



# 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

June 21, 2020



## *12<sup>th</sup> Sunday* IN ORDINARY TIME

“Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father. But whoever denies me before others, I will deny before my heavenly Father.” - Mt 10:32-33

## WEEKLY PRAYER

### Readings for the week of June 21, 2020

<b>SUN 6/21</b>	Jer 20:10-13/Ps 69:8-10, 14, 17, 33-35 [14c]/Rom 5:12-15/Mt 10:26-33
<b>MON 6/22</b>	2 Kgs 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18/Ps 60:3, 4-5, 12-13 [7b]/Mt 7:1-5
<b>TUE 6/23</b>	2 Kgs 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36/Ps 48:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 10-11 [cf. 9d]/Mt 7:6, 12-14
<b>WED 6/24</b>	Vigil: Jer 1:4-10/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 15, 17 [6b]/1 Pt 1:8-12/Lk 1:5-17. Day: Is 49:1-6/Ps 139:1-3, 13-14, 14-15 [14a]/Acts 13:22-26/Lk 1:57-66, 80
<b>THR 6/25</b>	2 Kgs 24:8-17/Ps 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9 [9]/Mt 7:21-29
<b>FRI 6/26</b>	2 Kgs 25:1-12/Ps 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 [6ab]/Mt 8:1-4
<b>SAT 6/27</b>	Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19/Ps 74:1b-2, 3-5, 6-7, 20-21 [19b]/Mt 8:5-17
<b>SUN 6/28</b>	2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a/Ps 89:2-3, 16-17, 18-19 [2a]/Rom 6:3-4, 8-11/Mt 10:37-42

### OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 21, 2020

<b>Sunday:</b>	12th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Father's Day
<b>Monday:</b>	St. Paulinus of Nola, Bishop; Sts. John Fisher, Bishop, and Thomas More, Martyrs
<b>Wednesday:</b>	The Nativity of St. John the Baptist
<b>Saturday:</b>	St. Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

### LIVE THE LITURGY Inspiration for the week

Jesus knows that the challenges a disciple of the Gospel will face in the world are real. He tells all of us point blank, "Do not be afraid." There are many things we can fear as we attempt to live the Gospel: unpopularity, being rebuked, rejection, anger, being challenged, having to defend ourselves, standing alone, insecurity, failure, and even death. Many folks know that their faith calls them to live life more deliberately and radically but are cowards when it comes to putting it into practice. We easily justify sticking with the "acceptable" norms with which we are accustomed. These only serve to keep us stuck and mired in mediocrity. The Gospel — given flesh by the very presence of Christ — seeks to stretch, challenge, and change us. We do not have to fear anything, even death. Sometimes, living with our fears brings us a sadly disordered sense of comfort. Maybe what we really fear above all else is change.



## UPDATES AND REMINDERS

Here are some reminders of what is happening in the parish to help keep us together while we are apart as a parish community:

**Live Stream Masses:** Please check our parish website for a listing of these Masses; [www.St.MaryOurMother.com](http://www.St.MaryOurMother.com). There are also resources available at the diocesan website, [dor.org](http://dor.org), as well.

**Chapel Visits:** The chapel is open for private prayer Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and on Sunday from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Please practice appropriate social distancing strategies during your visit.

**Parish Office:** The office is closed, with many of our staff working remotely from home. If you have a *non-emergency*, please call 607-739-3817; this number is checked regularly.

**Emergencies with immediate need:** Please call the above number, your call will be returned as soon as possible.

**Food Donations:** There continues to be a great need for food for the local pantries during this pandemic. Please bring your food donations and place them in the food cart in the vestibule.

**Financial Contributions:** Thank you for your generous financial support to St. Mary Our Mother during these difficult days. It is inspiring to know people realize this is **your** faith community and that your financial support is of utmost importance. You may mail your contributions to the parish office at 816 West Broad Street, Horseheads, New York 14845. There is also a box in the vestibule to receive your offering. You also may wish to check the parish website for online giving opportunities.

## BLESSING OF FATHERS

God and Father of all creation,  
we come before you today with humble hearts.

You are our model of a loving father.

When we fail and fall short of your expectations,  
you are always there at the end of the day with open  
arms,

ready to heal the cuts and scrapes of the day  
and to encourage us to try again and not to give up.

We hold up these men in our midst who act in the world  
as fathers to their children or models of fathers for others.

Bless them in their moments of doubt and frustration  
with their children.

Give them warm and open hearts to forgive failures.  
Provide them with the words needed for encouragement  
and perseverance.

We ask all this in the name of Jesus.

Amen

## 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

There are many things of which we can be afraid: being rebuked, rejection, anger, being challenged, having to defend ourselves, standing alone, insecurity, failure, and even death. For some, identifying and overcoming their fears is a daunting task. Regardless of how much they may want to break the cycle of fear, they find that they remain close friends with old and dysfunctional behavioral habits and norms. Maybe what they really fear is change. There are many who gravitate to the familiar and comfortable, and find safety and security in doing so, even if they remain mired in mediocrity. Human beings have to learn that there is life beyond the “what has always been” and that happiness and depth are possible when old structures and systems have to be left behind.

