

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 24, 2023



WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday, December 25

Merry Christmas!

parish offices closed.

Tuesday, December 26 parish offices closed

Saturday, December 30 3:30 p.m. Sacrament of Penance

IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST:

Robert Joralemon Rose Alice Milliken Nehring Raymond Winieski



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.

A GENEROUS GIFT:

Recently the Church of St. Mary Our Mother received a generous contribution from the Catholic War Veterans Commander Post 1178 in the amount of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00). We wish to thank them for this generous gift to our parish.

MASSES AND MEMORIALS:

Mass intentions and Altar Memorials are a special way you can remember those who have died and those intentions you may wish to remember for the living.

Our Altar Memorials are available each week during the year. Donation for the week is as follows:

. Donanon for the	WCCK IS as IO
Sanctuary candle	\$10.00
Icon candle	\$10.00
Sacramental wine	\$15.00
Eucharistic bread	\$10.00

QR Giving Code



ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE:

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturday: 3:30 p.m.

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

A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT: The fourth Sunday of Advent.

In today's Gospel reading we hear proclaimed the story of the Annunciation, when the angel of the Lord announced to Mary that she would give birth to Christ through the intercession of the Holy Spirit. Mary allowed God's messenger to speak to her. She was attentive, not afraid to enter into a dialogue, then unconditionally obedient. Mary's acceptance of this mystery is a stewardship model for us. Good stewards remain open to the incursions of divine life into the normal course of their daily lives. How open are we to the promptings of the Holy Spirit in our own lives? What might we do this last week of Advent to be more attentive to the Lord?

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:

Happy Fourth Sunday of Advent and Merry Christmas! I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a Blessed and Merry Christmas! I feel blessed in my ministry as your pastor and join you in thanking God for the many ways we are blessed as the parish community of Saint Mary Our Mother.

I extend to all an invitation to our Christmas liturgies. These liturgies invite you to listen to the story of our salvation. The Christmas message is the story of God's unconditional love for us. As His disciples, we are called to fill this world with the many other stories that mirror and give witness to God's love for us. This is the meaning and the wonder of the Incarnation.

The Christmas holidays can be particularly painful for those who have lost loved ones this past year. Through the years, I have often enclosed the following in my Christmas greetings to friends who have lost loved ones. I thought it might be a timely poem as we look forward to Christmas this year.

MY FIRST CHRISTMAS IN HEAVEN

I see the countless Christmas trees around the world below; with tiny lights, like heaven's stars, reflecting on the snow.

The sight is so spectacular, please wipe away that tear, for I am spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.

I hear the many Christmas songs, the people hold so dear, but the sounds of music can't compare, with the Christmas choir up here.

For I have no words to tell you, the joy their voices bring, for it is beyond description to hear an angel sing.

I can't tell you of the splendor, or the peace here in this place, can you just imagine Christmas with our Savior, face to face?

I'll ask Him to light your spirit, as I tell Him of your love, so then pray for one another, as you lift your eyes above.

Please let your heart be joyful, and let your spirit sing, for I am spending Christmas in Heaven, and I'm walking with a King!

I know how much you miss me, I see the pain inside your heart, but I'm really not that far away, we really aren't apart.

So be happy for me, dear ones, you know I hold you dear, and be glad that I'm spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday, December 24-Eve of the Nativity of the Lord

3:00 p.m.-People of St. Mary Our Mother 5:00 p.m. People of St. Mary Our Mother 10:00 a.m.-People of St. Mary Our Mother

Monday: Dec. 25 The Nativity of the Lord 9:00 A.M. People of St. Mary Our Mother

Tuesday: Dec. 26 St. Stephen, the First Martyr

6:45 A.M. No Mass

Wednesday: Dec. 27 St. John, Apostle and Evangelist Giuseppe Puglisi--George and Franca Dec. 28 Holy Innocents, Martyrs Mary Ellen Benedict--Woodworth family

