

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

November 22, 2026



Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH:

Tuesday, November 24 | No Faith Formation/Tuesday Program

Wednesday, November 25 | Parish offices Close at 11:00 a.m..

Thursday, November 26 | Parish Offices Closed

Friday, November 27 | Parish Offices Closed

RECONCILIATION

Saturday | 3:30 pm in the church

Jesucristo Rey del Universo

JESUS, KING OF THE UNIVERSE ©LPi

HANDS OF CHRIST AWARD 2027

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.

The critera:

- Consistently demonstrates a Christian altitude by word and example
- Is actively involved in their parish as well as their school community
- Is a positive role model for peers and younger children
- Is a participating member of St. Mary Our Mother

To nominate a senior, please stop at the parish office for a registration form, complete the registration form, including the nominee's name, address, telephone number, and high school along with examples of the above-mentioned criteria. All forms will be reviewed by Father Linsler for approval as pastor.

All nominations are due in the parish office by January 1, 2027



IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Patricia Whittaker

Mary Jane Pronti



Main altar arrangement for November 22 - 28 has been donated in loving memory of William and Antoinette Haner by their daughter, Anne Haner-Uncapher.

The Sacramental wine and Eucharistic Hosts for November 15-21 have been donated in loving memory of Sally and Bill Driscoll by their family

CHRISTMAS CARING PROGRAM

As the Christmas season of giving and caring approaches, the Social Ministry Committee invites you to participate in our Christmas Caring Program. As in the past years, we will be doing this in partnership with the Horseheads Food Pantry, which supplies food assistance to needy families in Chemung County outside the city of Elmira. This year, as well as in past years, our school children and their families will be assisting us with food collection. We invite you to participate in this local outreach in one or more of the following ways:

- **Making a monetary donation so the pantry can supply meat and fresh food for the Christmas meal** and the holiday week. Envelopes will be provided for this purpose on tables near the doors of the church. The special envelopes can then be placed in the regular collection baskets or brought/mailed to the parish office.
- **Increasing our donations of canned and dried food** to the vestibule food cart so the pantry clients have healthy and adequate food for the Christmas holidays.
- **Bringing a Christmas ornament that you offer to a needy family**. You would hang the ornament on our Christmas caring tree in the back of the church. The ornaments will be taken each week to the Pantry so the families and children can choose an ornament as a reminder of our care for them. They can be purchased or homemade.
- **Purchasing a book for a Child (Toddler through Grade 5).** Books should be placed in either the extra-large gift bag by the wall near the trees or in the one in the vestibule of the church.
- **This program will kick off on Thanksgiving weekend** when donation envelopes will be available in the vestibule, and the Christmas Caring trees will be standing proudly in the back of the church awaiting your ornaments. The program will conclude on December 16.

In this time when so many families are facing financial insecurity, please join us in spreading joy and showing love and concern for our neighbors in need.

We thank you for your help!



PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

Today we celebrate the solemnity of Christ the King and begin the final week of the Church's liturgical year. Unlike other feasts which were centered on an event in our Lord's life, the feast of Christ the King celebrates an aspect of Jesus' identity, and thus is categorized as an "idea feast." This feast was originally celebrated each year on the last Sunday in October, but with the first revision of the Roman Missal after the Second Vatican Council, this feast was moved to the final Sunday of the liturgical year. By instituting this feast, Pope Pius XI hoped to renew and strengthen the faith of the people of his time and to a world where the influence of totalitarian forms of government such as communism, Nazism, and fascism was gaining a stronghold in many countries, particularly in Europe. It was Pius XI's hope that this annual celebration would serve as a powerful reminder to all of Jesus' reign in our midst, and would speak powerfully of our belief in God's triumph over evil. Christ our King continues to be the source of grace as each of us brings his living presence into our world.

Thursday of this week we celebrate the American feast of Thanksgiving. The President's Official Proclamation calls for all Americans to set aside the fourth Thursday of the month of November as a date to give thanks for the blessings and prosperity that we enjoy. We are aware of the artist's renditions of the early American Thanksgivings and have seen the television specials telling us of Thanksgivings of old. In our Thanksgiving gatherings, we may find ourselves remembering Thanksgivings in the past, recalling fondly those who once sat at the table with us and now sit at God's heavenly table.

