



# 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

November 21, 2021

## OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

We often come to life expecting all of the pieces of the puzzle to nicely fit together. We want and expect harmony, order, and fairness, the achievement of rewards for good behavior, good health, and happiness. We can more easily accept death when it comes naturally after a good long life, but have a real difficulty comprehending the meaning of it all when it is cut short. Willing to put in a good measure of effort, we desire positive results. When things go wrong and life gets hurtful, unjust, and downright ugly, we become unsettled and can quickly fall into despair. This is especially true if we are people of faith who believe in a God who sees things on our terms and works in favor of our life agenda. What happens to our faith when we find ourselves sitting in a mess?

Does it help to know that God understands and that hardship, failure, disappointment, injustice, confusion, and all of life's ugliness do not make faith irrelevant or irrational? God is wonderfully and surprising creative! He turns the tables on not only our understanding of life, but of what it means to be a king. God sends us a king who is not exempt from life's ills but embraces them. The king that God gives to us knows what it means to be poor, suffer insults, be ridiculed, face rejection, endure suffering, be betrayed, and face a most unjust and horrific death. This is our king. Jesus is not a king of prestige or grandeur but a king who brings light to darkness, hope to despair, sinners to mercy, and new life out of death. Christ dances before us pleading with us to hold on, cling to love, avoid being negative, stop feeling cheated, and be strong in faith! There may be hardship and disappointment now but there are more surprises to come.

Once we understand this truth, we will also understand that we are on a most incredible and awesome universal journey to Christ and becoming one in Christ. We all carry within us the image of God, the image of our suffering king. The One who lives in us also lives in all of our brothers and sisters. Failing to see this universal Divine Presence in all is one of the greatest mistakes we can make, for we also fail to see God, our king, as well. There are many things that can bring hardship to life. If we keep our head about us and do not lose hope, we can persevere and strive for the greatest degree of justice possible. ©LPi

## THANKSGIVING DAY

Our **Thanksgiving Day Mass** will be at **9:00 a.m.**, and we invite you to join us for this Eucharist of Thanksgiving. We also invite you to bring non-perishable food items which will be shared with our local food pantry. Due to the restrictions imposed by the covid-19 virus, our annual Christmas basket effort coordinated by our Social Ministry Committee is cancelled for the second consecutive year.

## HANDS OF CHRIST AWARD 2021

The **Hands of Christ** is a recognition program to assist parishes in affirming their high school seniors who have been the "Hands of Christ" in their church, home, school, and greater community. You are invited to nominate a high school senior of the class of 2022 for the Hands of Christ recognition.

A nominated high school senior must meet the following criteria:

- ~ *Consistently demonstrates a Christian attitude by word and example;*
- ~ *has been actively involved in their parish as well as their school community;*
- ~ *has been a positive role model for peers and younger children;*
- ~ *is a participating member of St. Mary Our Mother parish and attends Mass regularly;*
- ~ *is currently a high school senior.*

To nominate a senior, please stop at the parish office for a registration form, complete the registration form including the nominee's name, address, telephone number, and high school along with the examples of the above mentioned criteria. All forms will be reviewed by Father Linsler for approval as pastor. All nominations are due in the parish office by tomorrow, **November 22, 2021.**

## PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

The parish office will be closing **Wednesday, November 24th at 11:00 a.m.**, and will remain closed on **Thanksgiving Day, November 25th**, and **Friday, November 29th**. The parish office will re-open on **Monday, November 29th at 9:00 a.m.**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS****SUNDAY - November 28, 2021****FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

First Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

Gospel: Luke 21:25-28, 24-26

**IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Susan Campbell

**FLOWER DONATIONS****Main Altar Arrangement:***In loving memory of our mother and grandmother,**Carol Farr - her family***IN OUR PARISH****Liturgical Ministers**

With the outbreak of the Coronavirus in March 2020, many of our liturgical ministries involving our acolytes, lectors and Eucharistic ministers were suspended. While we await permission to resume these ministries, we would like to be ready when that permission is received. If you previously served in one of these liturgical ministries and would like to resume serving, please call the parish office. If you have not previously served but would like to serve in one of these ministries, please call the parish office. Appropriate training will be provided. Thank you.

