



# 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 18, 2024



## 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." - Mk 1:14-15

**WEEKLY CALENDAR**

**Monday, February 19- President's Day**  
Parish Office Closed

**Thursday, February 22-Diocesan Day of Penance and Mercy**  
11:30 a.m. - Sacrament of Penance (Sacrament available until 5:30 p.m.)

**Friday, February 23**  
5:15 p.m. -Stations of the Cross--chapel

**Saturday, February 24**  
3:30 p.m. Sacrament of Penance--Church

**MEMORIALS:**

The Eucharistic Breads or Hosts for the week of February 18th-24th, 2024 have been donated for the intentions of Michael Langan and family by Pat Madison.

The Votive light before the Icon is burning for the week of February 18th-24th in memory of Tina Fae' by Franca and George.

**IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST:**

Michael Brown  
Arline Corcoran  
Jeffrey Hafler

**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.

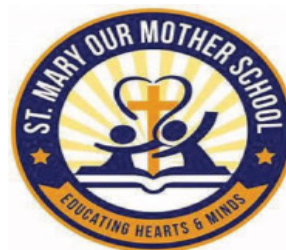
QR Giving Code

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT:**

In today's Gospel, Jesus urges His listeners to do two things: to believe in the Good News and to repent. Stewards are called to repent, to be humble enough to open their hearts so they may begin anew, to change existing attitudes and habits, and to act with faith in the Gospel. In this season of Lent, now is the time to ask ourselves whether or not we truly believe in the Gospel; and if we do, to what extent are we willing to change our prevailing habits and be more faithful to the Gospel?

As we mark President's Day, February 19th, let us pause and remember the words of President Abraham Lincoln on prayer.

*"I have been driven many times upon my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had no where else to go. My own wisdom and that of all about me seemed insufficient for the day."*

**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.

**PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE:**

The diocesan-wide **Day of Penance and Mercy** will be this Thursday, February 22, 2024. On this day, many parishes throughout the diocese will be "open for forgiveness, offering people the opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance individually. We will offer the sacrament on Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. In recent years, especially after the pandemic, there seems to be fewer people taking advantage of this sacrament, but I haven't noticed an equal drop in sin.

The following may be a few reasons why people might be avoiding this sacrament with some short responses added..

**Reason 1:** *"I haven't been to individual confession in years! I don't know what to do?"* No problem, just ask the priest to guide you through it.

**Reason 2** *"I prefer to confess my sins directly to God and be forgiven; I don't need to go to confession."* Our sins not only offend God, but also disrupt our relationships with everyone else. We need to be reconciled with God, the Church, and all people through this sacrament.

**Reason 3:** *"I don't know what to confess anymore!"* Do a quick examination of Conscience, and ask yourself: how holy and good are my relationships with God, myself, the people around me everyday and the wider world in which I live? Be honest and thorough with yourself, and you will know what to confess.

**Reason 4:** *"I am embarrassed to mention my sins to another person, to say nothing of a priest I may see at a parish, school, or community events."* Chances are pretty good the priest won't remember what you confessed-trust me on this!! Please remember that the priest cannot say a word about it or let it color his thinking outside the confessional. But there is something reassuring to have the personal assurance from a priest that God forgives you!

**Reason 5:** *"I find myself confessing the same sins over and over again!"* Welcome to the human race! That is why we need forgiveness over and over again! It is also a reminder to us that God gives us mercy over and over again!

**MASSSES FOR THE WEEK:**

<b>Monday:</b>	<b>February 19, Lenten Weekday</b>
6:45 A.M.	David Root- Mary & Tom Sweet
<b>Tuesday:</b>	<b>February 20, Lenten Weekday</b>
6:45 A.M.	Our Faithful Departed
<b>Wednesday:</b>	<b>February 21, Lenten Weekday</b>
6:45 A.M.	Pablo & Elisea Atienza-Macapinlac-family
<b>Thursday:</b>	<b>February 22, Chair of St. Peter, the Apostle</b>
6:45 A.M.	Deceased of the Curtin family Members-family
<b>Friday:</b>	<b>February 23, Lenten Weekday</b>
6:45 A.M.	Our Faithful Departed
<b>Saturday:</b>	<b>February 24, Lenten Weekday</b>
5:00 P.M.	Carol Ann Wawrzusin- Ray
<b>Sunday,</b>	<b>February 25, Second Sunday of Lent</b>
8:30 A.M.	Walter Dobek- his family
10:30 A.M.	Frank Demarco- Tara Barrett

**Pastor's perspective continued:**

**Reason 6:** *"I may need more than just a few minutes for spiritual direction about my sins."* If this is the case, you can always make an appointment with a priest to discuss the state of your spiritual life. The sacrament was never intended to be an opportunity for individual counseling and therapy.

