



# 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

December 4, 2022

*second sunday of*  
**ADVENT**



**WEEKLY CALENDAR:**

**Sunday, December 4**

5:00 p.m.-Service of Lessons & Carols  
 First United Methodist Church  
 1034 West Broad Street

**Tuesday, December 6**

3:45 p.m.- Religious Education Classes — School

**Saturday, December 10**

3:30 p.m.—Sacrament of Penance— Church

**CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIALS:**

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

**IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Garrett Conover  
 Bernard Ferguson  
 Richard Mandell  
 Mary Fran Smith  
 Mary Whitford



**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

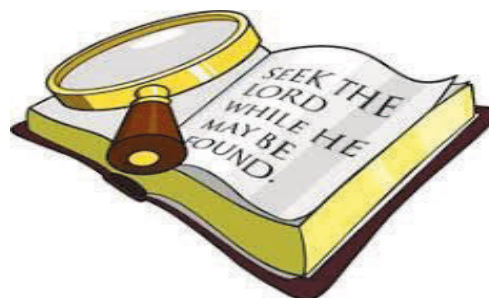
*Blessing of Christmas gifts at Christmas Morning Mass*

**WEEKLY READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF  
 DECEMBER 4, 2022:**

Sunday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12  
 Monday: Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Lk 5:17-26  
 Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13/Mt 18:12-14  
 Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30  
 Thursday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38  
 Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mt 11:16-19  
 Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13  
 Next Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11

**OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF  
 DECEMBER 4, 2022.**

Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Advent; St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church  
 Monday:  
 Tuesday: St. Nicholas, Bishop  
 Wednesday: St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church  
 Thursday: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
 Friday: St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin  
 Saturday: Our Lady of Loreto  
 Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Advent; St. Damasus I, Pope



**SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE  
 CONCEPTION**

**Mass Schedule:**

Wednesday, December 7th 5:30 p.m.  
 Thursday, December 8th 6:45 & 9:00 a.m.

**PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:**

We begin this second week of the season of Advent. This season always presents us with an invitation and challenge to take some time out of these extremely busy and hectic December days to slow down and to be more aware of the presence of God among us. Yeas ago, John the Baptist preached this message and encouraged people to listen to his message as he proclaimed and prepared for Jesus' coming. Advent is a season of anticipation and joy that comes from knowing that God is in our midst. This Advent, I would invite and encourage you to let God comfort you and take away any anxiety or fear you might have that prevents you from entering fully into the joy of this time of year.

This week will offer us a special opportunity to experience the anticipation and joy of the Advent season. **For the first time since Advent 2019**, we will gather for our traditional **Service of Lessons and Carols** at the **First United Methodist Church** this afternoon at **5:00 p.m.** This service will feature church choirs and musical groups from our area. The Service of Lessons and Carols has become a wonderful tradition of our area. If you have never attended this service in the past, I highly encourage you to join us this year. It will be a wonderful opportunity to slow down and spiritually prepare for Christmas.

Many of you may remember the late **Father Joseph Hogan**. Father Hogan served as the pastor of **St. Vincent de Paul in Corning** from 1964-1983. Father Hogan also served as the first Chaplain at **Notre Dame High School** from 1955-1961. Upon his retirement Father Hogan came to live at **St. Patrick Church, Elmira**, with the then **Pastor Daniel F. Holland** and me. When he was assigned to be the homilist for the weekend Masses during the season of Advent, St. Patrick had four weekend Masses, all parishes in Chemung County had 4-5 weekend Masses in those days—how times have changed! Father Hogan would include the following poem in his homily. I am not sure of the author, but it is entitled:

**"I PROMISE." MY CHRISTMAS PLEDGE.**

1. *I promise to make my Christmas a holy day with Christ—not a holy day without Him.*
2. *I promise to observe Christmas as the birthday of Christ—not a day to give and receive just material gifts.*
3. *I promise to remember that the real symbols of Christmas are the Star, the Stable, and the Crib—not Santa and his reindeer.*

