



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 9, 2022

The Baptism of the Lord

"We are called to live our baptism every day, as new creatures, clothed in Christ."

— Pope Francis

What reference point do you use when making decisions? Many times, impulse takes control and decisions are made based solely on emotion and desire. We all know that these types of decisions can often get us into trouble. When a person has a confident sense of who they are and a real understanding of what is important and of value, the likelihood of kneejerk impulsive choices diminishes. Baptism gives us what we need to make well informed and purposeful decisions. By this simple gesture, God claims us as His own and provides us with the identity and purpose we need to properly live life.

It is tremendously reassuring, when we truly embrace this revelation and realize that we no longer have to wonder about the purpose of our lives or struggle to find our way. The answer of who we are in God has been given to us. We no longer have to fumble around, trip over ourselves or walk aimlessly about. Issues surrounding the sacredness of life, the meaning of death, the protection of those most vulnerable, care for the weak and the poor, offering hospitality to those in search of a home, the purpose and proper place of work, how to create a just social order, caring for creation, and understanding our roles as heralds and stewards are just a few of the wonderful gifts baptism brings. When we make decisions based on things such as these core Gospel truths we really act as Christ himself, revealing to others the new creations that we are. This is how we live our baptism.

It is difficult to walk against the tide. Yet, that is precisely what baptism calls us to do. Although we are sinners, in need of mercy and far from perfection we are called to order our life and make decisions based upon the wisdom and guidance of Almighty God. He alone is the one who can claim us as His sons and daughters. Standing up for our principles will not make us popular. But who ever said Christianity is a popularity contest? Baptism calls us to stand up for that which goes against the grain of secularism. Standing in line with other sinners, we have our anchor to steady us in the tempests of life and God is very pleased. Forge ahead. There is nothing to fear.

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Blessing for Our Nation

God of all things,
we come before you in thanksgiving
for all that you have created.

For the world and its beauty,
but especially for the people around us.

We ask you today to give us wisdom and courage
to look at the world and all its problems and in-
spire us to dream great ways to improve upon
what you have so graciously given to us.

Make us worthy to call you Father.
And together bestow insight upon us
to honor your created things.

Bless, protect, and gift us ever anew with your
love.

We ask all this in Christ's name.

Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS**SUNDAY - January 15, 2022****2nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

First Reading: Isaiah 62:1-5
 Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:4-11
 Gospel: John 2:1-11

IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Bishop Desmond Tutu	Harry Reid
John Madden	Betty White
Sharon Ungvarsky	Jimmy Dominikoski
Earl (Pete) Woodhouse	Alberta Meacham,

MEMORIALS**Eucharistic Hosts:**

*For the special intentions of Michael & Joanne Langan
 - Pat Madison*

IN OUR PARISH**Parish Calendars**

The parish of St. Mary Our Mother is sincerely grateful to the Lynch Funeral Home for their donation of our 2022 calendars.

Until we are able to have printed materials back in the Church, these calendars are available at the parish office.

Catholic Ministries Appeal

As of December 30th, 228 **families** have contributed **\$63,729.00** which is 60% toward our parish goal of **\$106,251.00**. We thank those who have given generously to the CMA and ask that all who have not yet given to this appeal to prayerfully consider doing so. Please consider all the ways God has blessed you and your family and how the Church has brought joy and goodness in our lives. The CMA is one way we can give back to God for the many blessings God has shared with us.

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	\$10.00

Please contact the parish office to make arrangements for the Altar Memorials.

SUNDAY'S READINGS**First Reading:**

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken. (40:5)

Psalm:

O bless the Lord, my soul. (Ps 104)

Second Reading:

He saved us through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. (Ti 3:5)

Gospel:

After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. (Lk 3:22)

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

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WEEKLY READINGS AND OBSERVANCES**Readings for the week of January 09, 2022**

Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22 or, Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19/Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/Mk 1:40-45

Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 2:13-17

Next Sunday: Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10 [3]/1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11

Observances for the week of January 09, 2022

Sunday: The Baptism of the Lord

Monday:

Tuesday:

Wednesday:

Thursday: St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Friday:

Saturday:

Sunday: 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

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PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

Today we celebrate the **Baptism of the Lord**, which brings the liturgical season of **Advent/Christmas/Epiphany** to a close. This time each year, there is a sense of sadness when it comes to taking down the glowing lights and festive seasonal decorations of Christmas. On my ventures on December 26th, I passed a house where they were already taking down the outside decorations of their home! As the saying goes, "time marches on," and our church's liturgical calendar unfolds into the fullness of time, but it is bittersweet to say farewell to the Christmas season. It is my hope that you were able to celebrate and enjoy Christmas a bit more than last year.