**Church Christmas Decorations**

If you would like to have a poinsettia or a wreath in the Church this Christmas, please call the parish office at 607-739-3817.

All flowers for Christmas must be ordered by **December 8th**.

**Advent/Christmas Booklets**

As we are all aware, the parish is unable to have printed materials available in the Church during this time. The "Word Among Us," "Today's Missal" and "The Little Blue Book" for Advent and Christmas 2021 have arrived at the parish office.

If you would like to have copies of these booklets, please call the office at 607-739-3817.

**Prayers and Squares Quilting Group**

The Prayers and Squares Quilting Group has blessed lap quilts available for anyone who is ill. We are no longer able to distribute them at the end of Mass. If you know anyone who would appreciate receiving a quilt, please contact 738-3699 (Maribeth) or 731-8085 (Wilma) to make arrangements to stop at the parish office for your quilt.

*(In Our Parish continued on page 4...)*

**SUNDAY'S READINGS****First Reading:**

His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not be taken away, His kingship shall not be destroyed. (Dn 7:14)

**Psalm:**

The Lord is king; He is robed in majesty. (Ps 93)

**Second Reading:**

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by His blood, who has made us into a kingdom, priests for His God and Father, to Him be glory and power forever and ever. (Rv 1:5-6)

**Gospel:**

So Pilate said to him, "Then you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say I am a king." (Jn 18:37)

*Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.*

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*LPi*

**WEEKLY READINGS AND OBSERVANCES****Readings for the week of November 21, 2021**

Sunday: Dn 7:13-14/Ps 93:1, 1-2, 5 [1a]/Rv 1:5-8/Jn 18:33b-37

Monday: Dn 1:1-6, 8-20/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 [52b]/Lk 21:1-4

Tuesday: Dn 2:31-45/Dn 3:57, 58, 59, 60, 61 [59b]/Lk 21:5-11

Wednesday: Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28/Dn 3:62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67 [59b]/Lk 21:12-19

Thursday: Dn 6:12-28/Dn 3:68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74 [59b]/Lk 21:20-28

Friday: Dn 7:2-14/Dn 3:75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81/Lk 21:29-33

Saturday: Dn 7:15-27/Dn 3:82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87/Lk 21:34-36

Next Sunday: Jer 33:14-16/1 Thes 3:12—4:2/Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14 [1b]/Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

**Observances for the week of November 21, 2021**

Sunday: Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Monday: St. Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr

Tuesday: St. Clement I, Pope and Martyr; St. Columban, Abbot; Bl. Miguel Agustín Pro, Priest and Martyr

Wednesday: St. Andrew Dũng-Lạc, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs

Thursday: St. Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr; Thanksgiving Day

Friday:

Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary

Next Sunday: 1st Sunday of Advent

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## PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

Today, we celebrate the Solemnity of **Christ the King**. This feast was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925, and celebrates an aspect of Jesus; identity rather than an event in His life and is thus categorized among the "idea feasts". Another example of an "idea feast" would be that of the Holy Family. This feast was originally celebrated each year on the last Sunday in October, but with the revision of the Roman Missal after the Second Vatican Council, this feast was moved to the final Sunday of the liturgical year. By instituting the Feast of Christ the King, Pope Pius XI hoped to renew and strengthen the faith of the people of his time. It was Pius XI's hope that this annual celebration would serve as a powerful sign of Jesus' reign in our midst, that this celebration would speak powerfully of our belief in God's triumph over evil. Christ Our King continued to empower us to be His living presence in today's world.

