



# 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

May 2, 2021

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

We congratulate our twenty-four children who are receiving their First Holy Communion this weekend at St. Mary Our Mother! May our children continue to grow in their love for Jesus in the Sacrament of the Eucharist, and receive our Lord each and every Sunday!

Those children receiving their First Holy Communion today include:

*Charley Bohan  
Brody Blide  
Lucy Brennan  
Jenna Brink  
Madigan Collins  
Diego Condo  
Nathan Farrell  
Daniel Fracchia  
Joseph Graham  
Clara Harris  
Ian Harris  
Dominic Harvey  
Trina Le  
Sophia Minier  
Madelyn Monroe  
Boone O'Rourke  
Michael Parker  
Johnny Piet  
Nolan Ruhmel  
Cole Rylott  
Hadley Sullivan  
Dominic Vetrino  
Katerine Welch  
Olivia Welch*

Congratulations and best wishes to our children, their parents and families on this wonderful occasion!



## FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

“Spiraling out of control,” is a phrase that can easily describe the current display of human existence. In addition to the violence, unrest, uneasiness and turmoil that are common elements of our daily news, other essential pieces are misplaced or missing. Many lack an objective center around which to order and structure their lives or a clear set of definable goals or mores to act as guideposts and life directives. It appears that “feelings” have become a “new god” and traditional structures and ideals set aside. It is almost as if history only shows that we got this whole thing wrong and many are determined to finally set things right. The real truth, however, is that while wrongs and errors are certainly a part of our often-checkered past, it is hardly the case that all was wrong. It is not our task to rewrite the history of our lives, but to learn from mistakes that were made, and preserve the perennial wisdom at the root of our successes. Learning is an essential part of being human.

The question becomes, however, from whom do we learn? Some have such a hard time placing God in that position, but that is precisely where God needs to be. God is the Master Teacher from whom all of humanity learns and gets its cues. It is in and through this relationship with the Gardener of Life that we are fashioned and pruned into the people we are intended to be and can be. It is only in God that we are able to find our best selves. Sadly, many think that religion too, as well as history in general, has also gotten all this wrong. Yet, our resurrection faith tells us differently. We are reminded, today especially, that we are meant to remain in Christ as Christ remains in us. We are also reminded that Jesus, the Incarnate God, is the vine upon which we grow, the branches that flow from the source of God’s life.

Giving up our will to God’s can be a painful endeavor. It is not easy to set our own desires and wants aside and allow God to step in and direct and guide our growth. But this is the only way to prevent deadly weeds from overtaking us and bringing us to a place of self-destruction. God’s commandments are the very guideposts and benchmarks we need, yet many seek to remove them from all public view because they appear to limit self-expression and suppress what is considered by many to be “human freedom.” They are the only way we can find freedom, however. And, until we learn this fundamental lesson, we will continue to spiral out of control, never really knowing who we are, what our potential can be or how life really can be lived. We will not know peace.

©LPi

**SCRIPTURE READINGS****SUNDAY - May 9, 2021****SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

First Reading: Acts of the Apostles 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48

Second Reading: 1 John 4:7-10

Gospel: John 15:9-17

**IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Beverly Benjamin	Paul Cadek
Michael Donahue	Rose Gublo
Rev. Thomas O'Brien	William Sovik
Barbara Zeigler	

**MEMORIALS****Sanctuary Candle:***In memory of Sandy Mentuck - Nina***Eucharistic Hosts & Sacrament Wine:***In loving memory of Kate & Walt Enslin - Joan & Barry Sawester***FLOWER DONATIONS****Main Altar Arrangements:***In loving memory of John Kordyl on our wedding anniversary - wife, Evie and family***IN OUR PARISH****Important Information**

Our parish e-mail has been changed from what has been used for many years. The new email is:

**[smomc@dor.org](mailto:smomc@dor.org)****Pamphlets and Booklets Available**

The parish office has copies of the following pamphlets/booklets:

*Today's Missal**The Word Among us**Little Book for Easter*

Please call the office at 739-3817 or stop at 816 West Broad Street should you like to have these helpful booklets at home.

