



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

June 25, 2023



12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"Do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows." - Mt 10:31

WEEKLY CALENDAR:**Saturday, July 1**

3:30 p.m.—Sacrament of Penance—church

MEMORIALS:

The main altar flowers for the week of June 25th -July 1st have been donated in loving memory of Jeannette Berretta by Chris Lloyd.

IN THE PEACE OF GOD

Kristin Baldwin
Father Philip Billotte
Sandra Holleran
Erna Jautz
Beverly Moriarty
Marie Scarselletta

**MASSES FOR THE WEEK:**

Monday: June 26—Weekday
6:45 A.M. Joyce Troccia—Mary Navone
Tuesday: June 27—Weekday
6:45 A.M. Joseph Ruhmel—wife, Janet & family
Wednesday: June 28—St. Irenaeus, Bishop & Martyr
6:45 A.M. The Faithful Departed
10:00 A.M. Sandra Holleran funeral mass
Thursday: June 29—Ss. Peter & Paul, Apostles
6:45 A.M. Devine Limoncelli—Joyce and Dick Pirozzolo
Friday: June 30—Weekday
6:45 A.M. Arthur Nenni—Beering family
Saturday: July 1—Weekday
5:00 P.M. Frank Nasakaitis—Becky and Bob Corcoran
Sunday: July 2—The 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:30 A.M. Teri Guardi—Bob
10:30 A.M. Joseph O'Rourke—his family

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION:

Next week we will take up the Peter's Pence Collection to support the Universal Church and the work of the Holy See, including helping Pope Francis to carry out his charitable works. These works benefit our brothers and sisters on the margins of society, including victims of war, oppression, and disasters. Please be generous. For more information, visit www.obolodisanpietro.va/en.html.

WEEKLY READINGS AND OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 25:**WEEKLY READINGS:**

Sunday: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 69:8-10, 14, 17, 33-35 (14c)/Rom 5:12-15/Mt 10:26-33
Monday: Gn 12:1-9/Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20 and 22/Mt 7:1-5
Tuesday: Gn 13:2, 5-18/Ps 15:2-3a, 3bc-4ab, 5/Mt 7:6, 12-14
Wednesday: Gn 15:1-12, 17-18/105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 7:15-20
Thursday: Vigil: Acts 3:1-10/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Gal 1:11-20 Jn 21:15-19 Day: Acts 12:1-11/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18/Mt 16:13-19
Friday: Gn 17:1, 9-10, 15-22/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5/Mt 8:1-4
Saturday: Gn 18:1-15/Lk 1:46-47, 48-49, 50 and 53, 54,55/Mt 8:5-17
Next Sunday: 2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a/Ps 89:2-3, 16-17, 18-19 (2a)/Rom 6:3-4, 8-11/Mt 10:37-42

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK:**Sunday:** 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time**Monday:****Tuesday:** St. Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**Wednesday:** Saint Irenaeus, Bishop and Martyr**Thursday:** Sts. Peter And Paul, Apostles**Friday:** The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church**Saturday:** St. Junipero Serra, Priest**Next Sunday:** 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time**A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT**

Jesus minces no words with His disciples: If we acknowledge Jesus publicly, Jesus will remember us before God, our Father. If we deny Jesus, He will forget us. It is very rare that a Christian will denounce Jesus publicly. But we can deny Jesus in more subtle ways. There are many people who conveniently forget all about Jesus Christ and the work of His Kingdom in their daily lives, in moments of weakness, spiritual immaturity, or when times get tough. Good stewards strengthen their confession of Christ by praying and attending Mass regularly, examining their lives and going to confession frequently, and reminding themselves daily that Christ resides in them. Take a look at your own daily life. Do you acknowledge Christ before others? How often do you remind yourself that Jesus lives in you?



PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:

In August, 2023, New York State opened a two year window for victims of sexual abuse to make claims against the Diocese of Rochester that would otherwise have been blocked because the statute of limitations had expired. That action resulted in about 470 claims being presented in those two years. In response to a growing list of claims against the diocese, its parishes, and institutions (e.g., Catholic Charities), the diocese declared bankruptcy. On September 12, 2021, the diocese began the bankruptcy process.

Recently, Father Peter Clifford, pastor of St. John of Rochester parish in Fairport, wrote a very clear and comprehensive article as to where the Diocese of Rochester and its parishes stand on the bankruptcy process. He has kindly given me permission to use some of the information he included in this article as a backdrop for this column.

