



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

December 10, 2023

second sunday of **ADVENT**



WEEKLY CALENDAR**Tuesday, December 12**

3:45 p.m.—Faith Formation Classes—school

Thursday, December 14

7:00 p.m.—Adult Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, December 16

3:30 p.m.—Sacrament of Penance—church

The Eucharistic Breads or Hosts for the week of December 10-16, 2023 have been donated in memory of Josephine and Henry Ryan—Mary and Jim Carr

IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST:

Judy Buckley
Charles Nalbach

**PRAYER PLAQUE FOR THE SICK:**

The prayer plaque listing the names of ill persons who have asked for our prayers is posted across from the bulletin board

If you wish to be listed or know of someone who has asked for our prayers, please call the parish office at 607-739-3817.



With the coming of the Christmas Holiday, we urge our families to consider increasing their donations of non-perishable food items. A wooden cart is in the vestibule of the church for receiving your donations,

We are grateful for your ongoing support and hope we can depend on your continued generosity.

On line giving QR**ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE:****SACRAMENT OF PENANCE**

Saturday: 3:30 p.m.

ST. MARY OUR MOTHER SCHOOL CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM:

6:30 p.m.—Wednesday, December 20

9:00 a.m.—Thursday, December 21

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT MASSES**Saturday, December 23**

5:00 p.m.—Mass—Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 24

8:30 a.m.—Mass—Fourth Sunday of Advent

*Note: No 10:30 a.m. Mass***CHRISTMAS MASSES****Sunday, December 24, 2023**

3:00 p.m.—Christmas Family Mass

5:00 p.m.—Christmas Mass

9:30 p.m.—Adult Choir Choral Concert

10:00p.m.—Christmas Mass during the Night
(formerly known as 'Midnight Mass')**Monday, December 25, 2023**

9:00 a.m.—Christmas Mass

*Blessing of Christmas gifts Christmas Morning
Mass. No Mass on December 26th.*

HOLY FAMILY & SOLEMNITY OF MARY**Saturday, December 30**

5:00 p.m.—Mass of the Holy Family

Sunday, December 31

8:30 a.m.—Mass

10:30 a.m.—Mass

Monday, January 1, 2024

9:00 a.m.—Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"His Salvation is near to those who trust Him, and in steadfast love and faithfulness meet"

This New Testament reading during Advent reminds us of God's people to live in hope while they wait for the second Advent of Christ. Romans 14:4 calls the church to endurance and hope. Welcoming others into the family just like Jesus did.

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:

We have arrived at the **second week** of the season of **Advent**. Each year, Advent presents us with an invitation and challenge to take some time during these extremely busy and hectic December days to slow down and to be more aware of God's presence among us. Years ago, **St. John the Baptist** preached this message and encouraged people to listen to his message as he proclaimed and prepared the people of his time for the coming of Jesus. Advent is a season of anticipation, joy, and hope that comes from knowing that God is in our midst. During these Advent days, I would encourage you to allow God to comfort you and to help relieve any anxiety that you might be experiencing that prevents you from fully entering into the joy of this time of year.

Many of you may remember the late **Father Joseph F. Hogan**. Father Hogan served as chaplain at **Notre Dame High School** from 1955-1961. Upon his retirement, Father Hogan came to live at **St. Patrick Church, Elmira**, the then pastor, Father **Daniel F. Holland** and myself. When he was assigned to be the homilist for the weekend Masses during the season of Advent, St. Patrick had four weekend Masses, (all parishes in Chemung County had 4-5 weekend Masses in those days—how times have changed!) Father Hogan would include the following poem in his homily. I am not sure of the author, but it is entitled **I Promise: My Christmas Pledge**:

1. *I promise to make my Christmas a holy day with Christ—not a holy day without Him.*
2. *I promise to observe Christmas as the birthday of Christ—not a day to give and receive just material gifts.*
3. *I promise to remember that the real symbols of Christmas are the Star, the Stable, and the Crib—not Santa and his reindeer.*
4. *I promise to teach my children that "Santa Claus" is the nickname for Saint Nicholas, who gave to the poor, in honor of Christ.*
5. *I promise to help one poor family—in honor of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, the poor and homeless family of Bethlehem.*
6. *I promise to send Christmas cards remindful of Jesus, the infant savior—not decorated only with candy canes, ribbons, and wreaths.*
7. *I promise to make room in my home for Christ—with a Christmas Crib—to remind me that He was born in a stable.*
8. *I promise during this season, in a special way, to honor Mary, His mother—who kept the first Christmas vigil beside the manger.*

MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 19:

