



ST. MARY OUR MOTHER CHURCH

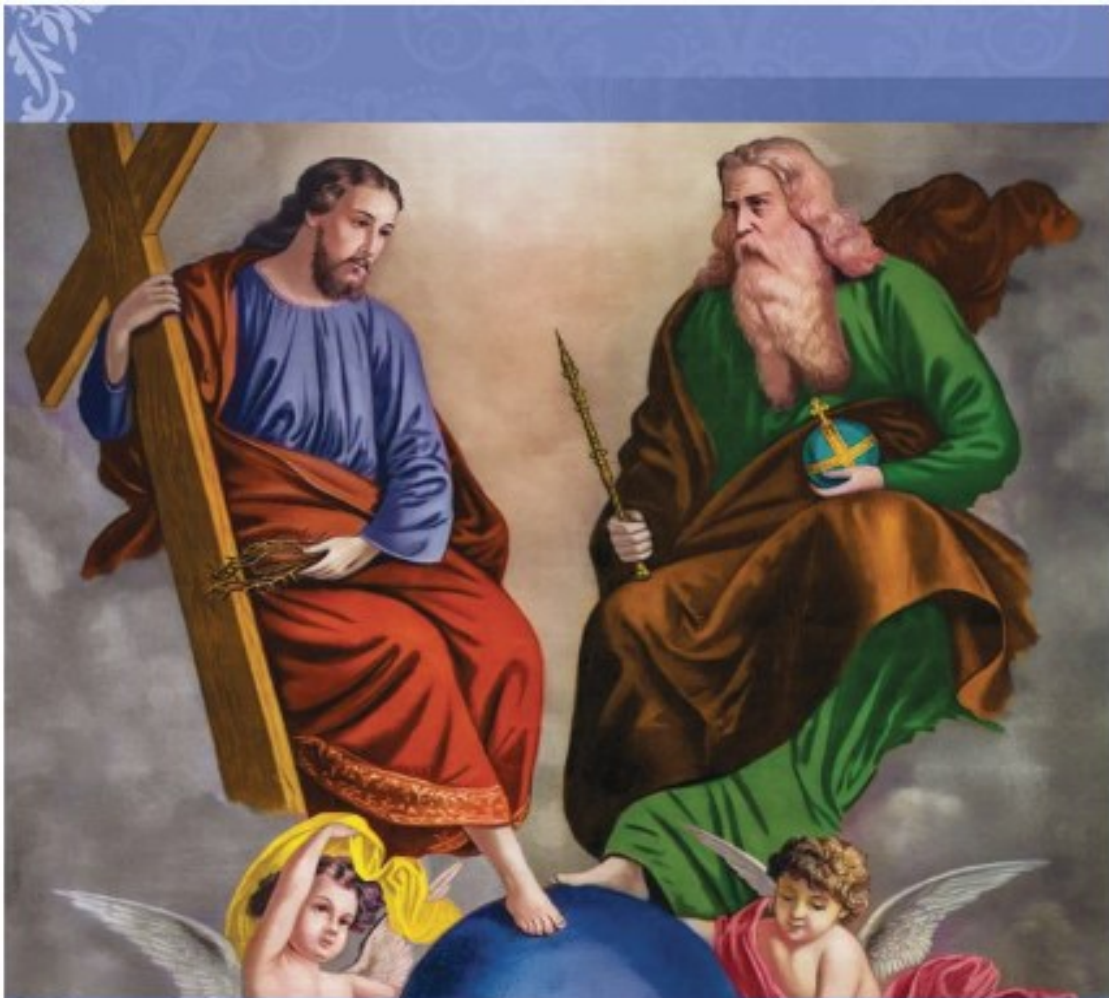
MISSION STATEMENT

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

May 10, 2026



6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot accept."

John 14:16-17

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Thursday, May 14

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

Saturday, May 16

3:30 p.m.—Sacrament of Penance—Church

The Christ You See

“What if you are the only version of Christ someone sees today?” a friend once asked me.

My blood ran cold. Jeez, I thought. That would be...really unfortunate.

The world cannot accept the Holy Spirit, Christ tells us, because the world cannot see and know the Holy Spirit (John 14:17). But the world can see us. The world can know us. In this way, we accomplish the Great Commission: we go forth, and we make disciples of all nations. In all that we are and all that we do, we offer an explanation for our hope (1 Peter 3:15).

We face a unique situation, 2,000 years after the Resurrection, because our mission field is full of people who have already heard about Christ.

And they have zero interest, thanks-and-please-get-off-my-porch.

This Christ they’ve seen? He puts himself first. He’s suspicious of other people. He’s not interested in mixing with the wrong crowd. He’s been known to lie, to abuse trust, to protect himself.

Here’s the problem: they haven’t seen Christ at all. They’ve only seen Christians.

It’s easy to blame the obvious culprits: the priest consumed in public scandal, the parish trustee who stole from the coffers. But these are only larger versions of the same failure of which I am guilty each time I shiver at the thought of someone associating my behavior, my words, and my attitude with my Savior.

