



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 11, 2022

3rd Sunday OF ADVENT



WEEKLY CALENDAR:**Tuesday, December 13**

3:45 p.m.- Religious Education Classes — School
7:00 p.m.— Wounded Healers Group—School

Thursday, December 15

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

Saturday, December 17

3:30 p.m.—Sacrament of Penance—Church

MEMORIALS:

The Eucharistic Breads for the week of December 11-17, 2022 have been donated in memory of Henry Ryan by Mary and Jim Carr.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE**SACRAMENT OF PENANCE**

Saturday: 3:30 p.m.

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

6:30 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

WOUNDED HEALERS:

The Wounded Healers' Bereavement Support Group Meeting will be offered on **Tuesday, December 13, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.**, in person, at St. Mary Our Mother School, 811 Westlake St., Horseheads, NY. Please use the door across from the playground after entering from Westlake Street. We welcome those who are grieving the death of a loved one to this sharing; finding encouragement and insight from each other. We hope to provide a safe, confidential, and open place where our motto remains, "We see healing in the very act of helping."

**WEEKLY READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF
DECEMBER 11, 2022:**

Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11
Monday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-
Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23/Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday: Is 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Lk 7:18b-23
Thursday: Is 54:1-10/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b/7:24-30
Friday: Is 56:1-3a, 6-8/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8/Jn 5:33-36
Saturday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17/Mt 1:1-17
Next Sunday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [7c, 10b]/ Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

**OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF
DECEMBER 11, 2022.**

Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Advent; St. Damasus I, Pope
Monday: Our Lady of Guadalupe
Tuesday: St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr
Wednesday: St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Thursday:
Friday:
Saturday:
Next Sunday: 4th Sunday of Advent

FAMILY ADVENT TRIVIA:

- Which of these events does Advent NOT anticipate?**
 - The resurrection,*
 - The Birth of Jesus,*
 - The second coming*
- How many purple candles will we typically find on the Advent wreath?**
 - four*
 - three*
 - one*
- What day is the last day of Advent?**
 - Easter*
 - Christmas*
 - Christmas Eve*

The new liturgical year starts on:

- Easter*
- Lent*
- Advent*
- Christmas*

(correct answers on page 5)

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:

Today we arrive at the **Third Sunday of Advent**, often times referred to as **Gaudete**, or **Rejoice Sunday**. Arriving at this mid-point of Advent reminds us of the two-fold nature of the season as a time of the already experienced and the yet to be experienced of God coming among us. There is still enough time of Advent to rejoice as we continue our preparations for Christmas.

The month of December can be a very busy and hectic time of the year as we find ourselves in the throes of Christmas preparation. This busyness can cause us to lose sight of the spiritual importance of the Advent/Christmas season. Each December, the International Catholic Stewardship Council offers suggestions that can help us to keep Christ in Christmas. You may already find yourself doing some of these suggestions.

Give God a very special gift this year: *Let this gift be something personal that no one else needs to know about, and let it be a sacrifice. Perhaps your gift will be to commit more time with God daily, or a habit you know you should give up.*

Celebrate the Advent season: *Light the Advent wreath candles each evening before dinner. If you have children, let them offer their own prayers to the Christ child for whom we are waiting.*

Read the Christmas story in the Gospel of Luke 1:5-56 through 2:1-20: *Consider reading this account with your family and discussing it together.*

Put a creche in your home: *Consider having one set that is "child-proof" that your Children are allowed to handle. Children love to make the Nativity story their own, and they especially love angels!*

Plan a project to help someone at Christmas: *Identify someone with a genuine need, involve your whole family and see how happy you can make someone this Christmas. Many of you did this through our parish's Christmas efforts. If you didn't, there is still time. Make sure that your children are involved to make them aware of the needs of our greater community.*

Give a surprise gift of service to each member of your family: *The idea of giving an unexpected gift of service to members of your family reveals your own love and concern for them. You might consider giving your spouse a day away, running an errand for your brother, or cleaning out your closet for your mother. Make it personal and meaningful!*