Friday: Dec. 29 St. Thomas Becket

6:45 A.M. Our faithful departed

10:00 A.M. Funeral Mass--Charles B. Nalbach

Saturday: Dec. 30 Sixth day within the Octave of

the Nativity of the Lord

5:00 P.M. Donna Berry--Morris family

Sunday: Dec 31 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary

and Joseph

8:30 A.M. Fr. Robert MacNamara--Dobek family

10:30 P.M. Paul Wyak--Ginny Pansero

Pastor's Perspective continued:

And all "love" is the gift, more precious than pure gold. It was almost most important in the stories Jesus told.

Please love and keep each other as my Father said to do, for I can't count the blessings of the love God has for you.

So have a Merry Christmas and wipe away that tear, remember I'm spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year!

Author unknown

On behalf of the entire staffs of St. Mary Our Mother parish and school, we wish you, your family, and loved ones a blessed, holy and **Merry Christmas!**

Fr.L.



THE MEANING OF THE 12 DAYS OF CHRIST-MAS:

What in the world do leaping frogs, French hens, swimming swans, and especially the partridge who won't come out of the pear tree have to do with Christmas?

Following is an article I found that offers a reflection on the meaning behind this carol. Author unknown.

From 1558 until 1829, Roman Catholics in England were not permitted to practice their faith openly. Someone during that era wrote this carol as a catechism song for young Catholics. It has two levels of meaning: the surface meaning plus the hidden meaning known only to members of their church.

Each element in the carol has a code word for a religious reality which the children could remember.

- 1. The partridge in a pear tree was Jesus Christ.
- 2. Two turtle doves were the Old and New Testaments.
- 3. The three French hens stood for the virtues of faith, hope and love.
- 4. The four calling birds were the four Gospels: Can you name them? (check your Bible for help)
- 5. The five golden rings recalled the Torah or law, the first five books of the bible (look them up to learn the names of the books of the Torah)
- 6. The six geese a-laying stood for the six days of creation.
- 7. Seven swans a swimming represents the seven fold gifts of the Holy Spirit. You can find this list in your Bible; Isaiah, chapter 11, verses 1 and 2.
- 8. The eight maids a milking were the 8 Beatitudes; You can find a list of the beatitudes in Matthews Gospel, verses 5:3 --5:10.
- 9. Nine ladies dancing were the nine Fruits of the Holy Spirit. You can find this list in your Bible in the New Testament book of Galatians. 5:22-23.
- 10. The ten lords leaping were the Ten Commandments which are found in your Bible in Deuteronomy 5:6-21.
- 11. The eleven pipers stood for the eleven disciples. The names of these faithful followers are found in your Bible in the book of Acts, verses 13 and 14.
- 12. The twelve drummers drumming symbolized the twelve points of the belief in the Apostles Creed. We say this Creed together at every Mass.

So there is your history lesson. Get out your Bibles and look up the suggested bible verses to learn even more.

CHRISTMAS WREATHS, 2023

In memory of Daniel Woodard – his wife, Peggy
In memory of Mario and Marie Scarselletta and Mary Ann Poland – the Scarselletta family
In thanksgiving – Jeff and Hanne O'Donnell
In thanksgiving – Chuck and Joan Ruhmel
In memory of Mitchell David Hastrich – Kathy Geary
In memory of our parents and grandparents – The William Kiefer family
In memory of deceased loved ones – Bill and Patti Rosettie
Praying for my health – Peter Lee
In memory of Phillip, Elise and Leslie Amisano – Richard and MaryAnne Amisano
Praying for good health for family members – Ed and Cathy Jadoski
In loving memory of James Francis Cronin – Shirley Cronin
In loving memory of Robert and Mary Frawley – Bill and Bobbie Conz
In thanksgiving – Cathy and David Peckham
In memory of Bryan Lanahan – Adele Lanahan
In loving memory of Mom, Dad and Tom - The Jansen family

