

# ST. MARY OUR MOTHER CHURCH

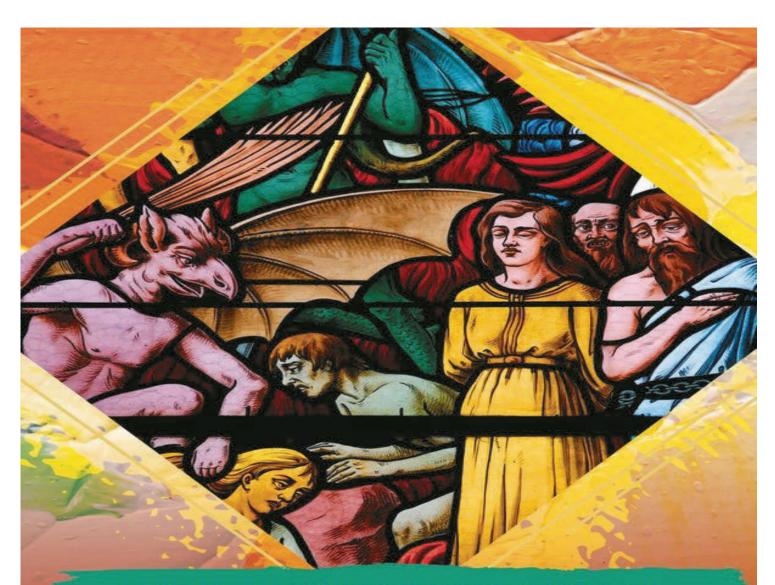
#### MISSION STATEMENT

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 30, 2023



# 17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Thus it will be at the end of the age. The angels will go out and separate the wicked from the righteous." - Mt 13:49-51

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass @2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. @LPi

#### WEEKLY CALENDAR:

#### Saturday, July 29

3:00 p.m.-Sacrament of Penance-church



#### **FLOWER DONATION:**

The main altar flowers for the week of July 30—August 5, have been donated in loving memory of Robert Roberti by his wife, Sandy and family.

#### **MEMORIALS:**

The Eucharistic Breads or Hosts for the week of July 30—August 5, 2023 have been donated in memory of Josephine Kujawski by the Kujawski family.

#### IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST:

Rose Apgar Sister Joanne Deck Michael Difasi George Foray Sister Arlene Semesky



## **THE TRANFIGURATION:**

Jesus' transfiguration not only gave his disciples—and us an awesome glimpse of his glory; it also gives us a glimpse of the transformation we will experience at the resurrection.

On the last day, we too will be raised from the dead. Like Jesus on Mount Tabor, our bodies will be transfigured and glorified. We will live forever with the Lord in an embrace so close that his divine nature will transform every part of who we are. This, above everything else, is the basis for our hope in Christ. This is the heart of our faith as Christians.



#### **READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 30, 2023-17th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME:**

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
Monday:	Ex 32:15-24, 30-34/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22,
·	23/Mt 13:31-35
Tuesday:	Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28/Ps 103:6-7, 8-9, 10
-	-11, 12-13/Mt 13:36-43
Wednesday:	Ex 34:29-35/Ps 99:5, 6, 7, 9/Mt 13:44-46
Thursday:	Ex 40:16-21, 34-38/Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6a and 8a,
	11/Mt 13:47-53
Friday:	Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37/Ps 81:3-4,
	5-6, 10-11ab/Mt 13:54-58
Saturday:	Lv 25:1, 8-17/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8/Mt 14:1-12
Next Sunday:	Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9/2 Pt
	1:16-19/Mt 17:1-9

## 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it." In this Bible passage Jesus gives us the image of a merchant who knows he has discovered a great treasure. In fact, its value is so tremendous that the man is willing to sell everything else in order to possess it. Why? Because he knows it will all be worth it. He knows that the pearl will bring him more reward than anything else he has ever owned, more even than all his possessions combined.

The Gospel story is meant to help us understand the unfathomable value of the kingdom of heaven. Nothing else can compare to it. No material item, no honor or success, can compete with this pearl of great price. Everything we have, short of this, is finite: limited, temporary, and ultimately fleeting. Eternal happiness, on the other hand, is infinite. It never ends. This is the deep contentment, the satisfaction, the peace, and happiness that we crave, the kind that doesn't disappoint.

Like the merchant in the parable, we too should understand the value of this discovery. As Christians, we have "found" the treasure beyond all other treasures! Life in Christ, both now and in heaven is truly the pearl of great price. The only question is whether we are willing to "sell" all that we have to obtain it. In other words, are we willing to release the other things that claim hold on us? Are we ready to put Christ first in our lives? All of us need to take pause from time to time and examine our attachments and priorities. Money, pleasure, success, or comfort can often seem so important to us that we falsely begin to imagine these things will bring the happiness we so desire. But the message is loud and clear today: the kingdom of heaven is the true treasure we long for.

#### **PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:**

It hardly seems possible that Tuesday of this week is the first day of August! Here are a few "summer suggestions" as we begin the eighth month of 2023.

