.m. Mass family

Tuesday, July 1—Weekday

6:45 A.M. Our faithful departed

Wednesday, July 2—Weekday

6:45 A.M. Christina O’Herron Regula—Patti
Pautz

Thursday, July 3—St Thomas, Apostle

6:45 A.M. Living and deceased Amisano
and Lanahan families

Friday, July 4—Weekday

6:45 A.M. Lucille Geist—The Hoover family

Saturday, July 5—Weekday

5:00 P.M. John Boulas—Leonard Boulas

Sunday, July 6—Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 A.M. Jennie Joy (7th. anniversary)—
husband, Roger
10:30 A.M. Marie and Arthur Maio—Susan, Art,
Richard and Stephen

Pastor’s perspective continued:

“Freedom” is a word we like to use frequently when we think of “America.” If we think freedom simply reflects the mentality that “I can do what I want, when I want,” we are greatly mistaken. Such an idea of freedom is selfishness under a more comfortable disguise. With our nation’s founding, and in the Christian tradition, freedom has a much deeper meaning. We are free as God created us to be free. Freedom is a gift given by God to every human being. Freedom is not something granted by any person or government. Freedom is the gift we recognize in each other as the capacity to reach our full potential, to develop our God given talents and abilities, a sharing in God’s own creative freedom. This freedom allows us to become the person God has created us to be—to bring beauty, life, and goodness to our shared experience and to the future of others.

Please take a moment this July 4th holiday to reflect upon your own experience of life and freedom. Take some time this week to thank God for our nation and the freedoms we share. This week is also a wonderful time to remember those who serve us in all areas of government—national, state, and local levels—as well as those who continue to serve us in the military, police, firefighters, and first responders. Those people work selflessly to protect our freedoms we enjoy as a nation.

Every Fourth of July affords the opportunity to remember our history and to celebrate the lives we live as people of the United States of America. Have an enjoyable and safe July 4th holiday weekend. Please continue to take care of yourself and each other. And may God continue to bless the United States of America!

Fr. L

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK: Reflecting on a Wonderful School Year:

As we close the chapter on the 2024-2025 school year, I want to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude for the incredible journey we've shared as a school community. While the school year may have come to an end, the lessons, growth, and memories we've created together will last far and beyond these final days.

This year has been filled with countless moments of achievement, both big and small, as our students have flourished academically, socially, and spiritually. We have seen remarkable progress in our classrooms, in our halls, and in the hearts of our students. It is always a joy to witness the development of our young learners, and we are so proud of everything they have accomplished.

As we bid farewell to the school year, we also want to acknowledge the important role that our parish community plays in supporting our school. Your prayers, your encouragement, and your unwavering support have made a significant impact on our student's growth and success. We are truly blessed to be part of such a vibrant and loving faith community.

To our faculty and staff: thank you for your dedication, passion, and commitment to the success of each student. Your hard work and care in making St. Mary Our Mother School a place where students feel supported, valued, and encouraged to reach their full potential. Your efforts do not go unnoticed, and we are deeply grateful.

To our families: thank you for entrusting us with your children and for being active partners in their education. Your involvement in the life of our school makes all the difference, and we are so thankful for your support throughout the year.

As we look ahead to the summer, I encourage everyone to take this time to rest, relax, and enjoy quality time with loved ones. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in the fall, ready to continue our journey of faith and learning.

Thank you again for making this school year one to remember. I wish you all a peaceful, restful, and blessed summer!

With gratitude and blessings,
Mrs. Heather Bill
Principal, St. Mary Our Mother School

A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT: Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles:

"Who do you say that I am? (Matt 16:15). The question Jesus poses to His disciples in today's Gospel comes at a critical turning point in His ministry. Jesus truly wants His disciples to know how they understand Him. He, in turn, wants to know if they have the courage and commitment to follow in His footsteps on the remainder of His journey to the cross. He also wants to know how they identify themselves as disciples. Good stewards know they are invited to let Jesus and their faith community call forth their deepest identity as followers of Christ Jesus. What is Jesus saying to you about your identity as His follower? Who do you say you are?



MINISTERIAL STAFF

Rev. Christopher E. Linsler, Pastor
Rev. Peter T. Singano, in Residence
Miss Lily Barr, Faith Formation Coordinator
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

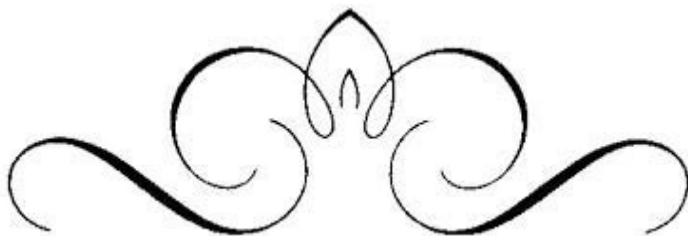
Mr. Vincent Moschetti, Chairperson
Mrs. Richelle Riina, Recording Secretary

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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



St. Peter and Paul are giants of the Church. Peter was a fisherman when Jesus called him to serve God. He was one of the leaders of the first Christians. Paul was the founder of the Church of Rome. Both are apostles, close followers of Jesus.



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. Thank you!

NOTRE DAME RETREAT HOUSE:

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 Bily, C.Ss.R., Sr. Elaine Englert, SSJ; Fr. Peter Murray, SJ and Jodie Scordo

FROM THE DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER:

Victims of sexual abuse *should always report to the civil authorities*. To receive help and guidance from the Roman Catholic Diocese of Rochester, contact our Victim Assistance Coordinator:

Deborah A. Housel
585-328-3228, ext. 1555 or
toll free: 1800-388-7177 ext. 1555
or by e-mail to victimassistance@dor.org

THE CHURCH IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE:

Next week we will take up the collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. This collection supports the Church in more than 25 countries that are still struggling to recover from former communist rule. It also aids communities throughout the region that are affected by the war in Ukraine. Funds support pastoral care, catechesis, renovations and seminary formation. Your contribution restores the Church and builds the future in this region. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection next week. You can find more information at www.usccb.org/ccce. #iGiveCatholic Together also accepts funds for this collection if you prefer to donate on line.

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