



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

January 26, 2020

HANDS OF CHRIST AWARD

We warmly welcome **Bishop Salvatore Matano** to St. Mary Our Mother this week as he presides at the Hands of Christ Recognition Service, for high school senior recipients, their families and friends from throughout the Southern Tier. This recognition service will take place on **Thursday, January 30th at 7:00 p.m.** in church, with a reception, sponsored by our Parish Life Committee, following in O'Brien Hall and the school gymnasium. You are cordially invited to attend the Hands of Christ Recognition Service.

ST. MARY OUR MOTHER SCHOOL FUNDRAISER

The seventeenth annual St. Mary Our Mother School winter fundraising event is just around the corner! Last year the event was a huge hit and raised just over \$38,000 for the school! This could not have been possible without the support of so many. We hope you'll join us this year at the Holiday inn Riverview, Elmira for 202 ESCAPE; Big Money Raffle and Trivia by TORGO Entertainment on **Saturday, February 8**. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Tickets to the event are \$25.00 each or \$40.00 for two and includes admission, buffet dinner by Anthony's Restaurant and trivia by TORGO Entertainment. In addition to the Big Money Raffle and Trivia, the evening will also feature a live auction, penny raffle and St. Mary Our Mother School Art Auction. Big Money Progressive Raffle tickets are currently on sale for \$100.00 each. Only 400 raffle tickets will be sold! If we reach our goal of selling 350 Big Money raffle tickets, the top payout will be \$10,000! A total of 4 monetary prizes will be awarded. Big Money raffle ticket purchasers need not be present to win. Tickets for the Big Money Raffle and 2020 ESCAPE may be purchased in the main office of the school between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Also, parents will be selling tickets after all weekend Masses during the month of January and the first weekend of February. Tickets may be purchased with cash or check. All proceeds from the event benefit St. Mary Our Mother School.

COMMUNION PROCEDURES

According to statistics from the National Center for Disease Control, New York State is one state which has experienced an increase in the number of reported cases of the flu. Therefore, we will suspend offering Communion from the cup until further notice. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.

ST. MARY OUR MOTHER SCHOOL REGISTRATION

St. Mary Our Mother School is accepting student registrations 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.

A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

In today's Gospel Jesus begins His ministry of healing, proclaims the kingdom of God and calls His first disciples, Simon and Andrew, and then the sons of Zebedee, James and John. Those first disciples might have preferred to keep their jobs, remain with their families and stay with the life they knew. Remarkably, though, all four of these people, just as they are, follow after this stranger who interrupts their daily routine. When they see Jesus and hear His words to them, they make a difference choice. They take a risk, step out in faith, leave behind that which is comfortable and secure. They choose to follow Jesus. How far are we willing to go to leave the comfort and security of the life we know to follow Jesus?

WEEKLY CALENDAR**Monday, January 27**

5:00 PM Mary Queen of Peace - chapel

Tuesday, January 28

3:45 PM Religious Education - school

3:45 PM RCIA - school

6:00 PM Quilter's Prayer group - school

Thursday, January 30

2:45 PM Children's Choir - church

7:00 PM Hands of Christ celebration - church

Saturday, February 1

3:30 PM Sacrament of Penance - church

Sunday, February 2

5:00 PM Youth Choir - church

5:00 PM Regional Mass - St. Peter & Paul

6:00 PM RCIA - school

7:00 PM Adult Choir - church

IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST

William Haner

John J. Leszyk

Paxton Swackhamer

MEMORIALS**Sanctuary Candle:***In memory of Gayle Margeit Pritchard - Ed & Louise
Oksinski***Eucharistic Hosts:***For the special intentions of Michael & Joanne Langan -
Pat Madison***Sacramental Wine:***In loving memory of Gayle Margeit Pritchard - Mom &
Dad***FLOWER DONATIONS:****Main Altar Arrangement:***(2) In loving memory of Gertrude & Lyle Johnson - their
daughter, Peggy***Chapel Candle Flowers:***(2) In loving memory of mother and grandmother, Mary
Anne Poland - the Scarselletta family***Blessed Mother – Church:***In thanksgiving for 54 years of marriage - Rick &
Maryanne Amisano***Blessed Mother – Chapel:***In thanksgiving for 54 years of marriage - Rick &
Maryanne Amisano***SCRIPTURE READINGS****SUNDAY - February 2, 2020****THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD**

First Reading: Malachi 3:1-4

Second Reading: Hebrews 2:14-18

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

IN OUR PARISH**Super Bowl Collection**

Our Social Ministry Committee will be collecting donations the weekend of **February 1st and 2nd**, Super Bowl Sunday, after all the Masses. Parishioners of St. Mary Our Mother have always been very generous in sharing their good fortune with those less fortunate. The proceeds from this collection will be donated to the Horseheads Food Pantry. It is a pleasure to see young people holding the helmets at the end of Mass at each of the exits. If you have young people who are able to do this, please ask them to help! A signup sheet for all of the masses is posted on the bulletin board. This will only take about 15 minutes of your time after Mass. Thank you.

