



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

November 16, 2025



• 33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME •

THERE WILL NOT BE LEFT A STONE.

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WEEKLY CALENDAR:**Tuesday, November 18**

4:00 p.m. Faith Formation Classes—school

Thursday, November 20

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

Saturday, November 22.—

3:30 Sacrament of Penance —Church

MEMORIALS:

Main altar arrangement for November 16—22 has been donated in loving memory of the Pfaff and Alexander families —John and Susie Alexander.

IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Jerry Kosty
Michael Patrick McCarthy
Linda Stundtner

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

Luke 21:5-19

When I was a kid growing up in New England, I'd occasionally go on a whale watch. Once we went out with calm waters and clear skies. But on the way back in, the sea got rough. I was just a kid, and I remember thinking we should turn left or right toward the shoreline I could see. But the pilot of the boat kept going straight — right into the waves — focused on a small, discouragingly distant lighthouse. Even when it flickered in and out of sight, he stayed the course. He knew where he was going.

That image comes to mind when I hear Jesus' words in today's Gospel regarding false messiahs: "Do not follow them" (Luke 21:8). In times of chaos or uncertainty, there are always voices offering easier routes, promising false safety, claiming to speak for God. But Jesus isn't found in the loudest voice or the nearest shoreline. He is steady, like a lighthouse in the storm.

The tribulation of which Jesus speaks — it's real. It happened to the Temple, it happened to him, it happens in the Church, and it will come to each of us. But the command is not to panic. It's to endure. To keep steering toward him. Faith isn't about having all the answers or dodging every wave. It's about knowing where the lighthouse is — and trusting it enough to keep going, especially when false safety beckons us to stop

ST. MARY OUR MOTHER SCHOOL

The Parent Association at St. Mary Our Mother School is a cornerstone of our school community, helping to create memorable experiences and meaningful connections for our students, staff, and families. This year, we are delighted to have **Mr. Adam McDermott** and **Mrs. Alanna Berry** serving as our co-chairs, bringing energy, dedication, and a true love for our school.

The Parent Association works tirelessly behind the scenes to organize and support amazing events, including the Thanksgiving Feast, monthly dining fundraisers, school assemblies, field trips, and Techer Appreciation Week. Their thoughtful planning and generous efforts enrich the lives of our students and help foster a sense of community in belonging.

The group meets monthly to collaborate, brainstorm, and ensure every event is a success. We are so grateful for their commitment, creativity, and the joy they bring to our school—they truly help make St. Mary Our Mother School a special place for all!

With appreciation,
Mrs. Heather Bill
Principal, St. Mary School

A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT:

In today's Gospel Jesus suggests that His disciples must be prepared to suffer ridicule, persecution and perhaps even death if they are to follow Him. Sometimes we may wonder if enduring ridicule and scorn are what we really signed up for when we received the sacraments of initiation. Would we not rather sneak through life as painlessly as possible? Good stewards take their faith seriously and find comfort in the closing words of today's Gospel: "You will be hated by all because of My name but not a hair on your head will be destroyed. By your perseverance you will secure your lives." Let us make it part of our daily prayer routine to ask the Holy Spirit for the courage to act in Jesus' name no matter the consequences.

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:

Pope John XXIII served as leader of the Roman Catholic Church from 1958 until his death in 1963. Church historians will remember Pope John XXIII as the Holy Father who convened the Second Vatican Council, which called for an overall renewal of the Church. December 8th of this year will mark the sixtieth anniversary of the formal closing of that council. Sometime after his passing, the Pope John XXIII's spiritual diary entitled **The Journey of the Soul** was published. The diary included the following ten resolutions that the Holy Father prayed each day:

