

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

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 10-11, 2024



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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:** "For it is we who must pray for our daily bread, and if He grants it to us, it is only through our labor, our skill and preparation.  
*—Paracelsus, 16th-century Swiss scientist*

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time				August 17-18, 2024	
Liturgical Schedule	St. Margaret Mary Saturday, August 17 5:00 pm	Sacred Heart Sunday, August 18 7:30 am	St. James Sunday, August 18 9:00 am	St. Margaret Mary Sunday, August 18 10:30 am	
Celebrant	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron	
Ushers	Dan Hoffman Roger Jensen Gery Wright Bob Schultz	Dennis Pankey James Mallaney	Dallas Ferris Dave Ladehoff Jeff Steinke Jeff Martin	Corey Eich Darren Lovell Larry Wolles Jeremy Wolles	
Lector	Hillary Webb	Alicia Kirkpatrick	Dave Ladehoff	Julie Splear	
Servers				Sydney Weldon	
Greeters			Greeter—Rita Thiesen R. Leader—Reatta Gohlke	Stacey Powers	

**Mass Intentions for the Week**

**Monday, August 12 (SMM)**  
**8:00 am** +Emma "Mikey" King (Scott Buckley Family)

**Tuesday, August 13 (SH)**  
**8:00 am** +Donna Ruder (Terri/Jerry Weakley)

**Wednesday, August 14 (SJ) Assumption Vigil**  
**7:00 pm** +Laurie Hansen (Tom/Joyce Parker)

**Thursday, August 15 Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary**  
**8:00 am SH** +Joann Anderson (Dale/Marilyn Pfeiffer)  
**7:00 pm SMM** +Marie Duval (Darren/Hollie Lovell)

**Friday, August 16 (SMM)**  
**8:00 am** +Francis & Aldine O'Brien (The Family)

**Saturday, August 17 (SMM)**  
**5:00 pm** +John Andrzejewski (The Family)  
 + Richard Wagner (Mary Ann Wagner)

**Sunday, August 18**  
**7:30 am (SH)** +Connie Dionne, John Sullivan, Timmy Fitch, Willard Denault (The Family)  
**9:00am (SJ)** +Bill O'Connor (Craig/Pam Walker)  
 +Fred Gohlke (Dave/Martha O'Connor)  
**10:30am (SMM) For All the Parish Family**

**A Look Ahead**

**Sunday, August 11**—Free breakfast at SH after Mass

**Wed., August 14**—Assumption Vigil Mass 7pm at SJ

**Thurs., August 15**—Assumption Mass 8am at SH 7pm at SMM

**Thurs., August 15**—School starts for HSD students

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](http://www.triparishcatholics.org)  
 Like us on Facebook [triparishcatholic communities](https://www.facebook.com/triparishcatholiccommunities)  
**Tri Parish Church office** –Barb Riker 426-2550  
 Julie Bisailon 426-2550

**Bulletin** – Debbie Jensen - 426-2550  
 debjen04@gmail.com

**Religious Education** –  
 St. MM – Jill Fulton [jfulton.stmm@gmail.com](mailto:jfulton.stmm@gmail.com)  
 Sacred Heart – Rhonda Berns – 426-5015  
 St. James—Tanhya Osenga [tosenga81@gmail.com](mailto:tosenga81@gmail.com)  
**Parish Nurse** – Jackie Eberle – 815-421-4048

**Prayer Line**—  
 SMM -Janice 815-426-2574 [Jdstreefarms@aol.com](mailto: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 August 3-4, 2024

St. Margaret Mary—\$2,585

St. James—\$2,005

Sacred Heart—\$914

Thank you for your generosity!

### Gospel Shorts— Bread of Heaven

Our Lord understood that there is a spiritual void in each person that must be filled. The reason anyone might feel empty, restless within, missing something, is because God has made us with spiritual needs. The question is: How can my (your) spiritual needs be met? How can the emptiness be filled?

Wealth can't fill the need. Nor power. Nor fame. Nor even friendship as much as we need that. What we need is Christ, who described himself as the bread of life. (John 6:48) The intellectual author Malcolm Muggeridge tried all sorts of pleasures only to discover they did not ultimately please or satisfy him. He told of his difficulties in his autobiography: *Chronicles of Wasted Time*. Fortunately, he surrendered to Christ, was spiritually satisfied, and began to productively serve the Master. Let us, too, eat of the "bread of life," which will meet our spiritual needs.

