



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

December 29, 2019



MARY, MOTHER OF GOD**Weekend of December 28/29**

Regular Weekend Schedule
No Saturday Penance

Mass - Mary, Mother of God

5:00 p.m. - December 31, 2019
 9:00 a.m. - Wednesday, January 1, 2020

WEEKLY CALENDAR**Monday, December 30**

5:00 PM Mary Queen of Peace - chapel

Friday, January 3

8:00 PM Nocturnal Adoration - chapel

Saturday, January 4

3:30 PM Sacrament of Penance - church

Sunday, January 5

5:00 PM Regional Mass - St. Peter & Paul
 7:00 PM Adult Choir - church

IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Robert Ellsworth Randy Hansen
 Rev. Thomas O'Brien

MEMORIALS**Sanctuary Candle:**

In loving memory of Fr. Mac - Nancy

FLOWER DONATIONS:**Main Altar Arrangement:**

*In loving memory of parents, Mary and Danny Jenkins -
 Gail M. Lampman*

In thanksgiving - King and Teresa Fitzpatrick

Chapel flowers:

(2) In memory of our son, Phillip - Richard and Maryanne Amisano

Blessed Mother - Church:

In memory of John and Jean Brazell - Judy Hambruch

Blessed Mother - Chapel:

For the deceased members of our family - Bill and Pam Kiefer

FLOWER SIGN UPS

Thank you for your many flower donations. There are new forms posted on the bulletin board for upcoming weeks. Please consider a flower donation to commemorate special events in your life.

NOCTURNAL ADORATION SOCIETY

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will begin at 8:00 p.m. this coming **Friday, January 3rd.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS**SUNDAY - January 5, 2020****THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6
 Second Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6
 Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

IN OUR PARISH**Parish Calendars**

The parish of St. Mary Our Mother is sincerely grateful to the Lynch Funeral Home for their donation of our 2019 parish calendars. Thank you!

Oplatki

Oplatki (Christmas wafers) are available on the table across from the church bulletin board. A free will offering is appreciated.

2020 E\$cape

Back by popular demand, St. Mary Our Mother School's 2020E\$cape: Big Money Raffle & Trivia by Torgo Entertainment will be held on **Saturday, February 8th.** This event will be held at the Holiday Inn Riverview, Elmira; doors open at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$40.00/pair or \$25.00/single and includes dinner by Anthony's Restaurant and trivia. We encourage you to gather your friends to fill a table of eight!

Unable to attend and still want to support the event? Purchase a **Big Money Progressive Raffle Ticket** for \$100.00. Only 400 tickets will be sold. Tickets may be purchased in the school office between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.. Also, during the month of January, parents will be selling tickets after all weekend Masses. If we reach our goal of 350 raffle ticket sales, the top payout will be \$10,000! A total of 4 monetary prizes will be awarded. Ticket purchasers need not be present to win. For additional information, please contact the school office at 607-739-9157. All proceeds from the event benefit St. Mary Our Mother School

Mass Intentions

Any one of our regularly scheduled Masses may be offered for a specific intention - in memory of a deceased person, for a sick person's recovery, a special birthday, a special anniversary or other occasion.

Please call the parish office at 739-3817 to request your Mass.

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

(In Our Parish continued on Page 4, column 1...)

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

At every Sunday liturgy, we see numbers of families attending church together. A variety of families compose the parish "family" of St. Mary Our Mother: mothers and fathers with sons and daughters; single parents with their children, grandparents and their children, and combinations of others. It is a wonderful sight to see people of all ages gathering together to worship as one. It is a vivid reminder that we are living for today but with a vision for tomorrow. The heart and core of the Christian life is the family.

Today, we celebrate the **Feast of the Holy Family** of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. These three are central figures of this Christmas season. When reading the scriptural passages about the Nativity, you will find that God was very much a part of each person's life. God sent Gabriel to Mary and she said "Yes"; then God sent Gabriel to Joseph to fill him in on God's plan, and Joseph said "Yes". Then God told Joseph to move from Bethlehem to Egypt, and along with Mary, they gathered the child and were on their way. Jesus was conceived; Jesus was born; Jesus was saved. His early life was surrounded by this Holy Family.

There is not a great amount written in the scriptures about the early years of Jesus. We presume that He was raised like any other Jewish boy of His day. He adopted Joseph's profession as a carpenter. He went to the synagogue and observed the Jewish rituals. The adult Jesus reflects a balanced person, a religious individual, and someone with a strong moral character. Presumably, this was due to the effect that His parents had on Him. Family was the core of His life. This Feast of the Holy Family found between Christmas and New Year's Day is our attempt as Catholics to emphasize the family as all families continue to celebrate these wonderful Christmas holidays.

One of the enriching moments of our liturgy at St. Mary Our Mother is to see the many ways our children participate during Mass. Recently, I was presiding at one of our First Friday school Masses, and a certain song was sung with which our children are very familiar. They sung at the top of their lungs, and it was a wonderful experience to hear them join their hearts and voices together. The Christmas Eve Family Mass was another special celebration where our children took an active role in the liturgy as singers and instrumentalists. The recent school Christmas program, where every single student in our school has a role, is yet another example. We witness the same kind of childlike enthusiasm in our Faith Formation and Sacramental Preparation programs. Their innocence, their enthusiasm, and their willingness to be involved helps to raise our spirits and helps us live in praise of God.