We may simply look around at our family table and see familiar faces and the familiar stories and simply be grateful that we are a part of it all. Wherever our mindset may be, Thanksgiving offers us a moment to pause and simply be grateful for the people we are.

What are you grateful for this Thanksgiving? The list should be endless!

Certainly, we need to be aware and grateful for the many sacrifices made by Americans of the past as well as today. We are familiar with the early struggles our ancestors experienced and the eventual "meeting of the minds" with Native Americans who offered their assistance in building, planting, and harvesting. We also received a dream from them for which we must be grateful. This republic was to recognize the common bond that women and men share; the fact that all are created equal by God. America was to stand for possibilities; you can become whomever you choose as long as you are willing to work for it. The gift of freedom is just that—a gift, and Americans will go to any length to ensure the reality of freedom in American life. By celebrating Thanksgiving Day, we are saying thanks for these and so many other blessings of life we enjoy in the United States.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Monday, November 23 - Weekday
6:45 a.m. - Special Intention of Kathy & John Mullen - Gloria Raplee & Joan Mullen Keys

Tuesday, November 24 - St. Andrew Dung Lac, Priest, & Companions, Martyrs
6:45 a.m. - Living & deceased members of Triano family - Costellos

Wednesday, November 25 - Weekday
6:45 a.m. - Deceased of Mills family - family

Thursday, November 26 - Thanksgiving Day
6:45 a.m. - People of St. Mary Our Mother

Friday, November 27 - Weekday
6:45 a.m. - *No Mass*

Saturday, November 28 - Weekday
5:00 p.m. - Richard Hall - Jackie & Warren Conklin

Sunday, November 29 - First Sunday of Advent
8:30 a.m. - Craig Gorman - wife Ann & family
10:30 a.m. - Johon & Isabel Rich & Mary Ann Rich Narde - John & Colleen

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE CONTINUED:

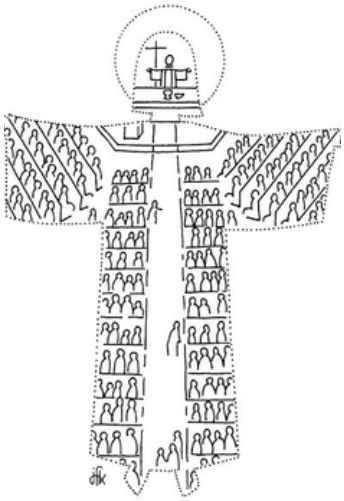
On behalf of the entire staff of our parish and school, I want to wish you a blessed and joyous Thanksgiving holiday. I also extend a special invitation to you to begin your Thanksgiving Day by joining us for Mass at 9:00 a.m. What a wonderful way to begin this American holiday and to thank God for the many blessings we are grateful for! May God extend many blessings to you and your family this Thanksgiving!

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

Fr. L.

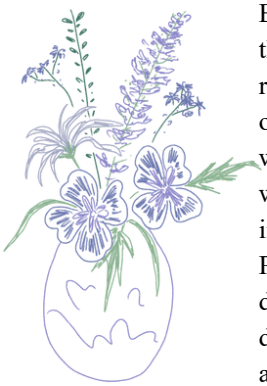
SLOW DOWN & WORK TOGETHER THIS ADVENT

As Catholics, we often focus too much on our own needs, wants and desires. As a consequence, our actions either hinder the ability of the Body of Christ to evangelize and pass on the faith to a new generation or present the Church as an entity that sees itself as judgmental or too holy to be in the world. We are called to community, and in that community, we must be aware of our brothers and sisters in the faith. We often need to slow down and realize that we are not in this world on our own. We all have unique gifts we are called to share, and we can only bear true witness to the power of the Body of Christ when we are all moving together and making each other strong. This Advent, make it a point to slow down, give your time to strengthening the Body of Christ, let our actions grow Love and peace in our world.



— HAPPY — Retirement

It is with heartfelt gratitude and a touch of sadness that we announce the **retirement of Joyce Pirozzolo,** our beloved parish secretary. Joyce began her service to St. Mary Our Mother Parish in 1977, when then-pastor Rev. Bartholomew O'Brien invited her to take on the role of parish secretary. Nearly 50 years later, Joyce has become so much more than a familiar face in the parish office. She has been a constant presence, a wealth of knowledge, and a cherished part of our parish family. Anyone who knows Joyce knows she is never at a loss for words! With her quick wit, wonderful sense of humor, and unmistakable personality, Joyce has a way of making every conversation memorable. She speaks her mind, shares a good laugh, and has certainly kept generations of pastors, parishioners, and staff on their toes!



