

Sts. Mary & Matthew Faith Community

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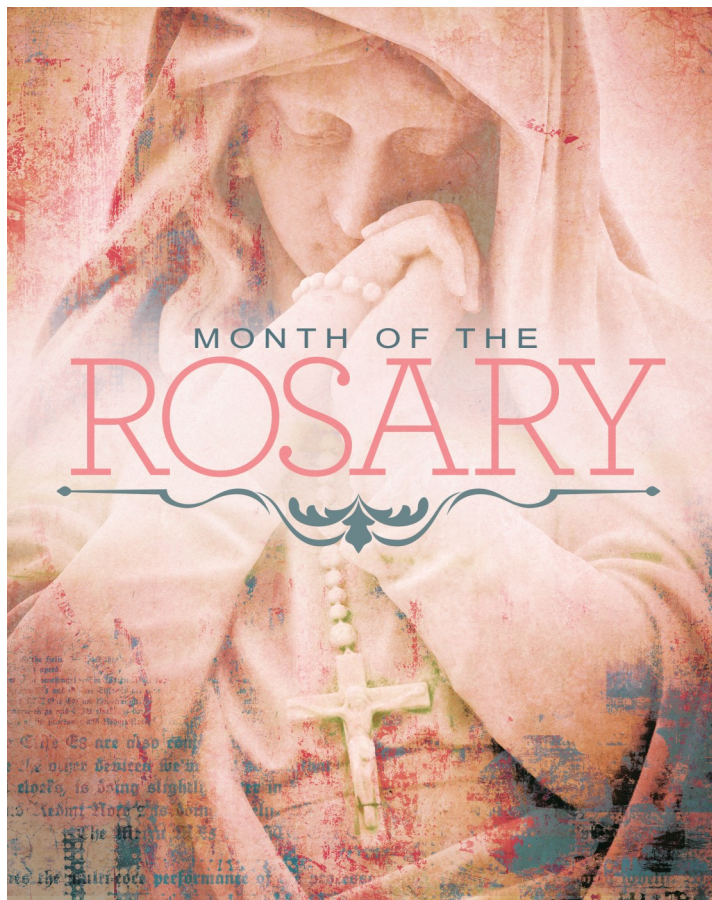
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Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9:00 am to Noon

Office Hours: Mon-Wed 8:00 am to 1:00 pm

Website - www.stsmariamattthew.com Facebook - [stsmariamattthewfaithcommunity](https://www.facebook.com/stsmariamattthewfaithcommunity)

Growing in faith, loving like Christ, and serving our community with grace ~ October 5, 2025



The Word of the Laird



In today's first reading, Habakkuk is facing a situation that is extremely negative. The Chaldeans have been increasing in power against the Israelites. King Joachim was exercising a tyrannical reign of Judah. Against this background Habakkuk cries out, "I cry for help but you do not listen!" The rest of Chapter 1 is a description of the evils being perpetrated. That then brings us to the verse from Chapter 2, "the just one, because of his faith, shall live."

The Gospel has the Apostles pleading, "increase our faith." Jesus responds with an answer that can only be described as hyperbole, "If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you."

Paul, who is imprisoned, exhorts Timothy "to stir into flame the gift of God that you have received through the imposition of my hands...Take as your norm the sound words that you heard from me in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus."

May our hearts be enriched and strengthened by the gift of faith that was given us at baptism and is renewed and strengthened every time we share in the Eucharist.

Thanks be to God

Readings and Hymns

Readings933

Hymns:

St. Mary's:

Entrance	469
Offertory	541
Recessional	726

St. Matthew:

Please See Hymn Boards



Saturday, October 4

St. Matthew 4:30 pm—For the People of this Faith Community

Sunday, October 5—27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Mary's 8:30 am — James Rossiter (The Dan Shaw Family)

St. Matthew 10:30 am—Leigh Ann Hockey (The McGinnis Family)

Monday, October 6

St. Matthew 9:00— John Koch (John & Cherie Palmer)

Tuesday, October 7

St. Mary's 9:00

Wednesday—October 8

St. Matthew 9:00 am—Kaitlin & Stephan Stranick (Family)

Thursday, October 9

St. Mary's 9:00 am

Saturday, October 11

St. Matthew 4:30 pm—Terry Walter (Margie & Bob Enright)

Sunday, October 12—28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Mary's 8:30 am — For the People of this Faith Community

St. Matthew 10:30 am—Peggy Graf (Barb Nowakowski & Jo Ann Golden)

Our Staff

Rev. William Laird, Pastor

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Church Chuckle

Service Notes: A sermon by the visiting minister will be followed by a luncheon: Attend and you will hear an excellent speaker and heave a great meal.