**Thank You E\$cape**

We want to say THANK YOU to all the parishioners who supported St. Mary Our Mother School this year at the E\$cape 2021 fund raiser. There was no way of knowing how the virtual format for this event would translate into profit for the school, but the results were FANTASTIC! Between the Basket Raffle, Art Auction, Big Money Raffle and Doug's Fish Fry food truck, our school was able to raise nearly \$50,000. Your kindness and support for our school is greatly appreciated.

**Flower Sign Ups**

Please call the parish office if you would like to commemorate special events in your life with a beautiful floral arrangement in our Church or Chapel.

**Calling All Golfers...Golf Classic 2021 Rescheduled**

Due to the community health concerns last fall, our school had to postpone our yearly golf tournament for 2020. Now that the weather is improving, and health and safety protocols are being defined, we are pleased to reschedule the golf tournament.

The 16th Annual St. Mary Our Mother School Golf Classic has been rescheduled for **Sunday, June 6th** at Willowcreek Golf Club with a 10:00 a.m. shotgun start. The tournament promises to be a great day of relaxation and fun with some necessary added safety protocols, including face masks, social distancing, etc. We will be attempting some games like double your money, St. Vincent donation for favorable lie, closest to pin and longest drive, all while maintaining players health and safety. We are requiring all registrations be paid in advance of the tournament to avoid money changing hands at registration. We have set up an online tournament website that can accommodate registration and online payments. Please visit the following link to register, <https://st-mary-our-mother-school-16th-annual-golf-fundraiser.perfectgolfevent.com/>. You will also be able to find this link on the St. Mary Our Mother School facebook page. Sponsors and players can register by printing out the registration form found at the tournament website (see above) and sending it to the school office as well. If you have any questions, please contact us at 739-9157. We look forward to a fun day out on the course!

**St. Mary Our Mother School Registration**

St. Mary Our Mother School is accepting student registrations for the 2021/2022 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 during school hours from 8:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

**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.

## PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

The Easter season is a time of new life and renewed commitment to our Catholic faith. The phrase, "Easter Sacraments" reminds us of the promise of the Risen Lord to be with us always, especially in the "breaking of bread". This weekend, our parish has the special honor of welcoming the extended families and friends of the twenty-four children who will celebrate their First Holy Communion. At the 5:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday and the 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, we invite these young children to the Lord's table for the first time. We extend a warm welcome to all our visitors as well as our regular parishioners to St. Mary Our Mother this weekend.

These First Communion children, their parents and families have been preparing for this day for many months. By their faithful and regular participation at Sunday Mass, our parents have been teaching their children by good example what it means to be fed at the Lord's table when receiving the Body and Blood of Jesus. We congratulate our parents on their on-going efforts of what they promised when their children were baptized; in being the first and best teachers of their children in the ways of the Catholic faith.

It is a wonderful moment in the life of every parish to witness our children coming forth and doing what our Lord has instructed us when receiving the Eucharist. Those of us who receive the Eucharist often can forget Who we are receiving or take it for granted and allow it to become routine. Your fine example of participating in Mass and receiving Holy Communion each and every Sunday regularly and reverently serves as a "teachable moment" not only for our First Communion children, but for our entire parish family.

Parents and families have helped these children to understand what we believe about the Eucharist. Although the element of bread and wine appear unchanged in the action of the Sacred Liturgy through what we call "transubstantiation", these elements become the very Body and Blood of Christ. As we witness these children receiving Communion for the first time, today is a wonderful occasion for our entire parish to renew our commitment to the Risen Christ, and to assert our belief in the real presence of Christ in the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

Please join me in welcoming all who join us for this First Communion weekend. I also want to acknowledge and thank **Barbara Matterazzo**, our Faith Formation Coordinator, for her dedication, enthusiasm, and wonderful leadership for, not only our First Communion, but all our sacramental programs at St. Mary Our Mother. We also thank our catechists and aides, **Maribeth Leipold**, **Amy Barr** and **Jackie Conklin**, as well as **Angela Langendorfer** from the faculty of St. Mary Our Mother School. We thank them for their assistance with our children and their families. We thank you, the people of St. Mary Our Mother, for your continued support of these

