



# 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

September 17, 2023

## *24<sup>th</sup> Sunday* IN ORDINARY TIME



Peter approached Jesus and asked him, "Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus answered, "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times." - Mt 18:21-22

**WEEKLY CALENDAR:****Saturday, September 16, 2023**

3:30 p.m.—Sacrament of Penance—Church

**FLOWER DONATION:**

The main altar flowers for the week of September 17—23 have been donated in loving memory of Laura Merritt by her sister, Jacqueline Alsworth and family.

The Eucharist hosts, the sacramental wine, the icon candle, and the sanctuary candle for the week of September 17—23rd, 2023 have been donated in loving memory of Laura Merritt by the Alsworth family.

**IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST:**

Paul Parks, Sr.  
Amy Rial

**GOSPEL MEDITATION:-****24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

When I was in second grade, my prized possession was a metal Star Wars-themed lunch box. After school one day, another student ripped it from my hands. I helplessly watched in horror as my classmate threw it to the ground and violently stomped it into an unrecognizable heap of junk. I came home covered in tears of shame and rage. I never thought about it again until I was almost thirty years old and on a retreat to prepare for ordination to the priesthood.

That childhood memory and the attendant outrage, came back afresh. My spiritual director helped me in the process of acknowledging that I was angry because that kid *owed* me my lunch box. Then she helped me, through the grace of Jesus, to forgive the debt. Almost immediately I felt a new peace. I was amazed that I hadn't forgotten what I had lost, even from years before. Aren't we human beings simply amazing at remembering what people owe us?

We see this week in Jesus' parable a servant who is forgiven much, but then commands another servant: "Pay back what you owe!" He can't forget or let go of how he was wronged. He *remembers* and he becomes a monster because of it. If only he had remembered not only the debts owed to him, but also his greater debt owed to, and forgiven by, his master. It's natural for us to remember what others owe us. But when we contextualize those offenses in Jesus' mercy toward us and them, we're free to be merciful like the Master and less like a monster who never forgets.

— Father John Muir

**WEEKLY READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2023:**

**Sunday:** Sir 27:30—28:7/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 (8)/Rom 14:7-9/Mt 18:21-35  
**Monday:** 1 Tm 2:1-8/Ps 28:2, 7, 8-9/Lk 7:1-10  
**Tuesday:** 1 Tm 3:1-13/Ps 101:1b-2ab, 2cd-3ab, 5, 6/Lk 7:11-17  
**Wednesday:** 1 Tm 3:14-16/Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 7:31-35  
**Thursday:** Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Mt 9:9-13  
**Friday:** Tm 6:2c-12/Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20/Lk 8:1-3  
**Saturday:** 1 Tm 6:13-16/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Lk 8:4-15  
**Next Sunday:** Is 55:6-9/Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18 (18a)/Phil 1:20c-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16a

**SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE APPRECIATION:**

Thank you to all who generously donated school supplies to the Catholic Charities back to school drive. These supplies are being distributed to the youth of Chemung County. Your donations will help to alleviate the financial stress that many families faced as their children returned to school. Thank you for caring!



Our programs for Faith Formation are beginning soon. This includes our Tuesday Program, Home Study, First Penance, First Holy Eucharist, and Confirmation. Please check the bulletin board in the back of church or our church website for registration forms. Below you will find important dates for each program.

**Tuesday Program:** September 19th, 3:45-5:00 p.m.—Pick-up and drop off at the church.

**Confirmation Yrs. 1&2—Saturday, September 23rd., at 6:00 p.m. (following mass) in the church.**

**Home Study Kick-off meeting (all must attend):** Sunday, September 24th, at 11:45 a.m. in the church.

**First Penance Kick-off Meeting (all must attend):** Sunday, October 1st, at 12:00 p.m. in the church.



## PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:

Today is **Catechetical Sunday**, a day when we acknowledge and affirm the many dedicated people who serve as teachers and catechists in the various faith formation programs of our parish. This year's theme for Catechetical Sunday selected by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) is **"Come to me all you who labor and are burdened."** (Matthew 11:28) *Today is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the teaching role each of us plays in being a faith role model for others. Today is also a time to acknowledge and affirm all parents who are the first and best teachers of the Catholic faith to our children.*

Today, I have asked our Faith Formation Coordinator, **Amanda Reeves**, who begins her second year with us, to offer an update on the various faith formation programs offered at St. Mary Our Mother.

