



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

July 19, 2026



16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"The righteous will shine like the sun in the
kingdom of their Father." - Mt 13:43a

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sunday: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: St. Apollinaris, Bishop and Martyr

Tuesday: St. Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Wednesday: St. Mary Magdalene

Thursday: St. Bridget, Religious

Friday: **Parish Offices Closed** - St. Sharbel Makhlūf, Priest

Saturday: St. James, Apostle

Next Sunday: 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

RECONCILIATION

Saturday| 3:30 pm in the church

UPCOMING IN OUR PARISH

SCHOOL YEAR REGISTRATIONS:

Information about registrations for St. Mary our Mother School 2026-2027 year can be found on Page Five.

Registrations for St. Mary our Mother's Faith Formation & Sacramental Preparation Classes can be found on Page Four.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

A man recently told me he was losing patience with the Church. "It's supposed to be God's Kingdom on earth," he said, "but it's full of contradictions and hypocrisy. Why can't the Church just be better?" That last word landed with a judgmental thud. It hurt. Because at times the Church can look painfully ordinary, even disappointing.

But Jesus' parables in today's Gospel meet that frustration head-on. He says, "The kingdom of heaven may be likened to a man who sowed good seed in his field," yet the weeds grow up with the wheat, and the master allows both to grow together until harvest. To his listeners, this sounded strange, even offensive. They expected God's reign to be pure, powerful, and glorious, anything but mixed up, hidden, or small.

Jesus is showing us something essential. The Kingdom always begins small and grows amid imperfection. Grace and weakness exist side by side until the harvest. That is why the Church often looks messy. Yet within that mess, God's quiet work continues. The weeds do not stop the wheat from growing.

When we see the Church's flaws or our own, it helps to remember that this is exactly the field in which Christ chose to plant. The miracle is not that everything looks perfect, but that his Word keeps taking root anyway.

Lord, give me patience with Your field, the Church. Help me see Your hidden life growing even among the weeds. Amen.

— Father John Muir

IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST



Linda Atencio
Dr Joseph Navone
James Bramble
Jean Bilson

ALTAR FLOWERS

The main altar flowers for July 19-25, 2026 have been donated in memory of Gertrude and Lyle Johnson by their daughter, Peggy.

INTERESTED IN BAPTISM, COMMUNION, OR CONFIRMATION?

OR CURIOUS ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH?

The Order of Christian Initiation for Children, Teens, and Adults (OCIA) is a class designed to help with the process of becoming a Catholic. Classes begin in September and are open to anyone of any faith background to explore the Catholic Faith or work towards receiving the sacraments of Initiation into the Catholic Church.

Interested in learning more about OCIA or registering?

Reach out to:

Lily.Barr@dor.org or 607-739-8214

A NOTE OF GRATITUDE

Sister Christiana Ajagu and the **Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary** wish to thank you for your generous response to last weekend's mission appeal. your interest and concern is a real source of encouragement to us and our various missionary endeavors throughout the world. Please be assured of a continued remembrance in the prayers of all the Sisters. May God continue to bless you and your families.

The Most Precious Blood

O God, who by the Precious Blood
of your Only Begotten Son
have redeemed the whole world,
preserve in us the work of your mercy,
so that, ever honoring
the mystery of our salvation,
we may merit to obtain its fruits.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Jesus said this about his blood,
"Drink from it, all of you,
for this is my blood of the covenant,
which will be shed on behalf of many
for the forgiveness of sins."

John 26:27-28



PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

A positive compliment I receive from parishioners and visitors alike is the sense of hospitality and welcome people experience at St. Mary Our Mother. Recently, I read a quote from Diane Butler Bass, from her book **"People's History of Christianity: The Other Side of the Story,"** on the subject of hospitality. She writes, *"Hospitality is the practice that keeps the Church from becoming a club, a members-only society."* Her quote reminds us that the Church is not an exclusive organization. Two of the meanings of the word "Catholic" are both "universal" and "all-embracing."

