



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 27, 2026



26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"When John came to you in the way of righteousness, you did not believe him; but tax collectors and prostitutes did. Yet even when you saw that, you did not later change your minds and believe him." - Mt 21:32

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH:

Tuesday, September 29 | Tuesday Program Class, 4:00-5:00

Thursday, September 30 | Adult Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, October 3 | Blessing of the Animals- 11:30 a.m.

Holy Hour & Rosary for Life- 12:00 p.m. in Chapel

Next Sunday, October 4 | 27th Sunday of Ordinary Time

RECONCILIATION

Saturday | 3:30 pm in the church



FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

Our local food pantry is always grateful for your generosity and we are currently accepting donations of non-perishable food items to help support families in our community.

Most Needed Items: Canned vegetables and beans, rice, pasta, boxed meals, tuna or chicken pouches, basic pantry staples.

→ All donations can be placed in the donation cart located across from the bulletin board inside the entrance of our Church.

Thank you for helping us care for our neighbors and nourish our community!

HOLY HOUR AND ROSARY FOR LIFE

Bishop Bonnici has asked each parish in the Diocese of Rochester to host a Holy Hour and Rosary for Life on Saturday, October 3, 2026, beginning at 12:00 p.m. in the chapel of our church. During this hour of prayer, we will place before our Eucharistic Lord prayers for the protection of every human life and entrust our efforts to the maternal care of the Blessed Virgin Mary. At the same time, Bishop Bonnici will lead a Holy Hour and Rosary for Life at Sacred Heart Cathedral, to which the Bishop invites all to attend. Whether we gather at the cathedral or in our parish, we pray that our united prayer become a powerful witness of our communion as one diocesan Church.

BETHLEHEM WOOD CARVING

Next weekend, Mr. Louie Hetal of Bethlehem Wood Carving in Grand Blanc, Michigan, who will have a number of religious items made from olive wood from the Holy Land available for purchase. Your support will help churches and worship sites remain viable places of worship. Louie will be available after Mass to answer any questions you may have.



IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Joseph Sartori

Dr. Joseph Navone

Theresa Insogna

ALTAR FLOWERS THIS WEEK

The main Altar flowers for the week of September 27th through October 3rd, 2026 have been donated in loving memory of Ann O'Mara by her husband, John and her family

JOIN OUR ADULT CHOIR!

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.

Rehearsals: Every Thursday, starting at 7:00, in the church.

→ **Interested in joining?**

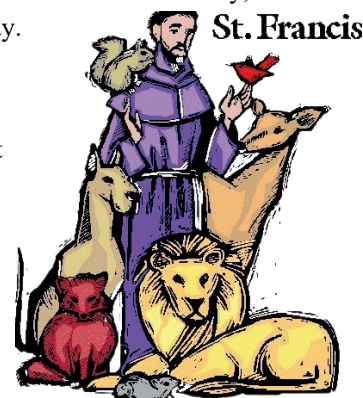
Contact Cathy Peckham: 739-3817 or see Cathy at the organ after Mass!

BLESSING OF ANIMALS

Please join us for the annual St. Francis Day Blessing of Animals this **Saturday, October 3rd at 11:30 a.m.** in the east parking lot (near the playground area) of St. Mary Our Mother Church. As the Feast of St. Francis falls on a Sunday, we have moved this blessing to Saturday.

All pets and their owners are welcome!

To provide a safe environment for all who attend this event, please be sure that all pets are properly restrained.



NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN OUR FAITH FORMATION & SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS

Our Faith Formation and Sacramental Preparation Programs are in full swing! However, it's not too late to join us for this school year. We welcome families at any point throughout the year!

If you're interested in learning more about our programs or would like to join us this year, please reach out to Lily Barr at lily.barr@dor.org or 607-739-8214. We would be happy to talk with you about the different options available and help you find the path that works best for you and your family's life.

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

We find ourselves at the final week of the month of September, with three months to go in the calendar year of 2026. Schools are open, including our parish school here at Saint Mary Our Mother, with an enrollment of 123 students. Our Faith Formation programs have begun, including sacramental preparation programs for First Penance and Confirmation have begun, with First Communion preparation set early in 2027. After the months of summer, we continue to welcome many of our parish members back to our Sunday Masses.