*This year, I am happy to announce that we have had several new volunteers in our faith formation program, including high school volunteers. We will be bringing our seventh grade classes back in person to the Tuesday afternoon program. Our Tuesday afternoon program is offered to any child in grades pre-k to seventh and will be held in the school from 3:45 to 5:00 p.m. We will continue to offer the home study program as well to meet the needs of our parish families. Sacramental preparation programs for First Penance, First Communion, and Confirmation will be led by Lily Barr and myself. For information on these programs, please contact the faith formation office at 607-739-8214.*

*I would like to thank those who graciously volunteer their time and talent in serving our parish as catechists. Please join me in thanking **Lily Barr**, for her administrative support. I thank **Ivy Barr, Shirley Lant, Jean Oshetski, Tina Mitchell, Jacquelyn Shope, Kathy Geary, Melanie Gehl, Desiree O'Rourke, Jane Pronti, and Kerry Bock** for their dedication to the youth of our parish. I would also like to thank all of the high school volunteers who are volunteering to help in our programs throughout the school year: **Maggie Sullivan, Teddy Pronti, Catherine Miley, Adam Lanipao, Sophia Christmas, and Lucy Mackenzie.***

*I would like to thank Father Chris for his continued support in growing our faith formation program. Thank you also to all our brothers and sisters in Christ, for your support and prayers as we are called to serve Christ and the Church in our daily lives.*

*"Catechists are people who keep the memory of God alive; in themselves and are able to revive it in others." - Pope Francis I*

Amanda Reeves  
Faith Formation Coordinator

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

<b>Monday:</b> 6:45 A.M.	<b>Sept. 18—Weekday</b> Intentions of the 6:45 a.m. Mass family
<b>Tuesday:</b> 6:45 A.M.	<b>Sept. 19—Weekday</b> John Charles Cook—Woodworth family
<b>Wednesday:</b> 6:45 A.M.	<b>Sept. 20</b> Deceased of the Curtin family—family
<b>Thursday:</b> 6:45 A.M.	<b>Sept. 21—St. Matthew the Apostle</b> Joanne Langan—Perry family
<b>Friday:</b> 6:45 A.M.	<b>Sept. 22—Weekday</b> Faithful departed
<b>Saturday:</b>	<b>Sept. 23—St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest</b> Jose and Vencio Sobremonte—Lapitan family
<b>Sunday:</b>	<b>Sept. 24—Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
8:30 A.M.	Paul Wyak—Cathy and David Peckham
10:00 A.M.	Al Stanton—his family

## "So you want to become Catholic?" RCIA FOR ADULTS IS FOR YOU

Are you interested in learning more about the Catholic faith? Perhaps you are married to a Catholic and are bringing your children up in the faith, and you would like to participate fully in the Mass as well. Or you attended a wedding or funeral of a friend or loved one and would like to explore this faith tradition more deeply. Maybe it is an interest in Catholic Social teaching or and experience of the sacraments; or maybe you have a friend or family member who is Catholic and their presence in your life is an inspiration.

Whether you have never been baptized, or attended Sunday school, or were baptized in another Christian faith and are now interested in the Catholic Church, the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) could be for you. The RCIA is a process in which the faith journey of an individual is honored and together we talk about God and faith and the core beliefs of the Catholic faith.

For more information please call the parish office at 607-739-3817. Please provide your name and contact information for our RCIA coordinator who will contact you.



**CHURCH SIGN:** *What if the only thing we have to be thankful for are the things we thanked God for yesterday.*

# October Respect Life Month

## How to Build a Culture of Life

Read the full version at  
[respectlifeprogram.org/culture-of-life](http://respectlifeprogram.org/culture-of-life).

Watching the news and reading the headlines, we may feel helpless seeing the heartbreaking lack of respect for human life. *How do we respond?* Changing the culture is a process of conversion that begins in our own hearts. When we encounter Christ, experience His love, and deepen our relationship with Him, we become more aware of our own immeasurable worth and that of others. His unchanging love is the source of our God-given dignity, which, therefore, cannot be taken away. When someone is facing great trials, we need to walk with them on their journey, intercede for them, and be open to sharing Christ's love however He directs. We simply need to follow where He leads.

