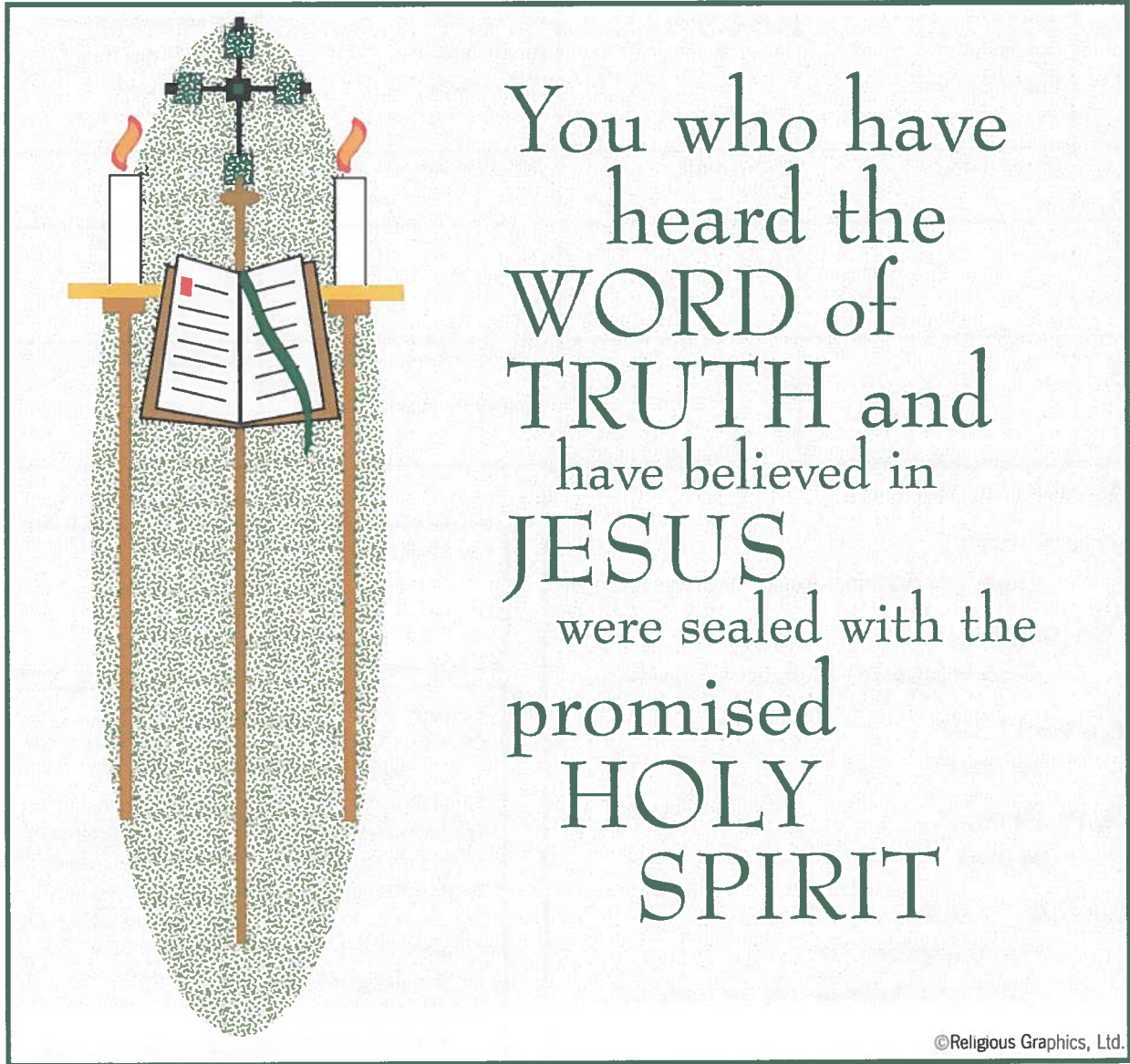


The Roman Catholic Parishes of
St. Margaret Mary, Herscher
St. James the Apostle, Irwin
Sacred Heart, Goodrich

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 13-14, 2024



Weekend Masses:

St. Margaret Mary	Sat. 5:00 pm	Sun. 10:30 am
Sacred Heart	Sun. 7:30 am	
St. James	Sun. 9:00 am	

Confessions:

St. Margaret Mary	Sat. 4:15 pm
Sacred Heart	Sun. 7:05-7:20 am
St. James	Sun. 8:35-8:50 am

Church Mailing Address:

207 E. 5th Street

Herscher, IL 60941

Phone: 815-426-2550

Quotable: "It is no use walking anywhere to preach unless our walking is our preaching.