Monday: 6:45 A.M.	Dec. 11 Advent Weekday Joanne Langan—Pat & Kathy
Tuesday: 6:45 A.M.	Dec. 12 Our Lady Of Guadalupe Bob Lantzy—Lois & family
Wednesday: 6:45 A.M.	Dec. 13 St Lucy Virgin & Martyr Paul Baker—Carol & Jim Bramble
Thursday: 6:45 A.M.	Dec. 14 St John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church Our faithful departed
Friday: 6:45 A.M.	Dec. 15 Advent Weekday Deceased of the Curtin family—family
Saturday: 5:00 P.M.	Dec. 16 Advent Weekday Donald Blide, Sr. —Joyce & Dick Pirozzolo
Sunday: 8:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M.	Third Sunday of Advent Teri Guardi—Bob Eddie Jadoski—his family

Pastor's Perspective continued:

9. *I promise to begin this day, by leading my family to Church and to God's table—to receive the Bread of Life.*

...10. *I promise today and every day to give "Glory to God in the highest" and to work and pray for "Peace on earth to all of good will."*

Have a blessed second week of Advent. Please continue to take care of yourself and each other.

Fr L

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS**Jubilation to Share**

Sometimes you have something to share with people that causes you to well up inside with excitement to the point of going crazy. A pregnancy test, a pay raise, a college acceptance, a wedding or engagement are all examples of moments in life when we might be bursting at the seams to tell somebody the good news. When we finally get the chance to tell somebody, joy just seems to flow through us with ease. We literally want the entire world to share in our jubilation.

When was the last time you shared with a friend or loved one how much your faith in Jesus means to you? You don't feel the same motivation to share? Are you not overwhelmed with a desire to spread the Good News?

Don't feel bad. You are not alone. As Christians, we often fail to grasp the powerful implications of being a disciple of Jesus Christ. We can become complacent and lose sight of what matters the most. That is when sharing with others about our faith seems uncomfortable.

Continued on pg. 5

NOTRE DAME Retreat House Upcoming Retreats

1. **“A Time for Every Purpose”**—A time management workshop given by Dr. Mike Wischnowski, Wednesday, January 10th from 9:00am—3:00 pm. Fee of \$35.00 includes lunch.

For more details on retreat, the presenter and how to register, please visit our website at www.notredameretreat.org, or like us on www.facebook.com/NDSpirituality.

GOSPEL MEDITATION - December 10, 2023 2nd Sunday of Advent

We like to think we are totally free, but the bitter truth is we simply are not. Or better put, our freedom is limited on every side — by governments, corporate giants, physical and mental frailties, genetic shortcomings, and even the boundaries of time and space, and above all, the burden of our sins and pending deaths. In our day, we are perhaps particularly aware that we are not free to disconnect from the technocratic rulers of the air. If you doubt me, try not paying your internet bill and see what happens. We are not totally free.

It's nothing new, of course. In Jesus' day, everyone felt the crushing weight of the Roman Empire. You can say you're free all you want. But try not paying your taxes to Rome and see what happens.

Once we feel this burden in our own lives — however it comes — we are ready to hear the stunning announcement that commences Mark's gospel, **“The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.”** It's not a simple perfunctory introduction, but a dramatic announcement of new freedom. The word “gospel” was a political, even military, term. It meant: a great victory has been won and a new king is in charge. This Jesus — not the Roman emperor — is God's son, and He has defeated all that crushes human freedom. It's time to follow Him and be truly free. This week let's refuse to submit our freedom to false rulers — especially that of sin. And let's rejoice that Christ is coming to make us perfectly free from all our oppressors.

• *Father John Muir*

WOUNDED HEALERS BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP.

In this season which grief can be most challenging, we will be offering our Bereavement Support Group meeting on Tuesday, December 11, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in person, at, St. Mary Our Mother School. Please enter the building through lower door across from the playground. All are welcome. We strive to provide a safe and confidential, open place where our motto remains, “We see healing in the very act of helping.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 10, 2023:

Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 (8)/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8
Monday: Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Lk.5:17-26
Tuesday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30
Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab/Mt 11:11-15
Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mt 11:16-19
Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Next Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 (Is 61:10b)/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

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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 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

FORMED.org The Catholic Faith on Demand

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FAITH FORMATION UPCOMING EVENTS:

Dec. 10—OCIC class—O'Brien Hall following 8:30 Mass.

Dec. 10—Cookies & Cocoa following 10:30 Mass. All parish members are welcome. Confirmation class will help with activity.

Dec. 16—Youth Group & whole parish caroling following the 5:00 p.m. Mass. All parish members are invited to participate.



Diocese of
Rochester

Victims of sexual abuse should always report to the civil authorities.

To receive help and guidance from the Roman Catholic Diocese of Rochester, contact our **Victim Assistance Coordinator: Deborah A Housel, 585-328-3228, ext. 1555. Or toll free 1-800-388-7177, ext. 1555.**

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP continued:

Faith is a gift. As everyday stewards we are called to share with others what God has given us. Advent is a great time to grow in our faith and love of the Lord. The more we cultivate our faith and the closer we draw to Him, the more we will want to share about Him. We might not have the impact of John the Baptist in the course of human history, but our proclamation of the Gospel to another might be the gift that changes their history.




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