



# 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

February 4, 2024



## 5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

So he went into their synagogues, preaching and driving out demons throughout the whole of Galilee. - Mk 1:39

**WEEKLY CALENDAR****Tuesday February 6**

3:45 p.m.--Faith Formation classes--school

**Saturday, February 10**

3:30 p.m.--Sacrament of Penance-Church

**MEMORIALS:**

The Eucharistic Breads for the week of February 4 - 10, 2024 have been donated in memory of Lyn Nalbach by Fran Beering.

**IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST:**

Rosalie Cox  
Darryl Fink  
Raymond Howard  
Nancy McCarthy

**PRAYER PLAQUE FOR THE SICK:**

The prayer plaque listing the names of 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 STEWARDSHIP MOMENT: 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

“Rising very early before dawn, He left and went off to a deserted place, where He prayed...He told them, ‘Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose have I come.’” - MARK 1:35, 38.

In today's Gospel reading we see a perfect example of Stewardship. Jesus gives His time to do all that God wishes - healing the sick and preaching. But before He begins, Jesus takes time to be alone with God in prayer. It is through prayer, spending time with God, that we are given the graces needed to do what He wishes us to do. Praying before acting is a great habit to develop.

**VALENTINES FOR VETS:**

Valentines for vets is a local project to support veteran's at the Bath VA Medical Center. The purpose of this project is to wish veterans a Happy Valentines Day and thank them for their service. St. Mary Our Mother Social Ministry Committee has been involved in this project for many years. Although our participation looked different during Covid, we once again invite the parish family to be involved in this project.

We ask that you create handmade cards or letters, thanking our veterans for their service and wishing them a Happy Valentines Day. Please use the salutation, “Dear Veteran” or “Thank You Veteran.” Do not include a last name or personal photos on your valentines..

We have placed a red box on the table across from the bulletin board in the main vestibule to collect your valentine cards. Please do not put your valentines in envelopes. These valentines will be hand delivered to the veterans

Sample cards and any additional information are attached to the box in the vestibule . THANK YOU!



From Fr. Dan Condon, Diocesan Chancellor:

Please join the Catholic Action Network.

The Catholic Action Network (CAN), an arm of the New York State Catholic Conference, gives us all a voice in the halls of government. Through email and social media alerts, CAN reaches tens of thousands of Catholics across New York State to provide educational updates on the important issues being debated and to provide the tools to simplify the process of contacting our elected officials. At present, you will find information on Catholic community efforts to stop the legalization of physician-assisted suicide and state aid to Catholic schools. Please consider signing up for the Catholic Action Network: [nyscatholic.org/action-enter/](https://nyscatholic.org/action-enter/).

**PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:**

This past week's observance of **Catholic Schools Week** also marked the beginning of registration for students who are currently enrolled at **St. Mary Our Mother School** for the 2024-2025 academic year. Registration for all new students to our school will begin on Wednesday, February 14th. If you know of families who have children three years of age through sixth grade this September, now is the time to contact our school office to arrange a visit and tour. After all, this visit could make all the difference in your child's life and education.

The following are some **"Did You Know"** facts about St. Mary Our Mother School:

*We offer pre-school for children ages 3-4, as well as elementary education and faith based education through grade six, (these formative years provide the strongest educational foundation for our children), facilitating the importance of life-long learning.*

*We promote the intellectual, personal, social, and spiritual growth of each student.*

*We provide a safe and welcoming, yet challenging and loving faith based environment for children of all faiths. (15% of our current families who have chosen St. Mary Our Mother School actively practice a faith other than Catholicism).*

*Our current enrollment is 177 students, and enrollment trends indicate increasing enrollment likely for the next decade.*

*A multi-cultural student body, with children from numerous ethnic/racial backgrounds. Such an environment instills acceptance and appreciation for all people, and encourages our children to focus on things we have in common.*

*Character traits of respect, kindness, trustworthiness, fairness, responsibility, and citizenship are taught to every student every day, helping to instill these traits and values in each student. Each day begins with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance and concludes with prayer and reflection.*

*Our faculty and staff are dedicated, caring and effective people, many with multiple New York State certifications and also remain active with their ongoing professional development. Several of our staff have enrolled their children here because they have seen the academic successes St. Mary Our Mother School provides.*

*Our school has scored higher than other area schools in New York State testing in ELA (English and Language Arts) and Math*

*Technology literacy and proficiency begins in kindergarten.*

**MASSES FOR THE WEEK:**

<b>Monday:</b>	<b>February 5, St. Agatha, Virgin/Martyr</b>
6:45 A.M.	Our Faithful Departed
<b>Tuesday:</b>	<b>February 6, St. Paul Miki &amp; Companions</b>
6:45 A.M.	Our Faithful Departed
<b>Wednesday:</b>	<b>February 7, Weekday</b>
6:45 A.M.	Our Faithful Departed
<b>Thursday:</b>	<b>February 8, Weekday</b>
6:45 A.M.	Charles Dickinson--daughter, Jan Graves
<b>Friday:</b>	<b>February 9, Weekday</b>
6:45 A.M.	Our Faithful Departed
<b>Saturday:</b>	<b>February 10, St. Scholastica-Virgin</b>
5:00 P.M.	Josephine & Henry Ryan-- Jim and Mary Carr
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>February 11--Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
8:30 A.M.	Bob Lantzy--Lois & family
10:30 A.M.	Special Intention

**Pastor's perspective continued:**

*Financial assistance is available for students. No child will be refused at St. Mary Our Mother School education due to a family's inability to pay.*

*Our school has been an integral part of our community since 1959; with some of our students being the 2nd or 3rd generation families who have attended our school.*

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

Fr. L.

