



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

February 20, 2022

A vibrant stained glass artwork depicting three figures. On the left is a large, close-up face of Jesus with a beard and a halo, wearing a red garment. To the right are two other figures, possibly saints or angels, also with halos and wearing blue and yellow robes. The background is a mix of blue, white, and gold tones.

7th
SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
"Be merciful, just as your Father is
merciful." - Lk 6:36

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SCRIPTURE READINGS**SUNDAY - February 27, 2022****EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

First Reading: Sirach 27:4-7
 Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:54-58
 Gospel: Luke 6:39-45

MEMORIALS**Eucharistic Hosts & Sacramental Wine:**

In loving memory of Jean & Joe Sawester - Joan & Barry Sawester

FLOWER DONATIONS**Main Altar Arrangements:**

In thanksgiving

IN OUR PARISH**Parish Offices Closed**

The parish offices will be closed on **Monday, February 21st**, in observance of the President's Day holiday. The offices will re-open on **Tuesday, February 22nd** at 9:00 a.m.

E\$cape 2022

Are you wondering how you can help St. Mary Our Mother School? Do you want a chance at winning some big money? Tickets for the big Money Raffle are on sale now! Please call St. Mary Our Mother School at 607-739-9157 Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. to purchase your ticket. Tickets are \$100 each and the payout could be as high as \$10,000. Only 400 tickets will be sold. Get yours today!

A online auction including one of a kind art work, created especially by our students will be part of this year's auction. Would you like to purchase a Mother's Day package? Would you like to purchase a Harris Hill glider rider or take a 3 hour excursion on Seneca Lake? Would you like to E\$cape from the winter months and spend a week in Florida? All this and much more will be up for auction beginning March 24, 2022. More information will be shared about the online auction in March. Information will also be shared on the St. Mary Our Mother School Facebook page.

A scavenger hunt will also take place beginning in mid-March to support some of the businesses that are supporting this event. It is open to anyone and clues will be given on the school's Facebook page. Several food trucks will be available for take-out only on **Saturday, April 2, 2022** from 11:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. This will also be the day of the Big Money Raffle drawing.

(In Our Parish continued on page 4, column 2...)

SUNDAY'S READINGS**First Reading:**

"Today, though the LORD delivered you into my grasp, I would not harm the LORD's anointed." (1 Sm 26:23)

Psalm:

The Lord is kind and merciful. (Ps 103)

Second Reading:

Just as we have borne the image of the earthly one, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly one. (1 Cor 15:49)

Gospel:

"Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful." (Jn Lk 6:36)

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WEEKLY READINGS AND OBSERVANCES**Readings for the week of February 20, 2022**

Sunday: 1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13 [8a]/
1 Cor 15:45-49/Lk 6:27-38

Monday: Jas 3:13-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/Mk 9:14-29

Tuesday: 1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6/Mt 16:13-19

Wednesday: Jas 4:13-17/Ps 49:2-3, 6-7, 8-10, 11/
Mk 9:38-40

Thursday: Jas 5:1-6/Ps 49:14-15ab, 15cd-16, 17-18, 19-20/Mk 9:41-50

Friday: Jas 5:9-12/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8-9, 11-12/
Mk 10:1-12

Saturday: Jas 5:13-20/Ps 141:1-2, 3 and 8/Mk 10:13-16

Next Sunday: Sir 27:4-7/Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16 [cf. 2a]/1 Cor 15:54-58/Lk 6:39-45

Observances for the week of February 20, 2022

Sunday: 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Monday: Presidents' Day; St. Peter Damian, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
 Tuesday: The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle
 Wednesday: St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr
 Thursday:
 Friday:
 Saturday:
 Next Sunday: 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

This is the third article concerning the Synod whose theme is "**For a Synodal Church: *Communion. Participation. Mission.***" As stated in the earlier articles on the Synod, this is an opportunity for our local church to reflect, listen, dialogue, and learn together how God is calling us to be Church in the third millennium.

So how do we, the members of the Church, participate in this Synodal process? There are several ways to do this within our parish:

Existing groups in our parish may wish to spend time together in the coming weeks focusing on one of the themes of the Synod.

Small groups of people may self-organize, with a facilitator and notetaker around one or more of the themes.

The parish will offer some open forums where people may just show up and decide on one of the themes around which to reflect and discuss, and a facilitator will be supplied.

And, although this process is meant to be a conversation among people, individuals may wish to submit their own reflection relative to one or more the themes.

Please note that this process must be completed, and the **Synodal Input Form** submitted by **March 31, 2022**. The **Input Form** is short and may only be submitted online. Following the submission of all forms, diocesan personnel will compile everything received into a ten page document to be submitted to the Synod Committee.

A reminder that the process of the Synod is open to practicing and non-practicing Catholics as well as those who are not part of the Catholic Church. Please feel free to solicit other people's insights about our church in addition to those who are practicing Catholics. The process is to engage a variety of voices.

All the information you need can be found at www.dor.org/synod, and you can contact me for any assistance or clarification you may need. Please let me know if you have a group you will be working with to provide input. With this relatively short timeframe, we will need to get started right away in order to meet the March 31st deadline. Remember that this is intended to be a process and therefore may take more than one session. It will also depend on how many of the Synod themes are focused on by the particular group.