MINISTERIAL STAFF

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
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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

In loving memory of Alberto, KP – Peter Park

Rev. Christopher E. Linsler, Pastor

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Mr. Vincent Moschetti, Chairperson
Mrs. Richelle Riina, Recording Secretary
CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Office

1 at isii Office		
816 West Broad Street	(607)-739-3817	
Fax	(607)-739-5628	
E-mail		
Parish Web Site	www.StMaryOurMother.com	
St. Mary Our Mother School		
811 Westlake Street	(607)-739-9157	
E-mail	smoms@dor.org	
School	-	
Web Sitewww.stmaryourmother.school		
Religious Education Offic	e	
816 West Broad Street	(607)-739-8214	

Christmas Poinsettias, 2023

In memory of Vincent and Shirley Mitchell - Katle Hastrich

In memory of Craig Gorman - Ann Gorman

In memory of the Callahan family - Ann Gorman

In memory of Anna and Howard Minchin - Jackie and Warren Conklin

In memory of Warren and Florence Conklin - Jackie and Warren Conklin

In memory of Sue Beering - husband, Fran

In memory of Christine, Malachi and Rosemary Beering - Fran Beering

In memory of Angeline, Arthur and James Nenni – Fran Beering

In memory of our parents - Mary and Bob Kuhnel

In memory of deceased Ruocco and Kosty family - Bob and Marianne Kosty

In memory of Kitty Rajnik - Bob and Marianne Kosty

In memory of Jackie Zeigler - Bob and Marianne Kosty

In memory of Angelia Barbito - Angela and Bill Wood

In memory of George and Jo Fyffe - Pam and Steve Strollo

In memory of George and Jo Fyffe - Pam and Steve Strollo

In memory of Phil Richmond -Krissy Ruhmel and family

In loving memory of deceased Jarvis and Sinasky family members – Irene Jarvis and family

In memory of Laura Merritt - Shane and Jacqueline Alsworth

In memory of Raymond Sherwood - Shane and Jacqueline Alsworth

In memory of the Frankie and Tenny family – Helen Tenny

Tin memory of Marguerite, Joseph and David Gwin – Sally Gwin

In memory of deceased McCullough and Hervol families - Mary Lou and Tom McCullough

In loving memory of Al and Teresa Mallette - Linda Gardner and family

In memory of Katie Gardner-Thomason - Linda Gardner and family

In memory of deceased Knights of Columbus members - Horseheads Council #6158

In memory of Robert Mix and Mary Lou Mix Havens - Dolores Mix

In memory of parents - John and Dee & Ben and Mary - Barbara and Bill Limoncelli

In memory of Mary Anne Kane -Killeen McCarthy and family

In memory of Brendan McCarthy - Killeen McCarthy and family

In memory of Don Kosty - Bob and Marianne Kosty

In loving memory of Bob VanBurger - his wife, Barbara

In memory of Andy and Dawn - Dorothy Andrewlavage

in memory of Helen and Ray Hower - by their daughters

In memory of Ann - Jim Young

In loving memory of Judi Lynch - Julie Lynch-Raymond and Dave Raymond and sons

In loving memory of my wife, Judi Lynch - husband, Ben

In memory of Daniel Woodard - his girls

In memory of John Kordyl - wife, Evie and family

In memory of Mary and Warren Woodard – daughter, Evelyn and family

In memory of Mamie Woodard – sister, Evelyn and family

Christmas Poinsettias, 2023

In memory of deceased members of the Miller and Wheaton families - Gary and Nancy Miller

