



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

November 27, 2022

First Sunday of ADVENT



WEEKLY CALENDAR:**Thursday, December 1**

7:00 p.m.-Adult Choir Rehearsal- Church

Saturday, December 3

3:30 p.m.- Sacrament of Penance

Sunday, December 45:00 p.m.-Service of Lessons & Carols
First United Methodist Church
1034 West Broad Street

The Sanctuary Candle burning before the Blessed Sacrament for the week of November 27—December 3, 2022 has been donated in memory of the Lazzaris Family—George and Franca Lazzaris

CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS:

Sign –up sheets for Christmas flower memorials are posted on the church bulletin board and will be available through **December 7th.**

**ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE****SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS****Sunday, December 4**5:00 p.m.—First United Methodist Church
1034 West Broad Street**SACRAMENT OF PENANCE**

Saturday: 3:30 p.m.

**ST. MARY OUR MOTHER SCHOOL
CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

7:00 p.m.—Wednesday, December 21

9:00 a.m.— Thursday, December 22

CHRISTMAS MASSES**Saturday, December 24, 2022**

3:00 p.m.—Christmas Family Mass

5:00 p.m.—Christmas Mass

9:30 p.m.—Adult Choir Choral Concert

10:00 p.m.—Christmas Mass during the Night
(formerly known as “Midnight Mass”)**Sunday, December 25, 2022**

9:00 a.m.—Christmas Mass

Blessing of Christmas gifts at Christmas Morning Mass

**WEEKLY READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF
NOVEMBER 27, 2022:****Sunday:** Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Rom 13:11-14/Mt 24:37-44**Monday:** Is 4:2-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11**Tuesday:** Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 7/Lk 10:21-24**Wednesday:** Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Mt 4:18-22**Thursday:** Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/Mt 7:21, 24-27**Friday:** Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31**Saturday:** Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8**Next Sunday:** Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12**OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF
NOVEMBER 27, 2022:****Sunday:** 1st Sunday of Advent**Monday:****Tuesday:****Wednesday:** St. Andrew, Apostle**Thursday:****Friday:****Saturday:** St. Francis Xavier, Priest**Next Sunday:** 2nd Sunday of Advent; St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church

The 31st annual Service of Lessons and Carols will be held at the First United Methodist Church of Horseheads, on December 4th, at 5:p.m. The church is located at 1034 West Broad Street. The choirs of St. Mary Our Mother and First United Methodist Church of Horseheads and friends will be joining together to present a wonderful evening of song, carols, and readings. This service is guaranteed to put your heart and soul in the right place for Christmas. Mark your calendars and plan to spend an hour reveling in the joy of the Advent-Christmas season.



PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:

Due to an early bulletin because of the Thanksgiving holiday weekend, I am writing this column on Friday, November 11th, - Veteran's Day, and thirteen days before Thanksgiving Day. Through the years, one of the liturgies I have enjoyed the most is that of Thanksgiving Day. It is a wonderful time for us to gather to offer our personal gratitude to God for His many blessings, especially as we slowly emerge from this pandemic.

Today the season of **Advent** arrives with all the natural signs that surround it. The days are darker and shorter, tending to make us quieter and more reflective. We are in the final hours of the Thanksgiving Day weekend, and it is no secret that Christmas is coming. We have seen the advertisements and outdoor lights have been hung. Christmas preparations are well underway. In addition, the Advent scriptures have a tone of their own. No longer is our attention focused on an adult Christ, but we hear prophecy, anticipation, and begin reading the infancy narratives. Advent is that special time of the year when we are invited to step back and remember why we do what we do during this season. Advent invites us to overlook the commercialism that surrounds the secular holiday season and embrace the true meaning of "*Emanuel: God is with us.*"

There are several opportunities during Advent to reflect on that theme of "*God is with us.*" There are opportunities for prayer; the greatest being the celebration of the Eucharist. For your Advent devotion and reading, we once again have made available publications of "*The Word Among Us,*" as well as "*The Little Blue Book.*" The first offers a complete guide for the Advent/Christmas season, including scripture readings, meditations, and Mass texts for each day as well. "*The Little Blue Book,*" provides a brief reflection for each day, including scripture, a historical note, a suggested good work finally ending with the words "Spend some time with the Lord." We have also made available to you two recent publications from *Matthew Kelly*, "*Holy Moments: A Handbook for the Rest of Your Life.*" and "*Life is Messy.*" It is my hope that these books will be a help to you in our "quiet time" during the advent season.

For the second consecutive year in lieu of a formal Christmas basket program, our Social Ministry Committee is teaming in a Christmas Giving program with the Horseheads Food Pantry. In addition to our weekly collection of food, you are invited to make a monetary donation to the parish, which will be forwarded to the food pantry for the purchase of meat for the pantry's Christmas outreach effort. Envelopes for this are available on the vestibule table, or if you use an ordinary envelope, be sure to mark on an envelope what it is for. All checks should be made payable to St. Mary Our Mother, and all donations need to be received by **December 10th.**

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

Monday, 6:45 AM	November 28—Advent Weekday Francis Kajiru—Ann Gresock and Joan and Chuck Ruhmel
Tuesday, 6:45 AM	November 29—Advent Weekday Paul and Charlotte Campbell—Olga Princiotta
Wednesday 6:45 AM	November 30—Saint Andrew, Apostle Mary Amisano—6:45 Friends
Thursday, 6:45 AM	December 1—Advent Weekday Roland Stetson, Jr.—Steve and Jackie Romanki
Friday, 6:45 AM	December 2—Advent Weekday John Baginski—Tom Kolonoski
Saturday, 5:00 PM	December 3—St. Francis Xavier, Priest Ellen Lynam—Ray Wawrzusin
Sunday, 8:30 AM	December 4-Second Sunday Of Advent Teri Guardi—Bob
10:30 AM	Charles Dahlhaus—Dick and Joyce Pirozzolo