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

**Monday, May 3 - Ss. Philip & James, Apostles**

6:45 AM For the Faithful Departed

**Tuesday, May 4 - Easter Weekday**

6:45 AM Connie Gresock - George & Ann Gresock

**Wednesday, May 5 - Easter Weekday**

6:45 AM John Kordyl (Happy Anniversary) - wife, Evie & family

**Thursday, May 6 - Easter Weekday**

6:45 AM John Gough - Marge & Mike Johnston

**Friday, May 7 - Easter Weekday**

6:45 AM William Haner - daughter, Anne

**Saturday, May 8 - Easter Weekday**

5:00 PM For All Mothers

**Sunday, May 9 - Sixth Sunday of Easter**

8:30 AM For All Mothers

10:30 AM For All Mothers

children and their families as we celebrate this very special day. Even as we continue to journey through these pandemic times, it is a great day for our parish!

Have a great week. Take care of yourself and each other!

Fr. L.

## A PRAYER WHEN WEARING A MASK

Each time we put on a mask,  
may it be an invitation to remembrance,  
a communal call to pause and grieve  
all those we have lost,  
a number so high it defies imagination.

Apart though we are and must be,  
may we recognize that we are linked,  
all of us held together by these bits of  
fabric and elastic,  
stitched into a beautiful quilt  
of shared humanity,  
wrapping all the way around the globe.

To put on a mask is to light a candle,  
and may our lights be bright indeed,  
bright enough to comfort us in our mourning,  
bright enough to dare us to hope,  
that our love will lead us to a better future.

Amen

*by Cameron Bellon*

**REGIONAL EVENTS**

**Easter Season Reflections on Care for God’s Creation**

This week we continue to focus on our stewardship of God’s beautiful creation with a daily quote from *Laudato Si*, Pope Francis’s encyclical on care for our common home. This is followed by an action step (\*) that you can take as an individual or family to protect the environment.

**Sunday, May 2**

Pope Francis “places his vision in continuity with non-Catholic religions and secular thinkers.” (#7-9)

\* Ask neighbors or co-workers of other faiths, if their faith community provides literature or educational opportunities to learn more about our caring for the earth.

**Monday, May 3**

Great attention must be given to “the needs of the poor, the weak and the vulnerable.” (#52)

\* Check your closets and drawers for good, usable clothing you can donate to local agencies.

**Tuesday, May 4**

We break the commandment, “Thou shall not kill, when 20% of the world’s population consumes resources that rob the poor nations and future generations of what they need to service.” (#95)

\* Go to [unbound.org](http://unbound.org) for information on how you can share your resources by becoming a monthly sponsor for a child or adults in a developing country.

**Wednesday, May 5**

“When we fail to acknowledge as part of reality the worth of a poor person, a human embryo, a person with disabilities...it becomes difficult to hear the cry of nature itself; everything is connected (#117)

\* Learn about our Diocesan Life Issues ministry and our local Catholic Charities which offers services/care for persons with disabilities and help for neighbors-in-need as well as advocacy to care for God’s creation.

**Thursday, May 6**

The analysis of how individuals relate to themselves, which leads in turn to how they relate to others and to the environment, suggests the need for ‘social and economic ecology’. (#146)

\* Visit local farmer’s markets - during the winter, Chamberlain Acres, during the summer, Wisner Park and Eastside Markets.

**Friday, May 7**

“A global consensus is essential for confronting the deeper problems, which cannot be resolved by unilateral actions on the part of individual countries.” (#164)

\* Listen to and watch news broadcasts which focus on global environment needs and are often found on BBC radio and PBS radio and TV.