**Reason 7:** *"I am afraid of shocking the priest!"*  
Really? Try me!

**Reason 8:** *"I am afraid that the priest will ask me to change my life."* If there is something that is wrong in a person's life, change will be needed. The priest may make some suggestions to you but it will be the Holy Spirit, not the priest asking you to do so.

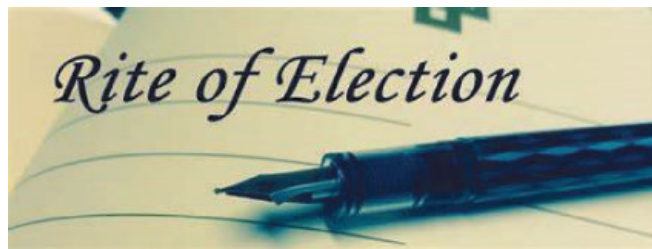
During one of our parish retreats, Father Simeon Gallaher, O.F.M., Cap, offered a very practical summary for a person preparing for the Sacrament of Penance. Father Gallagher's approach is four basic steps:

- Step one:** *Name it (name the sin);*
- Step two :** *Claim it (admit/claim ownership of the sin);*
- Step three:** *Tame it (open yourself to God's grace;*
- Step four:** *Aim it (go forth living a life renewed).*

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

Fr. L.





## A SEASON FOR REFLECTION:

During this holy time, we are called to pause and pay closer attention to our relationship with God and our neighbors. Reflect on how the Lenten pillars of prayer, fasting and almsgiving can guide your journey and how the Eucharist helps us to live in solidarity with our sisters and brothers around the world. Visit [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org) to learn more and read this week's Story of Hope.

## 2024 LENTEN SCHEDULE

### Daily Mass:

6:45 a.m. - Monday thru Friday

### Sacrament of Penance:

3:30 p.m. Saturdays

11:30 a.m. Thursday, February 22nd--Diocesan  
Day of Penance & Mercy  
*Sacrament available until 5:30 p.m.*

### Stations of the Cross:

1:30 p.m. Fridays with St. Mary Our Mother  
School (*when school is in session*)  
5:15 p.m. Fridays of Lent  
St. Mary Our Mother School Living Stations  
1:30 & 5:15 p.m.--Friday, March 22, 2024

### Adult Education Series:

March 4-6, St. Mary, Elmira (Times TBA)  
Meditations of Eucharist: Eucharistic Presence,  
Eucharistic Sacrifice, Eucharistic Living  
Father Robert J. Kennedy, Presenter

### FILL YOUR SOUL DAY - March 5th

**Practicing Lent One Day at a Time" with the Not So  
Typical Church Ladies** (Ann Gallagher, Karen Luke and  
Vicky Wejko)

**Register on line:** <https://notredameretreat.org/>

We have several children and adults who have spent many weeks preparing for full initiation into the Catholic Church. The following candidates will join us at the table of the Lord for the first time at the Easter Vigil Mass:

Karrigan Nichols	Regan Callaio
Aubrianna Prunier	Abrem O'Brien
Liam Painter	Madeline Blide
Kiba Painter	

Please continue to pray and encourage them as they take the final steps in their preparation .

### 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

## REGIONAL/DIOCESAN EVENTS:

**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-center/](http://nyscatholic.org/action-center/)



## 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/](http://www.ElmiraCatholic.org/)

## NO COST LENTEN CHANGEMAKER SERIES AT NOTRE DAME SCHOOL.

Weekday evening with simple supper and one hour presentation.

- February 22nd "A migrant journey, Latino farm workers" with Fr. Jesus Flores
- February 29th "Food insecurity an Invasive Injustice" with Marcus Ebenhoe
- March 4th "Caring For God's Creation with Patrick Lynch
- March 18th "Ethical Purchasing" with Grace Adams

To register or to learn more about each evening's focus and presenter, visit our website: <http://notredameretreat.org>.

## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE:

At our weekly Bible study, the leader asked an elderly gentleman, Walt, to open the meeting with prayer. Walt did so in a soft voice. Another man, straining to hear, shouted, "I can't hear you!" Walt replied, "I wasn't talking to you."

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