



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 14, 2025



THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Jesus said to Nicodemus: "No one has gone up to heaven except the one who has come down from heaven, the Son of Man." For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. - Jn 3:13, 17

WEEKLY CALENDAR**Tuesday, September 16**

3:45 p.m.—Faith Formation Classes—school

Thursday, September 18

7:00 p.m.—Adult Choir Rehearsal—church

Saturday, September 20

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

Memorials:

Our main altar arrangement for the week of September 14-20, 2025 has been donated in loving memory of Joseph Sinkewicz by his wife, Lucinda..

In The Peace of Christ:

Karen Tomkins.
Robert Pfuntner



Due to the recent fire at Tops Markets, the Food Pantry is in urgent need of the following items:

Snacks for Kids
Bread
Peanut Butter
Meats
Dairy

Tops, who donates these items regularly, was forced to throw away everything in the store, so the need is immediate!

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

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

Tuesday Program:

—Tuesday, September 16th, from 4:00p.m. — 5:00 p.m.

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

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

First Penance /First Holy Eucharist

—Sunday, September 28th at 11:45 a.m. 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.

GOSPEL MEDITATION: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross John 3:13-17

One of my favorite movies is the 1991 comedy “What About Bob?” Bill Murray plays a troubled, paranoid hypochondriac named Bob Wiley who innocently but annoyingly hounds Dr. Leo Marvin, played by Richard Dreyfuss. Bob is paralyzed by his fear of, well, everything, and is convinced the psychologist can heal him. But Dr. Marvin’s failed attempts to heal Bob end up driving the doctor to attempt to murder Bob. He fails. The surprise is that, having faced death head on, Bob is suddenly healed. He attributes his healing to Dr. Marvin for break-through “death therapy.” In facing the cause of his deepest illness and dysfunction, Bob is healed. Underneath this light-hearted comedy is a dead-serious resonance with this week’s feast: the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Christ is lifted up on the cross to force us to face the truth of sin and death. In that reckoning we find healing. Like Moses’ snake on a pole, the cross says: this is what is causing your sickness – rebellion, disobedience, sin. Look at it! Don’t run from it. Now seeing it exposed, we see life. We see our physician mercifully healing us. In this sense, we are all like Bob Wiley. The “death therapy” of the cross is our only hope for healing.

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:

With the beginning of school earlier this month, the more relaxed days of summer have come to an end, with many families returning to a more routine and structured way to our daily living. One characteristic of this more routine way of living for many of our families could mean more family dinners around the dinner table and less eating "on the run." While it may not be possible for the entire family to gather each evening, making it a priority at least one night can prove beneficial.

The following is entitled "**When Back to School means 'Back to Family Dinner Table'**", which offers much "food for thought!"

Everyone should know certain nights are family dinner.

Whether frozen pizza or prime rib, set the table nicely and sit down. Maybe light a dinner candle or pull out the cloth napkins now and then. (what are you saving them for?) Select a special dessert once in a while.

Parents and children often hit dinner hour fatigued. Make an effort to relax. Start off with a smile and laughter, even when you'd rather hit the couch.

If you haven't already, begin the family custom of praying before meals in a spontaneous way. What was I most grateful for today? Where did I see a situation today that calls for prayer? Let everyone take a brief turn. It may lead to a great conversation after the "amen."

Resist scolding or criticizing a child at dinner. Never demand to know why the math paper wasn't turned in, or why the child did not get out of bed on time. Save it for a private discussion later. Allow the dinner table to be a place of welcome and support.

Share the ups and downs of your day. Listen respectfully to their exploits and complaints.

As you review the day's events, don't forget God. Just as you are interested in what your children are reading in literature class or library hour, express an interest in what's being taught in religion class or in weekly faith formation.

Set the rule that everyone remains seated until all are finished. Then the meal is complete.

But the work is not done. Divide the duties of setting the table, clearing, washing, even cooking so that every one has a role to play and the work goes quickly.

