



# 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 23, 2023



## 16<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"The righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom  
of their Father." - Mt 13:43a

**WEEKLY CALENDAR:****Saturday, July 29**

3:00 p.m.-Sacrament of Penance—church

**FLOWER DONATION**

The main altar flowers for the week of July 23-29 have been donated in loving memory of Gertrude and Lyle Johnson by daughter, Peggy.

Flowers in the Church are always available to remember special people—living or deceased— or special times in our lives. Please call the parish office at 607-739-3817.

**IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Ellen Baker  
Rosalie Mandell  
Karen Robbins  
Sister Arlene Semesky

**A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time:**

In today's second reading, Saint Paul bids us to take comfort in knowing that when God invites us to pray to Him, He knows our true needs, even if we do not. The Holy Spirit intercedes and prays for us even if we can't come up with appropriate words; even when we don't have a clue what to ask for. We are not left alone. Good stewards know that prayer is an important part of living a life in Christ. The important thing is to make space for God. Do we let God into our hearts? Do we make room for the Holy Spirit to pray within us?

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 23, 2023-16th Sunday of Ordinary Time:**

**Sunday:** Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16 (5a)/Rom 8:26-27/  
Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30  
**Monday:** Ex 14:5-18/Ex 15:1bc-2, 3-4, 5-6/  
Mt 12:38-42  
**Tuesday:** 2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6/  
Mt 20:20-28  
**Wednesday:** Ex 16:1-5, 9-15/Ps 78:18-19, 23-24, 25-26, 27-28/Mt 13:1-9  
**Thursday:** Ex 19:1-2, 9-11, 16-20b/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Mt 13:10-17  
**Friday:** Ex 20:1-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11/Mt 13:18-23  
**Saturday:** Ex 24:3-8/Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15/Jn 11:19-27 or Lk 10:38-42  
**Next Sunday:** 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12/Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130 (97a)/Rom 8:28-30/  
Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

**OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 23, 2023:**

**Sunday:** 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
**Monday:** St. Sharbel Makhlūf, Priest  
**Tuesday:** St. James, Apostle  
**Wednesday:** Sts. Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
**Thursday:**  
**Friday:**  
**Saturday:** Sts. Martha, Mary and Lazarus  
**Next Sunday:** 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**ANNUAL BACK TO SCHOOL PROJECT: Help Local Kids Get Ready For The School Year!**

Each year our parish partners with Catholic Charities to collect school supplies to help parents send their children back to school, ready to learn with the supplies they need. This year backpacks with supplies will be distributed to about 700 Chemung County students during the Strong Kids, Safe Kids (August 26th) event. Supplies needed for the backpacks include: colored pencils, wide-ruled notebooks, two-pocket folders, pencils, rulers, and blunt-tip scissors.

Donations will be collected until Friday, August 17th and can be dropped off at one of the following locations:

Chapel Park (83 Personius Rd., Pine City 9am-4pm)  
Cornell Cooperative Extension, Chemung County  
Department of Aging, Chemung County  
Samaritan Center (380 S Main St. Elmira) Mon-Fri.  
8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.-back entrance

Treu Office Supply, Lake Street, Elmira

If you prefer, a box has been placed on the table in the vestibule of our Church for your convenience. A Social Ministry member will take your donations to Catholic Charities.



**PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:**

Two years ago, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops announced that **Pope Francis-I** has instituted a Churchwide celebration of a **World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly** to honor and celebrate the contributions of grandparents and the elderly to our families and society. This day is to be celebrated each year on the fourth Sunday of July, the Sunday closest to the liturgical memorial of Saint Joachim and Saint Anne on July 26<sup>th</sup>. We will celebrate this first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly at our Masses this weekend. The Holy Father instituted this day, which is long overdue in the opinion of many because *"grandparents are often forgotten and we lose this wealth of preserving roots and passing on what the elderly have received."* The Holy Father further emphasized the importance of grandparents and grandchildren getting to know one another, spending quality time together, and sharing stories. Though this is short notice, and if your grandparents are still living, plan to honor them in some way on the first World Day of Prayer for Grandparents and the Elderly. If they have passed to the Kingdom, remember them in prayer today.

Now a "Did you know" question! Did you know that Saint Joachim and Saint Anne were the Blessed Virgin Mary's parents and Jesus's grandparents? Saints Anne and Joachim, like Abraham and Sarah of the Old Testament, were scorned because they had no children. Years of longing did not weaken their trust in God, but grief eventually drove Saint Joachim into the wilderness to fast and pray. Saint Anne, remaining a home, went to a garden to plead with God for a child. Angels appeared to Saint Anne in her Garden and Saint Joachim in the desert, promising that, despite their old age, they would give birth to a child who would be known throughout the world. Legend has it that the parents ran to meet one another at Jerusalem's Golden Gate, and rejoiced in the new life which has had been promised would be theirs. Saint Anne and Joachim are powerful intercessors for all married couples, expectant parents, married couples who are having difficulty conceiving, and those who have entered their senior years.