**Saturday, May 8**

Ecological education calls us to “a new ecological sensitivity” and “ecological conversion” characterized by “a generous spirit”. (#209)

\* sign up for email action alerts at [www.columbancenter.org](http://www.columbancenter.org)

**Mortgage Foreclosure Prevention & Financial Fitness Services**

Catholic Charities provides free, confidential mortgage foreclosure prevention services to help homeowners avoid the loss of their homes, and Financial Fitness services to help restore credit and financial stability. This program offers free credit counseling, financial managements, and assistance negotiating with lenders. We work to find solutions for individuals and families, whether it’s saving your home or rebuilding financial solvency, we are here to help. This program serves homeowners in Chemung, Schuyler, Tompkins, and Tioga Counties. These services are provided free through a grant from the New York State Homeowner Protection Program. For more information or to make an appointment to talk with a Catholic Charities housing counselor, please call Karen Wheeler at 607-734-9784, ext. 2132.

**Notre Dame High School Open House**

Notre Dame High School, grade 7-12, is hosting a Spring Open House on **Wednesday, May 19 at 6:00 p.m.** Notre Dame is currently accepting applications for the 2021/2022 school year. Due to covid, the number of attendees will be limited. Please RSVP by visiting [notredamehighschool.com](http://notredamehighschool.com) or call 607-734-2267, ext. 8.

**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. 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@dor.org](mailto:smomc@dor.org)
- Parish Web Site..... [www.StMaryOurMother.com](http://www.StMaryOurMother.com)
- St. Mary Our Mother School**
- 811 Westlake Street..... (607)-739-9157
- E-mail..... [smoms@dor.org](mailto:smoms@dor.org)
- School Web Site..... [www.stmaryourmother.school](http://www.stmaryourmother.school)
- Religious Education Office**
- 816 West Broad Street..... (607)-739-8214
- E-mail..... [smomfaithformation@gmail.com](mailto:smomfaithformation@gmail.com)

**EVERY DAY STEWARDSHIP**

“That’s a really beautiful tree branch. Man, would you look at the bark on that thing? The others are real duds, but that low-hanging branch has really got it all together.”

I’ve never heard anyone say this. Maybe I just need to hang out with more arborists, but I can’t recall ever hearing someone admire the particular beauty of a single branch. When someone comments on a tree, it’s usually the whole tree — perhaps a visual element of it, like the color of the leaves or its height. But people don’t usually zero in on one branch.

Maybe that’s because usually, if one branch is looking a little weak, chances are every other branch is, too.

The Bible tells us that when we bear fruit as good everyday stewards, it is for the Father’s glory. We are the branch on His magnificent tree. What we have is from Him, and what we do likewise points back to Him. We also tend to reflect how well the other branches around us are incorporating the nutrients coming their way. That’s all fine and good in theory. In practice, it can be an arduous exercise in humility.

When I do something virtuous or charitable or kind, there is a part of me that wants to stand out for it. I think that’s true for all of us. We’ve given of ourselves in some way or overcome some human temptation to accomplish a

little bit of good in this world, and even though we know God sees us, we’d really love for everyone else to see it, too.

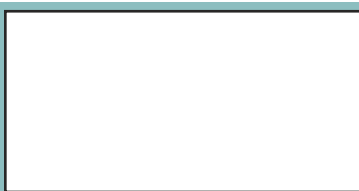
It’s a struggle, for sure. But we need to remember that our fruit belongs to the whole tree.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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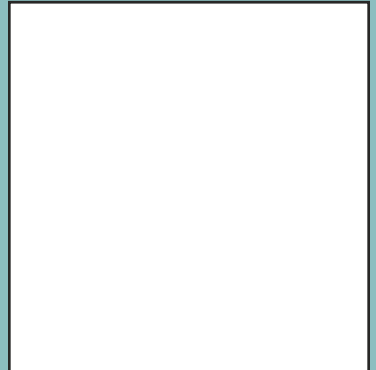
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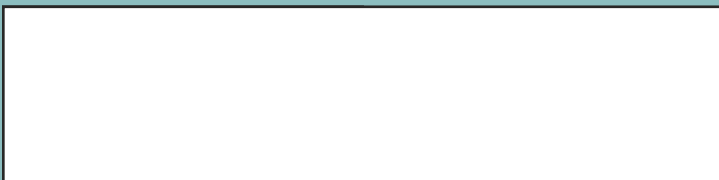
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