



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

December 7, 2025

second sunday of **ADVENT**



WEEKLY CALENDAR:**Sunday, December 7**

5:00 p.m. — Service of Lessons & Carols,
First United Methodist Church, Horse-
heads

Tuesday, December 9

4:00 p.m. Faith Formation classes—school
7:00 p.m. Wounded Healers Bereavement
Support Group—school

Thursday, December 11

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

Saturday, December 13

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

IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Suzanne Kordyl
Jon Poteat
Dwight Sands



As of 11/24/2025, 171 Families have contributed \$65,754.00— 67.10% of our parish goal of \$98,000.00 to the 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.

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 a.m.—Christmas Mass

Blessing of Christmas gifts at the Christmas
morning Mass.



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.

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:

We have arrived at the **Second Sunday of Advent**. Each year, Advent presents us with an invitation and challenge to take some time during these extremely busy and hectic December days to slow down and to be more aware of God's presence among us. Years ago, **St. John the Baptist** preached this message and encouraged people to listen to his message as he proclaimed to people of his time for the coming of Jesus. Advent is a season of anticipation, joy, and hope that comes from the knowledge that God is in our midst. During these days, I would encourage you to allow God to comfort you and to help relieve any anxiety that you might be experiencing that prevents you from fully entering into the joy of the season.

Many of you may remember the late **Father Joseph F. Hogan**. Father Hogan served as the pastor of St. Vincent De Paul Church in Corning from 1964-1983. Father Hogan also served as the first chaplain at Notre Dame High School from 1955-1961. Upon his retirement, Father Hogan came to live at St. Patrick Church, **Elmira**, with the then pastor, **Father Daniel F. Holland** and me. When he was assigned to be the homilist for the weekend Masses during the season of Advent, St. Patrick had four weekend Masses, (all parishes in Chemung County had 4-5 Masses in those days—how times have changed!) Father Hogan would include the following poem in his homily. I am not sure of the author, but it is entitled:

I Promise: My Christmas Pledge:

1. *I promise to make my Christmas a holy day with Christ—not a holyday without Him.*
2. *I promise to observe Christmas as the birthday of Christ—not a day to give and receive just material gifts.*
3. *I promise to remember that the real symbols of Christmas are the Star, the Stable, and the Crib—not Santa and his reindeer.*
4. *I promise to teach my children that "Santa Claus" is the nickname for Saint Nicholas, who gave to the poor, in honor of Christ.*
5. *I promise to help one poor family—in honor of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, the poor and homeless family of Bethlehem.*
6. *I promise to send Christmas cards remindful of Jesus, the infant Savior—not decorated only with candy canes, gold, ribbons, and wreaths.*
7. *I promise to make room in my home for Christ—with a Christmas Crib—to remind me that He was born in a stable.*
8. *I promise during this season, in a special way, to honor Mary, His mother—who kept the first Christmas vigil beside the manger.*

MASSSES FOR THE WEEK:

Monday,	December 8th—The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
6:45 A.M.	Pablo and Elisea Atienza—Macapinlac family
9:00 A.M.	School Mass—Bridget Wetmore—Ray and Rosa Giammichele
5:30 P.M.	Christina O'Herron Regula—Mom
Tuesday,	December 9th—Advent Weekday
6:45 A.M.	Steve and Gloria Costello—their family
Wednesday,	December 10th—Advent Weekday
6:45 A.M.	Living and deceased members of the 6:45 Mass family
Thursday,	December 11th—Advent Weekday
6:45 A.M.	Susan and Arthur Sackett—their family
Friday,	December 12th—Our Lady of Guadalupe
6:45 A.M.	Faithful departed
Saturday,	December 13th—Third Sunday of Advent
5:00 P.M.	Jeanne Carney—Mary Lou and Tom McCullough
Sunday	December 14th—Third Sunday of Advent
8:30 A.M.	Teri Guardi—Bob
10:30 A.M.	Eddie Jadoski —family

Pastor's Perspective continued:

9. *I promise to begin this day, by leading my family to Church and to God's table—to receive the Bread of Life.*
10. *I promise today and every day to give "Glory to God in the highest"—and to work and pray for "Peace on earth to all of good will."*

Have a blessed **Second Week of Advent**. I look forward to seeing many of you at this afternoon's **Service of Lessons & Carols** at the First United Methodist Church at 5:00 p.m.

