



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 24, 2019

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS

5:00 p.m. - Sunday, December 1st
First United Methodist Church
1034 W. Broad Street, Horseheads

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

3:30 p.m. - Saturday

ST. MARY OUR MOTHER SCHOOL CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

7:00 p.m. - Wednesday, December 18th
10:00 a.m. - Thursday, December 19th

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Tuesday, December 24, 2019

3:00 p.m. - Christmas Family Mass
5:00 p.m. - Christmas Vigil Mass
10:30 p.m. - Adult Choir Choral Concert
11:00 p.m. - Christmas Mass during the Night

Wednesday, December 25, 2019

9:00 a.m. - Christmas Mass
11:00 a.m. - Christmas Mass

Blessing of Christmas gifts at each morning Mass

THANKSGIVING DAY

Our **Thanksgiving Day Mass** will be at 9:00 a.m. and we invite you to join us for this Eucharist of Thanksgiving and ask that you bring a non-perishable food item. You may place your donations in the food cart in the church vestibule. These donations will be sorted and used by the members of our parish Social Ministry Committee for the over 200 Christmas baskets our parish provides for the less fortunate at Christmas. In addition, the collection on Thanksgiving Day will be used to support our parish's Christmas basket efforts. Thank you for your generosity!

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

On **December 8th**, our Parish Life Committee will hold a "*Breakfast with Santa*", following the 8:30 a.m. Mass. Everyone is invited. Bring your family, your wish lists for Santa and your cameras. The breakfast will consist of pancakes, sausage, orange juice, and coffee/tea/milk. The cost of the breakfast is \$5.00 for adults; \$12.00 for families. In keeping with the Advent season and the Christmas spirit, we ask that each person bring a non-perishable food item for our parish Social Ministry Committee's Christmas basket efforts. This has been a wonderful event for our parish in past years, so you won't want to miss it! If you are interested in volunteering to help with "Breakfast with Santa", please contact Wilma Sullivan at 731-8085.

LESSONS AND CAROLS

The 30th annual Advent Service of Lessons and Carols will be held at the **First United Methodist Church** of Horseheads on Sunday, **December 1st at 5:00 p.m.** The church address is 1034 West Broad Street. Once again our choirs and guests from other churches will be joining forces to present a wonderful evening of song, carols and readings. This service is guaranteed to put your heart and soul in the right place for Christmas. Mark your calendars and plan to spend time reveling in the joy of the Advent/Christmas season.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

The parish office will be closing at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, November 27th, and will be closed on Thanksgiving Day, November 28th and Friday, November 29th. The parish offices will re-open on Monday, December 2nd, at 9:00 a.m.

We wish all a very joyful and happy Thanksgiving!

WEEKLY CALENDAR**Monday, November 25**

5:00 PM Mary Queen of Peace - chapel

Saturday, November 30

3:30 PM Sacrament of Penance - church

Sunday, December 1

5:00 PM Regional Mass - St. Patrick

6:00 Pm Confirmation candidate meeting - school

7:00 PM Adult Choir - church

IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Salvatore Sidari

MEMORIALS**Sanctuary Candle:***In loving memory of Colleen Deats - her mom, Loretta***Eucharistic Hosts:***In thanksgiving for the wedding anniversary of Barb & Bob VanBurger***FLOWER DONATIONS:****Main Altar Arrangement:***In memory of my Mother and Dad – Rudy Kurniawan**In loving memory of Jasper Daly – Amy Winkels***Chapel candle flowers:***In loving memory of Howard and Ann Minchin – Jackie and Warren Conklin**In loving memory of Warren and Florence Conklin – Jackie and Warren Conklin***Blessed Mother – Church:***Special intention – Joy Anderson***Blessed Mother – Chapel:***In memory of the Brennan, Cabucci, Cary and Rouleau families – Carin and Greg Rouleau***CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS**

Sign-up sheets for Christmas flower memorials are posted on the church bulletin board and will be available through **December 1st**.

ALTAR MEMORIALS

When Masses are not available for a particular day, Altar Memorials are a special way you can remember those who have died and those intentions you may wish to remember for the living.

Our Altar Memorials are available each week during the year. Donation for the week is as follows:

Sanctuary candle	\$10.00
Icon candle	\$10.00
Sacramental wine	\$15.00
Eucharistic bread (hosts)	\$10.00

SCRIPTURE READINGS**SUNDAY - December 1, 2019****FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

Second Reading: Romans 13:11-14

Gospel: Matthew 24:37-44

IN OUR PARISH**Bake Sale**

Our Parish Life committee is holding a bake sale this weekend after all Masses, **Saturday, November 23rd** and **Sunday, November 24th**. The proceeds of this sale will benefit our school. If you would like to help by baking, please bring your baked goods to the back of the church before any Mass next weekend. Thank you for your generosity.