Can you leave the near and dear, the comfortable and familiar, the safe and secure, and discover new opportunities? The sheer thought of doing so can bring on feelings of apprehension, intense anger, resentment, defensiveness, reluctance, resistance, and even apathy. If we have to be responsible for making the change, cowardice can creep in. If someone else is to blame for making the change, any number of possible negative reactions are possible. In the end, only one thing is required and that is God. If I can rely on and deepen my relationship with God, especially in the Eucharist along with a community of believers, then little else is of great concern. We have to figure out what is really important. It is not always what we think.

The Gospel calls us to stretch ourselves and try new things, not to remain stuck and stagnant in familiar ways. We are asked to live life more deliberately, radically, and intentionally. We are asked to leave the familiar behind and learn to live with changing, and often limiting, human structures. We cannot get too caught up in the physical, ideological, or structural systems we are used to. The Holy Spirit always leads and guides us. If we trust this, we will find ourselves doing things we never thought we could do. Always seek the path to joy and love. They keep us from falling victim to our fears and from seeking the nostalgic crutches we think we need to achieve a sense of well-being and happiness.

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**PASTOR’S PERSPECTIVE**

We received a surprise announcement by Governor Cuomo on Saturday, June 6th that churches, synagogues, and mosques could reopen at 25% capacity. We were expecting this reopening would be part of the phase 4 reopening of New York State in late June or early July. We have an extensive list of requirements from both the CDC and the Diocese of Rochester that have to be met before we return to church. Our staff is working very diligently on the requirements. We plan in reopening the **weekend of July 4th and 5th**, with our normal Mass schedule of **5:00 p.m. Saturday, and 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday**. We also hope to resume **daily Mass at 6:45 a.m. Monday through Thursday beginning July 6th**. Again, Bishop Matano reminds us that if you are sick, or you have any questions about your health, please remain at home. The bishop has extended this dispensation from the obligation for attending Mass during this pandemic.

When Mass does resume in church, it will be a different experience! Directives from the Diocese of Rochester have provided us with new procedures that need to be followed. When coming to church, you will have to wear your own face mask. It will be necessary to keep physical distance of six feet from each other. Upon entering there will be hand sanitizer at the entrance of the church. Seating in the church will be arranged so that we will be properly distanced. Our ushers will guide you to your seat.

The Baptismal Font and all Holy Water fonts have been emptied. We will not be using hymnals, missalettes, pew cards or worship aids. There will be no collection baskets passed, or will there be any procession of gifts at the offertory. We will have offertory receptacles available near the doors of the church for you to place your offertory before or after Mass. We are asking that the restrooms be used only for emergencies.

We will need to sanitize the church before and after each Mass. We will need groups of volunteers to help us in this effort. If you can help us in this regard, please call the parish office.

The procession and recessional will both be shortened. We will have no acolytes or altar servers, one lector, and in time, one musician. There will be no holding of hands during the Lord’s Prayer, and no hand shaking or other personal contact at the Sign of Peace.

The reception of Communion will be different as well. Those in your pew will be invited by an usher to join the procession at the appropriate time so as to maintain appropriate social distancing, wearing your mask. Communion will be offered in the form of bread only. Communion from the cup is suspended until further notice. As you approach the minister of Communion, extend your hand, receive Communion, step aside, lift your mask, consume the host, and replace your mask. It is not hygienically possible to receive Communion on the tongue. Neither the minister distributing Communion nor the person receiving Communion are to wear gloves.

(continued next column...)

Once the final hymn and the three Hail Mary’s are concluded, the ushers will begin the exiting process, beginning with the rear pews. The exiting will be staggered by sections and will move from the back of the church to the front. Please be patient and wait for your signal to exit. Do not linger in the narthex the vestibule, the sidewalks or the parking lot, but keep moving to your car, maintain social distance, and exit the parking lot to make room for those coming to the next Mass.

I realize these are significant changes to our experience of coming to church to celebrate Mass. I realize that it will be difficult for many of us not to visit with friends and parishioners before and after Mass, many of whom we may not have seen for several months. Yet, the social distancing required to lessen this Coronavirus is a sacrifice we are called to share.

Have a great week. Stay well and safe!

Fr. L.

**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



**CRS RICE BOWL - Lent 2020**

Catholic Relief Services is counting on our Rice Bowl alms to help brothers and sister in need around the world, especially in these challenging times. Please consider mailing your CRS Rice Bowl alms to the parish office. Please convert the coins from your box into a check payable to the parish and note on the check, *CRS Rice Bowl*. Thank you for your many sacrifices during Lent. Through these alms given to Catholic Relief Services, we become a blessing for others. What we gave up for Lent will change lives!

- ~ 75% of our CRS Rice Bowl alms support Catholic Relief Services development projects overseas carried out on behalf of the U. S. Catholic community (us!).
- ~ 25% of the CRS Rice Bowl alms remain in our diocese to help support local hunger relief efforts. (Horseheads Food Pantry receives our local 25% share of alms.)

**A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT**

In today's second reading we hear of St. Paul's final appeal to the Christian community at Corinth to live in peace and harmony with one another as well as to give one another encouragement. God made that unity possible, as Paul would have it, through "the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit." Good stewards who share Christ's life belong to each other, just as God in the three persons of Father, Son and Holy Spirit enjoy unity. We are an intimate part of God's divine bond, God's "family". St. Paul maintains that we ought to act that way. In the Church there is the bond of family, yet there is plenty of room for variety. Christian stewards use their uniquely varied gifts to live a Trinitarian faith, in unity, promoting Christ's peace and justice. How do we promote unity among our fellow believers? What encouragement do we give others?

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