



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

July 2, 2023

A graphic celebrating the 4th of July. It features a wooden surface with a small American flag, red, white, and blue confetti, and large red stars. A semi-transparent blue rectangle with the word 'JULY' in white capital letters is centered over the image.

JULY

WEEKLY CALENDAR:**Saturday, July 1**

3:30 p.m.—Sacrament of Penance—church

MEMORIALS:

The main altar flowers for the week of July 2–8, 2023 have been donated in loving memory of Judi Lynch by her husband, Ben.



Eucharistic hosts and Sacramental wine for the week of July 2-8, 2023, have been donated in loving memory of Judi Lynch by her children and grandchildren.

IN THE PEACE OF GOD

Paul D. Baker, Jr.
Michael John Eckstein
Donald T. Smith, Jr.



Today throughout the United States, we celebrate our freedom. Our rights are protected and opportunities abound. We recognize that freedom has a cost, one we celebrate and honor on days such as this. It's good to honor those who fight for our country, who may well pay the ultimate price for the liberties we're afforded. As faithful Catholics, we recognize that there is more to freedom than simply being at liberty to make our lives what we want them to be. St. John Paul II reminds us: "Freedom is not just doing what we can, it is doing what we ought." We become freer within ourselves and within our relationships when we choose what is right and good. When we choose to sin, we become trapped in egoism - less free, not more. This Independence Day, let's continue to pursue virtue and good character and encourage others to do the same.

WEEKLY READINGS AND OBSERVANCES – for the week of July 2nd-8th.

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
Monday: Eph 2:19-22/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Jn 20:24-29
Tuesday: Gn 19:15-29/Ps 26:2-3, 9-10, 11-12/Mt 8:23-27
Wednesday: Gn 21:5, 8-20a/Ps 34:7-8, 10-11, 13/Mt 8:28-34
Thursday: Gn 22:1b-19/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Mt 9:1-8
Friday: Gn 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67/Ps 106:1b-2, 3-4a, 4b-5/Mt 9:9-13
Saturday: Gn 27:1-5, 15-29/Ps 135:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mt 9:14-17
Next Sunday: Zec 9:9-10/Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14 (see 1)/Rom 8:9, 11-13/Mt 11:25-30

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF July 2nd.

Sunday: 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: St. Thomas, Apostle
Tuesday: Independence Day
Wednesday: St. Anthony Zaccaria, Priest; St. Elizabeth of Portugal
Thursday: St. Maria Goretti, Virgin and Martyr
Friday:
Saturday:
Next Sunday: 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION:

Today is the Peter's Pence Collection, a worldwide collection that supports the work of the Universal Church, including the work of the Holy See and the charitable works of Pope Francis. Take this opportunity to join with Pope Francis and be a sign of mercy to our suffering brothers and sisters. Please be generous today. For more information, visit www.obolodisaniapietro.va/en.html.

NYS EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS:

Worship with 10,000 other Catholics in the Shrine's Coliseum, the largest church in North America!

October 20-22-Our Lady of Martyrs Shrine, Auriesville, NY. Held at the sacred spot where the North American Martyrs gave their lives for Christ and where St. Kateri Tekakwitha was born.

EVENTS INCLUDE: Great speakers!, Mass with Cardinal Dolan and NY Bishops, Confessions, Eucharistic Adoration and Procession.

To register and find out more, visit nyseucharistic-congress.org.

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:

Due to the national holiday of **Independence Day** on Tuesday, July 4th and an early bulletin deadline, I am writing this column on June 20th. As of today, we are looking forward to St. Mary Our Mother School's Sixth Grade celebration, as well as the ending of the school year this Friday, June 23rd. By the time you read this, the month of June will be behind us, we will have reached the midpoint of 2023, and the summer season will be upon us!

This Tuesday we will celebrate as a nation, the **247 anniversary** of the ratification of the **Declaration of Independence**. Each July 4th, we have the opportunity to remember and to be grateful for the many freedoms we enjoy in this country, freedoms to do what you want when you want, freedoms we sometimes take for granted. We also need to remember this week that no freedom can be assured without sacrifice, without truth and decency, without honor, honesty and integrity.

When I think of the July 4th holiday, I am filled with a sense of gratitude which I believe we all share. We were born into a country that is a republic, one that enjoys freedom and recognizes the dignity of all people. Our children have the freedom to dream, as we continue to dream regardless of our age. If your young people work hard, develop their talents, the possibilities in the plan of God, are open to our part of "the" plan, they are endless! We are also grateful for the creative, imaginative, and sometimes daring people who push the limits and help us grow. We also need to be grateful that God has given to us opportunities not only to develop our talents, but to encourage others to do so as well. Those who have recently graduated from our various institutions of higher education have a bright future ahead of them as a result of what they have learned and experienced thus far in their young lives.

The July 4th holiday also serves as a reminder of how God's overall plan continues to unfold for every human being. From its first reference in scripture to the writings of modern day theologians and spiritual writers, we hear of people who "walk by faith." These are people who are open to the surprises that God has planned for them. We believe that God has a plan; on the other hand, we don't know exactly what that plan is. If we believe that God exists, believe in we can't help but to be amazed at how faithfully God cares for us.

