



ST. MARY OUR MOTHER CHURCH

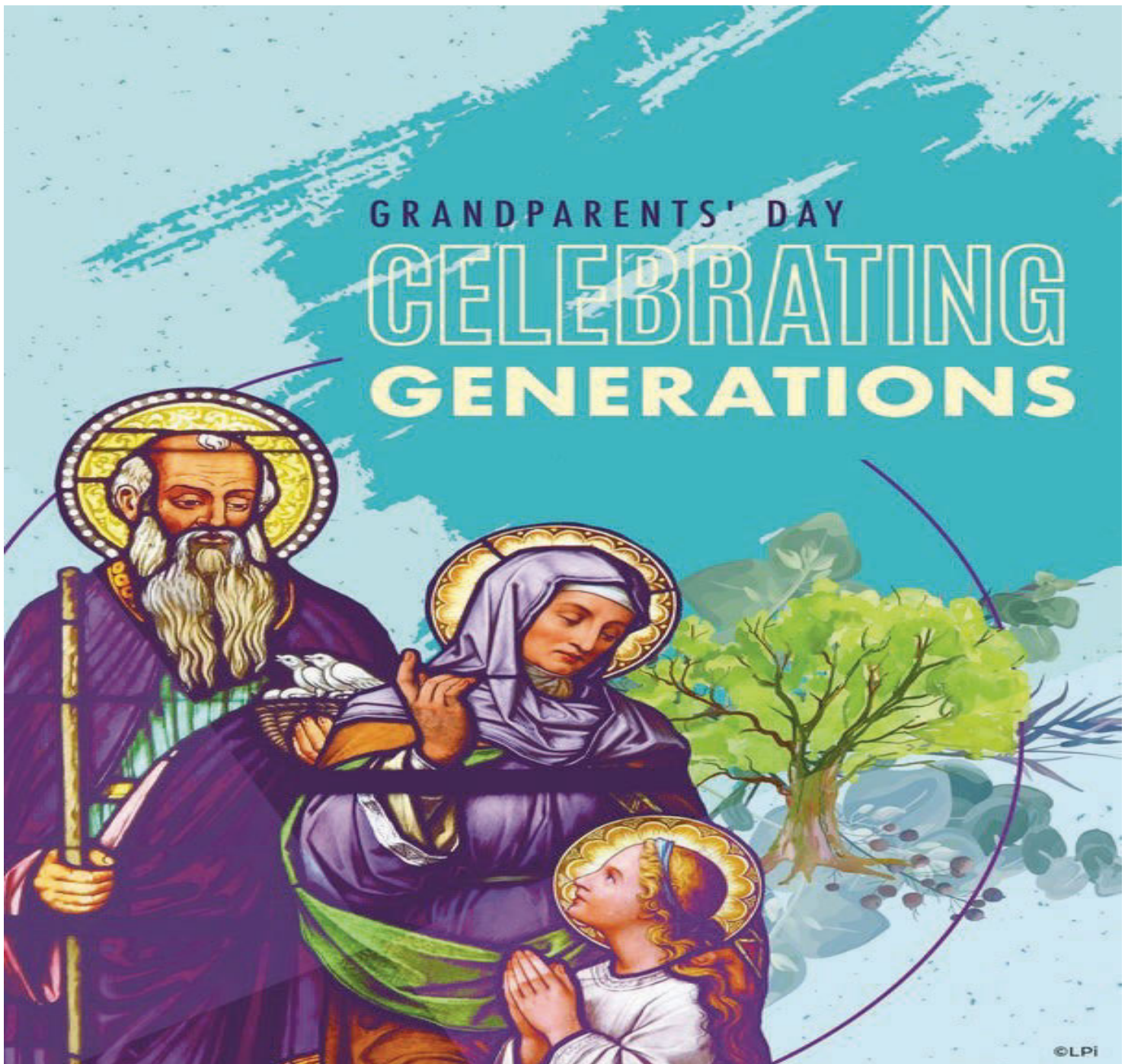
MISSION STATEMENT

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

September 7, 2025



WEEKLY CALENDAR**Saturday, September 13, 2025**

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

Memorials:

The sacramental wine, the Eucharistic hosts, the Icon candle and the sanctuary candle for the week of Sept. 7-13 have been donated in loving memory of Loretta Meade by her sons, Allan, Sheldon, and Joel.