Three-plus years of negotiations brought little process. The bankruptcy process, which is part of federal law, is intended to protect businesses from collapsing as a result of financial crises. It is founded on the value that society benefits from such businesses or institutions and is well served by their continued operations. In filing bankruptcy, our diocese has not and does not dispute the tragic reality of sexual abuse that scarred the lives of so many over time.

Neither the diocese nor its institutions and parishes could possibly have survived litigating those claims in separate court cases, which is why bankruptcy was necessary. In April, 2023, the diocese was able to make a significant step forward in announcing a proposed settlement with a committee representing the victims. This settlement has been very long in coming and at times seemed out of reach. The diocese, related institutions, and the parishes negotiated a proposed settlement amount of \$55 million, and the victims committee agreed. The diocese has presented a petition to federal bankruptcy court asking that this settlement be accepted. There has been no further word on a hearing on that petition.

The money to be used to make this payment will come from the parishes unrestricted assets. During the more than 150 years that the Diocese of Rochester has existed, the diocese, all parishes, including ours, Catholic Charities and other diocesan institutions have accumulated funds from wills and normal operations. In the case of the diocese, its unrestricted assets were not sufficient to respond to the claims presented. There have been no accusations made against St. Mary Our Mother.

Early in this process, Bishop Matano hoped that a final settlement could be arrived at without the use of parish resources. As the number of claims grew and the atmosphere and circumstances within the negotiations between the diocese of claimants developed, that hope became more and more impossible. A committee of pastors representing the interests of the parishes has been meeting with legal

Pastor's Perspective continued:

representation since early in the process. They determined, and the other pastors accepted, that parishes would contribute to the settlement amount in order to provide a settlement that is both acceptable to the victims and just in view of the grave damage caused over time. In arriving at the figure for each individual parish contribution, the parish committee considered four components with equal weighting: the total number of households in the parish; the total collections for 2021-2022; the parish's 2022 Catholic Ministries Appeal goal; and the parishes balance of unrestricted funds. They believe that the formula is the fairest method of balancing all components and its constituent with the other allocations methodologies among parishes.

The parish contributions are held in escrow by the parish committees counsel, Woods, Oviatt, Gilman, LLP. Funds needed to be on hand no later than June 1, 2023, so that proof of funds can be demonstrated when a decision is rendered by the bankruptcy court. No parish funds will be placed in the trust until the plan is approved by the bankruptcy court. St. Mary Our Mother, Horseheads, has complied.

The settlement is a guarantee that the diocese, all parishes, and institutions will be protected from any further litigation of these past claims. This is called a **channeling injunction**; that is, all the claims against the diocese, parishes and institutions are channeled into those against the diocese and all are protected from any litigation in the future. This could be thought of as purchasing an insurance policy to protect us from damages. The amount any single parish or institution will contribute would far be exceeded by the cost of going to court over a claim.

While these details are important, most important is our responsibility for justice, **Harm was done! Harm was done to many individuals, and its effects have rippled through many lives and families over time. As a Church, we have faced and admitted—far too late—but admitted our guilt and responsibility.** This proposed settlement process is part of taking responsibility and offering tangible restitution for the damage done. We did not cause this damage and its effects on so many lives. Yet it is our responsibility to do all we can to prevent and protect those entrusted to our care. Over the last twenty years, the Church in our country has taken aggressive steps to protect young persons, vulnerable adults, and all persons entrusted to our care. These steps have succeeded. The most recent claim of abuse in our diocese was in 2006. This proposed settlement, if it succeeds—there are many steps before it is finalized—is an important and necessary step toward justice.