I am not Christ. I am nowhere close. But I am fortunate enough to be a member of his Body.

We all fail, of course. Every apostle, every saint, every bishop, every priest, every man and woman in the pews: we are all broken. We are all in need of redemption. When we accept that redemption, however, we also accept responsibility. Because now, we become what the world sees of Christ.

Am I ready to be the only version of Christ someone sees today?

Stewardship

Weekly Contribution for week ending 5/3/2026
Total.....\$10,434.37

IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Jennie Zito
Joseph Opetosky

Main Altar Flowers

For May 10-16, 2026 have been donated in thanksgiving to all Mothers—Living and deceased.

Blessed Mother Flowers

For May 10-16, 2026 have been donated in loving memory of Sue Beering by her husband, Fran.

Hosts & Wine

The Eucharistic Hosts & the Sacramental Wine for May 10-16, 2026 have been donated in loving memory of Kate & Walt Enslin by Joan & Barry Sawester.



Annual Baby Shower –

Our Social Ministry Committee will once again be sponsoring their annual Baby Shower the weekends of May 9th and 10th and May 16th and 17th. Please bring new, unwrapped items to Mass and place them in the bassinet. Monetary donations may also be placed in the box provided.

Mosaic of the Southern Tier(formerly known as the Southern Tier Pregnancy Resource Center) provides a wide variety of services and material support to mothers-to-be, new mothers and their children.

This includes clothing, diapers and other items for children up to age 3. While items for infants are always appreciated, we have a special need for toddler clothing(up to 5T) and size 5, 6, diapers, pull-ups and wipes. Towels, blankets, crib sheets, burp cloths, and bibs are always needed, as well as diaper bags, bottles and sippy cups.

Your donations will be given to needy mothers-to-be, mothers, their infants and their toddlers through the work of Mosaic of the Southern Tier.

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:

Happy Mother's Day to all mothers of our parish of St. Mary Our Mother! We salute and honor you, as well as thank God for you today, and for the love you selflessly gave and give your children. We offer a prayer for all the mothers, living and deceased, of all parishioners. With all the public conversation today about the role of women in the church and society, may we never lose sight of and the appreciation for the unique womanly role of motherhood.

I hope you have the opportunity today, if your mother is living, to speak with her and tell her of your love. And if your mother has died, I hope you are blessed with fond memories and reasons for thanking God for her. There are some people who do not have good memories of growing up—perhaps because their mother was not all that they had hoped, desired, and needed. If you are such a person, pray today for a healing of your memories, an acceptance of what cannot be changed, and a decision to thank God for your life and for the mother who gave it to you. Occasionally, such a person may need the help of another to achieve such healing. It is a wise thing to do to come to peace.

Each year, Mother's Day falls during the Easter season. As we are searching for signs of Easter and new life, this weekend invites us to center on "Mother." One might say that a mother is the premier sign of Easter. She gives birth to human life to gain this title. Not only does she give birth, but she nurtures, encourages, cares and loves her children. Hers is not a 9 to 5 job—nor is it concluded when her child walks out of the house. Motherhood is a life-long process—and, I believe, even extends beyond the bounds of time and space to eternity. All that we envision in the life of a mother is envisioned in the life of an Easter person.

The following is from an article entitled **Words of Wisdom: My Mother taught me....**

To appreciate a job well done: *"If you are going to kill each other, do it outside. I just finished cleaning."*

Religion: *"You better pray that will come out of the carpet!"*

Time Travel: *"If you don't straighten up, I'm going to knock you into the middle of next week."*

Foresight: *"Make sure you wear clean underwear, in case you get in an accident."*

The science of osmosis: *"Shut your mouth and eat your supper."*

Contortionism: *"Will you look at the dirt on the back of your neck?"*

Genetics: *"You're just like your father!"*

Stamina: *"You'll sit there until all that spinach is gone."*

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

Monday, 6:45 A.M.	May 11 For Our Faithful Departed
Tuesday, 6:45 A.M.	May 12 Pablo & Elisea Atienza—Macapinlac family
Wednesday, 6:45 A.M.	May 13 Deceased members of the Madison & Healy families—Pat Madison
Thursday, 6:45 A.M. 9:00 A.M.	May 14 Jim LeMark—his wife, Ann John Gough—wife, Ellie & family
Friday, 6:45 A.M.	May 15 Sandee Johnson—Pat Madison
Saturday, 5:00 P.M.	May 16 Josephine & Henry Ryan—Mary & Jim Carr
Sunday, 8:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M.	May 17 The Ascension of the Lord 7th Sunday of Easter Raymond Sherwood—his wife, Deloris Christina O'Herron Regula—her Mom

Pastor's perspective Continued:

Weather: *"Your room looks like a tornado went through it."*

Hypocrisy: *"If I told you once, I told you a million times. Don't exaggerate!"*

Envy: *"There are millions of less fortunate children in this world who don't have parents like you do."*

Anticipation: *"Just wait until you get home!"*

Wisdom: *"When you get to be my age, you'll understand."*

Justice: *"One day you will have kids and I hope they turn out just like you!"*

Happy Mother's Day to all of our mothers of St. Mary Our Mother! Have a great week, and please continue to take care of yourself and each other!

