



# ST. MARY OUR MOTHER CHURCH

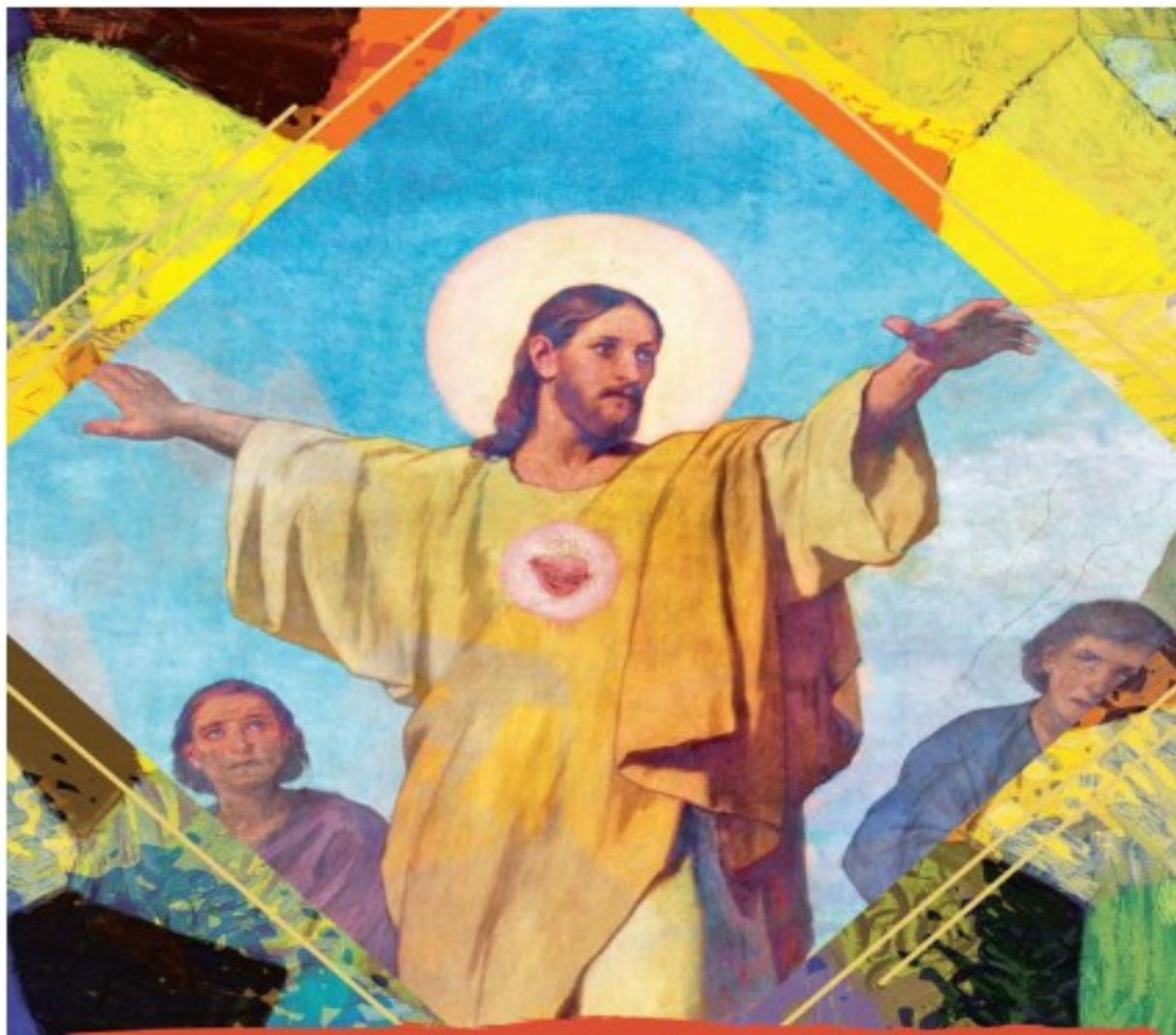
## MISSION STATEMENT

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

February 1, 2026



## 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**“Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me.” - Mt 5:11**

**WEEKLY CALENDAR:****Monday, February 2**

6:00 p.m.—Hands of Christ Recognition Ceremony—Church

**Tuesday, February 3**

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

**Saturday, February 7**

3:30 p.m.—Sacrament of Penance—Church

**CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL:**

As of 1/23/2026, 245 families have contributed \$101,066.80, **103.13%** to our 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.