Father Richard Rohr, the well-known Franciscan priest and author, offers an insightful comment on this topic: "Practical, practice-based Christianity has been avoided, denied, minimized, ignored, delayed, and sidelined for too many centuries by too many Christians who were never told Christianity was anything more than a belonging or belief system. Now we know that there is no Methodist or Catholic way of loving. There is no Orthodox or Presbyterian way of living a simple and nonviolent life. There is no Baptist or Episcopalian way of visiting the imprisoned. If there is, we are invariably emphasizing the accidentals, which distract us from the very "marrow of the gospel," as St. Francis of Assisi called it. We have made this mistake for too long. We cannot keep avoiding what Jesus actually emphasized and mandated. In this urgent time, 'it is the very love of Christ that urges us,' (2 Corinthians 5:14)

Quaker Pastor Philip Gulley summarizes how we must rebuild spirituality from the bottom up. In his book **"If the Church Were Christian; Rediscovering the Values of Jesus,"** Richard Rohr summarizes Gulley's words to restate his message, offering us a description of the emerging Christianity which both Pope Francis I and Pope Leo XIV have called us to:

1. *Jesus is the model for living more than an object of worship.*
2. *Affirming people's potential is more important than reminding them of their brokenness.*
3. *The work of reconciliation should be valued over making judgments.*
4. *Gracious behavior is more important than right belief.*
5. *Inviting questions is more valuable than supplying answers.*
6. *Encouraging the personal search is more important than group uniformity.*
7. *Meeting actual needs is more important than maintaining institutions.*
8. *Peace-making is more important than power.*
9. *We should focus more on love and less about sex.*
10. *Life in this world is more important than the afterlife. (Eternity is God's work anyway).*

MASSSES FOR THE WEEK

Monday, July 20

6:45 A.M. - Mildreda Pinsoy - Aprile Bertomo

Tuesday, July 21

6:45 A.M. - Richard Hall - Ann Gorman

Wednesday, July 22

6:45 A.M. - Our Faithful Departed

Thursday, July 23

6:45 A.M. - Deceased of the Mills Family - family

Friday, July 24

6:45 A.M. - Souls in Purgatory

Saturday, July 25

5:00 P.M. - Robert Roberti - sister, Rita

Sunday, July 26

8:30 A.M. - Mary Amisano - husband, Guy

10:30 A.M. - Roger Joy - Cathy & David Peckham

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE CONTINUED...

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

Fr. L.

NOW HIRING: FINANCE & OPERATIONS MANAGER

St. Mary Our Mother Parish & School (Horseheads) and Ss. Isidore and Maria Torribia Parish (Addison) are seeking a full-time Finance & Operations Manager to provide financial, administrative, and operational support to our parish communities. This position oversees accounting coordination, payroll support, facilities and office operations, volunteer coordination, and parish administrative functions while working closely with the Pastors and Regional Finance Director.

Qualifications: Bachelor's degree in Accounting, Finance, Business, or related field preferred (Associate degree with relevant experience considered). Strong organizational, communication, and computer skills required. Experience in accounting, office management, nonprofit administration, or parish operations is preferred.

- **To apply**, please submit a resume to Amy.Finnerty@dor.org.

16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME





FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION 2026–2027 School Year

Registration for the 2026–2027 Faith Formation year is now open at St. Mary Our Mother! We are excited to welcome new and returning families to grow in faith together. Programs are available for **children and youth from Pre-K through high school**. As well as many fun family events and Youth Groups throughout the year. For our Public School students, receive Religious Education through our Tuesday Faith Formation Program, Home Study Program, or Hybrid Program. For students wanting to receive any sacraments, reach out to our Faith Formation team to find the program that will fit your student.

To Register: Scan the QR Code or Google “St Mary Our Mother Registrations” to find our website with online registration forms. Each child must complete a registration form to enroll for the upcoming year. We encourage families to register early so we can prepare for another wonderful year of learning, community, and fun!

For more information and to register, visit stmaryourmother.com/faith-formation or contact the Faith Formation Office. We look forward to walking with your family on this journey of faith!

REGISTER NOW



ACTION ALERT!