Attendance— 9/28/2025

St. Matthew—4:30 pm	111
St. Mary's—8:30 am	120
St. Matthew—10:30 am	173



OCTOBER 11 & 12

4:30 pm—Communion Ministers: J. Patel, Cathy Schwalenstocker; **Lector:** D. Winter; **Sacristan:** L&D Wilbur

8:30 am—Altar Server: M&J Dobbartin; **Communion Ministers:** N. Andres, K. Rice; **Lector:** H. Hawes; **Greeter/Ushers:** H&D Hawes, C. Andres; **Sacristan:** M. Luzzi; **Announcer:** H. Hawes; **Live Stream:** C. Andres

10:30 am—Alter Servers: C. Coriddi, David West; **Communion Ministers:** B. Cope, M. Rausch; **Lector:** D. Sykes; **Sacristan:** K&R Gsellmeier

In Memory of Loved Ones

Contact your Parish Office to remember a loved one. A donation of \$50/year is requested.

In Memory Of

Richard O'Connor	Dan & Shirley Mulvaney
Pat Conlon	Jay Nowakowski
Paul & Martha Pfuntner	Robert & Mary Oelwang
Joseph & Betty Eberwein	Joe Rausch
Mr. & Mrs. Gordon A. Reitz	Lenny & Marie Shumway
Brent Coryer	Frank & Estelle Rodman
Paul Jones	Nan Ryan
Beverly Luther	Leigh Ann Hockey
Ralph & Rocco Messura	Michelle Stefano
Betty West	Kathie Regelsberger
Leo & Mary Ann Morsch	Lois Cicero
Linda Murphy	James Sheehan
Patrick Argentieri	Anita Stefano
Ofc. Anthony P. Mazurkiewicz	Randy Smith
Jean Marie Dellies	Bob Rice
Kay C. Gordon	Larry & Eleanor Milligan
Thomas Linehan	Bill Boyea
Joan Shattuck	Albert Stockslader

Deceased Members of the following:

Chuck and Cathy Schwalenstocker Family
 Helinski and Ellison Families
 Giuliani Family
 Jones Family
 Muscato Family
 Enright & Yatteau Families
 Kurtz, Martin & O'Neil Families
 Kucich & Juriaco Families
 Quinn, Donato & Lewis Families
 Gilbert & Somers Families
 Baier, Root and Shaw Families
 Mazurkiewicz and Rumfola Families
 Cicero and Lyeth Families
 Hockey and McGinnis Families
 Koch Family
 Lavery & McCormick Families



In your Christian Charity, you are asked to remember in your prayers

Kathleen Doran O'Neil

who God called to eternal rest. May she rest in peace and may the Risen Lord strengthen her family in their time of loss.

Praying for Those Who Are Ill

Florence Ahl, Gary Anderson, Diane Backus, S. Bartell, William Beeley, Ariel Beltrano, Katey Boldt-Norton, Teresa Burritt, Catherine Couture, Kevin DeCillis, Hazel Delaney, Crystal DeMay, Larry Ebersold, John Henry, **Lisa Hinson**, Mary Ann Hipp, Debbie Holtz, Barbara Jones, Dan Jones, Peggy Knight, Jean Long, Mark (Whitmore) Maltese, Shoshana Margolin, Rose Mazurkiewicz, Steve Milligan, Nina Monteleone, **Carol Naumczyk**, Andrea Parshall, Mia Rafanelli, Mira Recchio, Ann Marie Redman, Mary Sheehan, Bill Sidlauskas, Alan Siracusa, Erin Siracusa, Kathleen Smith, Jim Stefano Sr., Kathy Stewart, Carol Wilks

Would You Help Us Out?

Please review the list. If you requested a name to be added and the person no longer needs to be on the list, let us know so we can take the name off to add others. **As a reminder**, we need the permission of an **immediate** family member or the person themselves to place a name on the prayer list.



Monday, October 6

Noon—Bulletin articles due for 10/12

St. Matthew—9:00 Mass

Tuesday, October 7

St. Mary's—9:00 Mass Live Streamed

St. Mary's—9:30 am Euchre

Wednesday, October 8

St. Matthew—9:00 Mass

St. Matthew—9:30—11:30 am Eucharistic Adoration

Thursday, October 9

Noon—Bulletin articles due for 10/19

St. Mary's—9:00 Mass Live Streamed

Friday, October 10

St. Mary's—10:00 am—Noon Clothing Closet Open

Saturday, October 11

St. Mary's—10:00 am—Noon Clothing Closet Open

St. Matthew—3:30 pm—4:00 pm Reconciliation

St. Matthew—4:30 pm Folk Mass

Sunday, October 12

St. Mary's—8:30 am Mass—Live Streamed

St. Matthew—10:30 am Mass

A NOTE FROM YOUR DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION AND YOUTH MINISTRY:

Dear Church Family,

This week we celebrate the **27th Sunday in Ordinary Time**, and our readings focus on faith.