There is always a sense of excitement associated with Independence Day. Every day we have reminders, sometime major, more often of the subtle variety, that God chooses to work with us and not separate

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

Monday: 6:45 A.M.	July 3—St. Thomas, Apostle Florence Ruocco—Bob and Marianne Kosty
Tuesday: 6:45 A.M.	July 4—Weekday/Independence Day No Mass
Wednesday: 6:45 A.M.	July 5—Weekday Patricia Marks—Jane Gallagher
Thursday: 6:45 A.M.	July 6—Weekday Jim and Esther Motiska—The Costello's
Friday: 6:45 A.M.	July 7—Weekday George Gresock—wife, Ann
Saturday: 5:00 P.M.	July 8—Weekday Dr. Patrick Moreo—Maryanne and Richard Amisano
Sunday: 8:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M.	July 9—Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Carl Gross—Dan and Joan Hurley William J. Dooley III—Gloria Bohen

Pastor's Perspective continued:

It was God who gave our ancestors the opportunity to immigrate to this great country, to establish roots and a future here. God gave them the fortitude to help create and build this nation. This did not come without great sacrifice on the part of all. Ours is a nation that has not only survived but has grown, become prosperous, and we are the first country to offer assistance to others when tragedy strikes, either at home or abroad. People of the world have come to look to the people of the United States as an example of how people should live. There is a sense of excitement to know that we are a part of this great democratic nation where each citizen can be a part, however great or small.

This holiday also gives us an opportunity to remember the past and to give thanks and our admiration to the leaders who have fashioned and lead this nation for the past 246 years. We honor and remember the heroism for those who paid the ultimate sacrifice that our nation might enjoy the freedoms that we have. July 4th also gives us an opportunity to remember those who serve us today in all areas of government—national, state, and local levels—as well as who serve in military, police, firefighters, and first responders. These people work selflessly to protect the freedoms we enjoy in this country.

Each 4th of July we have an opportunity to remember our history and to celebrate the lives we live as people of the United States, lives in which we enjoy many freedoms. Have an enjoyable 4th of July. May God continue to bless the United States of America!

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

Fr. L.

**GOSPEL MEDITATION: July 2, 2023: 13th
Sunday in Ordinary Time**

As a boy my favorite board game was “Chutes and Ladders.” The players roll dice to move from the start to the finish, from the bottom of the board to the top. If you land on a chute, you slide back and down. It was a bummer. Land on a ladder, and you jump well up the board and near the goal. It was a thrill to find a ladder and draw closer to the goal. That’s life, isn’t it? At every moment, we’re either moving closer or farther from the goal of our lives.

How do we win? Jesus tells us the secret of life’s chutes and ladders hinges on getting our loves rightly ordered. What we love in life is meant to be a ladder, drawing us up into God’s love — including our family, friends, work, play, food, and drink. Even to give your water to someone out of love for Christ leads to a sure reward.

But those ladders of our loves can become chutes. If we love even our family members more than Christ, we slide down and back. If we love the persons and things in our life for the sake of Christ, He says we **“surely will not lose our reward.”** The key difference between a chute and ladder, between our spiritual regression and advancement, is our willingness to renounce everything — even our own life — for the love of Jesus. To allow everything and everyone we love to draw us to love him more — that’s the difference between chutes and ladders.

• *Father John Muir*

**COLLECTION FOR THE CHURCH IN
CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE:**

Next week we will take up the collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. This collection supports the Church in more than 25 countries that still struggle to recover from former communist rule. Funds from this collection support pastoral care, catechesis, renovations, and seminary formation. Your support restores the Church and builds the future in this region. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection next week. More information can be found at www.usccb.org/lccee.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: July 10-13, 2023
9 a.m. to 12:00 Noon in the school. This program is for children in grades pre-k through 6th grade. Pre-registration is required. For more information and registration form, contact Amanda Reeves or Lily Barr at the Faith Formation Office at 607-739-8214 or email—Amanda.Reeves@dor.org.

ST. MARIA GORETTI



Have you heard of the patron saint of purity? Born to peasant parents in southern Italy, St. Maria Goretti was a devout girl whose life was marked by difficulty. Her father died when she was nine, leaving her single mother with six mouths to feed. Two neighbors helped on the family farm, including a young man named Alessandro. He began making crude comments towards Maria. She repeatedly denied him. After several years, Alessandro attacked Maria to force himself on her. She resisted and, in his anger, Alessandro stabbed her. Maria died from the wounds' infections, but her last words were "I forgive Alessandro Serenelli, and I want him with me in heaven forever." While he was in prison, Maria appeared to Alessandro with a bouquet of roses, one for each wound he inflicted. In a true miracle of mercy, Alessandro experienced repentance, became a Franciscan brother after his release, and was later present at Maria's canonization. St. Maria Goretti, pray for us!

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
Religious Education Office

THE HORSEHEADS FOOD PANTRY:

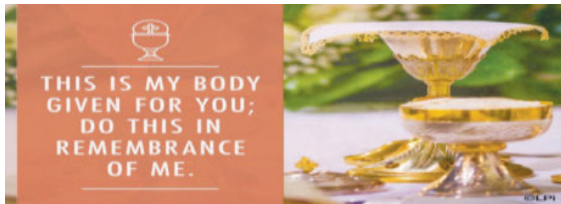


The Horseheads Food Pantry is in need of non perishable food and grocery items of all kinds. For your convenience, please place all donations in the cart located across from the bulletin board in the vestibule of the church.

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: Words of Wisdom

Faith can move mountains.-----, but don't be surprised when God hands you a shovel.

Who was the first person to download data from the cloud?-----Moses!

Life without God is like an unsharpened pencil, ---
-----No Point!

Tired of being a loser-----, "Turn to God!"



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