Bring back the custom of an "after dinner" prayer, brief and blessed.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

Monday, 6:45 A.M.	September 15—Our Lady of Sorrows Faithful departed
Tuesday, 6:45 A.M.	September 16—Sts. Cornelius, Pope Nancy DeStevens—her family
Wednesday, 6:45 A.M.	September 17—Weekday Faithful Departed
Thursday, 6:45 A.M.	September 18—Weekday Bernard Hendrani—Chuck and Joan Ruhmel
Friday, 6:45 A.M.	September 19—Weekday Deceased Curtin family
Saturday, 5:00 P.M.	September 20—St. Andrew Kim-Priest Mario Botero—his family
Sunday, 8:30 A.M.	September 21—Twenty fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Anthony Santarone—Don & Jan Temple
10:30 A.M.	Kathleen Marzec—Deb and Hank Post

Pastor's Perspective continued:

These are some wonderful suggestions for our families, and for everyone, to try!

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

Fr. L

WORKING ON THE MARGINS: CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT:

Next week our special collection will support the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. Nearly 38 million people in the United States live in poverty. This collection supports programs that empower people to identify and address the obstacles they face in bringing permanent and positive change to their communities. Learn more about the Catholic Campaign for Human Development at www.usccb.org/cchd

Horseheads K of C #6158:

The Horseheads Knights are having a casual social meeting on Wednesday, September 17th., at the Lin Buffet Restaurant at 6:30 p.m. Please plan to attend. Regular business meetings will commence on Monday, Oct. 6th. at 7:00 p.m. We continue to meet at the St. Nickolas Ukrainian Catholic Church hall on E. McCanns Blvd. in Elmira Heights on the first Monday of the month unless it's a holiday. We hope to see more of our members there.

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:585-394-5700

September 19th Senior Luncheon Series:11:30—1:30

"Grace with Aging/Aging with Grace" with Sr. Elaine Englert, SSJ Rochester 11:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m.

September 26-28: "Walking with God in Friendship: Pilgrims of Hope" Women' Retreat". Friday 5:00 pm to noon Sunday

October 10-12-"Walking in Friendship with God: Pilgrims of Hope" Women's retreat; Fri. 5:00 p.m. to noon Sun.

October 14 "Our Lady, the Angels and Their Mission for Our Time"—9:a.m.—3:p.m.

October 17: Senior Luncheon Series: "Stroke Prevention: 11:30 —1:30

October 24th—26 Men's Retreat—Fri. 5:00 p.m. to noon Sunday

November 14-16 Men & Women Semi Silent Retreat, Friday @ 5:00 to Sun. noon.

November 21st —Free Senior Luncheons
December 19th —Free Senio Luncheons

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.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL’S DESK:**Morning Intramurals and Spirit Wear Sale:**

St. Mary Our Mother School is excited to announce the start of our **morning intramurals**, beginning this upcoming week! These fun and engaging activities are available to students in grades 2—6 during early arrival from 7:30 a.m.—8:00 a.m. Each week, students can participate in Open Gym with Mr. Ketchum, our Physical Education Teacher, where they enjoy organized games that encourage teamwork, build healthy competition, and promote physical fitness.

Students can also explore their creativity in Morning Art with Mrs. O’Brien, our Art teacher. Mrs. O’Brien opens her classroom to students to experiment with different art media, and she has even taught many students the art of hand sewing. These morning sessions are a wonderful way for students to start the day energized and engaged, whether through movement or artistic expression.

We are also excited to announce our **Spirit Wear Sale**, running from **Friday, September 19th, through Friday, September 26th**. This annual sale is a wonderful opportunity for families and members of our parish community to show their pride and support for St. Mary Our Mother School. From cozy sweatshirts to colorful t-shirts, there are items for everyone to wear and celebrate our school spirit. Even if your children are not currently attending, this is a great way to connect with the school community and visibly support our students, staff, and programs. For more information, please contact the school office at **607-739-9157**.

Blessings always,
Mrs. Heather Bill, Principal

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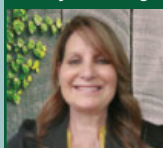
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