Because of early deadlines for our weekly bulletin—last Sunday's bulletin went to press on December 12th, and we were still anticipating Christmas. While our Christmas Masses have been less festive for the last two years, the Christmas Mass attendance was over twice the number of people that joined us last year. It was so good to see many people we haven't seen in a while, making an effort to worship with us at Christmas. We continue to be committed to making our church and worship area a clean and safe environment.

Today's celebration of the **Baptism of the Lord** reminds us of the new life given to all of us through the sacrament of baptism, a bond that unites us as God's chosen and holy people. That relationship began for each of us on our baptismal day, the occasion when we were cleansed of sin, given new life in Christ, and welcomed into His holy people, the Church. As children of God through baptism, we are called to embrace a life-giving and life-long relationship with Christ. It is a relationship that invites us to continually grow in our faith.

As we begin a new year, I want to share with you some sad news. **Mrs. Barbara Matterazzo**, our dedicated Faith Formation Coordinator for the past twenty-one years, recently shared with me and members of our parish staff of her intention to retire as our parish's Coordinator of Faith Formation, effective May 2, 2022. The following is a letter Barbara shared with me on November 7, 2021:

Dear Father Chris,

After much prayer and consideration, my family and I have decided on a retirement date. Over the past 20 years, I have grown in my faith, met a lot of wonderful people, have had the extreme privilege of witnessing God's love to many children and adults. It is a time in my life that I will always look back on with wonderful memories and much joy. This hasn't been an easy decision for me, but I am at peace that it is the right decision. I am looking forward to spending more quality time with Bern and the family.

My last official workday as St. Mary Our Mother Faith Formation Coordinator will be May 1, 2022. I am willing to be of any assistance I can be to help

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Monday, January 10 - Weekday

6:45 AM Jack Smith - Horseheads Knights of Columbus #6158

Tuesday, January 11 - Weekday

6:45 AM Agnes Purcell - Jana & Joe Gallagher

Wednesday, January 12 - Weekday

6:45 AM Debra Weiss - sisters, Donna & Diana

Thursday, January 13 - Weekday

6:45 AM Dennis Graumann - 6:45 a.m. Mass friends

Friday, January 14 - Weekday

6:45 AM Dennis Coughlan - Linda Gardner & family

Saturday, January 15 - Weekday

5:00 PM Mary, Albert & Tom Keagle - their family

Sunday, January 16 - Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM Raymond Sherwood - Dee & the Alsworth family

10:30 AM Helen M. & Edward J. Linsler

Pastor's Perspective (continued)

make a smooth and seamless transition for my successor.

I wish to thank you for the opportunities I have had while working here at St. Mary Our Mother.

*Sincerely,
Barbara Matterazzo*

I know the entire parish of St. Mary Our Mother joins me in thanking Barbara for the leadership she has offered to our parish in her role as our Faith Formation Coordinator for twenty-one years. We will be working closely with the Human Resources Department of the Diocese of Rochester to identify suitable candidates for Barbara's successor. I would ask that you pray for all involved in this process of selection of the next Faith Formation Coordinator for St. Mary Our Mother.

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

Fr. L.

WE ARE ONE SYNODAL CHURCH

What is a Synod?

The word “synod” may be new to many Catholics, but the reality described by it has been part of the life of the church since Apostolic times.

“Synod” comes from two Greek words meaning, “walking together.” A synod is an ecclesial gathering with the goal of discerning what the Holy Spirit is asking of the Church at the time.

Synodality represents the main road for the church, called to renew herself under the action of the Spirit and by listening to the Word. The ability to imagine a different future for the Church and her institutions, in keeping with the mission she has received, depends largely on the decision to initiate processes of listening, dialogue, and community discernment, in which each and every person can participate and contribute.

At the same time, the decision to “journey together” is a prophetic sign for the human family, which needs a shared project capable of pursuing the good of all.

As we enter the new year we encourage all our parishioners, at any age and at any place in their faith journey to contribute and share their thoughts about the future of the church.

The purpose of the synod is to “plant dreams, draw forth prophecies and vision, allow hope to flourish, inspire trust, bind up wounds, weave together relationships, awaken a dawn of hope, learn from one another and create a bright resourcefulness that will enlighten minds, warm hearts, give strength to our hands.”

We look forward to an open dialogue together while we listen, speak out, celebrate, and form ourselves in synodality.

