



# 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

August 30, 2026



## 22<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." - Mt 16:24b-25



## IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST

James Drake  
Bryan Connor  
Geneva Mosher

## ALTAR FLOWERS THIS WEEK

The main Altar flowers for the week of August 30-September 5, 2026 have been donated in loving memory of Anna Greenmun by her sisters, Deloris Sherwood & Frances Palesen

## SAVE the DATE



### CALLING ALL SINGERS

It's that time of year again to consider joining the adult choir as they begin the new season. If you have been waiting for an invitation, consider yourself invited. **Your voices are needed and welcome.**

If you remember having a great experience in high school or college choirs, please consider adding your voice to the choir. High school singers are welcome! Together we can make a joyful song unto the Lord.

**Rehearsals Begin:** Thursday, September 10 at 7:00 p.m. • *In the Church*

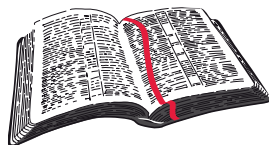
**First Mass:** Sunday, September 13 • *Please arrive by 10:00 a.m.*

The Adult Choir sings at all 10:30 a.m. Sunday Masses from September through mid-June, as well as special liturgies for Christmas and Holy Week. Additionally, singers are also needed for the Resurrection Choir, which provides music for funeral liturgies throughout the year.

→ **Interested in joining?**

Contact Cathy Peckham: 739-3817

or see Cathy at the organ after Mass!



## ADULT FORMATION | CLASS BEGINS

Beginning September 26, join us two Sundays each month from 6:00–7:00 PM, following the 5:00 PM Mass, for Adult Faith Formation in combination with our OCIA program.

Whether you are a cradle Catholic, interested in becoming Catholic, or simply want to learn more about our faith, all are welcome! We will explore the Catechism, the Mass, the Eucharist, Scripture, and what it means to live as a Christian today.

**No registration is needed for our first class, all are welcome!**

Get more Information: Lily.Barr@dor.org or 607-739-8214

## PARISH EVENTS:

Friday, September 4 | **Parish Offices Closed**

Next Sunday, September 6 | 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

## RECONCILIATION

Saturday | 3:30 pm in the church



## CATHOLIC INITIATION FOR CHILDREN, TEENS, & ADULTS | LEARN MORE

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 on September 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00** This meeting is open to anyone of any faith background to explore the Catholic Faith or work towards receiving the sacraments of Initiation into the Catholic Church.

Get more Information: Lily.Barr@dor.org or 607-739-8214

Or us the QR Code to sign up for more information about classes.

## WOUNDED HEALERS' BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP | MEETING

On **Tuesday, September 8, 2026 at 7:00 PM**, in person, at St. Mary Our Mother School, 811 Westlake St., Horseheads, NY. After entering the school driveway from Westlake Street and bearing left (the length of the school on your right drive to the parking lot. 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

## 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.



## PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

With the month of September beginning Tuesday of this week brings us to the realization of one of life's realities: the laid back weeks of summer are about to come to an end, with students returning to school. Children might grown and parents may breathe a sigh of relief, but with the beginning of school means a return to routine, and hopefully this means less eating "on the run," and more family meals around the dinner table. While it may not be possible for the entire family to dine together each evening, making it a priority at least on some nights can prove to be very beneficial.

The following is entitled, **"When 'Back to School' means 'Back to the Family Dinner Table,'" which offers much "food for thought!"**

*Everyone should know certain nights are family dinner nights. Look closely at Everyone's schedule, make a plan, and hold family nights sacred.*

*Whether frozen pizza or prime rib, set the table nicely and sit down. Maybe light a Dinner candle or pull out the cloth napkins now and then. (why are you saving them for?)*

*Select a special dessert once in a while.*

*Parents and children often hit dinner hour fatigued. Make an efforts to relax. Start off with a smile and laughter, even when you'd rather hit the couch.*

*If you haven't already, begin the family custom of praying before meals in a spontaneous way. What was I most thankful for today? Where did I see a situation today that calls for prayer? Let everyone take a brief turn. If may lead to a great conversation after the "amen."*

*Resist scolding or criticizing a child at dinner. Never demand to know what the math paper wasn't turned in, or why the child would not get out of bed on time. Save it for a private discussion later. Allow the dinner table to be a place of Welcome and support.*

*Share the ups and downs of your day. Listen respectfully to their exploits and complaints.*

*As you review the day's events, don't forget God. Just as you are interested in what your children are reading in literature class or library hour, express an interest in what's being taught in religion class or in weekly faith Formation.*

*Set the rule that everyone remains seated until all are finished. Then the meal is complete.*

*But the work is not done. Divide the duties of setting the table, clearing, washing, even cooking so that everyone has a role to play and the work goes quickly.*

*Bring back the custom of an "after dinner" prayer, brief and blessed.*

These are some wonderful suggestions for our families, and everyone, to try!

