



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

October 31, 2021

HANDS OF CHRIST AWARD 2021

The **Hands of Christ** is a recognition program to assist parishes in affirming their high school seniors who have been the "Hands of Christ" in their church, home, school, and greater community. You are invited to nominate a high school senior of the class of 2022 for the Hands of Christ recognition.

A nominated high school senior must meet the following criteria:

- ~ *Consistently demonstrates a Christian attitude by word and example;*
- ~ *has been actively involved in their parish as well as their school community;*
- ~ *has been a positive role model for peers and younger children;*
- ~ *is a participating member of St. Mary Our Mother parish and attends Mass regularly;*
- ~ *is currently a high school senior.*

To nominate a senior, please stop at the parish office for a registration form, complete the registration form including the nominee's name, address, telephone number, and high school along with the examples of the above mentioned criteria. All forms will be reviewed by Father Linsler for approval as pastor. All nominations are due in the parish office by **November 22, 2021**.

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

The active phase of our parish CMA campaign continues. By now past CMA donors have received a special letter in the mail with a personalized pledge card. Thank you to everyone who has responded with a gift or pledge. If you have not yet responded, please prayerfully consider a gift. The CMA provides funding for important programs, services and ministries that strengthen our whole Church. Every gift to the CMA helps those in need, supports the mission of the Church and comes back to help our parish. Thank you. Let us continue to pray for the success of our efforts.

RETURN TO STANDARD TIME

Please remember that we return to **Standard Time** next **Sunday, November 7th** at 2:00 a.m. Please be sure to set your clocks **back one hour** before retiring next Saturday evening.

ALL SOULS REMEMBRANCES

In your current packet of envelopes, there is an All Souls Day envelope on which you may write the names of your deceased loved ones. The envelopes will be placed on the chapel altar during the month of November. Your intentions will be remembered in all liturgies during November and through the year in Masses listed for "Our Faithful Departed".

CREATING A SAFE ENVIRONMENT (CASE) MANDATORY TRAINING FOR PARISH VOLUNTEERS

In March 2021, the Diocese of Rochester updated its *Volunteer Creating a Safe Environment (CASE) Policy* to include ALL volunteers, not just those who work with children or vulnerable adults. The training is offered in an easy to use online program. Volunteers will be required to sign a Code of Conduct and complete a background check prior to starting your volunteer service.

This mandatory CASE training must be renewed every three years (volunteers over 70 years of age who have previously completed CASE training are only required to complete the background check and Code of Conduct forms).

With the new policy, all **ushers, cantors, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, Faith Formation and youth group volunteers** are required to be CASE trained.

Volunteers can access the training at <https://www.dor.training> or by contacting the Faith Formation office at 739-8214 (Barbara Matterazzo or Maribeth Leipold) for information or assistance.

Since this training is mandatory, if a person does not complete it, unfortunately, he/she can no longer volunteer.

We greatly appreciate our volunteers and sincerely hope that you are looking forward to continuing your volunteer service/ministry to our parish.

SCRIPTURE READINGS**SUNDAY - November 7, 2021****32nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

First Reading: 1 Kings 17:10-16
 Second Reading: Hebrews 9:24-28
 Gospel: Mark 12:38-44

IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Joan Lencki Greene Robert Wisneski

FLOWER DONATIONS**Main Altar Arrangements:***For all deceased loved ones***IN OUR PARISH****Cemetery Clean Up**

Please remove all spring and summer decorations and flowers from the cemetery by tomorrow, **Monday, November 1st**. Holiday decorations are allowed from November 15th through March 1st; spring and summer decorations are allowed from March 15th through November 1st. Any items you do not wish to be discarded should be removed by Monday.

Social Ministry Thanksgiving & Christmas 2021

Due to the continuing covid-19 pandemic, our Social Ministry Committee feels it is best for our parish to work through the Horseheads Food Pantry in providing assistance to needy families during the holiday season. The pantry already has safety precautions in place for food distribution to the needy. For Thanksgiving, the Food Bank of the Southern Tier will be supplying the Horseheads Food Pantry with turkeys and food to complete the holiday meal for the less fortunate families in our area. They are asking that we continue our food donations, as usual with an emphasis on canned vegetables, such as corn and beans.

At this time, plans for Christmas have not been finalized. The Food Pantry is considering hams for each family. There are several ways we, as a parish, can help with this. We will update you on specifics as soon as a plan is formalized. We are grateful to the many caring people in our parish who have supported our Christmas Basket program in the past. We hope that we can continue to depend on your generosity for our revised plans for the upcoming holiday season.

Congratulations

We extend congratulations to Esther and Tom Margeit as they celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary!

*(In Our Parish continued on page 4...)***SUNDAY'S READINGS****First Reading:**

"Therefore, you shall love the LORD, your God, with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength." (Dt 6:5)

Psalm:

I love you, Lord, my strength. (Ps 18)

Second Reading:

But Jesus, because He remains forever, has a priesthood that does not pass away.