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

Monday, 6:45 AM	December 12—Our Lady of Guadalupe Roberta Belletti—Marian O'Driscoll
Tuesday, 6:45 AM	December 13—St. Lucy, Virgin/Martyr Dennis Graumann—6:45 Mass friends
Wednesday 6:45 AM	December 14—Saint John of the Cross, Priest/ Doctor Tony Dandrea—wife, Ida
Thursday, 6:45 AM	December 15—Advent Weekday Faithful departed
Friday, 6:45 AM	December 16—Advent Weekday George Gresock—6:45 Mass friends
Saturday, 5:00 PM	December 17—Advent Weekday Teri Guardi—Bob
Sunday, 8:30 AM	December 18—Fourth Sunday of Advent Deceased of the Mills family—family
10:30 AM	Eddie Jadoski—his family

Pastor's perspective continued:

Take a group Christmas caroling to a hospital or nursing home: *Make it festive. Bring the gifts of your joyful smiles and voices to those who need these gifts.*

Send Christmas cards and thank you notes that convey a spiritual message: *This is an easy way to share your faith during the Advent season. Don't just sign your name, but include a special message with each card. Set aside time after Christmas to write thank you notes and help your children write thank you notes for the gifts they received. This is a wonderful habit for a lifetime, and a good way to foster gratitude for all gifts.*

Write a Christmas letter to someone who is away from home for Christmas, someone in the military or someone working or ministering in a foreign land. *It has been said that receiving a letter when you are far away from home is like opening a priceless gift on Christmas morning, no matter what day of the year! Many people are unable to travel home for the holidays, so it can be a very lonely time for them. Write a special Christmas letter to someone of your choice.*

Enjoy an eco-friendly Christmas: *Christmas is a time when a large number of people enjoy excess and extravagance but the environmental cost can be quite dramatic. Arguably, a million miles of unrecyclable wrapping paper is thrown into the trash every year. Look for simple ways to cut down on the waste over this festive period. Where possible, use recyclable wrapping paper.*

And most important.....Attend Christmas Mass together with your family: *Make Christmas Mass an important part of your family's Christmas celebration. It's a wonderful way of "keeping Christ in Christmas!" If you have been away from Mass for a while Christmas might be a good time to start attending again. **Take care ...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.

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 this weekend..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.

GOSPEL MEDITATION

For about a month I was consistently feeling annoyed by the people around me. A friend challenged me to simply notice my internal judgments against others throughout the day. Quickly I “heard” my internal voice saying things like: “He’s so lazy.” “She’s weak and self-centered.” “He’s arrogant.” “They are so stupid.” And so on. To have those thoughts was one thing, but I was choosing them and quietly agreeing with them. They perhaps protected my fragile ego, but it fueled my frustration. My friend invited me to commit to refuse to agree with those judgments, and I felt much more at peace. *(continued next column)*

Gospel Meditation continued:

The Bible says, “Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged.” (James 5:9). That word “grumble” beautifully describes what I was doing: quietly judging the inner character of people in my life. Of course, we judge actions and ideas all the time. So we must. But the grumble-judgment is about persons. It is never loving and always isolates and attacks. Happily, we don’t have to waste that precious spiritual energy because Jesus alone is the judge of each person.

A New Year challenge: This week, I challenge you to do what my friend asked me to do: notice your internal judgments about those around you (perhaps also those on tv, social media, etc.), and then to refuse to agree with the judgments. Ask Jesus to help you resist those unloving judgments. It’s not easy, but you’ll be amazed at the peace that comes when Jesus liberates you from grumble-judgment.

Father John Muir



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

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- 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



FAITH FORMATION COOKIES AND COCOA

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



On the lighter side:

This year, Starbucks are issuing a new cup size for Christmas.

It's called the Adventi.

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.

Advent Trivia answers:

1. A—The Resurrection
2. B— Three
3. C—Christmas Eve
4. C—Advent

Bonus: What do the four candles in the Advent wreath represent, in order?

H _____
 L _____
 J _____
 P _____

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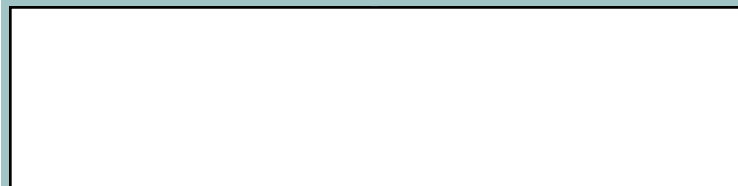
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