**Our mission  
field is  
daily life.**

*This is a summary of a USCCB Respect Life Program article by the same name and is reprinted with permission. © 2019, USCCB, Washington, D.C. All rights reserved.*

iStock.com/nevodka

## RESPECT LIFE MASS:

Sunday, October 1, 2023 at 11:15 a.m.

Most Reverend Salvatore R. Matano  
Principal Celebrant and Homilist

Sacred Heart Cathedral  
296 Flower City Park  
Rochester, NY 14615

For questions email: [ElizabethJohnston@dor.org](mailto:ElizabethJohnston@dor.org)

## CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

***Break the Cycle of Poverty: Support the Catholic Campaign for human Development***

Our special collection today supports the **Catholic Campaign for Human Development**. CCHD funds programs that empower low-income people to address the root causes of their poverty. These grants support organizations across the country. 'CCHD' funds programs that empower low-income people to address the root causes of their poverty. Over the past decade, six organizations in our own Diocese have received major national CCHD grants. In addition, 25% of the funds we collect will remain in our Diocese to fund smaller, local anti-poverty projects. By supporting this collection, you are standing with people on the margins, and making positive social change. Make your check out to your parish and write "CCHD" in the memo, or check out your parish's online giving options for designating your gift to CCHD. Please be generous.

### 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](mailto:smomc@dor.org)  
Parish Web Site..... [www.StMaryOurMother.com](http://www.StMaryOurMother.com)

#### St. Mary Our Mother School

811 Westlake Street ..... (607)-739-9157  
E-mail..... [smoms@dor.org](mailto:smoms@dor.org)  
School ..... Web  
Site..... [www.stmaryourmother.school](http://www.stmaryourmother.school)

#### Religious Education Office

816 West Broad Street ..... (607)-739-8214

## U.S. Farm Bill 2-23– Reflection :

Every five years the U.S. Congress authorizes the National Farm Bill that funds a variety of domestic and international food and agricultural programs for the next five years. While most of the Farm Bill funding covers programs in the U.S. (like crop insurance, forestry and conservation, SNAP, etc.), a small amount funds international food and development assistance. For example, the Food for Progress program helps low/middle income nations modernize and strengthen their agricultural sectors by training farmers, improving farming and animal health methods, developing roads, and providing micro-credit. All this improves productivity, expands trade, and promotes self sufficiency and resiliency for local communities. Pope Francis teaches: Jesus trusts in the best of the human spirit; with this parable (Good Samaritan), he encourages us to preserve in love, to restore dignity to the suffering, and to build a society worthy of the name of his encyclical, *Fratelli Tutti* (translated “All Brothers.”)

**Faith in action:** email or call **Congressman Nick Langworthy** ([langworthy.house.gov](mailto:langworthy.house.gov) or 607-377-3130. Ask him to work to sustain funding and flexibility for the Farm Bill’s Title II international food programs in the US farm Bill, especially the Food for Peace, McGovern-Dole Food for Education, Food for Progress, and the Farmer-to-Farmer programs,




**Don't wait to get the care you need**

At **Southern Tier Medical Care**, our care teams offer personalized, compassionate just for you. Making sure you are up to date on screenings and yearly wellness checks is important. We'll also connect you to the right specialists additional care. If you need to come in person for a visit, know we are maintaining strict safety precautions to protect you and your family while in our care.

**New patient appointments available. Call 607-608-3396.**



3345 Chambers Road  
Horseheads, NY



135 Victory Highway  
Painted Post, NY

 **Southern Tier Medical Care**



**FREE AD DESIGN**  
with purchase of this space

**CALL**  
800-477-4574

**WOODBROOK**  
*A Tradition of Quality Assisted Living*  
**Woodbrook Assisted Living Residence**  
~ Elmira ~  
Phone: 607-734-7741 • [www.woodbrookhome.com](http://www.woodbrookhome.com)

 **Alsworth Capital Management, LLC**  
Investment Management • Tax Planning  
Insurance Planning • Estate Planning  
Financial Planning  
**(607) 973-2665**  
[www.AlsworthCapital.com](http://www.AlsworthCapital.com)

