



# 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 8, 2026



YOUR LIGHT MUST  
**SHINE.**

— MATTHEW 5:16 —

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**WEEKLY CALENDAR:****Tuesday, February 10**

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

**Thursday, February 12**

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

**Saturday, February 7**

3:30 p.m.—Sacrament of Penance—Church

**CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL:**

As of 1/30/2026, 246 families have contributed \$101,141.80, **103.21%** 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 8-17, 2026**

Donated in loving memory of **Arvie & Inez Korstad and Joyce, Lauren & Kent Peckham**

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

<b>Envelope:</b>	<b>\$3,361.00</b>
<b>Plate:</b>	<b>\$453.00</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$3,318.00</b>

**The WOUNDED HEALERS' BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

Meeting will be offered on Tuesday, February 10, 2026 at 7:00 PM, in person, at St. Mary Our Mother School, 811 Westlake St., Horseheads NY. Use the door of the school across from the playground. You may want to bring a picture or two of your loved one who died, or a momento of significance. Each one has a personal grief journey so we are open to listen, and are careful to not dogmatize with "shoulds." We welcome those who are grieving the death of a loved one to this sharing; as you are each hoping to find encouragement, insight, and normalization from each other. You may share or you may just listen. We encourage you to be sensitive to your own needs. ALL are welcome. We strive to provide a safe, confidential, and open place where our motto remains, "We see healing in the very act of helping." Christine Lloyd, 607-796-2795

**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

**HOSTS**

**The Eucharistic Hosts for the week of February 1-7, 2026**

Donated in loving memory of **Lyn Nalbach** by Fran Beering.

## PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:

A number of years ago, our parish added a new method where the parishioners of St. Mary Our Mother could make their regular financial contributions to the parish. It is called "On-Line Giving," or "Electronic-Giving" or simply "E-Giving," and members of our Finance Council have fully endorsed this method for parish financial contributions and support. Electronic Giving is an easy, safe, and secure way for you to provide consistent financial support for St. Mary Our Mother, and the various ministries of our parish, school, and outreach initiatives. Since we began to offer this option to our parish members, more and more parishioners have begun using this effective and efficient method of making contributions to St. Mary Our Mother, just as one would do for other recurring payments like your utility or mortgage payments. You can also choose to make contributions to any or all the special collections-Christmas and Easter, for example-that are taken up throughout the year. And although there have been a few technological "glitches" to our program, our electronic giving program is up and running!

What are the benefits of "On-Line Giving? **Parishioner benefits** include:

- \* *You never have to bring checks or cash to Mass*
- \* *Eliminates risk of lost checks*
- \* *Reductions of bank costs*
- \* *One monthly transaction of record.*
- \* *No envelopes to worry about*
- \* *Easy to read statements sent for tax planning.*
- \* *No cost to participate*
- \* *Easy, flexible, with funds transferred on the date you set.*
- \* *Safe, secure, and confidential*

On-Line Giving **Parish** benefits include:

- \* *Reduced money handling, more secure*
- \* *Reduced cost of printing and mailing of envelopes.*
- \* *Simplified and accurate accounting*
- \* *More consistency of contributions from month to month, even during vacation times*
- \* *Saving on bank processing fees*
- \* *Accurate revenue forecasting and budget planning*

You can always make changes or stop electronic transfers by contacting our parish business manager. You can also change the amount of your contribution at any time.

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

<b>Monday, February 9</b>	6:45 A.M. Our Faithful Departed
<b>Tuesday, February 10</b>	6:45 A.M. Margaret Kinsey by Marianne Kosty
<b>Wednesday, February 11</b>	6:45 A.M. Our Faithful Departed
<b>Thursday, February 12</b>	6:45 A.M. Our Faithful Departed
<b>Friday, February 13</b>	6:45 A.M. Deceased Members of the Madison & Healy families by Pat Madison
<b>Saturday, February 14</b>	5:00 P.M. Karen & Paul Tomkins by the Bau family
<b>Sunday, February 15</b>	8:30 A.M. Mary Amisano by her husband, Guy 10:30 A.M. Christina O'Herron Regula by St. Mary Our Mother choir

## Pastor's Perspective continued:

A word of thanks to those who use Electronic Giving for your support of St. Mary Our Mother. To participate in this convenient, simple, and secure method of supporting our parish, please contact **Michelle Card**, our parish operations manager at the parish office. She will be happy to assist you.