Our main altar arrangement for the week of September 7-13, 2025 has been donated in celebration of the birthdays of sisters, Anna Greenmun and Deloris Sherwood.

The Blessed Mother flowers in the Church for the week of September 7-13, 2025 have been donated in loving memory of Sue Beering by her husband, Fran.

In The Peace of Christ:

Carlos Botero
Letha Padgett
Michael Mandell, Sr.

**ANNUAL SEASON OF CREATION in the Catholic community:****Reflection for week of September 7**

Pope Leo teaches, “We are called to solidarity with the poor as well as to stewardship of the earth.” Call our Congressman Nick Langworthy (607-377-3130)—leave this message: I am concerned about funding cuts for social needs in our community and for the protection of our environment.

ST. MARY OUR MOTHER FAITH FORMATION KICK-OFF SCHEDULE:**Home Study:**

—Saturday September 13th at 6:00, Sunday September 14th at 9:30 or 11:30 Go to O’Brien Hall after any Mass this weekend and pick-up your calendar & supplies.

Tuesday Program:

—Tuesday, September 16, from 4:00 — 5:00

Drop off at 4:00 in the Church & parents meeting at 4:55 in Church for pick-up.

Confirmation: Sunday September 21st @ 11:30. The meeting begins at 11:30 in O’Brien Hall, parents & candidates must attend!

First Penance /First Holy Eucharist

—Sunday September 28th at 11:45 in O’Brien Hall, Parent & Candidates meeting. **Parent and Candidate must attend.**

OCIC & OCIA—Contact Faith Formation to submit your registration to receive the schedule.

If you have any questions contact Lily.Barr@dor.org or call our Faith Formation office at 607-739-8214.

BULLETIN INFORMATION

Over the next weeks, a representative of LPI (our bulletin printer) will be making calls to secure new ads for our church bulletin. Our advertisements in our bulletin cover the cost of having a weekly bulletin. Thank you!



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

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:

This past Thursday, Saint Mary Our Mother School opened its doors for the 67th consecutive years. St. Mary Our Mother School welcomed its first students in September, 1959, with an enrollment of 125 students in grades one, two, and three, with a teaching faculty of six Sisters of Saint Joseph. A few years later saw the expansion of the school building to twice its size due to the increasing number of students and expanded the number of grades to encompass students from kindergarten to eighth grade. It was a time of unprecedented growth in Horseheads and Chemung County.

For the 2025-2026 school year, we have an enrollment in our school of 120 students in grades pre-k through grade six. Although many of the policies and procedures that were implemented during the pandemic have been relaxed, we continue to follow all safety policies which will keep our students, faculty and staff safe and healthy. Mrs. Heather Bill, our school principal and the entire school team have been working diligently to create and maintain a safe, welcoming, and nurturing environment at Saint Mary Our Mother School. We are blessed with a dedicated school staff and are proud of the commitment of each teacher, teacher assistant, and support staff has to ensure the academic success of each and every student.

The faculty and staff of St. Mary Our Mother School for the 2025-2026 academic year are:

Mrs. Heather Bill	Principal
Mrs. Adriana Enright	Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Jill Knuth	Pre-K3 Teacher
Mrs. Robyn Stowell	PreK 3 Teaching Assistant
Mrs. Sally Heffner	Pre-K4 Teacher
Mrs. Michelle Steed	PreK4 Teaching Assistant
Mrs. Sandra Hoyt	Kindergarten Teacher
Mrs. Jamie Lewis	First Grade Teacher
Mrs. Angela Langendorfer	Second Grade Teacher
Mrs. Kelly Koehler	Third Grade Teacher
Ms. Stephanie Pelkey	Fourth Grade Teacher
Mrs. Julie Lawson	Fifth Grade Teacher
Mrs. Colleen Meehan	Sixth Grade Teacher
Mrs. Amy Winkels	AIS Teaching Assistant
Mrs. Barbara O'Brien	Art Teacher/Library
Mrs. Katy Piet	Music Teacher
Mr. Thomas Ketchum	Physical Education Teacher
Mrs. Michelle Procopio	School Nurse
Ms. Jenna Crandall	Maintenance
Mr. Roger Williams	Maintenance

On behalf of the faculty, staff, and students of Saint Mary Our Mother School, I offer a word of thanks to you—the people of Saint Mary Our Mother for your continued interest and faithful support of our parish school. May all who make Saint Mary Our Mother School what it is—a creative and safe learning place of Catholic faith filled education—enjoy a grace-filled and safe year.