The month of September also sees the return of many parish activities and meetings. Earlier this month, we had the first meeting of our Parish Pastoral Council for the coming year. The following are the members of our Parish Pastoral Council:

Vincent Moschetti, Chairperson
Cindy Annunziata
Jackie Conklin
William Limoncelli
Hanne O'Donnell
Philip Ponzi
Richelle Riina
Patricia Rosettie

In addition to her council duties, Richelle Riina serves as the recording secretary for the Parish Pastoral Council.

The Parish Pastoral Council deals with parish policies, providing direction, guidance, and leadership helping the parish to better fulfill its mission. The Council members are willing to listen to your concerns and bring them to the council's attention for consideration.

Whereas the Parish Pastoral Council deals with matters of parish and "pastoral concerns," the Finance Council addresses issues related to finance, building and grounds, and parish property issues. Members of the Finance Council are appointed by the pastor, and serves as an advisory group to our recently hired Operations and Finance manager, **Amy Winkels**, our Regional Finance Director, **Amy Finnerty**, and myself, in offering their expertise in keeping our parish, school, and many ministries in good financial order. Their insights and guidance continue to be important as we continue our journey forward.

In addition to the Parish Pastoral Council and Finance Council, our parish has had a Stewardship Committee which helps to raise our awareness of our baptismal call to be good stewards of all that God has given us. At this time, due to the moving and relocation of many members of this group, we would like to recruit new members for this group. If you feel that you could help us as a member of this group, please contact the parish office.

Have a good weekend. Please continue to take care of yourself and each other!

Fr. L.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Monday, September 28- Weekday

6:45 a.m. - Missy Milazzo - Jen, George, JoAnn, & Rick

Tuesday, September 29-Sts. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels

6:45 a.m. - Deceased Costello Family - Family

Wednesday, September 30-St. Jerome, Priest & Doctor

6:45 a.m. - Faithful Departed

Thursday, October 1- Therese of Child Jesus, Virgin & Doctor

6:45 a.m. - Living & Deceased of 6:45 a.m. Mass Family

Friday, October 2-Holy Guardian Angels

6:45 a.m. - Faithful Departed

9:00 a.m.- Mary Ann Coddington - Her Family

Saturday, October 3- Weekday

5:00 p.m. - Hilda Brenneman - Coppola Family

Sunday, October 4, Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 a.m. - Roy Tenny - Wife, Helen & Family

10:30 a.m. - Margaret Amisano - Guy

VENERABLE FULTON J. SHEEN

A Mass to mark the reception of a relic of the Venerable Fulton J. Sheen to the Diocese of Rochester will be celebrated Tuesday, September 29th at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Rochester beginning at 7:00 p.m. All are invited to this special liturgy, where we will honor and remember the Venerable Fulton J. Sheen, who served in this diocese as the Sixth Bishop of Rochester from 1966—1969. In the weeks to come, Masses with the Sheen relic will be held in each region of the diocese. Saint Mary Our Mother will be hosting the regional Mass for the Southern Tier on **Thursday, October 29, 2026.**

PRIESTHOOD SUNDAY

"These two Sacraments were born together," wrote St. John Paul II of the priesthood and the Eucharist, "and their destiny is indissolubly linked until the end of the world." The Eucharist is such a beautiful example of how God, conscious of our limitations, bends to meet us. He once came to us cloaked in the flesh, that we might recognize Him. Now He comes as the very means by which we nourish ourselves: food and drink, the most familiar and comforting thing in the world to us. How easy He makes it to fulfill his command that we become one with Him. How generous He is to make such a sacred thing also accessible. We can say the same of the priesthood, and of the men He calls to its number. Without the Eucharist, we would have no eternal life. Without priests, we would have no Eucharist.

*"Whoever eats
my flesh and
drinks my blood
has eternal life,
and I will raise
him on the last
day." — John
6:54*





ST MARY OUR MOTHER PARISH

faith formation

Faith Formation classes are starting up for the School Year! Make sure to register for one of our programs, or stop by our Kick-Off Meetings to learn more. We would love to have you and your family join us for the 2026–2027 school year!