**World Day of Prayer for Grandparents and the Elderly**

*I Thank You, Lord*

*For the comfort of Your presence:  
even in times of loneliness,  
You are my hope and my confidence,  
You have been my rock and my fortress from my youth.*

*Continued in next column*

**MASSES FOR THE WEEK**

<b>Monday:</b> 6:45 A.M.	<b>July 24—Weekday</b> Luzviminda Sobremonte Ferrer—the Lapitans
<b>Tuesday:</b> 6:45 A.M.	<b>July 25—St. James, Apostle</b> Deceased members of the Curtin family—family
<b>Wednesday:</b> 6:45 A.M.	<b>July 26—St. Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b> Ronald Moore—JoAnn and Steve Cowulich
<b>Thursday:</b> 6:45 A.M.	<b>July 27—Weekday</b> Gilda Campanelli—Jan and Gerry Altilio
<b>Friday:</b> 6:45 A.M.	<b>July 28—Weekday</b> Special Intentions of the 6:45 Mass family
<b>Saturday:</b> 5:00 P.M.	<b>July 29—Sts. Martha, Mary, and Lazarus</b> Robert Roberti—sister, Rita
<b>Sunday:</b> 8:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M.	<b>July 30—17th. Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Gene Harrison—Dobek family Mary Frances and Richard Smith, Sr—Mary Navone

**PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE CONTINUED:**

*to the end of the age.*

*Amen I thank You for having given me a family  
and for having blessed me with a long life.  
I thank You for the moments of joy and difficulty,  
for the dreams that have already come true in my life,  
and for those that are still ahead for me.  
I thank You for this time of renewed fruitfulness to which You have called me.*

*Increase, O Lord, my faith,  
make me a channel of Your peace,  
teach me to embrace those who suffer more than me,  
and to never stop dreaming, and to tell of Your wonders to new generations.*

*Sustain me in weakness  
and help me to live life to the full  
in each moment that You give me,  
in certainty that You are with me every day,  
even*

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



Pope Francis' Message for the  
World Day for Grandparents  
and the Elderly  
'I am with you always'

@catholicbishops

## GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

### 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

Patience is rooted in Hope (an image of a bush filled with birds would be great).

Life, like the church, is often burdened with evil, smallness, and impurities. The Lord's parables give us a hope-filled perspective on all three.

**Evil:** In Jesus' parable about the good farmer whose enemy plants weeds at night, Jesus tells us that God is not the cause of evil but permits evil to exist with good out of His patient love. He *will* finally deal with it, but his love lets things stay messy for a time.

**Smallness:** It's funny that Jesus says His kingdom looks like ... wait for it ... a bush. What a letdown! Yet this little shrub still somehow has room for all the birds of the sky. The smallness of the Church, and even our own little lives, still provides plenty of room for all whom God sends.

**Impurities:** Divisions and hypocrisies in the Church and our own hearts exasperate us. Recall that Jesus compares His kingdom to a lump of dough with impure leaven eating away at it and therefore making it expand. It's the secret of the Cross. Not how we'd prefer it. But finally, great news.

The field, the bush, the loaf: all three parables invite us to embrace a patience rooted in hope: one day the field will be weeded, the bush filled with birds, and the risen loaf leaven-free.

*Father John Muir*



## RETURNABLE BOTTLES AND CANS

Have you had a summer party? Do you wish to dispose of your empty returnable bottles and cans? Returnable bottles and cans are collected throughout the year and the money received is donated to the Horseheads Food Pantry. You may drop your bottles and cans off at the parish office, Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

## HORSEHEADS FOOD PANTRY:

Non-perishable food and grocery items are being collected for the Horseheads Food Pantry each month. The Horseheads Food Pantry is in need of all food items. For your convenience, please place all donations in the cart located across from the bulletin board.

If it is inconvenient to make a food donation, you may make a monetary donation. Please make checks payable to the Horseheads Food Pantry and place in the collection. Thank you for your generosity!

### 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

#### 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

### Saint Anne and Saint Joachim- Grandparents of Jesus:

In the Scriptures, Matthew and Luke furnish a legal family history of Jesus, tracing ancestry to show that Jesus is the culmination of great promises. Not only is His mother's family neglected, we also know nothing factual about them except that they existed. Even the names "Joachim" and Anne" come from a legendary source written more than a century after Jesus died.

The heroism and holiness of these people however, is inferred from the whole family atmosphere around Mary in the Scriptures. We see Mary as a fulfillment of many generations of prayerful persons, herself steeped in the religious traditions of her people.

The strong character of Mary in making decisions, her continuous practice of prayer, her devotion to the laws of her faith, her steadiness at moments of crisis, and her devotion to her relatives—all indicate a close-knit loving family that looked forward to the next generation even while retaining the best of the past.

Joachim and Anne—whether these are their real names or not—represent that entire quiet series of generations who faithfully perform their duties, practice their faith, and establish an atmosphere for the coming of the Messiah, but remain obscure.

This Sunday we celebrate the "feast of grandparents." It reminds grandparents of their responsibility to establish a tone for generations to come: They make the traditions live and offer them as a promise to little children. But the feast has a message for the younger generation as well. It reminds the young that older people's greater perspective, depth of experience, and appreciation of life's profound rhythms are all part of a wisdom not to be taken lightly or ignored.



HAPPY GRANDPARENTS DAY



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