



# ST. MARY OUR MOTHER CHURCH

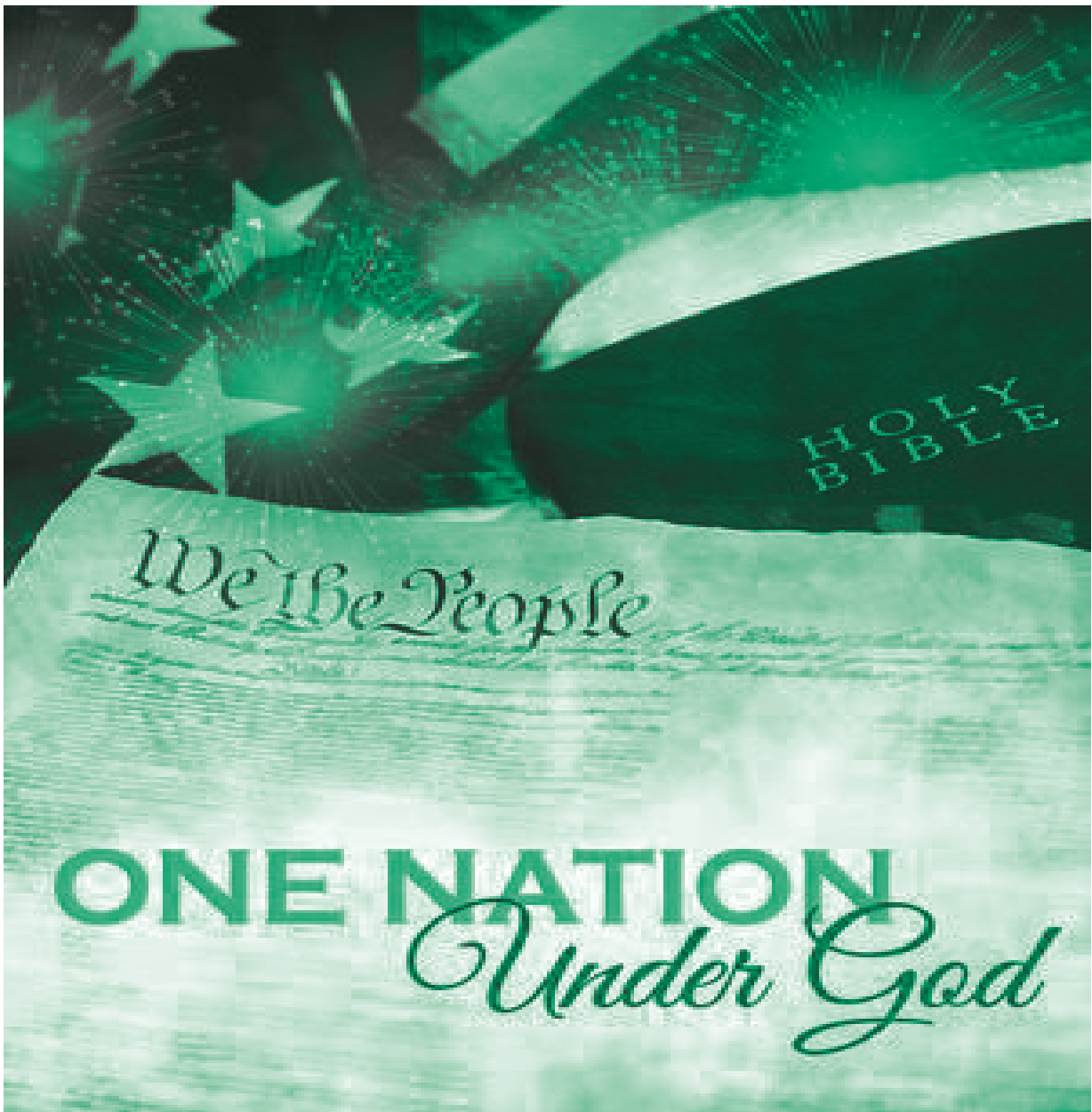
## *MISSION STATEMENT*

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 28, 2020



# WEEKLY PRAYER

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 28, 2020

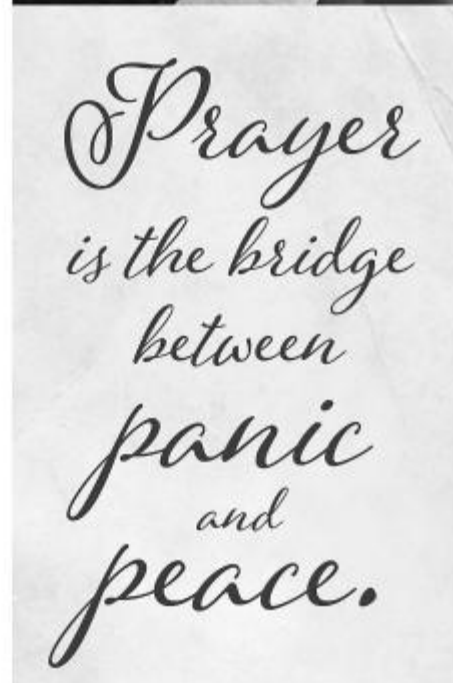
- SUN 6/28** 2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a/Ps 89:2-3, 16-17, 18-19 [2a]/Rom 6:3-4, 8-11/Mt 10:37-42
- MON 6/29** Acts 12:1-11/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [5b]/2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18/Mt 16:13-19
- TUE 6/30** Am 3:1-8; 4:11-12/Ps 5:4b-6a, 6b-7, 8 [9a]/Mt 8:23-27
- WED 7/1** Am 5:14-15, 21-24/Ps 50:7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13, 16bc-17 [23b]/Mt 8:28-34
- THR 7/2** Am 7:10-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [10cd]/Mt 9:1-8
- FRI 7/3** Eph 2:19-22/Ps 117:1bc, 2 [Mk 16:15]/Jn 20:24-29
- SAT 7/4** Am 9:11-15/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [cf. 9b]/Mt 9:14-17
- SUN 7/5** Zec 9:9-10/Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14 [cf. 1]/Rom 8:9, 11-13/Mt 11:25-30

## OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 28, 2020

- Sunday:** 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday:** Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles
- Tuesday:** The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church
- Wednesday:** St. Junípero Serra, Priest
- Friday:** St. Thomas, Apostle
- Saturday:** Independence Day
- Next Sunday:** 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time; Independence Day

## LIVE THE LITURGY Inspiration for the week

"Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?" What do you understand these words to mean? Many see these words as an indication of what may come in eternal life. In actuality, they have more to do with our lives here and now. We are called to die to ourselves and offer our lives as gifts given generously to others. It is not about us. We are asked to serve God and not continue in our service of sin. Life is about learning to do what we really do not want to do because it brings us deeper into the mystery of God, ourselves, and others. Learning how to accept and live with the "small deaths" and sacrifices we encounter teaches us how to live with and approach our final death. We can do so with a heart that has been touched by and is open to mercy or one that is self- focused and closed.



## GUIDELINES FOR MASS IN THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC PERIOD

As we begin public worship at St. Mary Our Mother, there will be many aspects of our liturgy that will not seem “normal” for any of us. We outline here what you can expect and the guidelines that we ask you to observe when on campus for the protection of yourself, the others you encounter, and our priests. Feel free to be in touch with any questions in advance.

You must register for the Mass you wish to attend by either e-mail or by contacting the parish office by **Thursday at 4:00 p.m.** each week.