- 1. Invite a single friend over for a meal.
- 2. Turn off the television, telephone, and computer, and spend an hour devoted to someone you love.
- 3. Attend an extra Mass on a weekday each week during the summer.
- 4. Abstain from something you like—meat, a latte, a cold drink on Fridays, and donate the money to a charity.
- 5. Take your rosary with you for your early morning walk.
- 6. Recycle more.
- 7. Think of a charity which is amply blessed at Christmas, and remember it with a gift mid year.
- 8. Each day, say a prayer for one of the world's trouble spots.
- 9. Surprise an old friend with a telephone call.
- 10. Purchase flowers for someone without a "reason".
- 11. Take your family to a farmer's market, if in season.
- 12. Stop for a moment during your busy day and enjoy an ice cream cone or another favorite treat.
- 13. If you hear a great homily, tell the homilist.
- 14. Splurge on some fresh produce and buy enough to share with someone in need.
- 15. On occasion, try turning your prayer before meals into a spontaneous prayer of thanks, using your own words.
- 16. See if you can go one day without complaining.
- 17. Send an unexpected thank you note for a small favor.
- 18. If you see a neighbor in the yard, stop for a brief chat.
- 19. When standing in the checkout line, let someone with fewer items go before you.

Have a great week and enjoy these days of August. Please continue to take care of yourself and each other.

#### **MASSES FOR THE WEEK**

<b>Monday:</b> 6:45 A.M.	July 31—St. Ignatius of Loyola, Priest All Souls in Purgatory—Costello family
Tuesday:	Aug. 1—St. Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop
	and Doctor of the Church
6:45 A.M.	Patricia Redmond Clark—Mary Navone
Wednesday:	Aug. 2—Weekday
6:45 A.M.	Teri Guardi—her family
Thursday:	Aug. 3—Weekday
6:45 A.M.	Eileen Rustin—Aloi Family
Friday:	Aug. 4—Weekday
6:45 A.M.	Phillip Amisano—his family
Saturday:	Aug 5–Weekday
5:00 P.M.	Thomas L. Briggs—Kim and Mike
Sunday:	Aug. 6—The Transfiguration of the
Lord	
8:30 A.M.	Bob Van Burger—wife, Barb
10:30 A.M.	Gerilo Sobremonte—the Lapitans

#### **A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT:**



A profound stewardship prayer is offered by the young King Solomon in today's first reading. He asks the Lord to give him an understanding heart, compassion towards God's people, and the insight to distinguish right from wrong. An understanding heart, or wisdom, is a gift from God. It is a gift that enables us to make good decisions and prudent choices. Cultivating and sharing this gift is essential, especially when poor decisions and lack of compassion have consequences that affect the lives of others. During these disquieting times, are we asking God for an understanding heart? Are we exercising good stewardship over the gift of wisdom? Are we sharing our compassionate hearts with others.?



#### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS—MAKING A DIF-FERENCE FOR LIFE:

The Horseheads Knights of Columbus Council 1658 has partnered with the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council, to provide the Southern Tier Pregnancy Resource Center with a donation, to assist with the purchase of a new ultrasound machine. This pro-life purchase will help save the lives of many unborn babies.

Fr. L

#### ANNUAL BACK TO SCHOOL PROJECT:



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. Your donation will be delivered for you by our Social Ministry Committee.



#### YOUTH CONFERENCE AT FRANCISCAN UNIVERSITY; STUEBENVILLE

Recently our parish offered a wonderful opportunity for the youth to attend the Steubenville Youth Conference at Franciscan University. One student from our parish and three others from Watkins Glen attended. We traveled by bus with three other local parishes, Epiphany Parish from Sayre, Pa., Blessed Trinity and Saint Patrick's from Owego, and Saint Brigid Parish from Friendsville, PA. The youth of our parish experienced a weekend full of worship, guest speakers, daily mass, adoration, and confession. It was very inspiring to see our youth 'on fire for Christ' and 'full of the Spirit.' Seeing Jesus so alive in our youth gives us hope for the future of the Catholic church.



Our programs for Faith Formation are beginning soon. This includes our Tuesday Program, Home Study, First Penance, First Holy Eucharist, and Confirmation. If you have not already done so, please register as soon as possible. Registration forms can be found on the bulletin board in the back of church, or online through our parish website. Completed forms along with payment can be dropped off or mailed to the parish office at 816 W. Broad St. or can be dropped in the collection box in the back of the church. Our Tuesday program will now offer in person classes for grades pPK-7th.

Please contact Amanda Reeves or Lily Barr for more information by emailing amanda.reeves@dor.org., or Lily.barr@dor.org, or calling 607-739-8214.



#### **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

#### **ON THE LIGHTER SIDE:**

#### The Lord's Prayer Trivia:

- 1. Where in the Bible can you find the Lord's Prayer?
- 2. Who taught the Lord's Prayer?
- 3. How many petitions are in the Lord's Prayer?
- 4. How many can you name?
- 5. True or False: The more words we say makes our prayers better.

#### Answers for the Trivia:

**1**. *Matthew* **6**, **2**. *Jesus* **3**. *Seven* **4**. (see below for the 7 petitions) **5** *False–Jesus said God already knows what we need.* 

The Lord's Prayer petitions: 1) Hallowed be your name, 2) thy kingdom come, 3) Your will be done on Earth, 4) Give us our daily bread, 5) Forgive us our trespasses, 6) Lead us not into temptation, 7) Deliver us from evil.

#### Some Catholic Humor:

What do we call a sleep walking nun? (a roaming catholic)

How many Jews are at a Catholic Mass? (Just one-Jesus)

How does one identify a Catholic at a Star Wars Convention?

(When you say, "May the force be with you!" and the other person responds "And with your Spirit!)