**VALENTINES FOR VETS**

We will once again be participating in the Valentines for Vets program.

Valentines for Vets is a local project to support veterans at the Bath VA Medical Center. The purpose of this project is to wish veterans a Happy Valentines Day and thank them for their service. St. Mary Our Mother Social Ministry Committee has been involved in the project for many years.

We ask that you create handmade cards or letters, thanking our veterans for their service and wishing them a Happy Valentines Day. Please use the salutation, "Dear Veteran" or "Thank you, Veteran" and do not include last names or personal photos.

A red box has been placed on the table across from the bulletin board to collect valentines. Cards should not be in envelopes and are hand delivered to the veterans.

Sample cards and any additional information are attached to the box.

***Thank you!***

**FLOWER DONATIONS**

**Our Main Altar Arrangement for the Week of February 1-7, 2026**

Donated in loving memory of **Darryl Fink**, by his wife, Judy and family

**Stewardship****Week End of 1/25/2026:**

Unavailable at the time of bulletin submission due to the snow storm.

**You Brightened Their Christmas - A Thank You from the Pantry**

Your outstanding generosity to our Christmas Caring Program brought many a smile to the clients of the Horseheads Food Pantry. Food shelves that were quite bare in November were well-stocked for the Christmas holidays. Our school families, as well as our parishioners, did a fantastic job with the food donations. The children learned the importance of giving and experienced the joy that comes with it.

Special meats and fresh foods for Christmas dinner were distributed, thanks to the \$3623 that was donated. Clients were thrilled to be able to choose an ornament for their home and a book for their children or grandchildren.

Thank you for caring!

**Super Bowl for the Pantry**

Super Bowl Sunday is approaching. Once again, Social Ministry with the help of some youth recruits will be taking up a collection at the doors of the Church after the Masses on Super Bowl weekend, February 7 and 8. The donations will go to the pantry for the purchase of meat, produce, and dairy items for distribution to their clients.

There will be a separate bag at the two church entrances for each team, one for the Patriots and one for the Seahawks. Please place your donation in the bag of the team for whom you will be rooting. We will let you know in two weeks the winning team of our Pantry Bowl.

So, in reality, no matter who wins the Super Bowl on the field, the clients of the Horseheads Pantry will be the winners. You too, will be a winner for your generosity to those in need.

**IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

**James Colegrove  
Sandee Johnson  
Betty M. Butz**

## PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:

This past week's celebration of Catholic Schools Week also marked the beginning of registration for students currently enrolled at Saint Mary Our Mother School for the 2026-2027 academic year. Registration for all new students for our school will begin on Monday, February 9<sup>th</sup>. If you know of families who have children three years of age through the sixth grade this coming September, now is the time to contact the school for further information.

The following are some **"Did You Know"** facts about Saint Mary Our Mother School:

*We offer pre-school for children ages 3 and 4, as well as elementary education and faith Based education through grade six, (these formative years provide the strongest educational foundation for our children), facilitating the importance of life-long learning.*

*We promote the intellectual, personal, social, and spiritual growth of each student.*

*We provide a safe and welcoming, yet challenging and loving faith based environment for children of all faiths. (15 % of our current families who have chosen St. Mary Our Mother School actively practice a faith other than Catholicism).*

*Our current enrollment is 117 students, and enrollment trends indicate increasing enrollment likely for the next decade.*

*A multi-cultural student body, with children from numerous ethnic/racial backgrounds.*

*Such an environment instills acceptance and appreciation for all people, and encourages our children to focus on things we have in common.*

*Character traits of respect, kindness, trustworthiness, fairness, responsibility, and citizenship are taught to every student every day, helping instill these traits and values in each student. Each day begins with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance; each day concludes with prayer and reflection.*

