

# St. Mary Our Mother

CHURCH

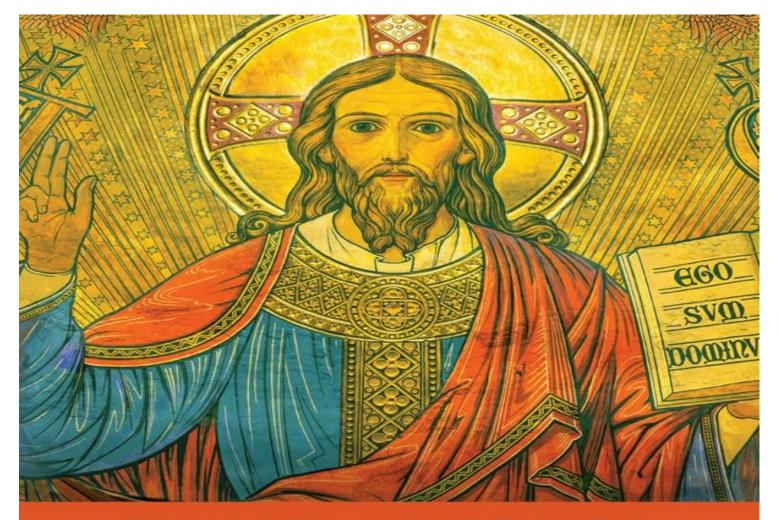
#### MISSION STATEMENT

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 23, 2025** 



# OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

600

He said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied to him, "Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise." - Lk 23:42-43

#### **WEEKLY CALENDAR:**

#### **Tuesday, November 25**

4:00 p.m. Faith Formation Classes—school 7:00 p.m.—Adult Choir Rehearsal— church

#### Saturday, November 29

3:30 Sacrament of Penance — Church

PARISH OFFICES CLOSED: The parish offices will be closing on Wednesday, November 26, at 11:00 a.m. and will remain closed on Thanksgiving Day, November 27th, and Friday, November 28th. The parish offices will re-open on Monday, December 1st at 9:00 a.m.

We wish you and your family a very blessed and Happy Thanksgiving!

#### **MEMORIALS:**

The Eucharistic Breads or Hosts for the Nov. 23-29, 2025 have been donated in memory of Charles Nalbach by Fran Beering.

Our sanctuary candle for the week of November 23-29 has been donated in thanksgiving on the 60th wedding anniversary of Barb and Bill Limoncelli.

Our main altar arrangement for November 23—29 has been donated in thanksgiving on the 60th wedding anniversary of Barb and Bill Limoncelli



#### THANKSGIVING DAY:

Our **Thanksgiving Day Mass** will be at 9:00 a.m. We invite you to join us for this Eucharist of Thanksgiving and ask that you bring nonperishable food items with you to this Mass. These food items will be used by our Social Ministry Committee's Christmas Giving program in partnership with the Horseheads Food Pantry. In addition, the collection on Thanksgiving Day will be used to support these outreach efforts. You may place all donations in the receptacles at the entrances to the church.

#### **SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS:**

THE 36TH ANNUAL Advent Service of Lessons & Carols will be held at the First United Methodist Church on Sunday, December 7th. at 5:00 p.m. The church address is 1034 West Broad Street. Once again our choirs and guests from other area churches will be joining together to present a wonderful experience of scripture readings, carols and songs. This service is guaranteed to put your heart and soul into the right place for Christmas. Mark your calendars and plan to spend time reveling in the joy of the Advent/Christmas season.

#### ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

## SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS SUNDAY, December 7, 2025

5:00 p.m.—First United Methodist Church 1034 West Broad Street

#### **SACRAMENT OF PENANCE:**

Saturday: 3:30 p.m.

#### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION Monday, December 8, 2025

6:45 a.m.—Mass

9:00 a.m.—Mass

5:30 p.m.—Mass

## SAINT MARY OUR MOTHER SCHOOL CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

6:30 p.m. Wednesday, December 17th 9:00 a. m. Thursday, December 18th

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT MASSES Saturday, December 20

5:00 p.m.— Mass — fourth Sunday of Advent **Sunday, December 21** 

8:30 a.m.—Mass— Fourth Sunday of Advent 10:30 a.m.—Mass—Fourth Sunday of Advent

### CHRISTMAS MASSES

#### Wednesday, December 24, 2025

3:00 p.m. —Christmas Family Mass

5:00 p.m.—Christmas Mass

9:30 p.m.—Adult Choral Concert

10:00 p.m.—Christmas Mass During the Night (formerly known as "Midnight Mass")

#### Thursday, December 25, 2025

9:00 am—Christmas Mass

Blessing of Christmas gifts at the Christmas morning Mass.