**MASSES FOR THE WEEK:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Monday,</b><br>6:45 AM              | <b>December 5—Advent Weekday</b><br>John Kordyl—wife, Evie and family  |
| <b>Tuesday,</b><br>6 :45 AM            | <b>December 6—Advent Weekday</b><br>Anna Garrison—Mary Suffern   |
| <b>Wednesday</b><br>6:45 AM            | <b>December 7—St. Ambrose, Bishop/Doctor</b><br>Sol Tabunda and Manching Borja Alviar—<br>The Lapitans   |
| 5:30 P.M.                              | Mary Amisano—6:45 a.m. Mass friends  |
| <b>Thursday,</b><br>6:45 AM<br>9:00 AM | <b>December 8—IMMACULATE<br/>CONCEPTION</b><br>Pablo and Elisea Atienza—Macapinlac family<br>Faculty, students, staff of St. Mary Our<br>Mother School |
| <b>Friday,</b><br>6:45 AM              | <b>December 9—Advent Weekday</b><br>Carl Gross—Dan and Joan Hurley   |
| <b>Saturday,</b><br>5:00 PM            | <b>December 10—Advent Weekday</b><br>Henry Ryan—Jim and Mary Carr  |
| <b>Sunday,</b><br>8:30 AM<br>10:30 AM  | <b>December 11-Third Sunday of Advent</b><br>Fr. Robert MacNamara—Dobek family<br>Delores Phillips—Paulman family                                      |

***Pastor's perspective continued:***

4. *I promise to teach my children that "Santa Claus" is the nickname for Saint Nicholas, who gave to the poor, in honor of Christ.*
5. *I promise to help one poor family—in honor of Jesus, Mary and Joseph, the poor and homeless family of Bethlehem.*
6. *I promise to send Christmas cards remindful of Jesus, the Infant Savior—not decorated only with candy canes, ribbons, and wreaths.*
7. *I promise to make room in my home for Christ with a Christmas Crib—to remind me that He was born in a stable.*
8. *I promise during the season, in a special way, to honor Mary, His mother—who kept the first Christmas vigil beside the manger.*
9. *I promise to begin this day by leading my family to Church and to God's table to receive the Bread of Life.*
10. *I promise this day and every day to give "Glory to God in the highest"—and to work and pray for "Peace on earth to all of good will."*

Have a blessed Second Week of Advent. Please continue to take care of yourself and each other.

Fr. L.





**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 have been 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 next weekend, 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.



**SECOND SUNDY OF ADVENT:**

What does it mean to be worthy? There are a few different ways to approach this question. Today’s Gospel highlights two: the way of the Pharisees and the way of John the Baptist. Our faith values good works and discipleship. Perhaps, then, we “earn” our worth by adhering to the right doctrine and follow the right pious practice. The Pharisees thought they were worthy. Due to their religious pedigree and proper procedures, they were self-satisfied. John the Baptist’s words to them are strong, *“Do not presume to say to yourself, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’”*

**Second Sunday Of Advent Continued:**

Of course, Jesus (and John) don’t omit the responsibility for moral behavior. John gives the Pharisees quite a strong warning in that regard. *“Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance...every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.”*

It’s a question of attitude. Of disposition. It’s a matter of the heart. If anyone would be worthy in this scenario, it’s John the Baptist. Jesus himself will name him the greatest of prophets and a great man. John, however, recognizes his own lowly place in the grand scheme of things. *“The one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals.”* The Pharisees take pride in being “better” than others. John embraces humility in Christ being “better” than him. We don’t self-generate our own worthiness. We receive it as a gift from God.

In a few short weeks, we’ll celebrate the birth of Christ. Bishop Ven. Fulton Sheen wrote about the Nativity in his “Life of Christ”. *“Because [Jesus] was born in a cave, all who wish to see Him must stoop. To stoop is the mark of humility. The proud refuse to stoop and, therefore, they miss divinity.”* God invites us to prepare our hearts this Advent. When you consider your own life, where are you looking for your worth? This Christmas, are you prepared to stoop?

**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



**YEAR TWO CONFIRMATION: LESSONS AND CAROLS:**

Reminder to Year 2 Confirmation candidates: Our next class will be Lessons and Carols held at The United Methodist Church on West Broad Street. Please arrive at least ten minutes before 5:00 p.m., and sign in with Lily Barr, Amy Barr or Amanda Reeves.

**FAITH FORMATION COOKIES AND COCOA**

Faith Formation will be hosting a cookie and cocoa event following the 10:30 Mass on December 11th. All families are welcome to attend. Cookies, cocoa, and a craft will be provided. Please sign-up by scanning this QR code .



**THE FOOD PANTRY**



Non-perishable food and grocery items are being collected for the Christmas Caring program. Following is a list of canned items requested for the month of December:

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

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

**PUT YOUR MONEY WHERE YOUR VALUES ARE! DO GOOD WHEN YOU SHOP!**

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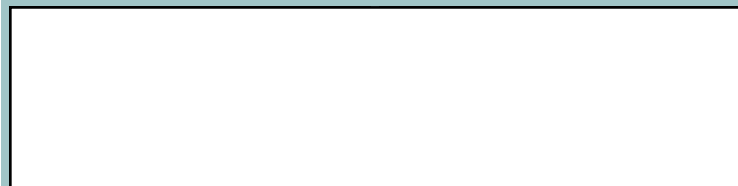
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