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

Fr. L.

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

**Monday, August 31 - Weekday**  
6:45 a.m. - Our Faithful Departed

**Tuesday, September 1 - Weekday**  
6:45 a.m. - Our Faithful Departed

**Wednesday, September 2 - Weekday**  
6:45 a.m. - Christina O'Herron Regula - Mom

**Thursday, September 3 - St. Gregory the Great, Pope & Doctor of the Church**  
6:45 a.m. - Souls in Purgatory - the Costello's

**Friday, September 4 - Weekday**  
6:45 a.m. - Bob Kosty - Marianne

**Saturday, September 5 - Weekday**  
5:00 p.m. - Mass of Thanksgiving - 65th Wedding Anniversary Of Joyce & Dick Pirozzolo

**Sunday, September 6 - 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
8:30 a.m. - Rachel LaLomia - Coppola family  
10:30 a.m. - Christina O'Herron Regula - Mom

## ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

In accordance with the laws of the State of New York, every parish corporation is to have an annual meeting to supply information to the parish at-large with regards to finance and legal issues. This meeting will take place on **Sunday, September 13th, following the 10:30 a.m. Mass in church.** At this meeting, a summary of the 2025-2026 financial statement will be reviewed, as well as the budget for the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

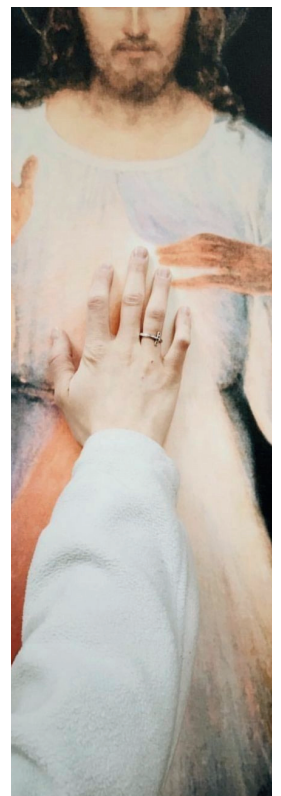
In addition, members of our parish's Finance Council will be present at this meeting, as well as Amy Finnerty, Amy Winkels, our Operations and Business Manager, and Father Linsler will be available to answer any questions or concerns you may have.

## IMAGO DIVINA?

Imago divina (Latin for "divine image") is an extension of the ancient practice of lectio divina ("divine reading"). Imago divina is, in a sense, praying with one's eyes, or using the medium of artwork to assist in lifting the mind to God.

Believers have always connected with the divine through visual representations of faith. This can be seen in the frescoes that adorn the walls of the catacombs, in the glory of Rococo architecture, and in the stained glass windows of a simple country church. "Art is capable of making visible our need to go beyond what we see and it reveals our thirst for infinite beauty, for God," said Pope Benedict in 2011.

In practicing imago divina, just like with lectio divina, the faithful "read" (or view), reflect, respond and rest with the image, inviting the Holy Spirit to move them accordingly.





## ST MARY OUR MOTHER PARISH

### faith formation

**ALL Public School Pre-K through 7<sup>th</sup> Grade** | learn the foundations of our faith, Scripture, prayer, and how much God loves them. *Open for all Public School students & find the best option for your family: Tuesday Classes, Home Study Classes, or Hybrid.*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Graders (& above)** | Children prepare to encounter Jesus in a special way through the **Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist**, while families grow alongside them on their faith journey. *Open for students in Public & Catholic Schools*

**Teens (above 8<sup>th</sup> Grade)** | deepen their relationship with Christ, the Saints, and our Faith, prepare for and receive **Confirmation**, and discover how to live their faith in today's world. *Teens in Catholic & Public Schools are welcome to join us for Sunday Classes, Youth Groups, and community service activities.*

**Adults (17 & above)** | continue growing through Scripture, prayer, service, fellowship, and lifelong learning. *Check out Page 2 for our OCIA & Adult Formation Class*

Whether you are 3 or 103, Faith Formation is for you! Faith is not something we graduate from; it is a relationship which will guide you for a lifetime.