1. *Only for today, I will seek to live the lifelong day positively without wishing to solve the problems of my life all at once.*
2. *Only for today, I will take the greatest care of my appearance, I will dress modestly; I will not raise my voice; I will be courteous in my behavior; I will not criticize anyone. I will not claim to improve or to discipline anyone except myself.*
3. *Only for today, I will be happy in the certainty that I was created to be happy, not only in the next world but also in this one.*
4. *Only for today, I will adapt to circumstances, without requiring all circumstances to be adapted to my own wishes.*
5. *Only for today, I will devote ten minutes of my time to some good reading, remembering that just as food is necessary for life of the body, so good reading is necessary for the life of the soul.*
6. *Only for today, I will do one good deed and not tell anyone about it.*
7. *Only for today, I will do at least one thing I do not like doing. And if my feelings are hurt, I will make sure that no one notices,*
8. *Only for today, I will make a plan for myself. I may not follow it to the letter, but I will make it. And I will guard against two false evils: hastiness and indecision.*
9. *Only for today, I will firmly believe, despite appearances, that the good Providence of God cares for me as no one else who exists in this world.*
10. *Only for today, I will have no fears. In particular, I will not be afraid to enjoy what is beautiful and to believe in goodness. Indeed, for twelve hours I can certainly do what might cause me consternation were I to believe I had to go it all my life.*

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

Monday, 6:45 A.M.	November 17—St. Elizabeth of Hungary Faithful Departed
Tuesday, 6:45 A.M.	November 18—Weekday Joseph Coletta—Becky & Bob Corcoran
Wednesday, 6:45 A.M.	November 19—Weekday Maria Scrimale—Josephine Italiano
Thursday, 6:45 A.M.	November 20—Weekday Faithful Departed
Friday, 6:45 A.M.	November 21—Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Faithful Departed
Saturday, 5:00 P.M.	November 22—Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe Robert Ervay—wife, Georgia and Chale
8:30 A.M.	Kathleen Marzec and Marlene Fiorini—Hank and Deb post
10:00 A.M.	Brian Kasonic—Carolyn and Tom Collins

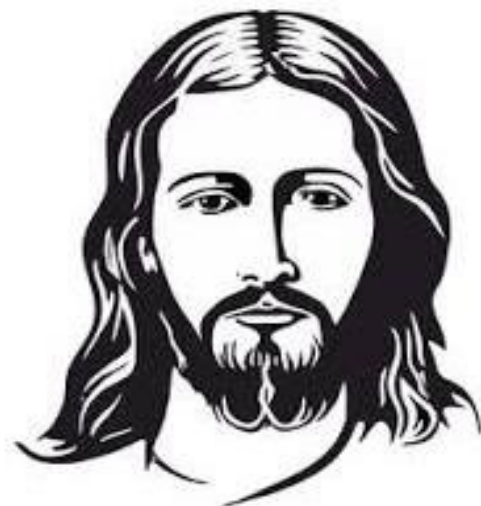
Pastor's Perspective continued:

10. *Only for today, I will have no fears. In particular, I will not be afraid to enjoy what is beautiful and to believe in goodness. Indeed, for twelve hours I can certainly do what might cause me consternation were I to believe I had to go it all my life.*

Some wonderful, practical wisdom for people of all walks in life!

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

Fr. L.



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NOVEMBER: A MONTH TO REFLECT ON GRATITUDE AND GIVING:

Towards the end of each year, it is easy for us to become distracted with the busyness and planning for the upcoming holidays, starting with Thanksgiving. As Christian stewards it is an important aspect of our faith to live each day in gratitude and to prayerfully discern and reflect on what we are giving back to God through our parish, diocese and other charitable institutions in the coming year. Now is a good time to reflect on what priority we will give to God in our spending. Giving generously to our parish, dioceses and other charitable institutions in the coming year. Now is a good time to reflect on what priority we will give to God in our spending.

Christian stewards acknowledge with gratitude that even their financial resources and material wealth ultimately come from God. Exercising good stewardship over the money one makes, manages, spends and offers back to God is a tangible measure of their gratitude to God and their spiritual health.

Giving generously to their parish, dioceses and institutions of the universal Church is second nature to good stewards. They prayerfully reflect on their ability to give and return the "first fruits" of their financial resources back to God (Leviticus 23:10). The good steward's desire is to put God first among his or her spending priorities. They take seriously the psalmist's question: "What return shall I make to the Lord for all the good He has done for me?"