Hands of Christ 2020

The **Hands of Christ** is a recognition program to assist parishes in affirming their high school seniors who have been the "Hands of Christ" in their church, home, school, and greater community. You are invited to nominate a high school senior of the Class of 2020 for the Hands of Christ recognition.

A nominated high school senior must meet the following criteria:

Consistently demonstrates a Christian attitude 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 Parish.

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. These registration forms will be reviewed by Father Linsler for approval as pastor. Nominations are due in the parish office by tomorrow, **November 25th**.

Christmas Basket Dates

Following are the important dates to keep in mind for our Christmas Basket event:

Thursday, December 12th - All gifts must be under the trees.

Friday, December 13th - Coordination of gifts under the trees by family number.

Friday, December 13th, 6:00 p.m. - Sort food

Saturday, December 14th, 8:00 a.m. - Pack food

Saturday, December 14th, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. - Basket pickup (please note this is a change in date and time)

(In Our Parish continued on page 4...)

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 were 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 assure 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 25 - Weekday

6:45 AM Pilar Lapitan (3rd anniversary) - her family

Tuesday, November 26 - Weekday

6:45 AM Deceased members of the Lazzaris family - George & Franca Lazzaris

Wednesday, November 27 - Weekday

6:45 AM PJ Cardinale - the Fairbrothers

Thursday, November 28 - Thanksgiving Day

9:00 AM For the People of St. Mary Our Mother

Friday, November 29 - Weekday

6:45 AM No Mass

Saturday, November 30 - St. Andrew, Apostle

5:00 PM Donald Zelko - Brenda Benza

Sunday, December 1 - First Sunday of Advent

8:30 AM John Messino - Ginny Pansero

10:30 AM Fannie Parasiliti - Rosa & Ray Giammichele

5:00 PM Regional Mass - St. Patrick

On behalf of the entire staff of our parish and school, I would like 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 for which we are grateful! May God extend many blessings to you and your family this Thanksgiving!

Fr. L.

A MESSAGE FROM ST. MARY OUR MOTHER SCHOOL

As we approach the season of Thanksgiving, we are reminded of how grateful we are for our supporters and how instrumental each of you are to the success of St. Mary Our Mother School. On behalf of the students, faculty and staff of St. Mary Our Mother School, please accept my sincerest thanks for your support and generous donations to our school's annual appeal and for your ongoing support each year. We are honored by your kindness and hope you realize how valuable your generosity is to the students and families at St. Mary Our Mother School.

Your support of our school is a gift beyond measure and inspires us every day to recognize our purpose here on Earth...to be witnesses of God's great love. We offer prayers of thanks for you and your kindness. May God continue to work through us in ways that make your proud.

Mrs. Jean Yorio
Principal

IN OUR PARISH CONTINUED...

Christmas Food Baskets

In anticipation of the needs of families in our area, our Social Ministry Committee is collecting food for the Christmas food baskets. Only **food** items are needed and the following are staple items that we include in each box: peanut butter, jelly, spaghetti sauce/marinara, spaghetti or other pasta, tuna fish or canned meat, canned or dried soup, canned fruit, canned vegetables, cereal, oatmeal, cake mixes, frosting, cookie and muffin mixes, jello or pudding, pancake mix, rice, dried potatoes, stuffing mix, baby food, baby cereal and baby drinks, and hot chocolate mix.

PLEASE - FOOD ONLY - NO COFFEE OR JUICE, NO PAPER PRODUCTS, CLEANERS OR TOILETRIES ARE NEEDED.

Your generous donations are appreciated and may be placed in the cart near the front entrance of the church. Shopping lists are located on the table near the food cart to help when purchasing food items at the store.

Christmas Basket Gift and Turkey Tags

Christmas trees are up and turkey and gift tags have been placed on the trees by the coordinators. Both turkey and gift tags have a top and bottom tag. Sign your name and phone number on the bottom tag, detach and place it in the box. Take the top tag home and call the coordinator. Take the turkey tag with you when purchasing the turkey. It will be attached to the turkey and placed in the freezer of the store until the date of pickup. Attach the gift tag to the child's gift before placing it under the tree.

St. Mary Our Mother School Registration

St. Mary Our Mother School is accepting student registrations for the 2019/2020 school year for grades pre-k 3 through grade six. Openings will be filled on a first-come, first-serve basis. Parents or guardians who are new to St. Mary Our Mother School will need: birth certificate, baptismal certificate, immunization records and a completed parish commitment form for members of the parish. The non-refundable registration fee is \$150 per family. Both before and after school care are available. For further information, call St. Mary Our Mother School at 739-9157.