Faith is defined as *“an **assurance and conviction** of what we believe and know to be true.”* How do we make sense of our faith in the world we live in today? Some of us need hard evidence to believe, but faith is not tangible, and even the most faithful among us at times need that extra nudge of assurance. So, I’ll ask you - how sure are you of your faith? How convicted are you to your faith?

Honestly, our humanity causes us to sometimes waiver in our belief. There are times our faith is fragile. We just might be having one of those days when we’re overworked, tired, and everything just seems to be crashing around us. Suffering devastation and loss, however we experience that, can also bring us to doubt and question.

Faith and religion are two different things. Our faith sustains us. Our religion feeds our faith – if we allow it to. There is so much beauty in the liturgy, in our community, in the sacraments – most especially the Holy Eucharist – which, through regular reception, can only strengthen our convictions of true faith. We, as Christians, are called to be people of faith, to be disciples, yet we still doubt – that’s just the reality of it. Even the most faith-filled individuals, at times, struggle with faith.

At youth group last evening we talked about faith and doubt. I read this to the kids: *“**I feel that God does not want me, that God is not God and that He does not really exist....My smile is a great cloak that hides a multitude of pains.**”* That statement came from the diary of St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta, who also stated in her diary that from 1948 on she experienced only *“brief interludes of belief.”* These were the writings of a saint! We also know that St. Thomas suffered from doubt, as did some of the other disciples and so many of our saints. St. John of the Cross wrote in **The Dark Night of the Soul**, *“Before the soul is exalted, it is humbled; and before it is humbled, it is exalted.”* Sr. Joan Chittister says, *“Darkness deserves gratitude. It is the alleluia point at which we learn to understand that all growth does not take place in the sunlight.”*

Our faith requires work! It doesn’t have to be great, or strong, or even constant. Faith just needs to *be*. Every day, the simple, beautiful moments we experience supply us with the confidence that God loves us, and that we belong to him. That knowledge is so important, and it’s reiterated in simple acts of kindness—whether we are the recipients of, or those sharing it. Those straightforward everyday connections that give us hope, strengthen and sustain our faith. Where there is hope and charity – there is faith.

St. Timothy, in this weekend’s second reading puts it this way, *“... **bear your share of hardship for the gospel with the strength that comes from God.**”* (2Tim 1:8). We don’t have to do any of this alone. We are never alone. God is always there to guide us out of our darkness of doubt, and to help us keep reaching for the light.

Have a blessed week.

In God’s Peace and Love, *Jeanette*

Our Sacramental Life Together:

Sacrament of Baptism:

Call either parish office for arrangements.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturdays from 3:30 to 4:00 pm at St. Matthew or call either parish office for an appointment.

Sacrament of Matrimony:

Please notify either parish office six months in advance of desired date.

Anointing of the Sick:

Please notify either parish office if someone is sick at home, in a nursing facility or the hospital.



We keep all those currently serving in our Military, as well as those who have previously served, in our prayers always.



The final proofs for our Parish Directory have been sent back to Universal Church Directories. They will now be printing the book and we expect that it will arrive here by the end of October. Those who had pictures taken will be receiving their complimentary copy at that time. Be watching for information on how to pick up your directory.



Each October the Church in the United States celebrates *Respect Life Month*, and the first Sunday of October is observed as *Respect Life Sunday*. As Catholics, we are called to cherish, defend, and protect those who are most vulnerable, from the beginning of life to its end, and at every point in between. During the month of October, the Church asks us to reflect more deeply on the dignity and gift of every human life.

This year, the theme is inspired by the Jubilee Year of Hope. The message "Life: Our sign of Hope" reflects the call to be signs of hope to all facing trials and difficulties and to build a culture of life in each parish. Our Lord calls us to be members of his body thereby demonstrating the invaluable dignity of the human person and defending the precious gift of life from conception to natural death.

(Most reverend Daniel E. Thomas, Bishop of Toledo and Chairman, USCCB on Pro-Life Activities)



Spaghetti Dinner

THE LAST SUPPER OF 2025!

St. Mary's Church, Honeoye
Monday, October 20, 2025
Anytime between 4:30 pm—6:30 pm
Tickets: \$12/Person and \$6/Child Under 10
Walk-ins \$14/Person and \$7/Child Under 10
Tickets available at both churches on Sundays or both Church Offices
Featuring Spaghetti with Meat Sauce, Salad, Garlic Bread & Dessert
Please join us!



Honeoye Food Pantry Needs Your Help

This year, we are once again asking for monetary donations. Our goal is to provide a \$50 gift card for each eligible child and senior. Through October and November, you can mail your check made out to Honeoye Food Pantry (please write Giving Tree on the memo line) to Honeoye Community Food Pantry, PO Box 112, Honeoye, NY 14471.