**ST. MARY OUR MOTHER SCHOOL  
REGISTRATION**

St. Mary Our Mother School is accepting student registrations for the 2024/2025 school year for grades pre-K3 through grade six. Openings will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Parents or guardians who are new to St. Mary Our Mother School will need: birth certificate, baptismal certificate, immunization records and a completed parish commitment form for members of the parish. The non-refundable registration fee is \$200 per family. Both before and after school care are available. For further information, call St. Mary Our Mother School at 739-9157 during school hours from 8:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.



## HOW BIG IS YOUR GOD!

What would have happened had Moses tried to figure out what was needed to accomplish God's command? One of the biggest arithmetical miracles in the world was required in the desert.

Moses led the people of Israel into the desert... now what was he going to do with them? They had to be fed, and feeding 3 1/2 million people required a lot of food. According to the U.S. Army's Quartermaster General, Moses needed 1,500 tons of food a day, filling two freight trains, each a mile long. Besides, you must remember, they were cooking the food. Just for cooking this took 4,000 tons of firwood and a few more freight trains, each a mile long and this is only for one day (not to mention for keeping warm, and if anyone tells you it doesn't get cold in the desert, don't believe them!)

Let's not forget about water! If only they had enough to drink and wash a few dishes, (no bathing!), it took 11,000,000 gallons each day, enough to fill a train of tanker cars 1,800 miles long.

And another thing! They had to get across the Red Sea in one night. Now if they went on a narrow path, double file, the line would be 800 miles long and require 35 days and nights to complete the crossing. So to get it over in one night there had to be a space in the Red Sea 3 miles wide so they could walk 5,000 abreast. Think about this, every time they camped at the end of the day, a camp ground the size of Rhode Island was required, or 750 square miles.

Do you think Moses sat down and figured out the logistics of what God told him to do before he set out from Egypt? I doubt it. *He had faith that God would take care of everything. Let us have courage, we share the very same GOD!*

*Jeremiah 29:11 "I know the plan I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future."*



The Wounded Healers' Bereavement Support Group meeting will be offered on Tuesday, February 13, 2024 at 7:00 P.M., at St. Mary Our Mother School, 811 Westlake St. Horseheads. **This will be our annual service of remembering.** You may wish to bring a picture or two of your loved one who died, or a memento of significance. Each one has a personal grief journey so we are open to listen, and are careful to not dogmatize. We welcome those who are grieving the death of a loved one to this sharing: as you are each hoping to find encouragement, insight, and normalization from each other.



## FOR THE FOOD PANTRY

Super Bowl Sunday is quickly approaching. Once again, Social Ministry, with the help of volunteer youth, will be taking up a collection at the doors of the Church after the Masses on Super Bowl Sunday next weekend, February 10 and 11. The donations will go to the Horseheads Food Pantry for the purchase of meat, dairy and produce items for distribution to their clients.

However, this year there will be two marked bags at each of the church entrances - one for each team. Please place your donations in the bag of the team for whom you will be rooting. We will let you know in two weeks the winning team of the Pantry Bowl.

So, in reality, no matter who wins the Super Bowl on the field, the clients of the Horseheads Food Pantry will be the winners. You, too, will be a winner for your generosity to those in need.

## 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

**ON THE LIGHTER SIDE:**

**Did you hear about the first restaurant to open on the moon?** *(It had great food but no atmosphere)*

**Why should you never trust stairs?** *(They are always up to something)*

**Where should you go to in a room if you are cold?** *(The corner, they are usually 90 degrees)*

**THE MIRACULOUS CANE:**

Bent over and obviously in pain, the old man with a cane hobbled laboriously through the sanctuary and into the pastor's office while the choir was practicing. Ten minutes later he came out walking up-right and moving gracefully and quickly. "Good gracious," the Choir director exclaimed, "Did the pastor heal you by faith?" "Oh no," the old man said with a smile, "He just gave me a cane that wasn't six inches too short!"

**REGIONAL EVENT:****2024 Lenten Sessions**

Held at Most Holy Name of Jesus Parish Faith Formation Center, 1010 Davis St., Elmira. For more information and to register go to: [www.ElmiraCatholic.org/TheRescue-Project/](http://www.ElmiraCatholic.org/TheRescue-Project/).

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