★ ★ Sign up today!
Classes have begun!



faith formation KICK-OFF

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

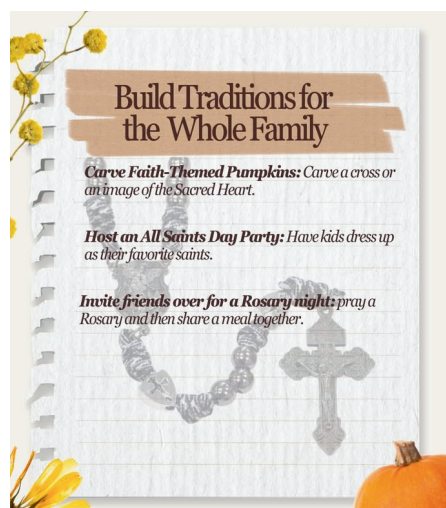
MEETING AT 11:30 IN SCHOOL CAFETERIA

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

HANDS OF CHRIST RECOGNITION

Do you know a high school senior who lives out Christ's love through service to their church, home, school, and community? The Hands of Christ Recognition is sponsored by the Office of Evangelization and Catechesis, honors high school seniors who have been the "Hands of Christ" to those around them. Honorees will be recognized at one of several diocesan ceremonies in 2027.

If you would like to nominate someone you see as a Hand of Christ in our community, reach out to our Parish Office.



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

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

*First All School Mass :
Friday, October 2nd at 9:00 a.m.*

St. Mary Our Mother School is excited to celebrate our first All School Mass of the 2026–2027 school year on Friday, October 2nd, at 9:00 a.m., and all parishioners are warmly invited to attend! This special gathering brings together students, staff, and families to come together in prayer, reflection, and celebration of our faith. Our sixth grade class will take a leading role in this Mass, guiding us through the readings, music, and liturgical participation. From singing and ringing the bells to helping lead the congregation in prayer, our sixth graders are excited to share their gifts and faith with the entire school community. Their leadership not only enriches the Mass but also inspires younger students to actively participate and grow in their own faith journeys.

All School Masses are a treasured tradition at St. Mary Our Mother School. They offer a meaningful opportunity for students and families to experience the joy of coming together in worship, celebrate our Catholic faith, and strengthen the bonds within our school and parish community.

We invite everyone to join us on Friday, October 2nd at 9:00 a.m. to celebrate this wonderful start to the school year in prayer, song, and fellowship. Your presence and support mean so much to our students and staff as we continue to grow together in faith.

Blessings always,

Mrs. Heather Bill

Principal, St. Mary Our Mother School



WHO WAS ST. THERÈSE OF LISIEUX

St. Thérèse of Lisieux (1873-1897) was a French Carmelite sister whose autobiography has inspired Catholics across the world to deepen their relationship with God. Thérèse experienced a transformative conversion early on when she saw a vision of Mary, Mother of God. When Thérèse was 15, she entered the Carmelite convent in Lisieux, France. She took the name Sister Therese of the Child Jesus and the Holy Face and began a life of prayer and intimacy with God. Despite her struggles with depression, she always put her best foot forward. Before her death, she said “My mission — to make God loved — will begin after my death. I will spend my heaven doing good on earth. I will let fall a shower of roses.” She died at 24 from tuberculosis and is currently the youngest person to be named a Doctor of the Church.

*You cannot be half a saint;
you must be a whole saint or
no saint at all.*
ST. THERÈSE OF LISIEUX



THIS WEEKEND'S GOSPEL REFLECTION:

This Sunday, Jesus tells a short, uncomfortable story. A father asks two sons to go work in the vineyard. One says no, but later goes. The other says yes, but never shows up. It is a parable so simple, we almost miss how sharp it is. Jesus is clear about who it is for. This is not aimed at pagans or outsiders. It is aimed squarely at religious people, people who know the right words and sound obedient.

Jesus is not condemning unbelief so much as disobedience. The polite hypocrisy that says the right things while quietly resisting the Father's will. St. John Chrysostom put it bluntly, “Not words, but deeds, are what God requires. Nothing so exasperates Him as insincere obedience, while nothing so delights Him as repentance.” Every disciple must face that mirror. Do I publicly profess faith in Christ while privately resisting what He asks of me? It is easy to say, I believe in God in my heart. But if faith never becomes action, it slowly becomes an illusion.

Jesus does not expose hypocrisy to shame us. He reveals it to heal us. He wants our hearts and our deeds to speak the same word, to let our yes truly mean yes. Like the second son who initially refused but afterwards changed his mind and went, Jesus invites us to step into the Father's will, however late, however imperfectly. Challenge: Where are your public faith and private obedience divided? Where do you say, I will go, but never enter the vineyard? Go, get to work, even if it is late. The Father's vineyard is still open.

— Father John Muir

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