Your monetary donations will allow us to purchase the appropriate gift cards for each recipient. Gift cards will be distributed to the families to do their shopping in plenty of time for Christmas. We greatly need your help in this endeavor. Thank you in advance for your consideration and generosity.



Seeds of Love Clothing Closet

A ministry of
St. Mary and St. Matthew
Faith Community

“For there will never cease to be poor in the land. Therefore I command you, ‘You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in your land.’ Deuteronomy 15:11

For the past 2.5 years the Clothing Closet has served the community by providing FREE clothes, blankets, shoes, sheets, and towels. We are open on Friday and Saturday from 10am-12pm and staffed by over 30 dedicated volunteers.

Donations of gently used clothes from the community, make it possible for us to provide for others. As the economy continues to challenge our community, it is important we continue to help in this very meaningful and valuable way.

To provide a little insight as to the success of this ministry, the past 9 weeks we have been tracking the number of families shopping, new families shopping, and number of items (clothes, shoes, sheets, blankets and towels) families have benefitted from receiving.

Between the weekends of 6/27 and 9/5 we welcomed 77 new families, 403 families (who have been to the closet more than once), and gave out 5,592 items (clothing, shoes, blankets, sheets, towels).

Current Needs: we are always in need of towels of all sizes, larger size clothing 1x-4x for men and women, hoodies, and boys/girl teen clothes.

Accepting: Fall and winter items ONLY during our open hours.

Volunteers: if you would like to volunteer, we would love to have you join us.

Thank you for your prayers and support,

Diane Brewer-Hawes



CATHOLIC MEN’S CONFERENCE

Saturday, November 15, 2025—8:00 am—2:00 pm
Parish of the Holy Family, 4100 Lyell Rd., Rochester, NY 14606

“ASPECTS OF HOPE: HOPE AS THE WORK OF TODAY.”
Presenter: Rev. Fr. Gerard D’Souza, Abbot of the Abbey of the Genesee

\$20 COST INCLUDES LUNCH.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS November 1.

Learn more and register here! www.stbernards.regfox.com/dor-catholic-mens-conference

LIFE

Our Sign of Hope



There is perhaps no more beautiful celebration than when parents bring their newborn child to the waters of baptism. Parents, godparents, family, and friends share in this sacrament with incomparable joy. For in baptism, we share in Christ's death and resurrection, and through the outward signs of water and oil, are made *children of God* and given the hope of eternal life with Him.

"The death and resurrection of Jesus is the heart of our faith and the basis of our hope."¹ Through our Lord Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven, death is overcome, and life is victorious. "Hope dwells as the desire and expectation of good things to come, despite not knowing what the future may bring."² Because of this Christian hope, we can face the unknown trials of life with faith rather than fear.

We are called to be signs of hope to all people, especially those whose goodness, value, and dignity are undermined. As members of the Body of Christ, we carry this hope with us as we continue Jesus' mission on earth. Pope Leo XIV encourages us, "How important it is that each and every baptized person feel himself or herself called by God to be a sign of hope in the world today."³

Sadly, there is a devastating absence of hope today. We see this most profoundly in a sweeping disregard for human life in its most vulnerable forms and stages. Abortion and assisted suicide are products of

"Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the holy Spirit that has been given to us." Romans 5:5

hopelessness and despair. Yet even amid the increasing attacks on human life, we know that the "storms that buffet us will never prevail, for we are firmly anchored in the hope born of grace, which enables us to live in Christ and to overcome sin, fear and death."⁴

We have been entrusted with a message of hope for the woman who finds herself unexpectedly pregnant or for the man diagnosed with a terminal illness. At these challenging moments, we must bring God's presence, witnessing to His love, and inspiring a renewal of hope in those whose hearts are burdened. For "hope is born of love and based on the love springing from the pierced heart of Jesus upon the cross."⁵

Having been "buried with Christ in Baptism, we receive in his resurrection the gift of a new life that breaks down the walls of death."⁶ Confident of God's presence within us, may we share the Gospel of Life with those most in need of hope, knowing that "the grace of God precedes and accompanies his people as they press forward firm in faith, active in charity and steadfast in hope."⁷

¹ Pope Francis, *Spes non confundit*, 20.

² *Ibid.*, 1.

³ Pope Leo XIV, Vatican News, May 26, 2025: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2025-05/pope-leo-xiv-africa-day-pilgrimage-blessing-vatican-basilica.html>.

⁴ Pope Francis, *Spes non confundit*, 25.

⁵ *Ibid.*, 3.

⁶ *Ibid.*, 20.

⁷ *Ibid.*, 6.

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