—Saint Francis of Assisi

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 20-21, 2024

Liturgical Schedule	St. Margaret Mary Saturday, July 20 5:00 pm	Sacred Heart Sunday, July 21 7:30 am	St. James Sunday, July 21 9:00 am	St. Margaret Mary Sunday, July 21 10:30 am
Celebrant	Fr. Ron	Fr. Ron	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron	Fr. Ron
Ushers	Todd Datweiler Dan Hoffman Bob Schultz Roger Jensen	Jim Mallaney Daryl Ferris	Jerry Ogrentz Bob Buente Arlen Hansen Dallas Ferris	Wayne Bisaillon Marko Smolkovich Garrett Smolkovich Darren Lovell
Lector	Dave Emling	Mike Hertz	Jeff O'Connor	Steve Jacob
Servers				Sydney Weldon
Greeters			Greeter—Karen Miller R. Leader—Reatta Gohlke	The Wheelers

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, July 15 (SMM)

8:00 am +Nina Smolkovich (Roger/Margaret Jensen)

Tuesday, July 16 (SH)

8:00 am +Robert LaGesse (Terri/Jerry Weakley)

Wednesday, July 17 (SJ)

8:00 am No Mass

Friday, July 19 (SMM)

8:00 am No Mass

Saturday, July 20 (SMM)

5:00 pm +Amos Regnier (Pat Gray)
+ Madonna Hoffman (Velma Murphy)

Sunday, July 21

7:30 am (SH) +Rick, Margaret, Paul Meli (Kathy Meli)
+Dorine Schafer (Terri/Jerry Weakley)

9:00am (SJ) +Pat Perreault (Bill/Betty Kelch)

+Dorene O'Connor (Fritz Huber Family)

10:30am (SMM) For All the Parish Family

A Look Ahead

July 17 & 19—No Weekday masses

Pastor— Fr. Ron Neitzke- 815-426-2550

Deacon – Ron Gagnon— rjgckg@aol.com

Home—815-933-4077

Parish Email – smm_sja_sh@yahoo.com

TriParish web page – www.triparishcatholics.org

Like us on Facebook triparishcatholic communities

Tri Parish Church office –Barb Riker 426-2550

Julie Bisaillon 426-2550

Bulletin – Debbie Jensen - 426-2550

debjen04@gmail.com

Religious Education –

St. MM – Jill Fulton jfulton.stmm@gmail.com

Sacred Heart – Rhonda Berns – 426-5015

St. James—Tanhya Osenga tosenga81@gmail.com

Parish Nurse – Jackie Eberle – 815-421-4048

Prayer Line—

SMM -Janice 815-426-2574 Jdstreefarms@aol.com

St. James— Mary Offerman—602-670-8888 (call or text)

Sacred Heart-Marilyn Pfeiffer 815-955-8246 (call or text)

Terri Weakley— 815-514-8171

Collections Week of July 6-7, 2024

St. Margaret Mary—\$2,235
St. James—\$2,371
Sacred Heart—\$741

Thank you for your generosity!

A Stewardship Moment

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Weekend of July 13/14, 2024

The Letter to the Ephesians relates to us that God, the Father, has established a divine plan to bring all of creation to Christ and that He has blessed us with the divine gifts to help implement that plan. Christian stewards know what their gifts are and remain committed to using them in the service of the Lord. Do we know what our gifts are? Do we believe that God has given us these gifts? Are we committed to using our gifts to serve the Lord?



Current Status for 2024 CMAA

Parish	Goal	Pledged	Paid
Sacred Heart	\$6,000	\$7,250	\$5,650
St. MM	\$9,400	\$8,835	\$8,380
St. James	\$8,800	\$7,305	\$7,118

Gospel Shorts— Its Time We Get it Out and Get it Right

It is not unusual for a church, so many years removed from Our Lord's active, earthly ministry, to lose sight of its mandate, its authority. We have both mandate and authority from Christ to exercise his power over evil and evil spirits. We have his command to forgive sin. This is not only within the church's boundary of authority, it is the only authority it has, and it is all it needs to carry on and carry out the mission and healing ministry of Christ under his authority; By his command; and with his power and promise firmly behind it.

Question of the week

Can I accept the challenge the Twelve did? What "unclean spirits" do I see that I can try to drive out? For what do I see myself calling for repentance? To whom can I bring healing?