Thursday of this week we celebrate the American feast of **Thanksgiving**. It is an annual event that invites us to go back into our history and remember! We may think of the traditional story of the pilgrims and the Native Americans sitting down to that meal of turkey, corn, potatoes, squash, and wonderful pies. We may think of the excited dreams that our colonial forefathers had as they ended their first year in this new land; the opportunities that they saw opening up for them and how they rejoiced in the opportunity to make dreams come true. We may think of our more recent history and what it is for which we need to thank God. We may revisit Thanksgivings past and those who sat at the table with us and now sit at God's heavenly table. We may simply look around our family table at home and see familiar faces and hear familiar stories and simply be grateful that we are a part of it all. Wherever our mindset might be, Thanksgiving gives us a moment to pause and not achieve a thing but to simply be grateful for who we are.

On October 3, 1863, with the country in the midst of the Civil War, **President Abraham Lincoln** issued the following **Thanksgiving Proclamation** for that year. It gives much food for thought:

*The year that is drawing its close has been filled with the blessings of fruitful and healthful skies.*

*To these bounties, which are constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added which are so extraordinary a nature that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensitive to the ever watchful providence of Almighty God.*

*No human counsel has advised nor has mortal hand worked out these great things.*

*They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy.*

*It has seemed proper and fit so that they should be reverently, solemnly, and gratefully acknowledged, as with one heart and voice, by the whole American people.*

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

**Monday, November 22 - St. Cecilia, Virgin & Martyr**

6:45 AM Chester Wawrzusin - Raymond Wawrzusin

**Tuesday, November 23 - Weekday**

6:45 AM Deceased members of the Curtin family - family

**Wednesday, November 24 - St. Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest & Companions, Martyrs**

6:45 AM For the Faithful Departed

**Thursday, November 25 - Thanksgiving Day**

6:45 AM For the People of St. Mary Our Mother

**Friday, November 26 - Weekday**

6:45 AM No Mass

**Saturday, November 27 - Weekday**

5:00 PM Francis J. Mack, Jr. - his family

**Sunday, November 28 - First Sunday of Advent**

8:30 AM Celine Louisnathan - Legion of Mary ladies

10:30 AM Robert Rohde - Horseheads Knights of Columbus Chapter 6158

*I do therefore invite my fellow citizens to set apart and observe the last day of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and praise for the beneficent Father who dwells in the heavens.*

I extend a special invitation to you and your family to begin your **Thanksgiving Day** by joining us for Mass at **9:00 a.m.** It is a wonderful way to begin this American holiday, and to thank God for the many blessings we are grateful for. May God extend many blessings to you and your family this Thanksgiving!

Fr. L.

**IN OUR PARISH CONTINUED...**

**Updated Covid-19 Protocol**

Due to the Covid-19 cases in our area, we are exercising extra caution to keep our parishioners safe, especially those who are not vaccinated. **Until further notice, masks are required whenever you are in a church building, including when attending Mass.** This applies to everyone old enough to safely wear a mask, regardless of vaccination status. We are not at this time implementing any additional registration, social distancing, nor extra sanitizing procedures.

One half of the church seating will continue to be "open seating" with all rows open. The other half will be blocked off at every other row, for those more comfortable with social distancing. When you enter a pew row, please move to the furthest open seating area, so that others can fill in the row behind you. Thank you.

**Social Ministry Thanksgiving/Updated Christmas Plans - 2021**

Due to the continuing covid-19 pandemic, our Social Ministry Committee believes it is best for our parish to work through the Horseheads Food Pantry in providing assistance to needy families during the holiday season. The pantry already has safety precautions in place for food distribution to the needy.

For Thanksgiving, the Food Bank of the Southern Tier will be supplying the Horseheads Food Pantry with turkey and food to complete the holiday meal for the less fortunate families in our area. We will continue our food donations, as usual, with an emphasis on canned vegetables, such as corn and beans.

Christmas plans have been finalized. We will be donating money to the Food Pantry to allow them to purchase a ham for each family. There will be envelopes on the table in the vestibule of the church for your donation if you wish to help us this year. Checks may be made out to St. Mary Our Mother Church. You may place the envelopes in the collection boxes at the entrances of the Church. You may also mail your donation to the parish office.