### Gardening Project at St. James the Apostle Parish

A big thank you to all our generous parishioners who contributed to making our gardening project such a big success!

Also, thank you to Father Ron and the Parish Council for their approval and support of the project, Jake Carlile of Carlile Group (renderings), David Kirkpatrick of JD Tree Trimming & Removal (removal of trees, donation, and planting of pear trees), Ron O'Connor of Clean Cut Lawncare (modification of garden layout, plantings, rock replacement and sod), Dallas Ferris (collection of donations & prep of watering system), Reatta Gohlke and Sue Ann O'Connor (endless hours of watering), Larry O'Connor (monitoring and watering sod).

It truly takes collaborative efforts to get a project like this completed.

### Reflections We Bless Each Task

Do not think that saintliness comes from your occupation. It depends, rather, on what one is. The kind of work we do does not make us holy, but we may make it holy. However sacred a calling may be, as it is a "calling" and it has no power to sanctify; but rather as we are and have the Divine Being within us, we bless each task we do, be it eating, or sleeping, or watching, or any other. Thus, take care that your emphasis is on being good and not on the number or kind of things to be done.

### Parish News:

St. Margaret Mary—

- Letters of application are now being accepted for the Theresa Fritz Catholic Education Scholarship for the 2024-2025 school year. Applicants must be a parishioner of St. Margaret Mary and attend a Catholic grade or high school or a Catholic university. Please submit a letter to Fr. Ron at the Tri-Parish office explaining which school you are attending and your reason(s) for choosing a Catholic school. Letters need to be received in the office by September 3, 2024.

St. James—

Sacred Heart—

All Parishes—

- ♦ Ministries for the Holy Day are on the schedule sheet, but if you see a need at those masses, please step up to help.
- ♦ Anyone interested in becoming Catholic, should contact Deacon Ron about arranging a class schedule. 815-933-4077.
- ♦ 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.
- ♦



### Join Us for Breakfast!

Sacred Heart CCW is serving a free breakfast following mass today, August 11. Everyone is welcome. Please join us for a great breakfast and fellowship!

(Disclaimer: This won't be the view nor the food as pictured, but it will still be great!)

### Adult Ed

- We will be starting adult ed after Labor Day. We will be doing a video series on the 10 Commandments. If you are interested, please call the office (426-2550) and register. Also, please let me know what night of the week works better for you so we can pick a night that works best for the group. I am open to doing Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday sessions.



**Saint of the week: St. Jane Frances de Chantal (Aug. 12)** was born to the nobility, the daughter of the president of the Parliament of Burgundy, who raised her alone after the death of her mother when Jane was 18 months old. She married in 1592 at age twenty to Baron de Chantal and became the mother of four. She was widowed at 28 when the Baron was killed in a hunting accident and died in her arms. Taking a personal vow of chastity, she was forced to live with her father-in-law, which was a period of misery for her. She spent her free time in prayer, and received a vision of the man who would become her spiritual director. In Lent, 1604, she met Saint Francis de Sales, and recognized him as the man in her vision. She became a spiritual student and close friend of Saint Francis de Sales, and the two carried on a lengthy correspondence for years. On Trinity Sunday, June 6, 1610 she founded the *Order of the Visitation of Our Lady* at Annecy, France. The *Order* was designed for widows and lay women who did not wish the full life of the orders, and Jane oversaw the founding of 69 convents. Jane spent the rest of her days overseeing the *Order*, and acting as spiritual advisor to any who desired her wisdom. *Visitationist* nuns today live a contemplative life, work for women with poor health and widows, and sometimes run schools.



**Obscure Saint of the week: St. Cecilia of Remiremont (Aug. 12)** was the daughter of Saint Romaric of Remiremont. In the mid-7th century, she and her sister Azaltrude became nuns at the [Remiremont](#) Abbey which her father had built, and Cecilia long served as its abbess.

### The Sunday Gospel in Everyday English

At this, because he said, "I am the Bread that came down from heaven," the Jews started arguing over him: "Isn't this the son of Joseph? Don't we know his father? Don't we know his mother? How can he now say, 'I came down out of heaven' and expect anyone to believe him?"

Jesus said, "Don't bicker among yourselves over me. You're not in charge here. The Father who sent me is in charge. He draws people to me—that's the only way you'll ever come. Only then do I do my work, putting people together, setting them on their feet, ready for the End. This is what the prophets meant when they wrote, 'And then they will all be personally taught by God.' Anyone who has spent any time at all listening to the Father, really listening and therefore learning, comes to me to be taught personally—to see it with his own eyes, hear it with his own ears, from me, since I have it firsthand from the Father. No one has seen the Father except the One who has his Being alongside the Father—and you can see me.