Ladies' Prayer Group

Please join us every other Friday morning from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. in the parish office meeting room (basement). Our next gathering is December 6th.

The format includes prayer time, discussion relating to a specific topic, book, or article chosen by the group relevant to our faith.

Parishioners, new and longstanding, are welcome and encouraged to join us. If you would like further information, please contact Sue at 607-795-4230 or email susancites@stny.rr.com.

REGIONAL EVENTS

March for Life

Be a voice for the voiceless! Plan now to travel with us to Washington, DC on **January 24, 2020**. We will ride by bus starting at about 11:30 p.m. on January 23rd, arrive in Washington, D.C. in time for food and Mass. Then we will visit the offices of our Congressman and Senators, see Capitol Hill, attend the Rally for Life on the National Mall, and then March for Life to the Supreme Court Building. Buses arrive home at about 11:00 p.m. on the 24th. Cost is \$55.00 per person before December 13th, \$60.00 after that. Scholarships are available. Adults and school age children are welcome. It is a great experience!

Call Steve at 739-9282 for information or to reserve your seat. Individuals or groups who would like to donate to defray costs or sponsor people to ride are also invited to call.

MINISTERIAL STAFF

- Rev. Christopher E. Linsler**, Pastor
- Rev. Richard F. Kajiru**, In Residence
- Mrs. Barbara Matterazzo**, Coordinator of Faith Formation
- Mrs. Cathy Peckham**, Director of Music
- Mrs. Jean Yorio**, School Principal
- Mr. Richard O'Lenick**, Business Manager
- Mrs. Elizabeth Berliner**, RCIA Coordinator
- Mrs. Joyce Pirozzolo**, Parish Secretary
- Mrs. Jeanne Carney**, Facilities Coordinator
- Mrs. Maribeth Leipold**, Faith Formation Secretary
- Mrs. Amy Barr**, Faith Formation Associate
- Mrs. Sue Wood**, Bulletin Editor
- Mr. Doug Johnson**, Cemetery Manager
- Mrs. Kim Roemmelt**, School Secretary
- Ms. Jenna Crandall**, Maintenance
- Mr. Todd Stewart**, 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@stny.rr.com
- Parish Web Site..... www.StMaryOurMother.com
- St. Mary Our Mother School**
- 811 Westlake Street..... (607)-739-9157
- E-mail..... smoms@dor.org
- School Web Site..... www.stmaryourmother.school
- Religious Education Office**
- 816 West Broad Street..... (607)-739-8214
- E-mail..... smomfaithformation@gmail.com

FROM THE FINANCE COUNCIL

In addition to donating cash or checks, there are other tax beneficial ways that you can donate to St. Mary Our Mother School or Parish.

If you are over age 70-1/2 and you have an IRA retirement account, you may be eligible for a tax benefit called a **Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)**. This provision in the tax law allows you to make a distribution from your IRA directly to St. Mary Our Mother. Using the QCD option, you can transfer up to \$100,000 per year to charity and exclude the entire distribution from your gross income for tax purposes. In addition, the distribution can be counted toward your annual Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) that must be withdrawn from your account anyway. This is a nice tax benefit that allows you to reduce your taxable income, regardless of whether you are otherwise eligible to deduct charitable contributions on your tax return. To use the QCD election you will just need to sign a form provided by your IRA account custodian.

In you have appreciated securities, you may be able to save money on capital gains taxes by donating shares to St. Mary Our Mother. You can transfer a stock, bond, mutual fund or exchange traded fund (ETF) position that has appreciated in value, directly to our investment account. We can sell the position for you and use the proceeds. We do not owe capital gains tax on the sale, since we are a qualified non-profit organization. In addition to avoiding capital gains on selling the position, you may also

be able to deduct the value of the security that you donate, as a charitable contribution.

If you hold the appreciated security in a brokerage account, your custodian can provide you with the forms to sign to make the transfer. Please call our parish office for any additional instructions at 607-739-3817.

If you have any questions, or need clarification, please let us know. We will do everything we can to accommodate and make the donation as easy as possible.

Thank you for your gifts and for all your contributions to St. Mary Our Mother!

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

We thank those who have given generously and ask all who have not yet given to prayerfully consider doing so. The CMA helps our Church and our parish in so many ways. Please consider all the ways that God has blessed you and your family, and think how the Church has brought goodness into your lives. Join our appeal and give back what you can so that we remain strong and able to do God's great work!

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