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

Fr. L.

## HANDS OF CHRIST AWARDS

Five of our high school seniors have been named recipients of this year's **Hands of Christ** recognition. These young people were recognized because they have consistently served God, their parish and the greater community.

We congratulate this year's recipients of the **Hands of Christ** recognition from St. Mary Our Mother:

*Erica Bancroft  
Anthony Barkley  
Sophia Christmas*

*Delaney Ruhmel  
Maggie Sullivan*

The **Hands of Christ** recognition ceremony took place on Monday, February 2, 2026 at the Church of St. Mary Our Mother.

**IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

**Joseph Cesare**

## JANUARY IS POVERTY AWARENESS MONTH

The number of people experiencing homelessness nationwide on a single night (in 2024) was the highest ever recorded at more than 771,000 people - an increase of 18% from the year before, according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. During 2025 Catholic Charities provided homeless services to # persons in Chemung and Schuyler counties. The affordable housing crisis is worsening across the nation; inflation is rising, and wages among middle-and lower income households are stagnating causing some worries about mortgage foreclosures. Catholic teaching affirms that decent, safe, and affordable housing is a human right and the Catholic Church recognizes the important role government has along with Catholic Charities, other non-profits, and faith communities in achieving this aspect of the common good. Challenge: Contact our Congressman Nick Langworthy (607-377-3130) ask him to oppose funding cuts for essential federal housing programs and advocate for more investment in affordable housing; and, contact our NYS Senator Tom O'Mara (607-735-9671) ask him to support continued funding for the NYS mortgage foreclosure prevention program (NYS HOPP).



### Lent: A Time of Preparation

The holy season of Lent is a special time of personal and spiritual growth. It's a time to reflect on ourselves and others. The spiritual pillars of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving guide us as we strengthen our relationship with God and our neighbors. Our world faces urgent needs as more families struggle with hunger and poverty. The Catholic social teaching principle of solidarity teaches us that we are one human family. Because we are connected, the joys and challenges faced by our sisters and brothers affect us too. (Catholic Relief Services).

This year, Lent begins on **Ash Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>**. Once again, our parish is adopting the CRS Rice Bowl Lenten Program as our almsgiving outreach to those in need. More information on CRS Rice Bowl will be forthcoming in the weeks to come. We hope you will plan to participate with others in our parish in the Rice Bowl program.

## 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  
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

## ST. MARY OUR MOTHER SCHOOL

### Open House & Registration for the 2026–2027 School Year

St. Mary Our Mother School warmly invites prospective students and their families to our Open House on Wednesday, February 11th. This is a wonderful opportunity to tour our school, meet our dedicated teachers, explore our curriculum, and learn more about the faith-filled, nurturing environment we provide for students in PreK 3 through 6th grade.

Registration for new students for the 2026–2027 school year begins Tuesday, February 10th. Families interested in enrolling are encouraged to attend the Open House and begin the registration process.

We hope you will join us to see why St. Mary Our Mother School is a place where faith, learning, and inspiration come together!

For more information, please contact the school office at 607-739-9157.

Blessings,

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

### Knights of Columbus #6158

We are meeting in O'Brien Hall again! The meeting for February will be on Monday, February 9th at 6:00 p.m. Future meetings will be held on the first Monday of the month at 6:00p.m. in O'Brien Hall. The side door of the school near the playground will be the entrance. Hope to see more of you there!

### WINE

**The Altar Wine for the week of February 8-14, 2026**

Lovingly donated by Jim & Mary Carr, in memory of **Josephine & Henry Ryan.**



### 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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