Please continue to take care of yourself and each other.

Fr. L

ST. MARY OUR MOTHER SCHOOL

St. Mary Our Mother School is proud to share the formation of our 2025—2026 Student Council. This student-led group provides meaningful opportunities for leadership, service, and school spirit, and we are excited to see the ideas and perspectives our students will bring forward this year.

Each class in grades 3—6 has elected two representatives who will serve as the voice of their classmates, participate in monthly meetings, and assist with community-building initiatives throughout the school. We are grateful for their willingness to lead and to model responsibility, kindness, and team work.

Our Student Representatives:

Grade 3: Lawrence Berry & Lucy Petrillose

Grade 4: Angelo C. & Madelyn Johnson

Grade 5: Joey Mae Lutz & Lucy Piet

Grade 6: Bryce Bill & Christine Katerji

We are also thankful for our dedicated teacher advisors, Mrs. Kelly Koehler and Mrs. Colleen Meehan, who will guide and support the council as they plan activities and service projects for the school community.

Please join us in praying for a successful and enriching year for our Student Council. May their work inspire joy, service, and unity throughout our school.

WEEKLY READINGS for the week of December 7, 2025

Sunday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 (see 7)/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12

Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13/Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab/Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

NOTRE DAME RETREAT HOUSE:

December 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
 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

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

Dec. 7, 2025

Second Sunday of Advent

Matthew 3:1-12

This week we hear that John the Baptist is out in the wilderness eating “**locusts and wild honey**” (Mark 1:6). It’s not just a strange historical detail. It’s a symbolic expression of a healthy spiritual diet. The path to Christ includes both the hard and the beautiful, the gritty and the sweet. We have to learn to gulp the locusts and savor the honey.

I remember working with a young couple preparing for marriage. They were sincere, but raw — barely beginning to discover faith. Part of me wanted to rush them ahead, to fill in all the gaps, to bombard them with scripture and church documents. I swallowed that instinct. It was like eating locusts. But I also recall them light up as they spoke about each other, about their first child, then their second. And they wanted to be close to God. Something innocent and beautiful was unfolding. That was the honey. I knew God was asking me to savor it.

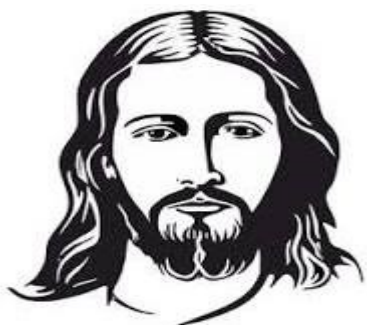
This Advent, maybe we’re each being invited to accept both locusts and honey. Maybe it’s time to stop avoiding the difficult parts of faith — prayer that feels dry, the call to repentance, the patience with the troublesome. It’s time to eat some locusts.

But we also need to notice the small gifts God gives us: a peaceful moment, a good conversation, the joy of serving someone else, new life, good intentions of our friends.

That’s the honey. Savor it!

John didn’t avoid either. He took it all in. And so can we. What are your locusts? Your honey? If we let God feed us with both, we’ll be ready — really ready — for the coming of Christ.

— *Father John Muir*



shutterstock.com - 2567990221

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. 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 kicked off on November 22-23 donations envelopes are available in the vestibule, and the Christmas Caring tree is 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.





318 W. Broad Street Horseheads, NY 14845
607-739-1301

James J. Lynch II - Licensed Funeral Director
Heather Ann Lynch - Licensed Funeral Director
Family Owned and Operated by James J. Lynch II
www.lynchsfuneralhome.com • jlynch4@stny.rr.com



Italian Family Restaurant

Village Plaza • Horseheads, NY • 796-2677
Minier's Plaza • Big Flats, NY • 562-7000
Amot Mall Food Court • Horseheads, NY • 739-4641

SUPPORT OUR
ADVERTISERS!