Pastor's perspective continued:

One of the special Advent traditions that had been canceled for the past two years due to the pandemic has been the annual **Service of Lessons & Carols**. This service has been a chance for us to gather with our sisters and brothers of other Christian traditions to reflect on the Advent/Christmas season. I am happy to say that the service of Lessons & Carols is back. Lessons & Carols is set for next **Sunday, December 4th at 5:00 p.m.** at the First United Methodist Church in Horseheads. This Service will feature our Adult Choir, as well as other choirs from various churches throughout our area. If you have never attended this service, I highly encourage you to do so. This is a wonderful opportunity to spiritually prepare for Christmas.

The Advent season is meant to offer us a time of quiet waiting, reflective listening, and discovering the Christ present in our lives.. Advent invites us to do the ordinary things in life with renewed anticipation that Christ is present and working in our lives. If we make that special effort this season, Christmas will take on a much deeper meaning, as we have been brought closer to God and to one another.

This year, the season of Advent is the longest it can be—four full weeks! Enjoy this first week of Advent with the special blessing it offers. Please continue to take of yourself and each other:

FR. L

*"I downloaded them from a cloud."*



CHRISTMAS CARING PROGRAM

Over the years, St. Mary Our Mother parish has reached out to help the needy of Horseheads and its many surrounding rural areas. We have done this in partnership with the Horseheads Food Pantry, which serves these families by providing food assistance. Parishioners have generously been supporting the pantry year-long by donating grocery items to the vestibule food cart and clean, empty deposit bottles and cans to the parish office. for the pantry. Furthermore, 25% of the Rice Bowl proceeds that are returned by CRS are then given to help with the expenses of our local pantry.

As the Christmas season of giving and caring approaches, we, at St. Mary Our Mother, will be reaching out to the clients of the Food Pantry in **three** special ways.

- **Making a monetary donation so the pantry can supply meat and fresh food for the Christmas meal** and the holiday week. Envelopes will be provided for this purpose.
- **Increasing our donations of canned and dried food** to the vestibule food cart so the pantry clients have healthy and adequate food for the Christmas holidays.
- **Bringing a Christmas ornament that you offer to a needy family.** You will hang the ornament on our Christmas Caring Tree in the back of the church. The ornaments will be taken to the pantry so the families and children can pick an ornament for their tree as a reminder that we care for them.

The program began last week. Donation envelopes are available in the vestibule and the Christmas Caring Tree is standing proudly in the back of the church awaiting your ornaments. The program will conclude the weekend of December 10/11th.

The Social Ministry Committee invites and encourages all parishioners to participate in our Christmas Caring Program, in any one or more of the three ways listed above. Please be involved in spreading joy and showing love and concern for our neighbors in need.



REFLECTION: Prophets

Question:

The Church teaches that, through our Baptism, we are made priest, prophet, and king like Christ. What does it mean for us to be prophets in the world today?

Answer: We are indeed sharers in the threefold mission of Christ. We live our “kingship” when we serve others in justice, work for the common good in society, and overcome sin in our own lives. (CONTINUED NEXT COLUMN)

Our “priestly” mission is lived when we unite our lives to Christ’s sacrifice on the cross, offering them up as a gift of love. We are also called to be prophets. Our lives may not look like Isaiah and Jeremiah of old — and perhaps desert living and locust eating like St. John the Baptist might feel out of reach — but this doesn’t nullify our invitation and obligation.

As baptized Christians, we have accepted the Gospel in faith. We’re also called to proclaim the Gospel as well. This may mean by giving Christ-centered advice to another person or defending truth when it’s threatened. It also means living our faith in deeds. St. John Paul II writes that we are “called to allow the newness and the power of the Gospel to shine out every day in [our] family and social life” (*On the Lay Members of Christ’s Faithful*, 14).

A prophet points to a higher truth beyond himself or herself. We live prophetically when we treat others as Christ treated people and when we arrange our schedule to prioritize those to whom we have the greatest obligation, including our families, as well as the poor and vulnerable around us. We live prophetically when WE think critically about the culture around us and we allow our faith to inform our public life.



MINISTERIAL STAFF

- Rev. Christopher E. Linsler**, Pastor
- Rev. Richard F. Kajiru**, In Residence
- Mrs. Amanda Reeves**, Coordinator of Faith Formation
- Miss Lily Barr**, Faith Formation Assistant
- 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
- Ms. Wendy Slater**, Office Assistant
- Mr. Doug Johnson**, Cemetery Manager
- Mrs. Barbara Matterazzo**, Bulletin Editor
- 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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THE FOOD PANTRY



Non-perishable food and grocery items are being collected for the Christmas project. Following is a list of canned items requested for the months of October-December.

- Creamed corn spinach, asparagus, beets,
- canned potatoes, pork and beans, creamed soups of all kinds.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.



Youth Group will be meeting today, Sunday, November 27th, from 5-7 p.m. We will be having a Thanksgiving potluck. Please bring your favorite dish to pass. Turkey and refreshments will be provided.



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