"I'm telling you the most solemn and sober truth now: Whoever believes in me has real life, eternal life. I am the Bread of Life. Your ancestors ate the manna bread in the desert and died. But now here is Bread that truly comes down out of heaven. Anyone eating this Bread will not die, ever. I am the Bread—living Bread!—who came down out of heaven. Anyone who eats this Bread will live—and forever! The Bread that I present to the world so that it can eat and live is myself, this flesh-and-blood self" (from John 6).

### WINNERS VS LOSERS

A WINNER SAYS, "LET ME DO IT FOR YOU." A loser says, "That's not my job."

A WINNER SEES AN ANSWER FOR EVERY PROBLEM. A loser sees a problem in every answer.

A WINNER SAYS: "IT MAY BE DIFFICULT, BUT IT'S POSSIBLE." A loser says, "It may be possible, but it's too difficult."

A WINNER LISTENS. A loser just waits until it's his turn to talk.

WHEN A WINNER MAKES A MISTAKE, HE SAYS, "I WAS WRONG." When a loser makes a mistake, he says, "It wasn't my fault."

A WINNER SAYS, "I'M GOOD, BUT NOT AS GOOD AS I COULD BE." A loser says, "I'm not as bad as a lot of other people."

A WINNER FEELS RESPONSIBLE FOR MORE THAN HIS JOB. A loser says, "I only work here."

Sacred Heart Parish Campus, IL

Mass at 10am on August 18, 2024



Chicken Dinner following Mass  
August 18, 2024  
Serving from 11 am until 2 pm.  
Sacred Heart Parish Hall Campus, IL

#### Question of the week

How does receiving Christ in the Eucharist strengthen me to overcome obstacles on my journey to the kingdom?

#### Questions Catholics Ask

##### Are Hebrews the same as Jews?

A Venn diagram of these two words would find some overlap. But they're not equivalents. Jews have their origins in a people once known as Hebrews, whose story is recorded in the Old Testament. Their story doesn't begin with Adam and Eve, the mythical first people, but in chapter ten of Genesis with the descendants of Eber, son of Shem, noted in the Table of Nations.

Abraham is called a Hebrew, as is his great-grandson Joseph. Their community as a whole is often identified as Hebrew. But the designation is not used by the people themselves, who later identify primarily as Israelites, a name tying them to their patriarch Jacob, grandson of Abraham. Jacob's name is changed to Israel after he wrestles with an angelic being.

Other biblical nations primarily refer to Israelites as Hebrews, a term rooted in the Near Eastern word *'apiru*. Neither an ethnic nor a racial category, *'apiru* is the political status of wanderers, dissidents, or unwelcome non-citizens. Such nomadic people were viewed as vagabonds, withdrawn from the social networks and responsibilities of upstanding people in the land. As Israelite dietary restrictions and purity laws evolved, these made it increasingly difficult for them to associate in the amicable venues of other nations. The more they distinguished themselves as different, the less welcome Israelites were.

We can appreciate why Israelites didn't use the name Hebrew, especially after they settled in the land of Canaan ca. 1225 BCE. Yet the name is retained for the ancient language of Israel. Hebrew derived from a Semitic language of Canaan. But in the 6th century BCE, after a generation of exile in Babylon, the spoken language of the people became Aramaic. It was the preferred tongue of the Persian Empire of which they were now a part. Hebrew was used only in prayer and scholarship, much as Latin was in the Roman church long after it ceased to be a living spoken tongue.

So how did Israelites known widely as Hebrews become Jews? The southern kingdom of Abraham's descendants was originally given to the tribe of Judah. (The north was called Israel, destroyed by Assyria in 722 BCE). When the Judahites were hustled off to Babylon, the land formerly known as Judah became known by the Persian designation *Yehud*. When the Romans took it over in 66 BCE, they called it Judea. Judeans became Jews, and the name stuck.