Fr. L.



Courage, Explained!

In the Roman Rite, bishops extend their hands over confirmandi, praying that they will be given “a spirit of right judgment and courage.”

This invocation echoes countless passages of sacred Scripture extolling the virtue of courage. “Be strong and courageous in your hearts, all you who place your hope in the Lord,” says Psalm 31:25. “I have given you a command. Be strong and brave, do not be afraid nor dismayed. I, the Lord, your God, will be with you wherever you go,” the Lord says in Joshua 1:9. Courage is also a frequent watchword of Christ: “Take courage! I have overcome the world.” (John 16:33)

The virtue of courage is intimately linked with that of fortitude — roughly understood as courage in action — and is shown by the person who makes a choice to place his trust in God, not in circumstance.

Blessing for Mother’s Day

Dear Lord,

Pour your goodness and grace upon the women of our community today in a special way. For mothers: fill them with joy and blessing. For those who have lost children: hold them in their sorrow. For those who have hoped for children: surround them with Your love. For those who have lost a mother: may they know Your comfort. For those carrying difficulty on this day: bring them consolation.

Bless all women this day. Thank you for the love they bring to this world, no matter their circumstances or story.

Amen.

Wounded Healers

The Wounded Healers’ bereavement support group meeting will be offered on Tuesday, May 12, 2026 at 7:00 P.M., 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 memento 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.

**DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER
PERMANENT 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, 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:

Annual Walk-A-Thon – Supporting Our School Community

St. Mary Our Mother School is excited to host our Annual Walk-A-Thon for students in PreK 3 through 6th Grade on **Friday, May 15th**, with a rain date of **Monday, May 18th**. This special event is a wonderful opportunity for our students to come together in a fun, healthy, and faith-filled environment while supporting our school.

The Walk-A-Thon serves as an important fundraiser that helps support our school and our ongoing improvements. Through the generosity of our families, parishioners, and community members, we are able to continue enhancing our learning environment and providing meaningful opportunities for our students to grow academically and spiritually.

We look forward to a day filled with school spirit, excitement, and community pride. Thank you for your continued support of St. Mary Our Mother School and our mission to provide a strong Catholic education for all of our students.

With gratitude,

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

NICKELS ADD UP

Your clean deposit cans and bottles are worth five cents each to the Horseheads Food Pantry when you drop them off at our parish office. If the office is closed, please leave the bag(s) on the front step under the overhang.

The pantry uses the money to purchase the needed items when food donations fall short. Social Ministry is collecting these deposit containers, redeeming them, and sending the money on to the Food Pantry. Consider joining the several families who have been doing this for years. It will give you a “feel good” feeling, knowing that you are helping out our neighbors in need.

Horseheads Food Pantry

The Horseheads Food Pantry is very grateful to the people of St. Mary Our Mother community for their long-standing, generous support of the pantry. Their current wish list is below:

- *Brownie mixes and cookie mixes*
- *Saltine or Ritz-style crackers*
- *Jiffy corn muffin mixes*
- *Family size bags or boxes containing individual bags of chips or pretzels*
- *Boxes of cereal*

And keep those deposit cans and bottles coming. Thank you so much.



NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER ACADEMIES & ATHLETIC CAMPS

Is summer on your mind yet? Looking for ways to keep your kids active, engaged, and having fun? Notre Dame has something for everyone! Our exciting lineup of **Summer Academies** includes: Cooking 101, Just Desserts, Teen Trailblazers, Build It. Code It. Drive It!, Craft-It-With-Cricut, Not Your Average Art Camp, Sweet Feet Hiking & Nature Photography Camp, Summer Seminar on the Performing Arts, and Advanced Musical Theater Review. We’re also offering **Athletic Camps**, including our popular Crusader Soccer Camp led by Boys Varsity Head Coach Gavin Harrington, and a Tennis Camp directed by Varsity Head Coach Erik Romminger. Learn more at: notredamehighschool.com. Register today: <https://tinyurl.com/NDHSSummer2026>. Join us for a fun and enriching summer at Notre Dame! All programs will be held at Notre Dame High School, 1400 Maple Avenue, Elmira. For questions, please contact Michelle Barkley at 607-734-



FREE Senior Luncheon Series

11:30 am—1:00pm—3rd Friday of each month

May 15th—Home Safety for older adults and family Caregivers

June 19th—Scripture Soaking/Immersive Prayer

FOLK GROUP

An interest in starting up a folk group here at St. Mary Our Mother has been expressed by one of our parishioners who has a background playing bass with a folk group. There would be a need for acoustic guitar players and willing singers in order to create this new ensemble. If you are interested, please call the parish office at 607-739-3817 and leave your name and phone number, or see Cathy Peckham after mass. You will be contacted.

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