Parish News:

St. Margaret Mary—
St. James—
Sacred Heart—

- ◆ There will be no C.C.W. meeting in August. The next meeting will be 6:30p.m. Sept. 10th, with hostesses, Laurie Palinski and Terri Weakley
- ◆ The Sacred Heart CCW will be serving a free breakfast following the 7:30 am Mass August 11. Everyone is welcome! Please join us for a great meal and fellowship.

All Parishes—

- ◆ Next week there will be a new form in each pew to fill out concerning ministries. Please consider joining our ministry team in any way you are able. Each parish could use more volunteers to help out. High school students are encouraged to get involved as well.
- ◆ Due to vacation, fair schedules, etc. there will be no Knights of Columbus meeting in the month of July. Next meeting will be August 26, 2024 at St James at 7:00 PM
- ◆ Tri-Parish Office Hours— Our office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 9am—12 pm.
- ◆ The phone number for the rectory will no longer be in service. All calls should be made to the parish office number 815-426-2550.

Reflection Important Words

The six most important words:

I ADMIT I MADE A MISTAKE.

The five most important words:

YOU DID A GOOD JOB.

The four most important words:

WHAT IS YOUR OPINION?

The three most important words:

IF YOU PLEASE.

The two most important words:

THANK YOU.

The one most important word:

WE.

The least important word:

I.



Saint of the week: St. Camillus of Lellis (July 18) was the son of a military officer who had served both for Naples and France. His mother died when Camillus was very young. He spent his youth as a soldier, fighting for the Venetians against the Turks, and then for Naples. He was described as a large individual, perhaps as tall as 6'6" and powerfully built, but he suffered all his life from abscesses on his feet. A gambling addict, he lost so much he had to take a job working construction on a building belonging to the Capuchins; they converted him.

Camillus entered the Capuchin novitiate three times, but a nagging leg injury received while fighting the Turks, each time forced him to give it up. He went to Rome for medical treatment where Saint Philip Neri became his priest and confessor. He moved into San Giacomo Hospital for the incurable, and eventually became its administrator. Lacking education, he began to study with children when he was 32 years old. He became a priest and founded the *Congregation of the Servants of the Sick* (the *Camillians* or *Fathers of a Good Death*) who, naturally, care for the sick both in hospitals and at home. The *Order* expanded with houses in several countries. Camillus honored the sick as living images of Christ and hoped that the service he gave them did penance for his wayward youth. He is reported to have had the gifts of miraculous healing and prophecy.



Obscure Saint of the week: St. Aemilian of Dorostorium (July 18) was the son of the imperial Roman prefect of Dorostorium. He was martyred in the persecutions of Julian the Apostate for destroying pagan idols. An innocent passerby was initially grabbed off the street and charged with the damage, but Aemilian came forward to confess and save the man.

The Sunday Gospel in Everyday English

Jesus told them, "A prophet has little honor in his hometown, among his relatives, on the streets he played in as a child." Jesus wasn't able to do much of anything there—he laid hands on a few sick people and healed them, that's all. He couldn't get over their stubbornness. He left and made a circuit of the other villages, teaching.

Jesus called the Twelve to him, and sent them out in pairs. He gave them authority and power to deal with the evil opposition. He sent them off with these instructions:

"Don't think you need a lot of extra equipment for this. You are the equipment. No special appeals for funds. Keep it simple.

"And no luxury inns. Get a modest place and be content there until you leave.

"If you're not welcomed, not listened to, quietly withdraw. Don't make a scene. Shrug your shoulders and be on your way."

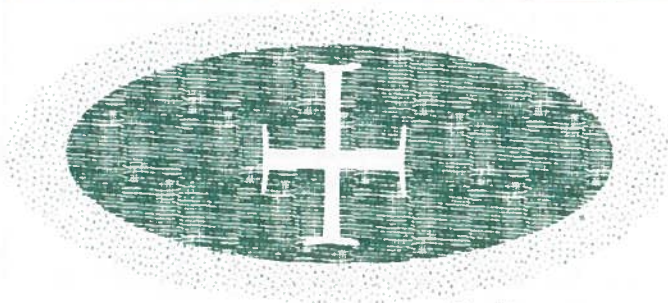
Then they were on the road. They preached with joyful urgency that life can be radically different; right and left they sent the demons packing; they brought wellness to the sick, anointing their bodies, healing their spirits (from Mark 6).



Small Can Be Mighty

Drops of water, grains of sand — with time and unrelenting persistence carve monuments in stone no human effort can match.