But behind that spirited personality is a truly caring heart. Joyce has always made it a point to reach out to those facing illness, surgery, or difficult times, offering a thoughtful phone call, a kind word, or simply the reassurance that someone is thinking of them. These quiet acts of kindness have meant so much to so many over the years. Throughout her remarkable years of service, Joyce has witnessed countless changes, welcomed generations of families, and been a steady and familiar presence in the life of our parish. While we will certainly miss her humor, her stories, her unmistakable voice, and her unwavering dedication, we are incredibly grateful for the nearly five decades she has devoted to St. Mary Our Mother.

Please join us in thanking Joyce for her extraordinary 49 years of service and wishing her a wonderful, well-deserved retirement! Joyce, our parish office certainly won't be quite the same without you! You will be dearly missed and will always hold a special place in the St. Mary Our Mother family. May God bless you abundantly in this next chapter of your life!

FAITH FORMATION INFORMATION

ADVENT PREPARATION:

Advent is quickly approaching on November 29th this year. In this season, there are many great Catholic traditions to help us prepare room in our hearts for the coming of the Messiah. Here are four core practices to incorporate into your routine:

- **Advent Wreath:** Set up a wreath at home with three purple candles and one rose candle. Light them weekly to mark the journey toward Christ's birth.
- **The Jesse Tree:** Trace the history of salvation from creation to Christ by following a daily Bible reading which traditionally has symbolic ornaments to hang on your Jesse Tree! Printable Ornaments and readings can be found on the CatholicIcing website!
- **Sacrament of Reconciliation**: Experience God's mercy as we actually make room in our hearts for Christ. Our parish confessions are every Saturday at 3:30!
- **Daily Prayer Challenge**: Consider the Hallow App's Pray25 challenge, reading the Gospels, praying the O Antiphons or St. Andrew Christmas Novena.





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

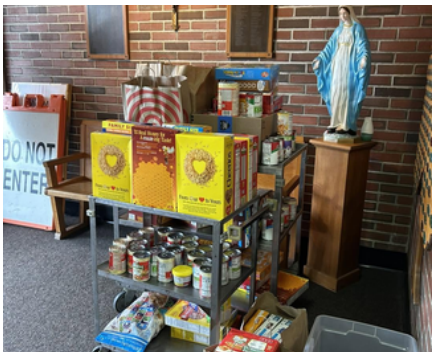
CONTACT INFORMATION

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
Thanksgiving Feast

On Tuesday, November 24th, our school community will come together to celebrate with a special Thanksgiving Feast, generously sponsored by our Parent Association and catered by Corning Catering. Students will dress up for the occasion as we gather to share in this joyful celebration of gratitude and community. This feast also marks the beginning of our annual food collection for the Horseheads Food Pantry, an opportunity for our students to give back and help those in need during this season of thanks. We are truly grateful for the ongoing support of our parish community, whose encouragement and involvement enrich our school and help make these meaningful experiences possible. May this Thanksgiving be a time of blessing, joy, and togetherness for all, as we celebrate with family, friends, and those we hold dear.

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

JESSE TREE, EXPLAINED!

The Jesse Tree is an Advent practice which recounts the history of salvation by tracing the lineage of Christ — the foretold "shoot from the stump of Jesse" who will bring peace and unity to the people of God (Isaiah 11:1).

In a way, creating a Jesse tree is the telling of one big story — the redemption of man — through the telling of many smaller stories — the fall of Adam, God's promise to Abraham, the wandering of the Israelites, the greatness of David and the humble submission of Mary. A Jesse tree is adorned with symbols of these various people and stories, with the earliest ones hung from the topmost branches, progressing downward.

There are different versions of the Jesse Tree featuring different Old Testament figures and stories, but all begin with Adam and end with the birth of Jesus. It is an easy tradition to practice at home — all you need is a tree, paper, markers, scissors, string and a Bible.
Or check out our Parish's Jesse Tree in our seasonal shrine at the front of the church!