The new Federal Scholarship Tax Credit would allow all taxpayers to receive a 100% federal tax credit, up to \$1,700, for donations that fund scholarships helping students with tuition, tutoring, and other education costs. If New York opts in, this program would bring millions of dollars in privately funded support to families, while allowing taxpayers to redirect a portion of their federal taxes to help students across the state, including our Catholic school families.

Tell Gov. Hochul to opt in!

Go to: www.bit.ly/federal-scholarship-credit to take action today.

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.

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- 2267.

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
Mrs. Joyce Pirozzolo, Parish Secretary
Ms. Wendy Slater, Office Assistant
Mr. Doug Johnson, Cemetery Manager
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 WebSite: www.StMaryOurMother.com

St Mary Our Mother School

811 Westlake Street (607)-739-9157
 E-mail: smoms@dor.org
 School WebSite: www.stmaryourmother.school

Faith Formation

816 West Broad Street (607)-739-8214
 E-mail: lily.barr@dor.org



ST MARY OUR MOTHER SCHOOL 2026-2027 Registration



St. Mary Our Mother School is pleased to share that **registration for the 2026-2027 school year is currently ongoing.** We welcome both new and returning families to explore all that St. Mary Our Mother School has to offer as part of our faith-filled, nurturing school community.

At St. Mary Our Mother School, **students in Pre-K 3 through Grade 6 are supported in an environment rooted in Catholic values, academic excellence, and a strong sense of community.** Our dedicated faculty and staff are committed to helping each child grow academically, spiritually, and socially through engaging instruction and meaningful learning experiences.

Families continue to choose St. Mary Our Mother School for its welcoming atmosphere, strong partnership between home and school, and commitment to educating the whole child. From daily classroom learning to school-wide traditions and service opportunities, students are given the foundation they need to succeed and thrive.

We encourage families interested in learning more about enrollment, tuition, or scheduling a visit to reach out to the school office.

For additional information, please contact the school office or email Heather Bill at Heather.Bill@dor.org.

We look forward to continuing to welcome new families into our St. Mary Our Mother School community for the 2026-2027 school year.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

"GO INTO ALL THE WORLD AND PREACH THE GOSPEL TO ALL CREATION"

Our Go Forth Vacation Bible School was an incredible success! Throughout the week, more than 40 children traveled around the world; together we "visited" **Mexico, Ireland, the Philippines, Uganda, and the Holy Land**, learning about the inspiring lives of **Our Lady of Guadalupe and St. Juan Diego, St. Patrick and St. Brigid, St. Lorenzo Ruiz, the Uganda Martyrs, and Jesus Christ in the Holy Land.** Each evening was filled with faith, fun, games, crafts, and music that encouraged our students to truly go forth and live just as our heavenly saints show us to live!

Our week concluded with our VBS families coming to Saturday Mass and Open House where every child received a special "paper plate" award, thoughtfully created by our volunteers to recognize each student's unique gifts they brought to VBS. In our VBS theme song, the students sang: *"we are called to be His Hands and Feet so we will go out into the world,"* an embodiment of our week at VBS and a great reminder of how we all should live as Catholics!

A heartfelt thank you goes to St. Mary Our Mother School for so generously sharing its facilities with us throughout the week.

Finally, this week would not have been possible without our volunteers and youth helpers. Their countless hours decorating, preparing activities, leading groups, helping clean up, and sharing their faith made a lasting impact on every child who attended. Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time and supported our families throughout the week:

Amy B.	Brandy H.	Janelle O.	Jane P.
Julie M.	Kiba P.	Shannon C.	Addie P.
Andrew B.	Willow B.	Ivy B.	Andrew H.
Clara H.	Elijaeh S.	Jack H.	Jeffery C.
Lilli S.	Liam P.	Hastrich Family	

If you missed out on VBS, and want to participate in our Parish's Faith Formation Summer Activities, reach out to Lily.Barr@dor.org to be added to our email list!

Lily Barr

Faith Formation Coordinator



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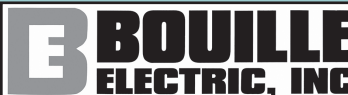


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