*Our faculty and staff are dedicated, caring, and effective people, many with multiple New York State certifications while remaining active with their ongoing professional development. Several of our staff have enrolled their children here because they have seen the academic successes St. Mary Our Mother School provides.*

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

<b>Monday,</b>	<b>February 2</b>
6:45 A.M.	Our Faithful Departed
<b>Tuesday,</b>	<b>February 3</b>
6:45 A.M.	Our Faithful Departed
<b>Wednesday,</b>	<b>February 4</b>
6:45 A.M.	Our Faithful Departed
<b>Thursday,</b>	<b>February 5</b>
6:45 A.M.	For the Faithful Departed
<b>Friday,</b>	<b>February 6</b>
6:45 A.M.	For the Faithful Departed
<b>Saturday,</b>	<b>February 7</b>
5:00 P.M.	Josephine & Henry Ryan by Mary & Jim Carr
<b>Sunday,</b>	<b>February 8</b>
8:30 A.M.	John, Sonia, Mark & Anthony Palladino by Francis Viselli
10:30 A.M.	Pamela Enright by her family

## Pastor's Perspective continued:

*Our school has scored higher than other area schools in New York State testing in ELA (English and Language Arts) and Math*

*Technology, literacy and proficiency begin in kindergarten.*

*Financial assistance is available for students. No child will be refused a St. Mary Our Mother School education due to a family's inability to pay.*

*Our school has been an integral part of our community since 1959; with some of our students being the 2nd or 3rd generation families who have attended our school.*

We continue to be blessed to have Saint Mary Our Mother School as an integral and vital part of both our parish and the community. If you are considering our school for your child, please call the school office to arrange a visit and tour. After all, this visit could make all the difference in your child's life.

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

Fr. L.

## JANUARY IS POVERTY AWARENESS MONTH

Catholic teaching urges that we continually call on our elected officials to prioritize policies that protect the poor and most vulnerable. In 2025, the US Catholic Bishops addressed components of the One Big Beautiful Bill Act insisting that it will have ongoing and devastating consequences for the poorest people in our country. The federal bill cut funding for SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) which will result in millions going hungry, while cuts to Medicaid could cause 10 million people to lose their health insurance over the next decade according to reports from the Congressional Budget Office. One way we can stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in need is by advocating for just national policies.

**Challenge:** Call our Congressman Nick Langworthy (607-377-3130)- ask him to help lift vulnerable families out of poverty by strengthening food assistance and other federal safety net programs and ensure adequate funding for programs that promote the common

### What Is a Mass Intention?

A Mass intention is a specific petition for which the Mass is offered. Mass intentions, also known as Mass cards, can be requested on behalf of another living person—for example, the healing of someone sick or to commemorate a wedding anniversary. However, Mass intentions are most commonly offered in remembrance of a person who has died.

### Offering a Mass Card For the Deceased

It may seem counterintuitive to offer a Mass intention for a person who has died, as their time on earth is finished. However, the practice of offering Mass intentions for the deceased relates to the Catholic belief in purgatory.

As Catholics, we believe souls who die in a state of sin go through a purification process before entering heaven. We offer Masses for our deceased loved ones to aid them in their journeys to heaven. We pray with hope that the graces imparted by the Mass will usher them further towards eternity with God.

It is especially important to pray for the dead, as they can no longer pray for themselves. Pope Francis said that offering the celebration of the Eucharist for the dead “is the best spiritual help that we can give to their souls, particularly to the most abandoned ones.”