We are grateful to the many caring people in our parish who have supported our Christmas Basket program in the past. We hope that we can continue to depend on your generosity for our revised plans for the upcoming holiday season.

**Catholic Ministries Appeal**

As of November 10th, **142 families** have contributed **\$38,217.00** toward our parish goal of **\$106,251.00**. We thank those who have given generously to the CMA and ask that all who have not yet given to this appeal to prayerfully consider doing so. Please consider all the ways God has blessed you and your family and how the Church has brought joy and goodness in our lives. The CMA is one way we can give back to God for the many blessings God has shared with us.

**REGIONAL EVENTS**

**March for Life**

Be a voice for the voiceless! Plan now to travel with us to Washington, DC for the **January 21, 2022 March for Life**. We will travel by bus leaving at about 11:30 p.m. on January 20th, arrive in Washington in time for food and Mass. Then we will visit the offices of our Congressman and Senators, see Capitol Hill, attend the Rally for Life on the National Mall, and then **March for Life** to the Supreme Court Building. Buses arrive home at about 11:00 p.m. on January 21st.

The cost is \$40.00 per person, if paid before December 15th; \$50.00 after that date. "Scholarships" are available. Adults and school age children are welcome.

It is a great experience! Plan now. Call Steve at 607-739-9282 for information or to reserve your seat. Individuals or groups who would like to donate to defray costs or sponsor people to ride are invited to call also.

**MINISTERIAL STAFF**

- Rev. Christopher E. Linsler**, Pastor
- Rev. Richard F. Kajiru**, In Residence
- Mrs. Barbara Matterazzo**, Coordinator of Faith Formation
- Mrs. Cathy Peckham**, Director of Music
- Mrs. Heather Bill**, School Principal
- Mrs. Adriana Enright**, School Secretary
- Ms. Terri Orbin**, Business Manager
- Mrs. Joyce Pirozzolo**, Parish Secretary
- Mrs. Maribeth Leipold**, Faith Formation Secretary
- Mrs. Amy Barr**, Faith Formation Associate
- Mrs. Sue Wood**, Bulletin Editor
- Mr. Doug Johnson**, Cemetery Manager
- 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
- E-mail.....smomfaithformation@gmail.com

**FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE**  
**Tax Advantaged Donation Strategies**

In addition to donating with cash or checks, there are other tax beneficial ways that you are able to donate to St. Mary Our Mother:

**If you are over age 70-1/2 and you have an IRA retirement account**, you may be eligible for a tax benefit called a **Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)**. This provision in the tax law allows you to make a distribution from your IRA directly to St. Mary Our Mother. Using the QCD option, you can transfer up to \$100,000 per year to charity and exclude the entire distribution from your gross income for tax purposes. This is a nice tax benefit that allows you to reduce your taxable income for charitable giving, regardless of whether you are otherwise eligible to deduct charitable contributions on your tax return. To use the QCD election, you will need to sign a form provided by your IRA account custodian. On the form you will elect to make the payment payable directly to "St. Mary Our Mother" and you will enter the address as: 816 West Broad Street, Horseheads, NY 14845.

**If you have appreciated securities, you may be able to save money on capital gains taxes** by donating shares to St. Mary Our Mother. You can transfer stocks, bonds, mutual funds or exchange traded funds (ETF) positions that have appreciated in value directly to our investment account. We can sell the positions for you and use the proceeds. We do not owe capital gains tax on the sale, since

we are a qualified non-profit organization. In addition to avoiding capital gains tax on selling the position, you may also be able to deduct the value of the security that you donate, as a charitable contribution. If you hold the appreciated security in a brokerage account, your custodian can provide you with the forms to sign to make the transfer.

If you have any questions, or need any clarification, please let us know. We will do everything we can to accommodate and make the donation as easy as possible.

Thank you for your gifts and for all your contributions to St. Mary Our Mother!



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