The best way to respond to God's loving generosity is by reflecting that generosity day by day. What God does in Jesus' human life is a much magnified version of what happens when we take time to pray, offer our time and talents to our parish family or when family budgets and spending habits are reprioritized to conform more devotedly to the Gospel. The stewardship question is not, "Should I do these things? But rather, "How much should I do?" Take time during this month of November to reflect prayerfully on God's generosity toward you, on the quality of your own life, of gratitude and what you are doing and can do to further God's kingdom by your own giving patterns in the coming year.

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL:

As of 11/7/2025 Monday, November 7th, 120 families have contributed \$43,359.00, 44.24% parish goal of \$98,000.00 to Catholic Ministries Appeal. We thank those who have given generously and ask all who have not given to prayerfully consider doing so. The CMA helps our Church and our parish in many ways. Please consider all the ways that God has blessed you and your family, and how the Church has brought goodness into your lives. Join our appeal and give back what you can so that we remain strong and able to do God's great work.

NOTRE DAME RETREAT HOUSE:

November 18—"The Body and Soul's Journey through Grieving", 8:00 A.M.—3:00 P.M.—By Roslyn Karaban, MDiv, PhD and Sr. Melissa Gernon, SSJ

December 1& 15 Preparing the Way...Single Day in Silence and prayer Sacrament of Reconciliation and Mass. Hospitality and lunch 8:30 — 3:00 p.m. \$35.00, \$70.00 if you would like a bedroom for the day.

DAY OF RETREAT: "Blessed are they that Hope in the Lord: Advent meditations on the Virtue of Hope" with Deacon Ed Knauf. December 13th, 8:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m. Fee: \$60.00

December 19th —Free Senior luncheons

Register: 585-394-5700 or info@notredameretreat.org

For more information on day and presenter:
www.notredameretreat.org

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
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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

HANDS OF CHRIST AWARD 2026

The **Hands of Christ** is a recognition instrument to assist parishes in affirming high school seniors who have been the "Hands of Christ" in their church, home, school, and greater community. You are invited to nominate a high school senior from the class of 2026 for the Hands of Christ recognition.

A nominated high school senior must meet the following criteria:

-Consistently demonstrates a Christian attitude by word and example;

-Is actively involved in their parish as well as their school community;

-Is a positive role model for peers and younger children;

-Is a participating member of St. Mary Our Mother.

To nominate a senior, please stop at the parish office for a registration form, complete the registration form, including the nominee's name, address, telephone number, and high school along with examples of the above mentioned criteria. All forms will be reviewed by Father Linsler for approval as pastor.

All nominations are due in the parish office by tomorrow, November 17th.

**CHRISTMAS CARING PROGRAM:**

As the Christmas season of giving and caring approaches, the Social Ministry committee invites you to participate in our Christmas Caring Program. As in the past years, we will be doing this in partnership with the Horseheads Food Pantry, which supplies food assistance to needy families in Chemung County outside the city of Elmira. This year, as well as in past years, our school children and their families will be assisting us with food collection.

We invite you to participate in this local outreach in one or more of the following ways:

Making a monetary donation so the Pantry can supply meat and fresh food for the Christmas meal and the holiday week. Envelopes will be provided for this purpose on the tables near the doors of the church. The special envelopes can then be placed in the regular collection baskets or brought to the parish office.

Increasing our donations of canned and dried food to the vestibule food cart so the Pantry clients have healthy and adequate food for the Christmas holidays.

Bringing a Christmas ornament that you offer to a needy family. You would hang the ornament on our Christmas Caring tree in the back of the church. The ornaments will be taken; each week to the Pantry so the families and children can choose an ornament as a reminder of our care for them.

Purchasing a book for a child (Toddler through Grade 5). Books should be placed in the bookbag by the wall near the trees or in the bag in the vestibule of the church.

This program will kick off on the weekend of November 22-23 when donations envelopes will be available in the vestibule, and the Christmas Caring tree will be standing proudly in the back of the church awaiting you ornaments. The program will conclude the weekend of December 13-14.

In this time when so many families are facing financial insecurity, please join us in spreading joy and showing love and concern for our neighbors in need. We thank you for your consideration





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