### To prepare to attend:

Bring a face covering or mask; masks are required from the time you exit your car in the parking lot until you return to your car. (This also applies for private prayer in church.) Bring your own hand sanitizer to use before receiving Communion. Please do not congregate in the church building or anywhere on the campus.

### When you arrive:

Please see an usher for assistance. You can deposit your offering envelope in the receptacle near the doors when you arrive. There will not be a collection at the offertory. Please sanitize your hands at one of the stations as you enter church. You will be directed to a seat in church, with seating beginning front to back.

### During Mass:

Generally, there will be little congregational singing, as masks must **ALWAYS** be worn throughout Mass. There is to be no physical contact during the Lord’s Prayer or at the Sign of Peace.

When approaching to receive communion, please follow the directions of the ushers or volunteers present. Remain six feet apart from others, observing the markings on the floor.

As you receive communion, receive the communion wafer in your hands (there is no safe or hygienic manner to receive communion on the tongue during the pandemic), walk at least six feet away from the minister before lowering your mask to receive the host, replace your mask over your face, and return to your seat. The Eucharist will be offered in the form of the Body of Christ only.

You are not obliged to received communion at Mass if you are uncomfortable doing so. If you are not going to communion, simply step out of your seat and back away to allow others to return to their seat with minimal contact.

### Going forth:

At the end of Mass, the priest will go immediately to the sacristy, and the ushers will direct your exit from the church building, beginning with the last pew first.

Private prayer is not available after Mass as to facilitate immediate cleaning and sanitizing of the pews and restrooms.

Please go directly to your vehicles when you leave church, with no socializing in the Church, sidewalks, or in the parking lots.

**Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we work our way through this phased reopening process.** We thank you for your suggestions as we move forward!

## A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

In today’s gospel reading the Twelve hear Jesus speak these words: “Whoever does not take up his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.” This is the first time Matthew mentions the word “cross” in his gospel, and it is not in direct reference to Jesus’ crucifixion but as a prerequisite to following Him. Good stewards recognize that the call to discipleship requires them to “take up the cross” and align their goals in life and their fate with that of Jesus, that is, with suffering, opposition, resistance and even death. Reflect this week on the crosses you need to take up daily in order to comprehend the way of Jesus Christ.