#### **PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:**

An early bulletin deadline due to the Thanksgiving holiday weekend, finds this column being written on Monday, November 10th, in anticipation of Thanksgiving Day. It is a wonderful time for many to come together to offer their personal gratitude to God for the many blessings we enjoy. I invite you and your family to begin your **Thanksgiving Day** by joining us for Mass at **9:00** a.m.

Today, we celebrate the Solemnity of **Christ the King.** This feast was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925, and celebrates an aspect of Jesus' identity rather than an event in His life and is thus categorized among the "idea feast." Another example of an "idea feast": would be that of the Holy Family. This feast was originally celebrated each year on the last Sunday in October, but with the revision of the Roman Missal after the Second Vatican Council, this feast was moved to the final Sunday of the liturgical year. By instituting the Feast of Christ the king, Pope Pius XI hoped to renew and strengthen the faith of the people of his time. It was Pius XI's hope that this annual celebration would serve as a powerful sign of Jesus' reign in our midst, that its celebration would speak powerfully of our belief in God's triumph over evil. Christ our King continues to empower us to be His living presence in today's world.

Thursday of this week we celebrate the American fest of **Thanksgiving**. It is an annual event that invites us to go back into our history. We may think of the traditional story of the pilgrims and the Native Americans sitting down to that meal of turkey, corn on the cob, potatoes, squash and wonderful pies. We may think of the exciting dreams that our forefathers had as they ended their first year in this new land; the opportunities that they saw opening up for them and how they rejoiced in the opportunity to make dreams come true. We may think of our more recent history and what it is for which we need to thank God. We may revisit Thanksgivings past and those who sat at table with us and now sit at God's table. We may simply look around our family table at home and see familiar faces and hear familiar stories and simply be grateful that we are a part of it all. Wherever our mindset might be, Thanksgiving gives us a moment to pause and not achieve anything but to simply be grateful for who we are.

Some years ago, I remember attending a kindergarten Thanksgiving dinner. When I asked the children what the pilgrims ate on Thanksgiving, they of course responded "Turkey!" Then a little boy put his hand up, and said "They had popsicles!" I smiled and asked the child "Why do you think they had popsicles?"

#### **MASSES FOR THE WEEK:**

November 24—St. Andrew-Priest Monday, 6:45 A.M. Faithful Departed November 25—Weekday Tuesday, 6:45 A.M. Deceased Mills family November 26—Weekday Wednesday, 6:45 A.M. Living and deceased of the Amisano and Lanahan families November 27—Weekday Thursday, For all people of St. Mary Our Mother 9:00 A.M. Friday, November 28—Weekday 6:45 Å.M. No Mass Saturday, November 29—Weekday 5:00 P.M. Bob Vanburger—his wife,Barbara 8:30 A.M. Tony Dandrea—wife, Ida 10:00 A.M. John Ksionzyk-wife, Paula & family

#### **Pastor's Perspective continued:**

He responded, "My teacher said that the pilgrims and Native Americans had their favorite foods—popsicles are my favorite food, so they must have had popsicles!" I told him that I didn't know if they had popsicles or not, but his logic was flawless! We then gathered in this huge circle and we were asked to name what we were thankful for. The usual answers were spoken: "Mom and Dad; Grandma and Grandpa; my sister; my brother; and the pet dog." Then I heard a little voice which said "I thank God that my Mommy is still alive! A profound silence filled the room. I knew that this child's mother had been battling cancer and the tiny voice of a child spoke volumes of what was in her heart—it was in her heart—it was a true prayer of thanks.

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

Fr. L.

#### **CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL:**

As of 11/12/2025, 128 families have contributed \$45,394.00, 46.32% 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.



#### ST. MARY OUR MOTHER SCHOOL:

On Tuesday, November 25th, our school community will come together to celebrate with a special **Thanksgiving Feast**, generously sponsored by our Parent Association and catered by Corning Catering. Students will dress up for the occasion as we gather to share in this joyful celebration of gratitude and community.

The feast also marks the beginning of our annual food collection for the Horseheads Food Pantry, an opportunity for our students to give back and help those in need during this season of thanks.

We are truly grateful for the ongoing support of our parish community, whose encouragement and involvement enrich our school and help make these meaningful experiences possible.

May this Thanksgiving be a time of blessing, joy, and togetherness for all, as we celebrate with family, friends, and those we hold dear.

Blessing, Mrs. Heather Bill Principal, St. Mary Our mother School

#### A THANKSGIVING PRAYER:

Dear Lord:

We give you thanks for the blessings you have bestowed upon us as we gather with loved ones today. May we share in the spirit of gratitude, love and generosity. bless our meal, our family, and those less fortunate. AMEN.



#### NOTRE DAME RETREAT HOUSE:

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**

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St. Mary Our Mother School
811 Westlake Street(607)-739-9157
E-mailsmoms@dor.org
School Web Sitewww.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.



#### **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 this 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 your 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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