Parish Calendars

The parish of St. Mary Our Mother is sincerely grateful to the Lynch Funeral Home for their donation of our 2020 parish calendars. Thank you!

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

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

This coming week, St. Mary Our Mother School joins other Catholic Schools throughout the nation in celebrating Catholic Schools Week. This year's theme is **Catholic Schools: Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.** This week is a time to reaffirm our support of Catholic School education, to affirm the spiritual welfare of every student, to encourage them in their academic development, to recognize parents for their commitment to Catholic School education, and to recognize our teachers, staff, and administration for their dedication and professionalism. It is a time to offer a word of gratitude to the people of St. Mary Our Mother for their continued interest and support of our school as a "parish-based" school since 1959. I consider our school as a vital part of our parish's responsibility in serving our children, the next generation of Catholics.

The Church as the primary teachers of our faith has the responsibility to its people that our faith life is not only preserved but that people be given opportunities for their faith life to be nourished and grow. From its founding days, Catholic Schools in the United States have provided a solid-based education where the truths of our Catholic faith are not only taught but lived. The challenge of every Catholic School today is to meet the needs of our young people who live in a society and world where cultural values are often contrary to the teachings of the gospel. Catholic Schools continue to be important vehicles by which Christ-centered values and virtues are taught. In doing so each school epitomizes the Catholic Schools Week theme of being communities of learning, serving, leading and success.

Watch our coming bulletins for the school Winter Newsletter which contains information regarding Catholic Schools Week and our school. If you know of a family with children, or you have friends who might consider a Catholic School education, please encourage them to contact the school for further information and to take a tour of our school. We need your help to get the good news about St. Mary Our Mother School "out there" to the greater community. Tuition assistance is also available, and all students benefit from being in a school with smaller class sizes, more individual attention, and a school that has outperformed school districts on various state scores.

As we celebrate Catholic Schools Week 2020, we thank all who are involved in our education efforts at St. Mary Our Mother School:

Mrs. M. Jean Yorio, Principal

Mrs. Kim Roemmelt, Administrative Assistant

*Mrs. Jull Knuth
Mrs. Patricia Madison
Mrs. Sandra Hoyt
Mrs. Karen White
Mrs. Angela Langendorfer
Mrs. Heather Bill
Mrs. Lindsay Clearwater
Mrs. Colleen Meehan
Mr. Richard O'Lenick
Miss Jenna Crandall*

*Mrs. Robyn Stowell
Mrs. Sally Heffner
Mrs. Ariana Enright
Mrs. Kelley Roe
Mrs. Susan Nagle
Mrs. Barbara O'Brien
Mr. Thomas Ketchum
Mr. Tito Reyes
Mrs. Mary Owen
Mrs. Gwen Beckman*

MASSES FOR THE WEEK**Monday, January 27 - Weekday**

6:45 AM Charles & Doris Dickinson - their family

Tuesday, January 28 - St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest & Doctor of the Church

6:45 AM Elizabeth & George Bartosch

Wednesday, January 29 - Weekday

6:45 AM Donna Mathew - husband, Bob

Thursday, January 30 - Weekday

6:45 AM For the Faithful Departed

Friday, January 31 - St. John Bosco, Priest

6:45 AM Charly Graves - his wife, Jan

Saturday, February 1 - Weekday

5:00 PM Deceased members of the Mills family - family

Sunday, February 2 - The Presentation of the Lord

8:30 AM Eileen Riesbeck - Jan & Don Temple

10:30 AM Joel Klee - Lanzillotto & Klee families

5:00 PM Regional Mass - Ss. Peter & Paul

We thank them, as well as the people of St. Mary Our Mother, for their commitment and dedication to Catholic School education in our parish.

Have a great week, and enjoy these final days of January. See you in church!

Fr. L.

REGIONAL EVENTS

Valentines for Vets

Valentines for Vets is a thirteen year old local project that supports veterans at the Bath VA Medical Center and beyond. The purpose of this project is to wish veterans a Happy Valentine's Day as well as thank them for their service and sacrifice. Last year, over 600 valentines were delivered to the VA Center and personally shared with the veterans. Children from St. Mary Our Mother School, Faith Formation classes, parish families, and seniors from Bethany Courtyards all created valentines. We also received valentines from the Key Club at Edison and a parish family collected over 200 valentines from Big Flats Elementary and the Elks Club and they delivered them as a family at the event. Our Social Ministry committee would like to continue to have our parish family be involved in this project.