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

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

Monday, 6:45 A.M.	September 8--Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Faithful departed
Tuesday, 6:45 A.M.	September 9—St. Peter Claver, Priest Margaret Bellizia family
Wednesday, 6:45 A.M.	September 10—Weekday Joseph Schiefen—Warren and Jackie Conklin
Thursday, 6:45 A.M.	September 11—Weekday Living and deceased Amisano & Lanahan families
Friday, 6:45 A.M.	September 12-Weekday JoAnn Sabatura—St. Mary Our Mother Quilters group
Saturday, 5:00 P.M.	September 13-St John Chrysostom Agnes & Jack Purcell—the Gallaghers
Sunday, 8:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M.	September 14—The Exaltation of the Cross Teri Guardi—husband, Bob Bill Cotterill—family

Strengthening the Home-School Partnership

At St. Mary Our Mother School, we recognize that parents support is essential to the success of students, staff, and the entire school community. To strengthen this partnership, we are excited to host our Parent Information Night on Wednesday, September 10th.

This special evening provides parents with a first-hand look at the expectations, routines, and goals for each classroom for the upcoming school year. Each teacher will share important information about their class and provide families with a classroom handbook, which serves as a valuable guide throughout the year.

Parent Information Night is a well-attended event designed exclusively for parents, offering them the opportunity to understand their child's learning environment and to engage directly with teachers. When parents are informed and involved, it greatly enhances the support they can provide to their children, creating a strong foundation for academic growth, personal development, and faith formation.

We are grateful for the partnership of our families and the prayers of our parish community. Events like Parent Information Night help nurture a school environment where students can thrive, teachers are supported, and families are fully engaged in the life of the school.

We look forward to welcoming all parents on Wednesday, September 10th for this meaningful and informative evening.

Blessings Always.

Mrs. Heather Bill, Principal,

ST. MARY OUR MOTHER GARDENING ANGELS:

Are you looking for a unique opportunity for stewardship within our parish? Here is an opportunity for all parishioners, regardless of age, to help us maintain and enhance our outdoor spaces.

There is always a weed to pull, or a plant to nurture, a tree to prune, or a leaf to rake...

Our plan is to bring the Gardening Angels together "formally" 2 times each year (once in the Spring and once in the Fall) for a campus-wide day of gardening and yardwork, with the added opportunity to weed, nurture, prune, and rake throughout the growing seasons, as needed.

If you'd like to join the Gardening Angels group, please consult the bulletin board located in the church vestibule.

Now Hiring: Substitute Teachers for the 2025-2026 School Year:

St. Mary Our Mother School, along with other Catholic schools in the Diocese of Rochester is hiring substitute teachers for the upcoming school year.

We are looking for individuals who are motivated, energetic, and passionate about working with children. Substitutes play a vital role in maintaining a positive and productive learning environment, and we are grateful for their dedication and flexibility.

Interested?

If you or someone you know is interested in making a difference in the lives of students while supporting Catholic education, please contact Mrs. Heather Bill at 607-739-9157.

Qualifications:

Bachelor's Degree preferred (Associate's Degree with childcare experience considered);

Strong communication and interpersonal skills;

Reliable, professional, and compassionate individuals who love working with children.

Thank you for your continued support of Catholic education in our parish and community.

With gratitude,

Mrs. Heather Bill, Principal, St. Mary Our Mother School
607) 796-2795.

NOTRE DAME RETREAT HOUSE:

September 9: "Incredible Journeys: Reflection on Pilgrimage" Men & Women, with Dr. Mike Wischnowski, Jennifer Hughes & Fr. Bill Graf.