In memory of deceased family - Sandra Hunt

In loving memory of Judi Lynch - Brian and Debbie Lynch and family

In loving memory of Judi Lynch - Mike and Karla Lynch

In loving memory of Judi Lynch - Darby and Quay Thompson and family

In memory of my husband, Robert F. Howland, Jr. - Mary Lou Howland

In memory of William LoVecchio - Marietta LoVecchio and family

In memory of Raymond Sherwood - his wife, Deloris

In memory of Stanley John Frederick - Deloris Sherwood

In memory of Richard Wing - Judy Wing and family

In thanksgiving for Gary Brouse's successful surgery - his wife, Ann

Merry Christmas to God, Jesus, Holy Spirit, Holy Mother and St. Joseph - Suann Maio

In loving memory of Mom and Dad – Suann Maio

Pray for my family - Joyce Yee

In loving memory of grandparents, William and Almeda Mix – JoAnne Belloma, Barbara Mix &

Kathy Morehouse

In loving memory of mother-in-law, Sue Belloma - JoAnne Belloma

In memory of Helen and Edward Linsler - Fr. Chris Linsler

In memory of Daniel Linsler - Fr. Chris Linsler

In memory of Alice and Chris McClory - Fr. Chris Linsler

In memory of Milton (Bud) Skeels - Fr. Chris Linsler

in memory of Kathleen, Leonard and Jean McGory - Fr. Chris Linsler

In memory of Billie and Donald McClory - Fr. Chris Linsler

In memory of J. Paul Linsler - Fr. Chris Linsler

In memory of Eunice Linsler - Fr. Chris Linsler

In memory of Stella and Chris McClory - Fr. Chris Linsler

In memory of Mary and Edward Linsler - Fr. Chris Linsler

In memory of Patricia McClory Clark – Fr. Chris Linsler

In memory of Alice McClory Snyder - Fr. Chris Linsler

In memory of Timothy McClory – Fr. Chris Linsler

In memory of Allan Caldwell – Fr. Chris Linsler In memory of Michael Caldwell – Fr. Chris Linsler

In memory of Dawn Reagan – Fr. Chris Linsler

In memory of Jo and Tom Lasorda - Fr. Chris Linsler

In memory of Sandra and Vin Scully - Fr. Chris Linsler

In memory of Robert A. Martino, Sr. - Jill Martino and family

In memory of Robert and Rilla Jenkins - Ed and Marybeth Gronski

In memory of Genevieve and Steve Gronski, Jr. - Ed and Marybeth Gronski

In memory of Robert J. Jenkins - Ed and Marybeth Gronski

In thanksgiving - Barbara and Milt Simpson

For Natalie, AJ and Simone - Rich and Maryanne Amisano

In memory of our parents - Mike and Anita Hesser -

In memory of deceased family members - Vincent and Beth Azzarelli

For baby, Lucy - Vincent and Beth Azzarelli

Christmas Poinsettias, 2023

In memory of deceased members of the Montalbano and Coon families – Denise and Robert

Coon

In loving memory of Al and Mary Perone - Patti Perrone

In memory of Donald and Dolores Roshetko - Ellen and Jonas Bankaitis

In memory of Henrikas and Aldona Bankaitis - Ellen and Jonas Bankaitis

In memory of Danute Bankaitis-Davis - Ellen and Jonas Bankaitis

In thanksgiving - Theresa Van Keuren

In loving memory of George Gresock - his wife, Ann

In loving memory of Jeannette - Christine Lloyd

In loving memory of the Conz family - Bill and Bobbie Conz.

In loving memory of Ronald Furstoss - Sharon Lourie

In memory of our passed family members - Caitlin Sherwood and family

In loving memory of our parents - Rich and Cindy Annunziata

In loving memory of Isaac Tenenbaum - Rich and Cindy Annunziata

In loving memory of Margaret Amisano - Adele Lanahan

In memory of Bernie and Florence Weigle - Patricia Weigle and family

In loving memory of Jim - Joan Mosher

In memory of John Russell - Carol Weigle Russell

For the special intention of Ray and Peg Weigle - Carol Russell and Patricia Weigle