★ ★ ★  
★ *Sign up today!*  
★ Classes begin after Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>



## CALL for VOLUNTEERS

We're looking for volunteers to help our parish grow! Current opportunities include:

- **5th Grade Catechist** for our Tuesday In-Person Faith Formation Program
- **Classroom Aides** for Tuesday In-Person Faith Formation (*No teaching experience needed!*)
- Youth Group Volunteers & After-Mass Event Volunteers
- Vacation Bible School (VBS) Coordinators
- Adult Bible Study Volunteers & Facilitators



Our parish needs you! No experience necessary!

If you'd like to share your time and talents, we'd love to hear from you! Please contact [Lily.Barr@dor.org](mailto:Lily.Barr@dor.org).

## FAITH FORMATION IN ACTION:



This past week, our parish received some extraordinary help preparing for the new school year, thanks to several cohorts of students; past and present! Our wonderful youth and their parents helped organize and clean our Faith Formation supplies & donations, giving us a fresh start for the new school year! A huge THANK YOU to all of our amazing youth and parents who volunteered their time and made this possible! We are so grateful for you!

## faith formation KICK-OFF

### 9/20 PENANCE/EUCHARIST

11:45-1:00 IN O'BRIEN HALL

- Parent and Child both Attend
- Open to all Families interested in the sacraments

## 9/22 TUESDAY PROGRAM

CLASSES BEGIN AT 4:00 & END AT 5:00

- Drop off at the Main Church Doors
- Open house on 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 4:50 for all families to meet teachers & learn more about the year

## 9/26 OCIA & OCIC

MEETING: 6:00-7:00 IN SCHOOL CAFETERIA

- Open for all interested in becoming Catholic, expanding their understanding of faith, or wanting sacraments.
- All Teens, Children, and Adults are welcome

## 9/27 HOME STUDY

CLASS: 9:30-10:15 IN SCHOOL CAFETERIA

- Parent & Students both attend

## 9/27 CONFIRMATION

MEETING AT 11:30 IN SCHOOL CAFETERIA

- Parent & Students both attend
- Year 1 Families done at 12:00
- Year 2 Families done at 12:15

Find Information, Full Calendars, & Registration Forms at [stmaryourmother.com](http://stmaryourmother.com) or scan:

SCAN ME!



## 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](mailto:smomc@dor.org)

Parish WebSite: [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 WebSite: [www.stmaryourmother.school](http://www.stmaryourmother.school)

### Faith Formation

816 West Broad Street (607)-739-8214

E-mail: [lily.barr@dor.org](mailto: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](mailto: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.



## Supply List:



Galatians 5:22-23

@christcenteredmotherhood

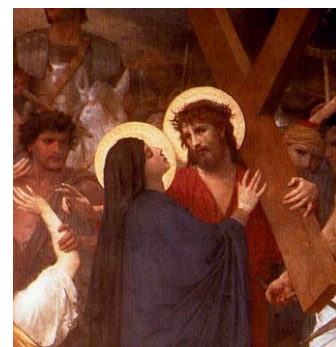
## RELIGIOUS WOMEN EVANGELIZE THROUGH TELEVISION AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Founded in 1954 by Monsignor Eugen Arthurs of the Rosminian Fathers, the COLU Sisters are a diocesan congregation rooted in evangelization and education. In 1958, Msgr. Arthurs became the first Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Tanga. The congregation began its mission in Rangwi and later moved to Korogwe, Kwamndolwa, in Tanga, while Rangwi remained the original mother house. Over time, their apostolate has focused on education at all levels—from kindergarten to college—as well as catechesis and youth formation. In response to the changing times, the sisters discerned the need to reach people through modern means of communication. This led to the establishment of Usambara Mountain TV (UMTV) in July 2024 in Lushoto. “Through television and the internet, we are able to reach people far beyond our immediate communities,” said Sr. Paulina T. Mshana, director of UMTV. “This strengthens our mission to share the Gospel and encourage people, especially young people, to know and love God more.” Many young people follow UMTV through social media platforms and YouTube, where the channel offers programs focused on youth, faith, and social issues, including initiatives inspired by the spirituality of Don Bosco.

Read more on [VATICANNEWS.VA](https://www.vaticannews.va)

## TAKE UP MY CROSS?

“Whoever wishes to save his life will lose it,” Jesus tells us in today’s Gospel. “But whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.” This is not an affirmation of the paradox that if you no longer care about something, you can finally have it once and for all. It’s not a judgment about the worthlessness of life in this fallen world or the futility of trying to preserve that life. It’s merely a statement about priorities. When Peter says, “God forbid!” at the thought of suffering, God is not his priority. His own safety is. When I say, “God forbid!” at anything that comes from the mouth of God, it’s a reminder to look at my hands, because they’ve probably put down the cross. How merciful is our Lord; he never takes my cross from me, even when I walk far away from it. He always lets me pick it back up.



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