September 10-12; "Walking in Friendship with God: Pilgrims of Hope" Men's Retreat. With Fr. Kevin MacDonald, C.Ss.R., Dcn Brian McNulty, Mario Morales-Bermudez and Jodie Scordo

September 19th Senior Luncheon Series: "Grace with Aging/Aging with Grace" with Sr. Elaine Englert, SSJ Rochester

September 26-28: "Walking with God in Friendship: Pilgrims of Hope" Women's Retreat".

October 10-12-"Walking in Friendship with God: Pilgrims of Hope" Women's retreat

October 14 "Our Lady, the Angels and Their Mission for Our Time"

October 17: Senior Luncheon Series: "Stroke Prevention:

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

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

PRAYERS AND SQUARES:

Prayers and Squares is a group that makes lap size quilts for our parish. The finished quilts are displayed at the weekend Masses several times during the year and are available for anyone needing comfort and prayers.

The 4th and 5th grade students at St. Mary Our Mother school help tie the quilts and pray the Rosary over them. Many hands are needed to make the quilts and no experience is necessary. The group meets twice monthly in the afternoon. If you would like more information, please contact Wilma Sullivan at (607) 731-8085.

ADULT CHOIR TO BEGIN REHEARSALS:

The Adult choir will begin rehearsals on **Thursday, September 11 at 7:00 p.m.** in the church sanctuary and continue weekly. All adult singers and students in high school or older are invited to join. The choir sings at 10:30 a.m. Mass every Sunday from September through mid-June and the special Liturgies of Christmas, Holy Week and Easter. If you have thought about joining before but never took the “plunge”, now is the time to test the waters. We would love to have more singers!

ANYONE interested in becoming a cantor or a member of the Resurrection Choir, please come to see me at the organ after mass.

WOUNDED HEALER'S BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP:

The Wounded Healers' Bereavement Support Group meeting will be offered on Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 7:00 P.M., in person, at St. Mary Our Mother School, 811 Westlake St., Horseheads, NY. 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 listening and are careful to not dogmatize. We welcome those who are grieving the death of a loved one to the 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 info: (607-796-2795).

PRACTICING CATHOLIC—Beneath the Surface

When I was a kid, we had the dumb, stupid, hate chair.

It was a chair in my parent's foyer where an offending child had to sit for five or ten minutes if they uttered the words “dumb”, “stupid”, or “hate”. The rules in my house growing up were very clear. We don't call anyone stupid. We don't call anyone dumb, and we hate no one and nothing.

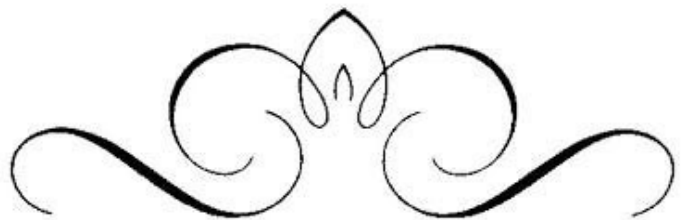
Well today, Jesus has to sit in the Dumb , Stupid, Hate chair.

For someone who talks about love so much—for whom love is a legacy and a commandment—it seems weird that in today's Gospel Jesus is calling us to hatred. It makes us question everything we think we understand about Him, about God, about discipleship.

I'll let you guess which of the kids in my family spent the most time in the dumb, stupid, hate chair (Hi! It was me). But I didn't really think my sister was stupid, and I didn't really hate my brother. Those were just the words used, even though they were strictly forbidden—maybe because they were strictly forbidden. They were the strongest words I knew, and you need strong words for strong feelings.

Hate is a very strong word; it's a word that gets people's attention. Today more than anything, Jesus wants to get our attention. He wants to force us to consider the ways in which our attachments to this world—and even to other people supersede our attachment to God. He wants us to radically evaluate what (and who) we love and how we love it and how much of our souls, our lives, our selves we have let this love consume.

It's a tough assignment, and we don't like it. Maybe we kind of hate it. That's OKAY: hate has its place. So take a seat in the chair and give it a ponder.



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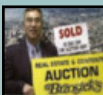
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