Holy Family Sunday invites us to celebrate the varieties of people who are part of our lives and enrich these days of Christmas season. It also calls us to appreciate and encourage the next generation to continue to participate and to see the church as belonging to them. It also reminds us that these little people are an important part of our Sunday celebrations. Sometimes they are noisy; sometimes they are fidgety; sometimes they distract us - but, they are children, and we need to accept

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Monday, December 30 - Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

6:45 AM Elizabeth & George Bartosch

Tuesday, December 31 - Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

6:45 AM No Mass

5:00 PM Tom Cincebox - the Klan family

Wednesday, January 1 - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

9:00 AM Margaret Amisano - Lanahan family

Thursday, January 2 - Ss. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors of the Church

6:45 AM Sal Sidari - Rosa & Ray Giammichele

Friday, January 3 - Christmas Weekday

6:45 AM Roger Horton - sister, Jean

Saturday, January 4 - St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

5:00 PM Sandy Mentuck - Nina Serdinow

Sunday, January 5 - Epiphany of the Lord

8:30 AM Teri Guardi - her family

10:30 AM Howard Coddington - Catherine Padgett

5:00 PM Regional Mass - St. Patrick

them. We are genuinely and richly blessed to have as many children as we have as a regular part of all our parish activities.

With our thoughts today centered on family, we need to remember those who have suffered a loss in their families since Christmas, 2017. This Christmas is the first Christmas my family will observe without the presence of my mother. We remember those who have lost loved ones, as well as those people who have been the victims of abuse, violence, terrorism and war. With much emphasis placed on family and togetherness during Christmas, this time of year can be difficult.

As we move through these Christmas days, please know of our continued prayers for you, along with the best wishes of our entire staff for a happy, and blessed 2020. Thank you for your generosity during the Advent/Christmas season. An early bulletin deadline, which affected all our bulletins during the month of December, I am writing this column on December 11th, anticipating the many people who will join us for our Masses at Christmas. Thank you for our role in making St. Mary Our Mother a place of hospitality and warm welcome, not just at Christmas, but throughout the year.

Continue to celebrate and enjoy these days of Christmas. See you in church!

Fr. C

IN OUR PARISH CONTINUED...

March For Life

Speak out for Life! Travel by bus to Washington, DC for the **January 24, 2020** March for Life. Cost is \$60.00. Scholarships are available, so don't let cost prevent your attendance. Adults and school age children are welcome. Call now, don't miss a memorable experience of faith and democracy in action. Call Steve at 739-9282 for information or to reserve your seat.

REGIONAL EVENTS

The Wounded Healers' Bereavement Support Group

The Wounded Healers' Bereavement Support Group will hold its Annual Memorial Service on **Tuesday, January 14, 2020** from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at St. Mary Our Mother School. Please feel free to bring pictures of your loved ones to this service. There is **no charge** for the monthly meetings. For more information, please call 796-2795. All are welcome.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children's Liturgy of the Word is provided for all children in grades pre-k through 5th grade most Sundays at 10:30 a.m. Mass, from mid-September to mid-June.

There is no charge for this program and no registration is required. Children's Liturgy of the Word is ritual centered on the proclamation and breaking open of the Sunday scriptures. The children do what the rest of the community is doing only it is more appropriate to their level of understanding. Because it is a liturgical celebration, all the principles of liturgy (active participation, clear symbols, etc.) apply.

We also provide a weekly pamphlet, "*Explaining God's Word*," a take home resource that includes a reflection on the weekly Gospel, activities to enhance understanding, as well as a family page to help you in your efforts in teaching your child.

If your child is hesitant to participate and you wish to accompany them until they are comfortable attending, we invite you to do so. The children rejoin the assembly for the Liturgy Celebration of the Eucharist.

We invite adults to consider volunteering in this ministry. It is a minimal commitment and training is provided. We are also looking for some committed students, 6th grade and up, to join our team as assistants for the adult liturgists. Teens help lead the children into the school and assure they are all returned to their parents after the program as well as help meet the needs of the children while in the care of adults liturgists. All liturgists are CASE (Creating a Safe Environment) trained. For more information or questions, please contact the Faith Formation Office at 739-8214 or email smomfaithformation@gmail.com.

A PRAYER FOR THE FAMILY

*Jesus, our most loving redeemer,
You came to enlighten the world
with your teaching and example.
You willed to spend the greater part of Your life
in humble obedience to Mary and Joseph
in the poor home of Nazareth.
In this way, You sanctified that family,
which was to be an example
for all Christian families.*

*Graciously accept our family,
which we dedicate and consecrate to You this day.
Be pleased to protect, guard, and keep it
in holy fear, in peace,
and in harmony of Christian charity.
By conforming ourselves to the Divine model
of Your family,
may we attain to eternal happiness.*

Amen

New St. Joseph People's Prayer Book

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

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

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

I use GPS wherever I go, and it serves me well most of the time. However, sometimes it leads me to a place that does not exist. Then there are those times when I am about to turn, and the man inside my phone shouts out, "GPS signal lost!" or "Rerouting!" The problem is, when the area is unfamiliar to me, I have no choice but to listen. I could try to get where I am going by simple intuition or by pulling over to look at a paper map, but I don't trust my sense of direction. And I haven't bought a paper map in close to a decade!

Many people move through life without any direction. They find themselves constantly rerouting and wondering when they will ever get to a satisfying final destination. What they need is a compass and a companion for the journey. Yet they have no idea how to get either.

Prayer can serve as a compass, and it connects us to a companion for the journey. Stewardship living is impossible without prayer. If we count on our own will and believe we can become fruitful without daily contact with the Divine, we can find ourselves looking for directions more than moving toward a destination. God, through prayer, will help us see all we have as a gift. God, through prayer, will lead us away from materialism and selfishness and toward freedom and generosity. Even when we fall to sin, the path back is clearer. God's GPS signal is never really lost. — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

REFLECTION

When Herod had died, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Rise, take the child and His mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead."

He rose, took the child and His mother, and went to the land of Israel.

- Mt 2:19-21

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.



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