



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

September 6, 2026



23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother." - Mt 18:15

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH:

Tuesday, September 8 | First Day of School & Wounded Healers Meeting

Thursday, September 10 | Adult Choir Rehearsal

Next Sunday, September 13 | Backpack Blessing & Parish Meeting

RECONCILIATION

Saturday | 3:30 pm in the church

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!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS | MEETING UPDATE

The Horseheads Knights of Columbus normally meets on the first Monday of each month. Due to Labor Day, this month's business meeting has been moved to **Monday, September 14 at 6:30 PM in O'Brien Hall.**

All members are encouraged to attend. We look forward to seeing you there!

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



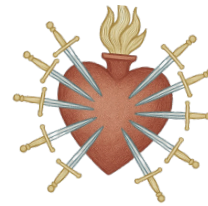
IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Paul Kleinhenz

Dolly Parton

ALTAR FLOWERS THIS WEEK

The main Altar flowers for the week of September 5-12, 2026 have been donated in loving memory of Joseph Sinkewicz by his wife, Lucinda



SEPTEMBER:
Month of the Seven Sorrows of Mary

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



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 26th 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 use the QR Code to sign up for more information about classes.

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

Another Labor Day weekend us upon us! For many, this weekend signals the end of summer activities. With schools opening this week, many summer vacations are winding down, and with autumn just around the corner, it is time to savor the Labor Day weekend. Many families and groups of friends will enjoy a Labor Day gathering as a signal that another summer season is coming to an end. With this in mind, it is important to pause and appreciate the meaning of this holiday. Of all the national holidays we have, Labor Day doesn't seem to get much attention. One reason might be is that we haven't found a way to commercialize the holiday as we have with Christmas, Valentine's Day, Easter, Mother's Day, Thanksgiving and the like. Another reason is that the original intent of this day has pretty much vanished since labor unions have become a part of the American business environment. It is important to remember that the unions were the early voice of the ordinary worker, advocating for the dignity and rights of the worker.

The efforts of labor unions in the past to protect the well-being of "voiceless workers" in the past have resulted in the passage of legislation which now protect the rights and safety of many workers. However, there are still many people both near and far who call into the category of the "voiceless worker." I am referring to the seasonal workers who are helping with the harvesting of our crops, in our upstate New York area. These workers are play an important role in our local economy. There is also the talented, young African-American who cannot find work because prejudice stands in the way.

There are the textile workers of the world who help make the clothes you and I wear, and the farm workers who play an important role to help us enjoy the morning cup of coffee or tea whose wages are so unjust the are hardly able to provide the basic necessities of life for themselves and their families. Who is 'there for them' when it comes to just wages, a safe working environment, and basic human dignity?

On this Labor Day, please take a few moments to reflect on the work of others which supports the life you have become accustomed. Pause to give thanks to God for this huge network of people, from the farm and plantation workers who provide food for our tables; for clothing workers from around the world who make the clothes we wear; for health care professionals whose efforts keep us in good health and those whose ongoing research helps to provide cures for the diseases and illnesses that plague us; for police, fire-fighters, emergency medical personnel, and first responders who watch and protect our community; "behind-the-scenes" people who support our use and ever-increasing dependency on technology and electronic devices; to artists, writers, and musicians who help enhance the beauty that surrounds us; to actors, directors, producers, the professional and amateur athlete who guarantee that we are entertained; the people of our postal system, those who maintain our buildings, streets, arenas, and stadiums; the ministers of our churches. The list is endless!

As you enjoy this Labor Day weekend, take a moment and appreciate all that you have that is the product of another's labor.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Monday, September 7- Labor Day
No Mass

Tuesday, September 8- The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
6:45 a.m. - Living and Deceased Members of the 6:45 AM Mass Family

Wednesday, September 9- St. Peter Claver, Priest
6:45 a.m. - Agnes & Jack Purcell- The Gallaghers

Thursday, September 10- Weekday
6:45 a.m. - Faithful Departed

Friday, September 11- Patriot Day
6:45 a.m. - Deceased Members of Mills Family- family

Saturday, September 12- The Most Holy Name of Mary
8:00 p.m. - Loving Memory of the Madison & Healy Families - Pat Madison

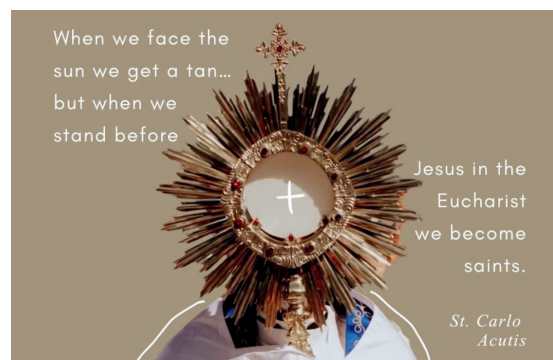
Sunday, September 13- 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:30 a.m. - Joseph Sinkewicz- Loving wife, Lucinda
10:30 a.m. - Eddie Jadoski- family

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE CONTINUED:

Take the time to offer a prayer for our nation's foundation of strength—the American worker. And remember to appreciate who you are, and who, with the help of God, you might become!