So with our lives —
the fleeting thoughts
the momentary inspirations
the beauty seen
the verse read
the smile given
the hurt ignored
the harshness unsaid
the small disciplines and
tiny joys form a life,
mold a character that outlasts all the monuments of time.



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Bishop MacNamara Garage Sale-

On July 16th from 8:30-12, all staff members, local parishes, and diocese members will be welcome to come to the cafeteria in the Kankakee Site to go through any of the items to see if there is anything they would like to add to their classrooms or office .

July 17th - 19th
8:30am - 12pm

Featuring desks, tables,
classroom chairs, chapel
chairs, technology materials,
used textbooks, etc

Looking for a podcast?

The **Best Catholic Podcasts** from millions of podcasts available on the Goodpods platform and ranked by listens, ratings, comments, subscriptions and shares.

1. [The Bible in a Year \(with Fr. Mike Schmitz\)](#)

In The Bible in a Year podcast, Fr. Mike Schmitz walks you through the entire Bible in 365 episodes, providing commentary, reflection, and prayer along the way.

2. [Life Is Worth Living: A Fulton J. Sheen Catholic Podcast](#)

The Catholic teachings of Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen.

3. [Pints With Aquinas](#)

Long form discussions, debates, and teachings on the Catholic faith.

4. [All Things Catholic with Dr. Edward Sri](#)

Join well-known theologian and author Edward Sri for weekly insights on understanding and living out the Catholic faith. Delve deeper into the Bible, prayer time, virtue, relationships, marriage and family, and culture with practical reflections on all things Catholic.

5. [Sunday Homilies with Fr. Mike Schmitz](#)

Every week, Catholic priest Fr. Mike Schmitz delivers powerful homilies based on the Sunday Mass Scripture readings, inviting you to live more fully as the person God created you to be.

6. [Abiding Together](#)

Providing a place of connection, rest and encouragement for women who are on the journey of living out their passion and purpose in Jesus Christ.

If you have a favorite, let me know at debjen04@gmail.com and I will pass it on.

Questions Catholics Ask

How can I explain transubstantiation to others?

First, you can say that we believe that the bread and wine at Mass become the body and blood of Christ. Then add your own experience of encountering Real Presence, because, frankly, the-ological terms never get to the heart of the matter. No one comes to Jesus by means of a word like this.

Why do we have this word? Medieval theologians sought to explain why our eyes see bread and wine, yet we claim Christ truly present. Peter Lombard described how the physical elements are transformed and only the “appearance” of bread and wine remain.

During the Protestant Reformation, Eucharist was hotly contested. Most Reformers viewed Eucharist as a memorial meal. In response, the Council of Trent defended an actual substantial change—*transubstantiation*—using Lombard’s interpretation. In other words: best not to define a mystery precisely but allow God to work.

Twentieth-century theologians introduced two more words to the conversation. *Transignification* emphasizes changes in meanings rather than in form. Bread and wine normally mean nourishment. Consecrated bread and wine signify nourishment with Christ’s life.

Transfinalization focuses on ultimate purpose or “finality.” Food and drink for the body gain a new goal as food for the spirit. Still, the most vital change remains what happens to us who receive it.

Scripture

• [Matthew 26:26-29](#); [Mark 14:22-25](#); [Luke 22:14-20](#); [John 6:22-59](#); [1 Corinthians 11:23-26](#)



Catholic Snacks, Get Fed Where is the oldest Bible in the world? Meet the Codex Vaticanus.

Can you guess where the Codex Vaticanus resides? Yep, the Vatican Library.

This manuscript dates from the early 300s A.D. It was written on parchment, each page containing three columns of script, with no capital letters and hardly any punctuation. It appears to bear the writing of three different scribes: one who wrote down all the words of Scripture, one who made some corrections, and one—much later—who re-traced most of the letters when they faded.

This is almost all we know of the Codex Vaticanus. Its origin, its writers, the people who commissioned it, the people who used and read it, are unknown. The first definite documentation we have of it is from the 15th century, where it appears in a Vatican Library catalog.

Despite the 1200-year gap, however, the age of this precious bible is indisputable. As the work closest to the time of the Gospel writers, it is an invaluable reference for all the bibles we use today.

The Codex Vaticanus reminds us of a time when a book was a rare, precious, and expensive thing.