Therefore, He is always able to save those who approach God through Him. (Heb 7:24-25)

Gospel:

And when Jesus saw that he answered with understanding, He said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." (Mk 12:34)

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

The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

*©LPi***WEEKLY READINGS AND OBSERVANCES****Readings for the week of October 31, 2021**

Sunday: Dt 6:2-6/Ps 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51 [2]/Heb 7:23-28/Mk 12:28b-34
 Monday: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. 6]/1 Jn 3:1-3/Mt 5:1-12a
 Tuesday: Wis 3:1-9/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1 or 4ab]/Rom 5:5-11 or Rom 6:3-9/Jn 6:37-40a
 Wednesday: Rom 13:8-10/Ps 112:1b-2, 4-5, 9 [5a]/Lk 14:25-33
 Thursday: Rom 14:7-12/Ps 27:1bcde, 4, 13-14 [13]/Lk 15:1-10
 Friday: Rom 15:14-21/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [cf. 2b]/Lk 16:1-8
 Saturday: Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 10-11 [1b]/Lk 16:9-15
 Next Sunday: 1 Kgs 17:10-16/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 [1b]/Heb 9:24-28/Mk 12:38-44 or 12:41-44

Observances for the week of October 31, 2021

Sunday: 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time; Priesthood Sunday; All Hallows' Eve
 Monday: All Saints
 Tuesday: Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed; All Souls' Day; Election Day
 Wednesday: St. Martin de Porres, Religious
 Thursday: St. Charles Borromeo, Bishop
 Friday:
 Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary
 Next Sunday: 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time; National Vocation Awareness Week; Daylight Saving Time Ends

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

It is hard to believe that Monday begins the month of November. November is a month when we are invited to "remember" beginning with Monday's celebration of **All Saints Day**, followed by **All Souls Day** on Tuesday. Because **All Saints Day** falls on a Monday, there is no obligation for Catholics to attend Mass. November 11th is **Veteran's Day**, a time to remember all our veterans who have served our nation so well. Later in the month we celebrate **Thanksgiving Day**, which gives us an opportunity to gather with family and friends to offer thanks for all we have. November is a month that invites us to remember the past and live for the future, even as we continue living these covid-19 days.

A popular song that our children's choir used to sing on **All Saints Day** is entitled "Sing a Song to the Saints." The song mentions by name a number of the more popular saints of our faith tradition with the refrain inviting us to "sing a song to the saints." All Saints Day is a time when we honor all the women and men whose lives were marked with the holiness of knowing, loving, and serving God during their earthly life. This day reminds us that sainthood is a virtue for all of us - not just for those who have been formally recognized and proclaimed to be so by the church, but all who have lived God's call the best we can!

Every All Saints Day, I vividly recall the occasions when the Litany of Saints is sung and prayed during our liturgy. During the Easter Vigil, we are invited to sing this litany just before the elect are baptized. For those in Holy Orders, the singing of this litany brings back memories of their ordination. Just before the bishop imposes hands on the candidate, he lies prostrate on the floor of the church, while the entire congregation joins the saints in the Kingdom, praying for the soon-to-be-ordained. The words of this litany call out for assistance and guidance, reminding us that we are not only a part of the church here on earth, but a heavenly church as well.

Tuesday, November 2nd, we commemorate the **Feast of All Souls**. While not a day when we are obliged to attend Mass, this day invites us to pray for all our faithful departed. It is a day to remember deceased family members and friends. I am often reminded of all the former pastors, priests, religious and family members who sacrificed to build our church and campus, prayed here, built community here, and truly loved the people. How many funerals have been celebrated here? How many times have we called upon our ancestors in faith to help, guide, and be with us, especially during these challenging times? All Souls Day invites us to remember and to offer prayerful reflection for our departed loved ones. It is a day when we recall our beloved loved ones, embrace them once again, sad that they are not here, but happy they are with God in heaven.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Monday, November 1 - All Sanits

6:45 AM John Viele - Jan & Jerry Altilio

Tuesday, November 2 - The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed

6:45 AM For the Faithful Departed

Wednesday, November 3 - Weekday

6:45 AM Dennis Graumann - Joe & Susan Keagle

Thursday, November 4 - St. Charles Borromeo, Bishop

6:45 AM Mamie Woodard - sister, Evelyn & family

Friday, November 5 - Weekday

6:45 AM No Mass

Saturday, November 6 - Weekday

5:00 PM Special Intention - Beering family

Sunday, November 7 - Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM Rose Steadle - her family

10:30 AM Robert Rohde - Bill & Judy Driscoll

Veteran's Day is Thursday, November 11th. This day reminds us that on the eleventh day of the eleventh month at the eleventh hour in 1918, the "war that was to end all wars," World War I ended in Europe. Every year since, we have paused as a nation to remember. We remember those who sacrificed their lives in all our nation's wars so that we might be a free nation. We remember the war stories we have heard and pray for peace. We are indebted to every military person who willingly put others ahead of themselves in offering the supreme sacrifice of their lives. Veteran's Day is a day for us to remember the past so that we don't repeat it! The month of November concludes with the celebration of **Thanksgiving Day**.