**Scriptures:** Genesis 10:21 (see footnote NABRE), 24-25; 11:14-17; 14:13 (see footnote NABRE); 39:14, 17; Exodus chs. 1-7; 21:2; Deuteronomy 15:12; 1 Samuel chs. 4-14; Acts 6:1



## MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

Monday, August 19, 2024

St. Lawrence Church

135 E. Rice Road in South Wilmington

4-5:30pm

(Or until food runs out)

**RAIN OR SHINE!**

The Northern Illinois Food Bank Mobile Food Pantry delivers healthy food (meat, produce, and nonperishable items) to people in need. **No identification is required. This event is open to anyone in need of food!**

Mobile Food Pantries use a "drive thru" method to distribute pre-packed groceries. Please clear space in your trunk or backseat so volunteers can load boxes of food directly into your vehicle.

**This Mobile Food Pantry is sponsored by:  
Anonymous Donor**



Catholic Charities is a faith-based organization providing service to people in need and calling others of good will to do the same.



## The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary August 15, 2024

*Let us all rejoice in the Lord, as we celebrate the feast day in honor of the Virgin Mary, at whose Assumption the Angels rejoice and praise the Son of God.*

Catholic Snacks, Get Fed  
Catholic Snacks, Get Fed

What does a monk or nun's schedule look like?

A monk or nun's schedule is carefully balanced and structured, reflecting the high level of spiritual discipline which religious seek to attain.

While the exact daily schedule varies between religious orders, with their unique apostolates and charisms, they usually share these basic elements:

**The Divine Office:** also called the Liturgy of the Hours, which they pray five (or more) times a day

**Spiritual reading and meditation:** these two mental activities provide essential nourishment for prayer and help the soul advance in union with Christ

**Work:** monks and nuns divide all the work, assigning tasks to each brother/sister, such as cooking, cleaning, gardening, sewing, and more

**Study:** to know Truth is to know God—the religious never stop learning! Their main subjects of study are theology and philosophy

**Recreation:** the community gathers for work and leisure activities, and to converse and laugh together

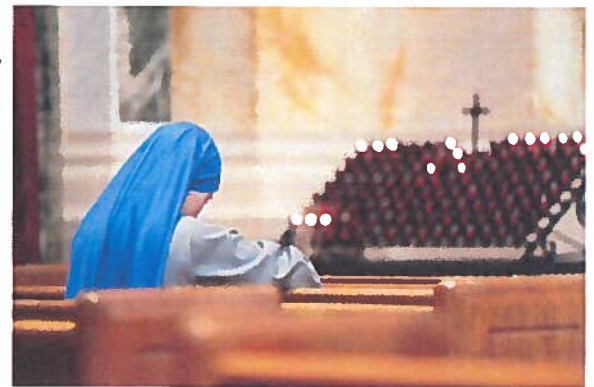
Some orders break up the day into half-hour and hour-long segments. This is why the daily schedule is often called the *horarium*, taken from the Latin word for "hour."

Here's how a Poor Clare of Perpetual Adoration spends her day:

5:25 a.m.—Rise  
6:05 a.m.—Divine Office (Matins & Lauds), Office of Readings & Morning Prayer  
7:00 a.m.—Holy Mass  
8:00/15 a.m.—Divine Office Midmorning Prayer/Thanksgiving (Silent Prayer)  
8:45 a.m.—Breakfast  
9:15 a.m.—Work Time  
11:30 a.m.—Divine Office Midday Prayer & Communal Rosary  
12:00 p.m.—Lunch  
12:30/2:00 p.m.—Free Time/Work Time  
3:00 p.m.—Divine Office Midafternoon Prayer & Divine Mercy Chaplet  
4:00/30 p.m.—Lesson with Novice Mistress or Study/Spiritual Reading  
5:00 p.m.—Divine Office (Vespers & Compline) Evening Prayer & Night Prayer  
5:30/6:30 p.m.—Supper & Dishes/Recreation or Choir Practice  
8:00/9:30/10:00 p.m.—Grand Silence/Retire/Lights Out

An ordered schedule is helpful for us laity as well as for religious—studies prove it! Bring more order, peace, joy, and productivity to your days with the help of *The Monk Manual*, a leather-bound planner for *laymen* inspired by the monastic schedule. With ninety days of detailed planning, this manual helps you sharpen your focus, manage your time, count your blessings, and much more!