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July 14, 2024

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Am 7:12-15 | Eph 1:13-14 or 1:3-10 | Mk 6:7-13

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

Have you ever considered the task before you and thought, *No way am I equipped for this?* There are certainly times when it seems God is calling us to more than we are prepared for. The prophet Amos never expected to be God's mouthpiece. He was a simple shepherd and a "dresser of sycamores." Yet, Amos listened when God *chose him* "from following the flock" and instructed him to speak to Israel, even if he may have thought the whole idea quite silly. "Do you really mean *me?*" we might imagine him saying. We see this theme of God calling those we might least expect to important missions on countless occasions throughout Scripture: Moses had a speech impediment; Rahab was a prostitute; David was a young boy; Ruth was a foreigner; Matthew was a despised tax collector; Paul persecuted the early Christians; and the list goes on. On every occasion, however, trusting in God and listening to his voice was enough for each of these individuals to fulfill the role they were called to, even if they considered themselves the most unlikely candidate for the cause.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

In this week's Gospel reading from Mark, Jesus calls for the Twelve and sends them out on mission with specific instructions. The key here is that he gives them *his authority*. They are able to accomplish seemingly impossible things - "preaching repentance, driving out demons, curing the sick" - not through their own power, but through the authority they had in Christ and by being obedient to the precepts he gave them. This is a lesson for all of us - to heed the commands of Christ and rely on his authority, not on our own power. We can live the impossible only through him. Pay close attention to the words from Paul's Letter to the Ephesians when in doubt: "In him *we were also chosen*, destined in accord with the purpose of the One who accomplishes all things according to the intention of his will, so that we might exist for the praise of his glory, we who first hoped in Christ."

PRAY Today's Scripture makes it clear that it is through Christ in us that we can accomplish all things for his glory. We do not act on our own, but we give permission for God to act in us. I offer you a challenge this week in your prayer life: Instead of asking God to remove what appear to be impossible obstacles for you to face, try praying for the graces sufficient to fulfill your role in them.

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

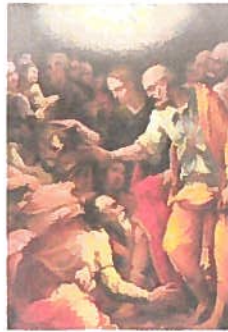
July 14, 2024: Am 7:12-15 | Ps 85:8-14
Eph 1:3-14 | Mk 6:7-13

Pray: Lord, help me surrender in trust and live out my Christian calling to do your Holy Will.

The Holy Spirit empowers Christ's disciples to carry out His mission of mercy and love.

Through baptism, Christians are called to courageously teach and share the Good News of Christ, heal the sick and suffering, and even cast away demons in the footsteps of Jesus and the first twelve apostles. The mission territory was rough for Jesus' disciples as they walked side-by-side with Him in the lead. People kept asking who this Jesus was who preached against the grain of their everyday society. It was not any easier after Christ had ascended to heaven and left them to carry on his mission. Jesus never said it would be easy for any of His disciples, but He promised to send His divine Advocate to help, and the Holy Spirit is here to help all who call upon Him.

God created each of us for a particular time, place, and purpose to fulfill tasks only we can do to make a positive, loving impact on the world. It is no coincidence that we are planted where we are today. Everyone is unique, and the Holy Spirit gives each of us gifts to help us achieve the potential God has for us to help carry out the mission we have been given. Some are responsible for big mission territories, as leaders of a large group of people or even nations. For others, the mission territory may be as small as reaching out to one person at a time who needs God's mercy and love.



Religion and cultural worldviews have vastly changed over the years. Venerable Archbishop Fulton Sheen saw the beginning of today's crisis in 1974 when he said, "We are at the end of Christendom." He correctly warned of the demise of political, economic, educational, and social life inspired by Christian principles. We are living in a culture throughout much of the world that glorifies freedom by ignoring natural law and discarding the teachings of Christ. We are surrounded by the disintegration of the family unit, divorce, abortion, immorality, self-centeredness, and greed. The world is begging for a savior – the very savior it seems to reject.

Remember, just as God called the apostles, He chose us for this time and this place! We did not call ourselves. God chose us and will empower us to share the wonders of His merciful love with the world around us. Just like the apostles commissioned by Christ, God gives us the grace to cure others in His name through our prayers, loving actions, kindness, encouragement, forgiveness, and second chances. Through our Christ-like love and compassion, we can even cast out demons that often take the form of fear, worry, anxiety, and guilt. The Holy Spirit is ready to help us in this new Apostolic Age of renewal.

Reflect & Discuss:

- † How is God calling you to step out of your comfort zone to help someone, and how is the Holy Spirit equipping you for this?
- † How have you felt like the apostles being sent "two by two" to carry the mission to those in need or struggling for whatever reason?
- † What is the wisdom in going two by two in ministry?