More to come about how you can participate in 2022!

**Synod
2021 - 2023**

For a synodal Church

communion | participation | mission

REGIONAL EVENTS

March for Life

Speak out for life! Travel by bus to Washington, D.C. for the **January 21, 2022** March for Life. Cost is \$50.00. Scholarships are available, so don't let cost prevent your attendance. Adults and school age children are welcome. Call now, don't miss a memorable experience of faith and democracy in action. Call Steve at 607-739-9282 for information or to reserve your seat.

Help for Homeowners

Homeowners in New York State who were financially affected by Covid-19 and who are behind on their mortgage or other housing payments/fees or property taxes may be eligible for help from the New York State Homeowner Assistant Fund (NY HAF). Contact Catholic Charities Elmira office at 607-734-9784 or at www.cs-cc.org for more information. New York State HAF application window is only open from January 3, 2022 to February 3, 2022.

MINISTERIAL STAFF

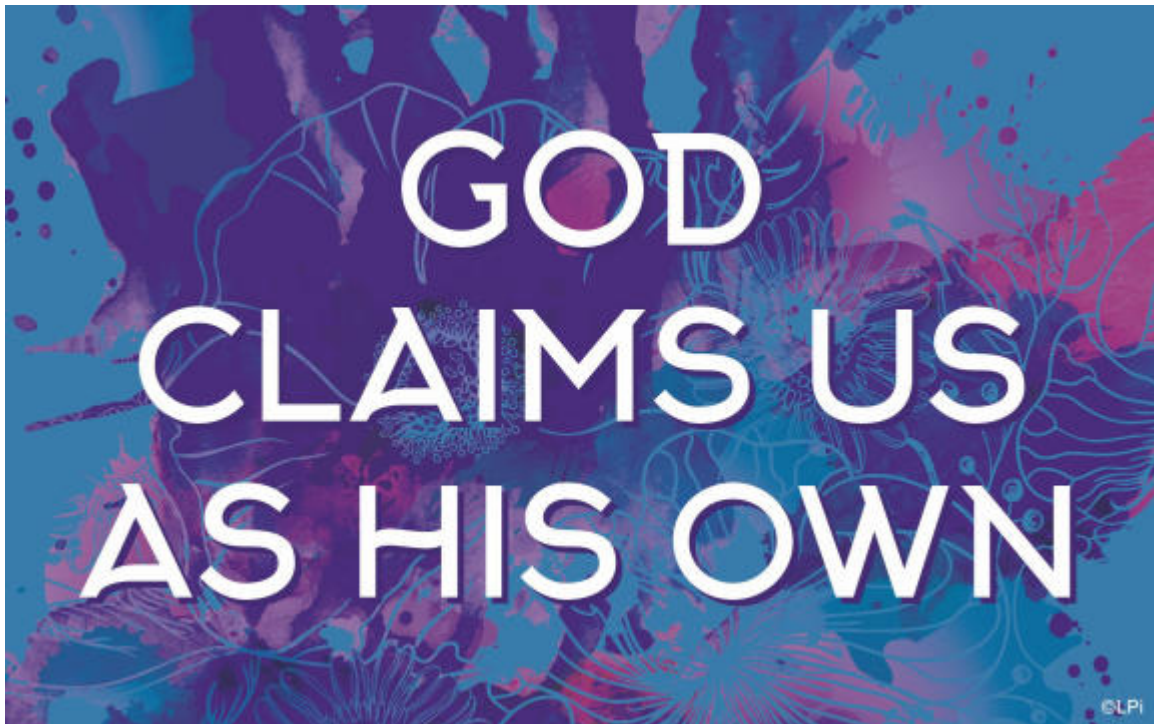
- Rev. Christopher E. Linsler**, Pastor
- Rev. Richard F. Kajiru**, In Residence
- Mrs. Barbara Matterazzo**, Coordinator of Faith Formation
- Mrs. Cathy Peckham**, Director of Music
- Mrs. Heather Bill**, School Principal
- Mrs. Adriana Enright**, School Secretary
- Ms. Terri Orbin**, Business Manager
- Mrs. Joyce Pirozzolo**, Parish Secretary
- Mrs. Maribeth Leipold**, Faith Formation Secretary
- Mrs. Amy Barr**, Faith Formation Associate
- Mrs. Sue Wood**, Bulletin Editor
- Ms. Wendy Slater**, Office Assistant
- 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
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Shane Alsworth Jacqueline Alsworth

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