  
*Italian Family Restaurant*

Village Plaza • Horseheads, NY • 796-2677  
Minier's Plaza • Big Flats, NY • 562-7000  
Amot Mall Food Court • Horseheads, NY • 739-4641

**HANDYMAN MASTER LLC**  
FREE ESTIMATES • NO JOB TOO SMALL  
Furniture • Kitchen • Bath  
Interior Painting • Plumbing  
**TOM KAGER**  
401-207-3331 | [tmkagr47@icloud.com](mailto:tmkagr47@icloud.com)

# SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!



*'Serving Our Parish Faithfully'*  
**Lynch Funeral Home Inc.**  
**739-1301**

318 West Broad Street, Horseheads, NY  
 Family Owned & Operated by: James J. Lynch II  
 James J. Lynch II & Heather Ann Lynch  
 Licensed Funeral Directors

**HALE ROOFING** 739-0489  
 COMMERCIAL ROOFING,  
 CRANE SERVICE & SHEET METAL  
 2054 Grand Central Ave., Horseheads, NY

**GEROULD'S**  
 PROFESSIONAL PHARMACIES, INC.  
 'PRESCRIPTION DELIVERY SERVICE'  
 130 S. Main St. • 733-6696  
 215 Hoffman St. • 732-0597  
 2887 Westinghouse Rd. • 796-2193  
 98 W. Pulteney • 936-3233

**TERRY ELECTRIC**  
 Fast Professional Service with Reasonable Rates  
 Paul Terry - Over 30 Years Experience  
 Residential or Commercial  
 Quality Work • Fully Insured • Free Estimates  
**607-739-4484 • 607-857-5429**

*Yee Olde*  
**HICKORY HOUSE RESTAURANT**  
 American, Chinese & Italian Cuisine  
 New Hours: Open Monday-Saturday 4pm-11pm  
 739-2405 • 3543 Watkins Rd, Horseheads

**ADT-Monitored Home Security**  
 Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust  
**833-287-3502**

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide

**SULLIVAN'S FUNERAL HOME**  
**607-739-2035**  
 Kevin R. Sullivan 365 E. Franklin St.  
 Licensed Funeral Director Horseheads, NY

**BC** Plumbing  
 Heating  
 Electric  
 AC/R  
**www.bcinc.info 562-2023**

**LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS**  
 Place Your Ad Here  
 and Support Our Parish!

**CONTACT ME Lorne Searight**  
**lsearight@4LPi.com • (800) 477-4574 x6460**

**FREE AD DESIGN**  
 with purchase  
 of this space  
**CALL 800-477-4574**

*America's Choice in Homecare.*  
**Visiting Angels**  
 LIVING ASSISTANCE SERVICES

Errands Shopping  
 Light Housekeeping  
 Meal Preparation

Friendly Companionship  
 Flexible Hourly Care  
 Respite Care for Families  
 Live-In Care

**607.846.2370** **www.visitingangels.com/horseheads**

FAITHFULLY SERVING OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

**BARBER FUNERAL HOME**

413 SOUTH MAIN STREET, HORSEHEADS, NEW YORK 14845-2490  
 (607) 739-4801 • [INFO@BARBERFUNERALHOME.COM](mailto:INFO@BARBERFUNERALHOME.COM)

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED FOR NEARLY  
 100 YEARS OF COMFORT, CONCERN, & SERVICE

**PARMENTER**  
 Tire, Auto and Truck Service • Team Tiremasters  
**www.parmenterinc.com**

**BOUTIQUE** 607-739-5321  
*...Of Course!*  
 Wedding Gowns, Tuxedo & Prom Gowns  
 Mother of the Bride/Groom Gowns  
 819 South Main St. in Horseheads

**WE'RE HIRING!**  
**AD SALES EXECUTIVES**  
 BE YOURSELF.  
 BRING YOUR PASSION.  
 WORK WITH PURPOSE.

- Paid training
- Some travel
- Work-life balance
- Full-Time with benefits
- Serve your community

Contact us at  
[careers@4lpi.com](mailto:careers@4lpi.com) or  
[www.4lpi.com/careers](http://www.4lpi.com/careers)

**Place Your Ad Here and Support our Parish!**  
 Instantly create and purchase an ad with

**AD CREATOR STUDIO**

**4lpi.com/adcreator**