KINGS AND PEACE

It's a little ironic that, when Pope Pius XI instituted the Feast of Christ the King, he did so in a world that was growing awfully weary of kings.
The year was 1925. World War I had ended only seven years before. Most of Europe's monarchies were torn asunder in the conflict, yielding to other forms of government more deferential to popular opinion.
But there was a problem. The kings were gone, but still the world did not know peace — and it certainly didn't know justice. The Pope was unflinching in his words: "discord," "rivalries," "insatiable greed," "selfishness," "neglect (of) duty…society in a word, shaken to its foundations and on the way to ruin," he lamented in his encyclical Quas primas, describing the state of the world.
Americans are very proud that we've never bent the knee to a monarch, and I, for one, am a big fan of democratic republics like ours. But I don't think tyranny is inherent to — or prevented by — any particular form of government. I think any human can become an oppressor if they make the choice to.
The question was never what prevented tyranny. The question was who. And the answer is: only a king who "demands of (his) subjects a spirit of detachment from riches and earthly things, and a spirit of gentleness," wrote Pope Pius XI. A king whose subjects "hunger and thirst after justice" and who "deny themselves and carry the cross."
There has only ever been one such king. There has only ever been one such kingdom.
Today, we bend the knee.

Lynch Funeral Home Inc.
318 W. Broad Street Horseheads, NY 14845
607-739-1301
James J. Lynch II – Licensed Funeral Director
Heather Ann Lynch – Licensed Funeral Director
Family Owned and Operated by James J. Lynch II
www.lynchsfuneralhome.com • jlynch4@stny.rr.com

Advertise in Our Church Bulletin!
Contact
Clare Colamaria
ccolamaria@4lpi.com
(800) 477-4574 x6444

Yee Olde
HICKORY HOUSE RESTAURANT
American, Chinese & Italian Cuisine
New Hours: Open Monday-Saturday 4pm-11pm
739-2405 * 3543 Watkins Rd, Horseheads

TERRY ELECTRIC
Fast Professional Service with Reasonable Rates
Paul Terry - Over 30 Years Experience
Residential or Commercial
Quality Work • Fully Insured • Free Estimates
607-739-4484 • 607-857-5429

Alsworth Capital Management, LLC
Investment Management • Tax Planning
Insurance Planning • Estate Planning
Financial Planning
(607) 973-2665
www.AlsworthCapital.com

739-0489
HALE ROOFING
COMMERCIAL ROOFING,
CRANE SERVICE & SHEET METAL
2054 Grand Central Ave., Horseheads, NY

PICNIC PIZZA
Italian Family Restaurant
Village Plaza • Horseheads, NY
796-2677

PARMENTER
Tire, Auto and Truck Service • Team Tiremasters
www.parmenterinc.com

SULLIVAN'S FUNERAL HOME
607-739-2035
Kevin R. Sullivan
Licensed Funeral Director
365 E. Franklin St. | Horseheads, NY

Call today for a free estimate
607.527.3256
ELLIOTT CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, LLC
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL SITE WORK
EXCAVATION • SITE DEVELOPMENT • ASPHALT
CONCRETE: PADS, SIDEWALKS, RETAINING WALLS & FOUNDATIONS
SEPTIC SYSTEM INVESTIGATION & INSTALLATION • UTILITY WORK
GRAVEL, STONE, & TOPSOIL DELIVERIES
CO. RTE. 125, CAMPBELL, NY 14821
WWW.ELLIOTTCS.COM

Annie's Hallmark
2058 College Ave, Elmira Heights, NY
(607) 734-1492
Your Neighborhood Destination for Heartfelt Gifts and Beautiful Cards!

ADT-Monitored Home Security
Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust
833-287-3502
• Burglary • Fire Safety • Flood Detection • Carbon Monoxide



FAITHFULLY SERVING OUR PARISH COMMUNITY
BARBER FUNERAL HOME
413 South Main Street, Horseheads, New York 14845-2490
(607) 739-4801 • INFO@BARBERFUNERALHOME.COM
Family Owned & Operated For Nearly 100 Years of Comfort, Concern, & Service

Never miss our bulletin!
Get this bulletin delivered straight to your inbox every week.
Scan to subscribe on parishesonline.com



BOUILLE ELECTRIC, INC
ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS SINCE 1972
607-734-6106
www.bouilleelectric.com

SUPPORT OUR Advertisers!