The themes are as follows and more information is available on the website:

The Journeying Companions
Listening
Speaking Out

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Monday, February 21 - Weekday

6:45 AM No Mass

Tuesday, February 22 - The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle

6:45 AM Deceased members of the Curtin family - family

Wednesday, February 23 - St. Polycarp, Bishop & Martyr

6:45 AM Carol Wawrzusin - husband, Ray

Thursday, February 24 - Weekday

6:45 AM Dick Burdulis - Helen & Jim Sullivan

Friday, February 25 - Weekday

6:45 AM Francis Kajiru - 6:45 a.m. Mass friends

Saturday, February 26 - Weekday

5:00 PM Charles and Peter Berry - Donna

Sunday, February 27 - Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM Marguerite, Joseph & David Gwin - Sally Gwin

10:30 AM Linda Mallare & Martha Valdez - family

Celebrating
Co-Responsibility in Mission
Dialogue in Church and Society
with other Christian Denominations
Authority and Participation
Discerning and Deciding
Forming Ourselves in Synodality

If there is a theme you do not find there, you may submit something else that you believe is calling for attention.

I highly encourage all our parishioners to go to the website for the Synod, www.dor.org/synod and read the materials that are provided in order to familiarize yourself with what this Synod that Pope Francis has called is all about. Our Synod Committee will offer two listening sessions for parishioners - **Sunday, March 6th** after the **10:30 a.m. Mass**, and on **Monday, March 7th** at **7:00 p.m.**; both sessions will be held in church. We all desire input into those things that affect us and here is our opportunity. I hope and pray that all take this invitation seriously and let us pray daily for the success of this Synod leading to continued growth in our Church.

Have a great week and enjoy this President's Day weekend. Take care of yourself and each other.

Fr. L.

IN OUR PARISH CONTINUED.

St. Mary Our Mother School Registration

St. Mary Our Mother School is accepting student registrations for the 2022/2023 school year for grades pre-k3 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 \$150.00 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. to 3:00 p.m.

REGIONAL EVENTS

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 snack packs for children and Honey Nut Cheerios for the month of February, although all canned goods are always needed. 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!

GOSPEL SYNODAL CONNECTIONS

“For if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? ...And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you?” (Lk 6:32-33) In Acts 10-11:1-18 we read the story about Peter being sent by a vision to bring the message of the Good News to a centurion named Cornelius, a gentile and not of Jewish tradition called to conversion by a vision. Peter says to Cornelius, “In truth I see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears Him and acts uprightly is acceptable to Him.” While Peter was still speaking these things, the Holy spirit fell upon all those who were listening...and they were baptized. Jesus came to save all, not only those who see as we see. Let us reach outside of our walls and bring with us the Good News so we can share Christ’s love with all we meet. To learn more and/or participate by visiting the webpage www.dor.org/synod.

A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

In today’s Gospel reading Jesus urges His listeners to “Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.” He also offers several examples of putting mercy into action. Listeners can then reason their way into how to put the values of the Gospel reflected in these imperatives into practice in other situations. Good stewards look for opportunities to exercise God’s mercy toward others. They realize that, in doing so, their own experience of God’s mercy not only becomes more profound but affirms their hope of seeing the Lord face to face one day. How have we experienced God’s mercy in our lives? How might our thinking, attitudes, words and actions reflect God’s mercy on someone else today?



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
- E-mail.....smomfaithformation@gmail.com

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sometimes, Jesus' teachings don't seem to make practical sense. When we hear things like love your enemies and do good to them, turn the other cheek when struck, give to anyone who asks, do to others as you would have them do to you, be merciful, stop judging, forgive, and give to others, we get a bit unsettled. After all, it's okay for God to do all of these things, but does He really want us to do them, too? Many good-hearted Christians really draw the line with some of these ideals and say, "No way!" They even remark that if someone did something hurtful to someone they loved, they would have no reservations seeking severe retribution. There is still this persistent thinking, even among those who consider themselves Christian, that a violent action deserves a violent response. Somehow, we continue to justify this.

Yet, it is most clearly against the very grain of the Gospel. Part of our difficulty has more to do with understanding God's love. We wrongly think that sinful or hurtful actions and evil people somehow are seen as lesser in God's eyes. They are not. God loves the sinner as much as He does the saint. And, both of these inclinations exist in every human being, even those who consider themselves holy. Both the capacity for good and the disposition toward evil exist in every one of us. Viktor Frankl has this to say when reflecting on the Holocaust: "Our generation is a realistic generation because we have learned what a human being really is. When all is said and done, man is that same

creature who invented the gas-chambers of Auschwitz; but he is also that being who walked upright into those chambers with the prayer 'Shema Yisrael' on his lips."

If we believe in God, we have to act like God. Whether we like that idea is another issue. If we don't then perhaps, we need to reconsider our faith and whether we really believe in Jesus Christ. We are made in the image of God, not the image of ourselves. The Christian must, at all costs, leave resentment and the need for retaliation behind, lose defensiveness and bring into the mind and heart the realization of who we represent in this world.

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