Kevin R. Sullivan 365 E. Franklin St.
Licensed Funeral Director Horseheads, NY



Plumbing
Heating
Electric
AC/R

www.bcinc.info 562-2023



COMMERCIAL ROOFING,
CRANE SERVICE & SHEET METAL
2054 Grand Central Ave., Horseheads, NY

GEROULD'S
PROFESSIONAL PHARMACIES, INC.

'PRESCRIPTION DELIVERY SERVICE'
130 S. Main St. • 733-6696
215 Hoffman St. • 732-0597
2887 Westinghouse Rd. • 796-2193
98 W. Pulteney • 936-3233

TERRY ELECTRIC

Fast Professional Service with Reasonable Rates
Paul Terry - Over 30 Years Experience
Residential or Commercial
Quality Work • Fully Insured • Free Estimates
607-739-4484 • 607-857-5429

Yee Olde
HICKORY HOUSE
RESTAURANT

American, Chinese & Italian Cuisine
New Hours: Open Monday-Saturday 4pm-11pm
739-2405 • 3543 Watkins Rd, Horseheads



Alsworth Capital
Management, LLC

Investment Management • Tax Planning
Insurance Planning • Estate Planning
Financial Planning
(607) 973-2665
www.AlsworthCapital.com

Four Seasons Travel
of Elmira, LLC

Call Julius Carozza, Parishioner
(607) 733-8111
Fourseasonstravel.com

LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Place Your Ad Here
and Support Our Parish!

CONTACT ME Lorne Searight

lsearight@4LPi.com • (800) 477-4574 x6460

FAITHFULLY SERVING OUR PARISH COMMUNITY



BARBER
FUNERAL HOME

413 SOUTH MAIN STREET, HORSEHEADS, NEW YORK 14845-2490
(607) 739-4801 • INFO@BARBERFUNERALHOME.COM

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED FOR NEARLY
100 YEARS OF COMFORT, CONCERN, & SERVICE

BOULE'S 607-739-5321

...Of Course!
Wedding Gowns, Tuxedo & Prom Gowns
Mother of the Bride/Groom Gowns
819 South Main St. in Horseheads



PARMENTER
Tire, Auto and Truck Service • Team Tiremasters

www.parmenterinc.com

"Always working for you...I don't go home, until you go HOME!"



(Lenora) Sue Larson
Licensed Associate Real Estate Broker
ABR/GRI/AHWD
Cell 607-731-2831

Howard
Hanna
Real Estate Services

215 WEST CHURCH ST.
ELMIRA, NY 14901

LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Place Your Ad Here and Support Our Parish!

CONTACT ME Lorne Searight

lsearight@4LPi.com • (800) 477-4574 x6460



Call today for a free estimate
607.527.3256

ELLIOTT
CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, LLC

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL SITE WORK

EXCAVATION • SITE DEVELOPMENT • ASPHALT
CONCRETE: PADS, SIDEWALKS, RETAINING WALLS & FOUNDATIONS
SEPTIC SYSTEM INVESTIGATION & INSTALLATION • UTILITY WORK
GRAVEL, STONE, & TOPSOIL DELIVERIES

CO. RTE. 125, CAMPBELL, NY 14821
WWW.ELLIOTTCSS.COM

Annie's
Hallmark

2058 College Ave, Elmira Heights, NY
(607) 734-1492

Your Neighborhood Destination for
Heartfelt Gifts and Beautiful Cards!

BOUILLE
ELECTRIC, INC

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS SINCE 1972
607-734-6106
www.bouilleelectric.com



Brzostek's
AUCTION SERVICE, INC.

REAL ESTATE AUCTION CO., INC.
We do Auctions anywhere in NY!
Bernard J. Brzostek, CAI
Licensed Real Estate Broker and Certified Auctioneer
Real Estate, Estates, Businesses & more!
No Commission charged to Sellers on Real Estate Auctions!
www.askbernie.com
Call: Bernie's SELL # (315) 447-5177



Ad info. 1-800-477-4574 • Publication Support 1-800-888-4574 • www.4lpi.com

St. Mary Our Mother, Horseheads 06-0149