In memory of J. Thomas Rossettie - Theresa Rossettie

In loving memory of John Gough - his wife, Ellie

In loving memory of Dick Sullivan - his wife, Carol

In loving memory of Sanford Montross - Hannah Riley

In memory of the Hinman and Geri families - Tom and Patti Hinman

In memory of Charles, Donna and Peter Berry - Colleen Ignaszewski

In loving memory of Jenny Rhoads – Michelle and Shawn Barkley

In loving memory of deceased Pfaff and Alexander families - John and Susie Alexander

In loving memory of our parents -Jan and Vincent Ferraro

In memory of deceased loved ones - Hoover family

In memory of deceased loved ones - Wilma Sullivan

In memory of deceased loved ones - Ann Ormiston

In loving memory of Ann Macabee - William Riley

In loving memory of Paul Wyak - his wife, Nanette

In loving memory of Karla Banda and Midge Zielinski - Jean Balster

In loving memory of John and Jean Brazell -Judy and David Hambruch

In loving memory of Bob and Natalle Hambruch – Judy and David Hambruch

For Ann and David - Ted Kozlowski

In loving memory of deceased family members - Ginny Pansero

In memory of Robert Mathew - Hans Bernhardt

In loving memory of deceased members of the Clinger and Yorio families



SAINT JOHN THE APOSTLE-FEAST DAY, DEC. 27.



St. John was one of the Twelve, part of Jesus' inner circle, among the few that witnessed the Transfiguration, the raising of Jarius' Daughter, and the Agony in the garden at Gethsemane. He and his brother James were the sons of Zebedee and Salome. When Jesus called them, they left their father mending nets and followed Him. Jesus called the brothers "Boanerges," meaning "sons of thunder"--they were passionate in their faith and Jesus had to rebuke them for their fiery zeal on more than one occasion. John, the younger brother, possibly the youngest disciple, was the only one present at Jesus' death.

St. John the Apostle is traditionally thought to be the author of the fourth Gospel, the three Epistles of John, and the book of Revelation. However, there has been some debate among scholars from antiquity to the present. Tradition also gives him the title Beloved Disciple and John's gospel sees him seated next to Jesus at the last supper and the one to whom Jesus gives the cre of Mary at the crucifixion.

Although Church tradition says that John survived the other disciples, living a long life, much of it is steeped in myth and legend. Some say he retired to Ephesus after the crucifixion with Mary and remained there until he died. But in other traditions he is more active. For a time he remained in Jerusalem with the other disciples, then founded churches in Asia Minor. In a legend of his persecution, during the reign of the Emperor Domitian, John is taken to Rome and thrown into a cauldron of boiling oil but preserved from death He is then exiled to the island of Patmos where the Book of Revelation was written.

Most accounts agree that after his exile and the Assumption of Mary, he returned to Ephesus where he died sometime after 98, during the reign of the Emperor Trajan..

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE:

Young Eddie was spending Christmas with his grandparents. While they were waiting to go into sit down at Church Eddie checked out all the announcements and pictures along the walls. When he came to a group of pictures of men in uniform, he asked a nearby usher, "who are all those men in the pictures?"

The usher replied, "why those are our boys who died in the service!



HAVE A BLESSED CHRISTMAS DAY!!

SILLY CHRISTMAS JOKES JUST FOR FUN!

- 1. Why does Donner and Blitzen get to take so many coffee breaks?
- 2. What do you call Santa when he doesn't move.?
- 3. What does an elf study in school?
- 4. What's the difference between the Christmas alphabet and the regular alphabet?
- 5. What did Adam say the day before Christmas?
- 6. What do you call a poor Santa?
- 7. What do snowmen call their sons and daughters?



Answers:

- 1. Because the are Santa's star bucks!
- 2. Santa pause
- 3. the <u>Elfabet!</u>
- 4. The regular alphabet has NOEL.
- 5. It's Christmas Eve!
- 6. Saint Nick-el-less.
- 7. Chill-dren





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