**Please contact the parish office for your Mass Card  
(607)739-3817**

## DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER PERMENENT DIACONATE

The deacon is a man of faith, who is called from the community that already recognizes his dedication to service. He makes a lifetime commitment to serving the People of God by proclaiming the Word, assisting and presiding at liturgies, and ministering in the areas of charity and social justice. A deacon gives witness to his availability to the community by addressing present and emerging needs of the Church. The Diocese is inviting interested men of strong and active faith, who can demonstrate a record of service in the communities in which they live, work and worship, who may wish to explore a possible call to ordained ministry as a permanent deacon, to first speak with their pastor for an initial conversation. They may also contact Deacon Edward Giblin, Director of the Office of the Permanent Diaconate, at [edward.giblin@dor.org](mailto:edward.giblin@dor.org) for additional information. A potential candidate must be at least 35 years of age and no older than 62 years of age at the time of ordination after a five (5) year period of formation. He must be in good health, emotionally mature, have stable relationships and must have the wholehearted support of his wife (if married) and family to enter the phase of inquiry. Because the parish is the primary experience of Church for most inquirers, the parish community is asked as well to invite from among its members men who exhibit strong faith and a spirit of service and encourage them to consider a possible vocation to the permanent diaconate. The Diocese anticipates that the next formation class will begin in Fall 2027, with the application process beginning in early 2027.

### 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**  
**Ms. Michelle Card, Business Manager**  
**Mrs. Joyce Pirozzolo, Parish Secretary**  
**Ms. Wendy Slater, Office Assistant**  
**Mr. Doug Johnson, Cemetery Manager**  
**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](mailto:smomc@dor.org)  
 Parish Web Site..... [www.StMaryOurMother.com](http://www.StMaryOurMother.com)

#### St. Mary Our Mother School

811 Westlake Street ..... (607)-739-9157  
 E-mail..... [smoms@dor.org](mailto:smoms@dor.org)  
 School Web Site..... [www.stmaryourmother.school](http://www.stmaryourmother.school)

#### Religious Education Office

816 West Broad Street ..... (607)-739-8214

## ST. MARY OUR MOTHER SCHOOL: African American Read-In

We are pleased to announce that our African American Read-In program is back for another year! From February 3rd to February 5th, 2026, community volunteers will visit our school to read to students in grades K-6 as part of our celebration of Black History Month.

The program highlights African American authors and culture through a carefully selected lineup of books. This year, we are excited to introduce a new book for our PreK students: *We're Different, We're the Same* by Bobbi Jane Kates. These readings provide our students with the opportunity to explore important cultural stories and foster a deeper understanding of the diverse voices that have shaped our nation's history.

Each class will participate in a half-hour reading session, with volunteers reading age-appropriate books and engaging in meaningful conversations about the stories. The event helps our students gain exposure to diverse perspectives and encourages a love of reading.

We look forward to this enriching experience for our students, and we are grateful to the volunteers from our local community who make this program a success each year.

Thank you for your continued support of our school and its educational programs!

Blessings,

Mrs. Heather Bill  
Principal, St. Mary Our Mother School



**Bless Us, Lord**

Jesus,

You are good and gracious, every moment of every day. You invite us to be meek, merciful, clean of heart, peacemakers. Give us the grace to seek these virtues, and to seek you. May your blessing accompany us on our way.

Amen.



### Notre Dame High School Winter Open House

#### For Prospective Students & Families (Grades 7–12)

Prospective students and families are warmly invited to attend Notre Dame High School's **Winter Open House on Thursday, February 26, from 6:00–7:00 PM, in the Charles and Mary Crossed Auditorium.**

The evening will include an overview of Notre Dame's academic program, admissions process, and financial aid, followed by an opportunity to tour the campus and meet some of our administrators and students. Attendees will also hear inspiring testimonies from a current parent and student. Discover what makes Notre Dame a welcoming, college-preparatory community grounded in the traditions of the Sisters of Mercy and a commitment to academic excellence.

Students at Notre Dame benefit from a wide range of opportunities, including **competitive athletics, performing, visual, and language arts; community service, and extracurricular activities** such as FTC & FRC Robotics, Climate Crusaders, Quiz League, Yearbook, MaryLeaf (school newsletter), and The Notre Dame Spotlighters.

Notre Dame H.S. is located at 1400 Maple Avenue, Elmira, and transportation is available from many of our local school districts.

To RSVP for the Open House or to apply for the **2026–27 school year**, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/NDHSWinterOpenHouse26>. To submit your application to ND for the 2026-27 school year, visit [notredamehighschool.com](http://notredamehighschool.com). For questions, contact **Mr. Nick Weiermiller, Director of Admissions, at 607-734-2267**.

We look forward to welcoming you and your family to Notre Dame High School!

Thanks so much.  
Best wishes for the New Year!



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