## EVERY DAY STEWARDSHIP

### God Is Love

I was recently at a Catholic conference and had a conversation with someone living in the thick of Hollywood culture. He was Catholic and spoke of how hard it was to live out his faith amid tremendous temptation and negativity toward religion. He spoke about how going to daily Mass helped to keep him centered and stay strong in his faith. He was a great witness to living out one’s faith in the face of disbelief.

One thing that he told me stood out above all the rest. He spoke of his engagement to his fiancé and how important it was to him that God was a major part of their relationship and their lives as individuals as well. He told me he said something to her like, “If you don’t love Jesus more than you love me, this is never going to work.” What an amazing and truly moving witness!

Songs and books are written about the intense longing one human being can have for another. We can describe another as meaning everything to us. We speak of wanting to offer our complete selves to our beloved. However, true love is about more than wanting to be with that person. It is about wanting that person to know a love even greater than theirs: the love of God. No love can last without God. My Hollywood friend knew this to be the case. He showed his true love for his wife-to-be by sharing more than himself — he shared the very One who created love.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

**PASTOR’S PERSPECTIVE**

Last week’s bulletin announced the fact that we will begin to have Sunday Mass in church beginning **next weekend, July 4th & 5th**, and will follow the normal Mass schedule of **5:00 p.m. Saturday: 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday**. As we reopen our church for worship, we will be limited to 25% capacity of our worship space. Our staff has been busily trying to implement the requirements and protocols issued by both the U. S. Centers for Disease Control and the Diocese of Rochester. You will be receiving a letter through the mail detailing of what to expect. Please read the letter carefully, as you will be required to register for the mass you wish to attend. We look forward to seeing you next weekend!

This time of year is also a season for graduations. Unfortunately, with the outbreak of the Coronavirus pandemic, colleges, universities and high schools have had either to cancel commencement exercises or modify them to some extent. Even in these challenging times, we offer all our graduates our congratulations and best wishes! As members of our parish community, we are proud of you and grateful for the love and support your parents, families and our church community have given you!

Have a great week. Stay safe and well!

Fr. L.



**INDEPENDENCE DAY PRAYER**

*May the glory of Independence Day  
remain in mind and heart.  
May we cherish our hard-won freedom,  
that it never falls apart.  
Because those who walked before us  
believed in freedom’s cause so much,  
we can carry forth a torch of honor  
and ‘In God We Trust’.  
That first Independence Day  
now more than two centuries past,  
must live forever in our thoughts,  
never forgotten - never a lapse.  
It is a precious land we hold  
in safekeeping for our children.  
That they, as we, may enjoy  
lives bountiful, worth living.  
May God’s blessings ever ring out  
over all our land.*

*Amen*

**REGIONAL EVENTS**

**The Wounded Healers’ Bereavement Support Group**

The Wounded Healers’ Bereavement Support Group monthly meeting scheduled on **Tuesday, July 14th** at St. Mary Our Mother School has been cancelled due to Covid-19. There will be no August meeting. For more information, please call 796-2795. All are welcome.

**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. 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@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

13th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

When we were baptized, we were baptized into Christ's death. Take a moment to ponder these profound words. We were baptized into death. In every sense of the word, we are asked to die. This is not just about our final death but about daily deaths due to inconvenience, discomfort, pain, loss, or others' needs. This is an incredible epiphany given the way we very often approach our lives. We do everything to avoid death, let alone encounter it! Many avoid pain, discomfort, inconvenience, uneasiness, change, interference, and suffering of any kind. We put a lot of energy into finding the easiest and least inconvenient way through many things. Even holding the door open for a stranger or saying hello to someone in the store can be major undertakings.

We are called to die. One of the biggest wake-up calls we can have is realizing that life is not about us! There are millions of other people sharing life on this planet with whom I have a relationship. Does my life celebrate those relationships? The most distracting question we can ask is, "What do I want to do?" The more focused, faith-filled question is, "What do I need to do?" What I need to do may not be what I want to do. However, asking this question more frequently will teach us how to more purposefully and intentionally live so we can be a life giving vessel for others.

When we learn to live more sacrificially, to put the needs of others before our own, and to not always seek our own self-interest, we become aware of what baptism into Christ's death is really all about. These are the roots of virtue and the seedbed for justice, tolerance, solidarity, love, and peace.

Learning how to accept all the "small deaths" and sacrifices life calls us to teaches us how to approach our final death. All deaths ask us to empty ourselves into something or someone else. Whether we empty ourselves into the heart and soul of another human being or empty ourselves into God at the moment of our final death, new life is always received and nurtured. A heart that exclusively seeks its own interest is a heart that is closed to love. A heart that pours itself out to others and is content with being emptied is a heart that has been touched by and open to mercy. It is a heart that overflows with joy.

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