We ask that you create handmade cards, letters, and posters thanking our veterans for their service and wishing them a Happy Valentine's Day. Please use the salutation Dear Veteran or Thank You Veteran and do not include last names or personal photos. A red box has been placed on the table across from the bulletin board to drop your valentines in. Valentines will be collected in January and into February. Sample cards and any additional details will be attached to the box.

Catholic Speak Out for the Vulnerable: Oppose Physician Assisted Suicide in NYS

Catholic teaching calls us to uphold the dignity and value of human life until its natural end. Legislation is being proposed in New York to legalize physician assisted suicide. Proponents of the so-called "Medical Aid-in-Dying Act" (A.2694/S.3947) argue that it contains safeguards which protect vulnerable patients. Yet a close examination of the bill's language reveals inadequate protections for patients most at risk of abuse, and lower medical standards than elsewhere in the Public Health Law. The bill lacks transparency and accountability, and contains extremely weak conscience protections for both health care professionals and health care institutions. In short, the bill is unsafe for all involved.

As Christians, we are called to reach out in love and compassion to those experiencing illness and suffering, not to abandon them during their time of need - but to offer our support, mercy, assistance. Those experiencing suffering at the end of life should have full access to palliative care which eases physical pain while honoring the value and dignity of the patient.

February 8th and 9th is the annual *Rochester Public Policy Advocacy Weekend*. After all Masses that weekend we will have an opportunity to sign the Diocesan petition/postcard to our state elected officials urging them to oppose physician assisted suicide and support the expansion of palliative care in New York State.

Notre Dame High School Open House

Notre Dame High school, grades 7-12 will hold an open house on **Tuesday, January 28, 2020**. The evening will begin with a presentation at 6:30 p.m. with campus tours to follow. Prospective students are invited to tour the school, meet current students, and engage with the faculty and administration. Notre Dame is a college preparatory school rich in the traditions of the Sisters of Mercy and academic excellence. Additionally, Notre Dame offers a competitive athletic program along with many opportunities to participate in the performing visual and language arts. Notre Dame is located at 1400 Maple Avenue, Elmira and is currently accepting applications for new students for the 2020/2021 school year. For further information, visit www.notredamehighschool.com or call 607-734-2267, ext. 9.

Horseheads Food Pantry

Non-perishable food and grocery items are being collected for the Horseheads Food Pantry this month. The Horseheads Food Pantry is in need of all food items and especially asks for canned soups for the month of January. For your convenience, please place all donations in the cart located across from the bulletin board. Thank you for your generosity!

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

**REGIONAL EVENTS CONTINUED...
Funding for Energy Efficiency and Critical Capital Needs in Catholic Schools**

Next to salary and benefits for personnel, the costs for energy and facility maintenance/repair are among the largest portions of school budgets. But unlike public school counterparts, religious and independent schools do not receive state building aid, nor do they have the authority to levy taxes or issue bonds to finance energy efficiency or other important capital projects. Although energy-saving improvements can pay for themselves over time, the up-front costs are often out of reach for cash-strapped schools. Maintaining Catholic Schools is not only good for the students and their families, it saves taxpayers the cost of educating those students.

The Diocese of Rochester with the NYS Catholic Conference urges a \$200 million appropriation in the next state budget for critical projects at religious and independent schools and an energy efficient grant/loan program (\$75 million) to provide seed money for energy efficiency projects. Those schools utilizing the loan fund would repay the grants with the savings they achieve in energy efficiency.

This initiative is consistent with the Diocese of Rochester's action/advocacy to respond to the call of Pope Francis in his encyclical, *Laudata Si: On Care For Our Common Home*, and is consistent with the New York State renewable energy and conservation goals to address climate change.

HUD-Approved Financial Fitness Counseling Services

Call Catholic Charities at 734-9784, ext. 2127 to schedule an appointment for free, confidential financial fitness counseling services. Catholic Charities housing counselor will help you assess your income and spending patterns, explore financial goals, set new priorities, and establish savings.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

Need a babysitter for Valentine's Day? St. Mary Our Mother Youth Group has you covered! On **Friday, February 14th** from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., our youth group will be offering a night off for parents by providing babysitting for children in pre-k through grade 4. For just \$2.00, parents can drop their child(ren) off at O'Brien Hall for activities, games, and dinner. Our youth group members will be the primary caregivers: playing games, making crafts, and helping with the set up and cleanup of our space. CASE trained adults will be there to supervise and chaperone. To sign your child up, or if you have an older child (grade 5-12) who would like to help with this event, please call the Faith Formation office at 739-8214 or email smomfaithformation@gmail.com.

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