Although we live in these pandemic times, the American holiday of Thanksgiving remains a day to be grateful for God's continued blessings in our lives.

If you haven't already done so, please make your pledge to the Catholic Ministries Appeal as soon as you can.

Have a great week. Continue to take care of yourself and each other.

Fr. L.

IN OUR PARISH CONTINUED...**Updated Covid-19 Protocol**

Due to the Covid-19 cases in our area, we are exercising extra caution to keep our parishioners safe, especially those who are not vaccinated. **Until further notice, masks are required whenever you are in a church building, including when attending Mass.** This applies to everyone old enough to safely wear a mask, regardless of vaccination status. We are not at this time implementing any additional registration, social distancing, nor extra sanitizing procedures.

One half of the church seating will continue to be "open seating" with all rows open. The other half will be blocked off at every other row, for those more comfortable with social distancing. When you enter a pew row, please move to the furthest open seating area, so that others can fill in the row behind you. Thank you.

Church Christmas Decorations

Would you like to see our Church beautifully decorated for the Christmas Masses?

If you would like to have flowers at the Church to remember a loved one or for a special occasion, please call the parish office at 739-3817 with your intentions. All flowers for Christmas must be ordered by **December 8th.**

Prayers and Squares Quilting Group

The Prayers and Squares Quilting Group has blessed lap quilts available for anyone who is ill. We are no longer able to distribute them at the end of Mass. If you know anyone who would appreciate receiving a quilt, please contact 738-3699 (Maribeth) or 731-8085 (Wilma) to make arrangements to stop at the parish office for your quilt.

REGIONAL EVENTS**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.

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 stuffing mix, corn, peas, gravy or cake mix for the month of November. For your convenience, please place all donations in the cart located across from the bulletin board. If it is inconvenient to make a food donation, you may make a monetary donation. Please make checks payable to the Horseheads Food Pantry and place in the collection. Thank you for your generosity!

All Saints Homeschool Group

All Saints Homeschool Group, a ministry of All Saints Parish in Corning, NY, is a welcoming community promoting faith and fellowship for Catholic homeschooling families. Join for monthly academic co-op, and/or partake in social events, pilgrimages, field trips, evening prayer and Mass. For more information, please contact allsainthomeschool-group@gmail.com or aubreelynch03@gmail.com.

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. Heather Bill, School Principal
Mrs. Adriana Enright, School Secretary
Ms. Terri Orbin, Business Manager
Mrs. Joyce Pirozzolo, Parish Secretary
Mrs. Maribeth Leipold, Faith Formation Secretary
Mrs. Amy Barr, Faith Formation Associate
Mrs. Sue Wood, Bulletin Editor
Mr. Doug Johnson, Cemetery Manager
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
 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

31st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Centuries of God's devoted people have found this prayer on their lips: "Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone!" The fundamental prayer has been laid as the cornerstone of many spiritual lives. Where did you learn how to pray or did you? Maybe there is a wisdom figure in your life who inspired and guided you by the genuine, holy simplicity of their lives. His or her example may have led you to God and taught you how to pray. Or perhaps you discovered this art on your own after stumbling over yourself enough times and finally realizing it was time to reach out to Someone greater than yourself. There is a timeless truth that we not only tend to forget, but may have never learned. There is only one God, the Lord alone! As a result, we often worship other gods rather than the One true God. Everything in our life gets distorted and we find ourselves lost and off center.

If we haven't learned it yet, there is a life lesson at the top of all of the possible lessons to be learned. There is One True and Eternal God who alone has a solitary claim on us and must be loved with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. Until we learn this primary lesson, we run the risk of getting distracted and sidetracked. We will also never really figure out what is at the heart of the relationships we share with the other human beings on this planet with whom we share life. That one primary lesson will teach us the second most valuable lesson: that we must

love our neighbor as ourselves. You cannot have one without the other. The presence of God in the core soul of each one of us requires that all of our relationships work together. This truth is at the heart of the Gospel.

If every human being, each in their own way, could stumble upon and genuinely embrace this truth, look how different life would be! Our priorities will immediately shift from "I and me" to "us and we" and we will develop a more inclusive vision for our brothers and sisters. Concerned not only about my own wellbeing and happiness but also that of our brothers and sisters, humanity stands a chance at succeeding in the struggle with injustice, abuse, inequity, violence, war, entitlement, and privilege. It seems that getting to this point has been at the heart of the Gospel and the kingdom of God from the moment Jesus first started to preach. It's a wonder why, then, why so many centuries later, we have still failed to achieve his vision. Maybe we just haven't learned our primary lessons yet.

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