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

Fr. L

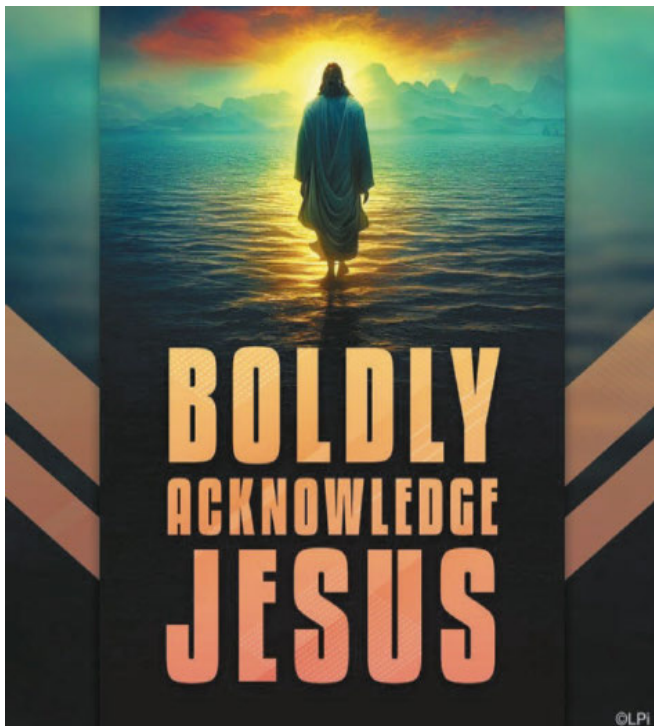
GOSPEL MEDITATION

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time
(Based on Mathew 10:26-33)



When I was in middle school, there were times I didn't want my fellow students to see my parents drop me off or pick me up in the school parking lot. I was embarrassed of my parents. Why? I have no idea. Maybe it was our station wagon. Or I didn't want to look like a little kid. But in retrospect that was a silly thing to do. I was a kid. And I had two parents who loved me and had built a wonderful family. I was afraid of the other kids' judgment. How silly! I should have been afraid of forgetting or downplaying my family, which is where my identity had its deep roots.

This is a way to understand Jesus' words to His disciples this Sunday, when He says, "Don't be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna." Fear, in this sense, refers to where we find our deepest identity and our highest love. That's why Jesus says next that when we acknowledge Him before others, He will acknowledge us before the Father. It doesn't mean we're brash or boastful. But rather we unhesitatingly and humbly embrace our identity as followers of Jesus and children of God the Father. After all, if we love who we are and where we come from, who cares what the other kids think about us



ST. MARY OUR MOTHER SCHOOL NEWS:

On Wednesday, June 21, 2023, St. Mary Our Mother School celebrated the 6th grade Class of 2023, which concluded the elementary school years for the following students:

Morgan Adams
Isaac Ballard
John Brand
Rose Daly

Lydia Dudek
Michael Gavin
Alivia Gavin
Tyler Kimball
Gianna Rylott

Please keep these young people in your thoughts and prayers as they begin the next chapter of their life. We confidently send these students onto the next stage in their lives, thankful for the time we have shared with them at St. Mary Our Mother School. These students will be moving onto Notre Dame Jr. Sr. High School, Horseheads Middle School, Corning Middle School, and Newfield Middle School.

THANK YOU to the parishioners of St. Mary Our Mother for your prayers and support of St. Mary Our Mother School throughout the 2022-2023 school year.

On behalf of the entire school staff, I wish you a restful, healthy, and safe summer.

Blessings Always,

Mrs. Heather Bill
School Principal

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
Michelle Card, 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
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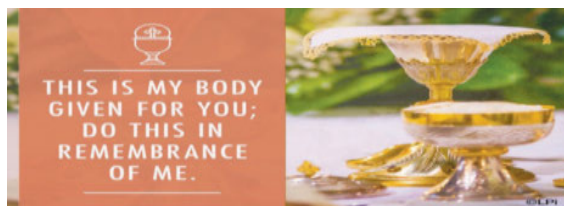


The Horseheads Food Pantry is in need of non perishable food and grocery items of all kinds. For your convenience, please place all donations in the cart located across from the bulletin board in the vestibule of the church.

Thank you for your generosity!

FIND A MASS ANYWHERE:

Have you every been out of town and wishing you could find a Catholic Church? To locate a Catholic church anywhere worldwide, go to www.TheCatholicDirectory.com.



ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

A father was reading Bible stories to his young son. He read, "The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city, but his wife looked back and was turned into a pillar of salt." His son asked, "What happened to the flea?"

Bible Trivia:

1. The Bible traces Jesus' lineage to: **(a) Abraham** **(b) Adam,** **(c) Moses?**
2. In Matthew, John the Baptist: **(a)** readily Baptizes Jesus, **(b)** Is hesitant to baptize Jesus **(c)** Does not baptize Jesus?
3. For Matthew, the core of the law is:
 - (a)** The commandment to love
 - (b)** The commandment to sacrifice
 - (c)** To believe in Jesus' death and resurrection.
4. At the end of Matthew's Gospel, Jesus tells His disciples to teach the gospel and baptize the nations. The Church calls this **(a)** the ascension **(b)** The Great Commission **(c)** Pentecost.

Answers: 1-a, 2-b, 3-a, 4-b



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