Have a enjoyable Labor Day weekend. Please continue to take care of yourself and each other!

Fr. L.



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.



ST MARY OUR MOTHER PARISH

faith formation

ALL Public School Pre-K through 7th 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.*

2nd 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 8th 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. 20th



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.



BACKPACK BLESSING

Sunday, September 13 | 10:30 AM Mass

Students of all ages are invited to bring their backpacks to Mass for a special Blessing of the Backpacks as we begin a new school year! Bring your backpack with you to the 10:30 AM Mass and receive a special blessing as we ask God to guide, protect, and bless our students, teachers, and school communities throughout the year.

May God guide all of us this school year!

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 22nd @ 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 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. Amy Winkels, Business Manager

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

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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

Welcoming a New School Year at St. Mary Our Mother

September is here, and we are excited to welcome our students and families back as we begin the 2026–2027 school year on Tuesday, September 8th! The halls of St. Mary Our Mother School are ready to once again be filled with laughter, learning, and faith. We are blessed to begin the year with 121 students enrolled in Pre-K3 through 6th Grade and are grateful for the continued growth of our school community.

Our summer has been busy as we prepared our school for a new year. Classrooms, hallways, and common spaces have been cleaned, refreshed, and lovingly prepared for our students. It is always exciting to see our school come to life as we get ready to welcome everyone back!

We are also excited to welcome Ms. Karissa Collins to our school family as our new 2nd Grade Teacher and Ms. Lily Barr as our part-time Academic Intervention Specialist. We are grateful for the gifts and talents they bring to our school and look forward to the positive impact they will have on our students.

We are so thankful for the continued support of our parish, families, and friends. Your prayers, encouragement, and partnership are a true blessing to St. Mary Our Mother School. Together, we look forward to another wonderful year filled with faith, learning, growth, and joy!

Mrs. Heather Bill

Principal, St. Mary Our Mother School

WHAT IS THE “MIRACULOUS MEDAL” AND WHY IS IT CALLED THAT?

The medal of the Immaculate Conception that has come to be called simply the “Miraculous Medal” dates back to an apparition of Mary to Saint Catherine Laboure, who was then a novice sister with the Daughters of Charity. On November 27, 1830, Our Lady appeared to her standing on a globe, with shafts of light streaming from her hands and the words, “O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee,” surrounding the image. In the same vision, Catherine saw a capital “M” with a cross above it and below two hearts. Catherine seemed to hear a voice telling her to have what she saw struck as a medal and a promise that those who wore the medal would have the protection and intercession of the Mother of God. The first 1,500 of medals were distributed in 1832. Many miraculous favors were attributed to the use of the medal.

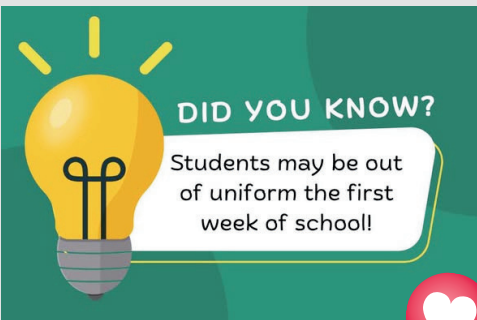
Saint Catherine’s “Miraculous Medal” is among the recognizable and popular symbols of modern Catholicism. Reflecting on its widespread use, the 2001 Vatican document, “Directory on Popular Piety and Liturgy,” observes that the medal “recalls the mystery of Redemption, the love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and of the Sorrowful Heart of Mary. It signifies the mediatory role of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the mystery of the Church, the relationship between Heaven and earth, this life and eternal life.



Fall Soccer

Soccer Shots is an engaging children's soccer program for ages 18 months to 8 years. Join the best coaches in the business for age-appropriate soccer skills, character-building and FUN!

Soccer Shots



THIS WEEKEND’S GOSPEL REFLECTION:

A few summers ago, my family had a big reunion. It included my parents, my four siblings, and all their many children. One of my favorite moments was simply watching my parents’ contented faces as they took in all of us together, laughing, sharing food, singing, telling stories. They loved seeing their children happily together with each other.

That is something like the heart of God we see in today’s Gospel message about Christian reconciliation. These verses come right after Jesus’ parable of the lost sheep. He is not giving the disciples a cold formula for dealing with conflict. He is revealing the Father’s longing for children who love and reconcile with each other. His heart aches when his children are divided and isolated.

So when Jesus says, “Go and tell your brother his fault,” He is not deputizing us as morality police. He is inviting us into his mission of reconciliation. When he adds, “If he listens to you, you have won over your brother,” we glimpse the real goal. Not winning arguments, but reuniting a divided family.

These days, we often think religion is just between God and me. But the Father’s dream is about a lively family, one in which His children forgive, gather, and rejoice together.

— Father John Muir

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