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Elijah visited by an angel, Rijksmuseum, CC0

August 11, 2024

## Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kgs 19:4-8 | Eph 4:30—5:2 | Jn 6:41-51

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

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

In the first reading, we encounter the prophet Elijah as he is fleeing for his life from King Ahab and Queen Jezebel. He accomplishes a day's journey, then sits under a tree and prays for death. This is a tough scene! He is at the lowest point a human being can be. Yet in this darkest moment of despair, the light of faith flickers: Elijah cries out to God. He cries out for what he thinks he wants, and God provides him with what he *needs*, sending an angel (a messenger) to him with food and water for nourishment and strength. Thus fortified, Elijah continues his journey to Horeb. God took care of his tired, hungry, and despairing child. And over time, and through generations, his people continued to cry out to him, and in abounding love, God took care. Yet they remained separated from him. So he sent them, and the whole world, another messenger to bring food and drink for nourishment and strength: his Son. Jesus says in today's Gospel, "I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever." With even just a flicker of faith at our lowest point, or in the best of times, we call upon the Lord and can receive the perfect nourishment of the body, blood, soul, and divinity of Jesus Christ. Through God's merciful love, he is food for this life and the next.

### **GO EVANGELIZE**

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Our earthly life is never going to be easy. We will have exhausting days where we feel tired, hungry, and possibly despairing. What's important to remember at those times is that God loves us, travels with us, and he gave us the gift of Jesus to lead us to a heavenly banquet. To have a foretaste of that banquet here on earth requires us to let go of our fears, doubts, anger, and selfishness. Paul tells the Ephesians they need to leave their bad temperament behind and imitate God, living in love. When we open our hearts to the love and joy Jesus offers, we can turn to others and share the Good News that Jesus is "the bread of life" and the bread that he gives is his flesh for the life of the world. He gives us the strength to continue *our* journey, and to help others in theirs. We become his earthly messengers, bringing nourishment and sharing his love.

**SERVE** Think of someone you know who is struggling right now.

This week bring this person some food or drink. Say a prayer for and with them. You'll be a messenger of God's redeeming love, offering nourishment for the spirit and soul as well as the body.

## 19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 11, 2024: 1 Kgs 19:4-8 | Ps 34:2-9 | Eph 4:30 – 5:2 | Jn 6:41-51

**Pray:** Lord Jesus, rekindle our hearts anew with the treasure of the Eucharist. Amen.

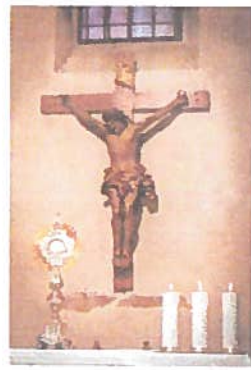
### Jesus is the Living Bread, the Gift of Eternal Life.

Jesus said, "I am the living bread which came down from heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever, and the bread which I shall give for the life of the world is my flesh." (John 6:51) The crowd of Jewish people, and even some of His disciples, had been listening to Jesus and they could not understand these strange and difficult words, so they chose to walk away from Him.

People had been amazed by Jesus' healing miracles and fascinated by His stories. If they had given Jesus more time and trusted Him, perhaps there would have been more believers in what He was sharing about being the Bread of Life. Jesus tried to show them that just as God had provided manna to feed the hungry Israelites in the desert, He knew their hearts were hurting and wanted to feed them, too. This bread from heaven, Jesus Himself, would feed their souls and give them everlasting life. This heavenly food would be a gift of total love, self-surrender, suffering, and sacrifice and would lead the way to victory over death through His Resurrection. Jesus was pointing out His divinity, which was more than they could handle.

Clergy and those who have ever served as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion on visits to the homebound in hospitals, nursing homes, or prisons often witness a profound demonstration of what Jesus meant by "living

bread." It is truly humbling to walk into a hospital room to visit an elderly patient who is suffering and crying. When they receive Communion, their whole disposition often changes, and their face breaks out in a smile of relief and peace. By the same token, how beautiful it is when a retired deacon in the final stages of Alzheimer's Disease cannot carry on a conversation or do anything for himself, yet when offered prayers and Communion, he mouths the familiar prayers and smiles in recognition when receiving Jesus.



Without a doubt, the True Presence of Christ is with us in the Eucharist. Christ brings hope, healing, strength, and renewal to our souls. This gift is for all of us at every stage of our journey in life. Best of all, Christ promises everlasting life in heaven with Him for those who believe and follow Him. May we all be grateful and treasure this incredible gift of the Eucharist that we have been given.

### Reflect & Discuss:

- † Do you embrace the Eucharist as Christ's true Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity?
- † Are there any other Church teachings that you struggle with? If so, will you commit to seek out the Church's wisdom with patience and trust – and the help of the Holy Spirit – in order to increase your understanding?
- † What does it mean to experience the presence of Jesus in the Eucharist?
- † What are the fruits of going to Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament?