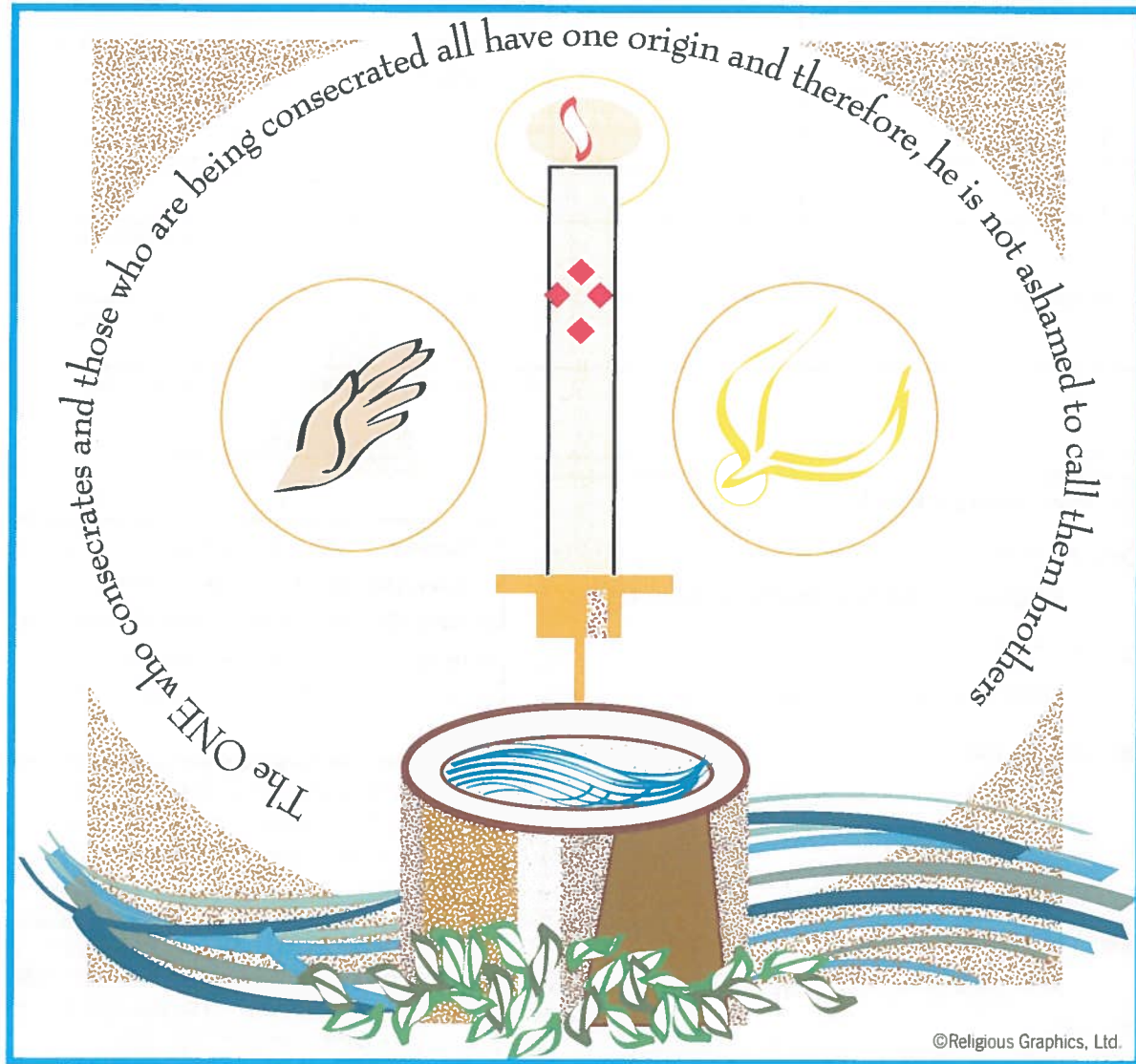


**The Roman Catholic Parishes of  
St. Margaret Mary, Herscher  
St. James the Apostle, Irwin  
Sacred Heart, Goodrich**

**TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**OCTOBER 5-6, 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: "Pure, holy simplicity confounds all the wisdom of this world and the wisdom of the flesh."**

*—Francis of Assisi*

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Oct. 12-13, 2024

Liturgical Schedule	St. Margaret Mary Saturday, Oct. 12 5:00 pm	Sacred Heart Sunday, Oct. 13 7:30 am	St. James Sunday, Oct. 13 9:00 am	St. Margaret Mary Sunday, Oct. 13 10:30 am
Celebrant	Fr. Ron	Fr. Ron	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron	Fr. Ron
Ushers	Dan Hoffman Todd Datweiler Dave Emling Bob Schultz	Dennis Pankey James Mallaney	Jeff Steinke Mary Offerman Bob Buente Dan Forsythe	Kim Smicker Joe Smolkovich Wayne Bisailon Sean Riordan
Lector	Bobbi Buza	Darlene Cipcich	Dave Ladehoff	Diane Long
Eucharistic Minister				Corinn Wheeler
Servers				Caroline Gulton
Greeters			Greeter—Karen Milller R. Leader—Reatta Gohlke	Brent Fulton

**Mass Intentions for the Week**

**Monday, Oct. 7 (SMM)**

**8:00 am + Madeline/Sterling Bouchard** (Ruth Schott)

**Tuesday, Oct. 8 (SH)**

**8:00 am +Ray Sliwinski** (Dorothy Mescher)

**Wednesday, Oct. 9 (SJ)**

**8:00 am No Mass**

**Friday, Oct. 11 (SMM)**

**8:00 am No Mass**

**Saturday, Oct. 12 (SMM)**

**5:00 pm +For All the Parish Family**

**Sunday, Oct. 13**

**7:30 am (SH) +Dorine Schafer** (Terri/Jerry Weakley)

**+Walter Pieszka** (Angie Kmetz)

**9:00am (SJ) +Jack Carlile** (K of C Council 15032)

**+Duane O'Connor** (Larry/Janice O'Connor)

**10:30am (SMM) +Bill Koerner** (Sheila Koerner)

**+Lionel & Loretts Schneider** (Joanne Hart)

**A Look Ahead**

**Saturday, Oct. 12**—Rosary Rally 12:00 pm at SMM

**Sunday, Oct. 20**—Youth Mass at SMM

**Sunday, Oct. 20**—Donut Sunday after Mass at SJ

**Sunday, Oct. 20**—2nd Collection World Mission Sunday

**Nov. 10, 11, 12**—Tri Parish Mission 7:00 pm

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

**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 Sept. 28-29, 2024**

St. Margaret Mary—\$1,574  
St. James—\$1,401  
Sacred Heart—\$1,064

Thank you for your generosity!

**Pumpkin Sale on Sunday, October 6th**

After Mass from 10 am-1 pm at St. James Church.

All pumpkins grown in Grandma Gohlke's Garden. Luke and Mary will help you choose just the right size.!

All proceeds go to St. James CCW

Thank you for your support!



**2024 PUBLIC SQUARE ROSARY RALLY**

Please join us in praying for our nation.

Where: St. Margaret Mary Church, Main St., Herscher, Illinois

When: October 12, 2024 – ROSARY WILL BEGIN AT 12:00 NOON



Please bring a lawn chair.

For more information, please contact:

Cindy Gagnon – (815) 933-4077; Rhonda Bems – (815) 426-5015; Kathy Meli – (815) 928-89

**Question of the week**

What will I do during Respect Life Month to defend those who are vulnerable, or care for those who are unable to care for themselves?

**Parish News:**

St. Margaret Mary—

St. James—

- ◆ Donut Sunday on Oct. 20 after Mass

Sacred Heart—

- ◆ Sacred Heart C.C.W.'s next meeting is Tues. Oct. 8 at 6:30p.m. Hostesses are Brenda Kutemeier and Rosie Mallaney. We will be discussing the Nov. Mission, Boxes of Joy & the Christmas party.
- ◆ This week the Blessed Virgin Mary candle burns in memory of Dolores Fitch
- ◆ Boxes of Joy are available. The pamphlets have an envelope for the \$9 to cover postage for one box. If sending more than 1 box, just make out one check to SH CCW. We will be sending one check for all the boxes.

All Parishes—

- ◆ No Adult Ed Class on Wed. Oct 9.
- ◆ Please check the ministry calendar as we are adding a Eucharistic Minister at SJ and Sunday at SMM on the weeks Deacon is not present.
- ◆ Tri-Parish Office Hours— Our office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 9am—12 pm.

**World Mission Sunday 2024**  
October 20th

**GO AND INVITE EVERYONE to the banquet**  
(INT 209)

YOUR GIFT HELPS SUPPORT:

- 38,140 Missions
- 8,750 Schools and Organizations
- 12,000 World Centers
- 844,000 Catholics
- 258,540 Religious sisters

TEXT "MISSIONS24" TO 44384

SHARE THE FEAST: *Give now*

WWW.ONEFAMILYINMISSION.ORG/WMS



Welcome into the faith to  
**Asher Talsma**  
Son of Dietrich & Erin Talsma  
who was baptized at St. James  
on September 29, 2024



**Saints of the week: St. Pope John XXIII (Oct. 11)** born to an Italian peasant family, he was educated at Bergamo and the Pontifical Roman Seminary. John was ordained on August 10, 1904. He was secretary to the bishop of Bergamo, Italy from 1904 to 1914, during which he wrote the basis for his five-volume biography of Saint Charles Borromeo. He served in World War I in the medical corps, and as a chaplain, worked in Rome after the war, and reorganized the *Society for the Propagation of the Faith*. He became the titular archbishop of Areopolis on March 3, 1925. Later he was appointed Vatican diplomatic representative to Bulgaria on October 16, 1931, then to Turkey and Greece on January 12, 1935. John became the titular archbishop of Mesembria on November 30, 1934. He was appointed papal nuncio to France on December 23, 1944, where he mediated between conservative and socially radical clergy. John was created cardinal on January 12, 1953, and patriarch of Venice, Italy on January 15, 1953. He was elected 261st pope on October 28, 1958.



As pope, he stressed his own pastoral duties as well as those of other bishops and clergy. John promoted social reforms for workers, poor people, orphans, and the outcast. He advanced cooperation with other faiths and traditions including Protestant, Greek Orthodox, Church of England, and even Shinto. In April 1959, he forbade Catholics to vote for parties supporting Communism. His encyclical, *Mater et Magistra* of July 14, 1961, advocated social reform, assistance to underdeveloped countries, a living wage for all workers, and support for socialist measures that promised real benefit to society.

He nearly doubled the number of cardinals, making the college the largest in history. On January 25, 1959, he announced his intent to call a council to consider ways to renew the Church in the modern world, promote diversity within the unity of the Church, and consider reforms promoted by ecumenical and liturgical movements. Convening the council, known as Vatican II, on October 11, 1962, was the high point of his reign.

His heartiness, his overflowing love for humanity individually and collectively, and his freshness of approach to ecclesiastical affairs made John one of the best-loved popes of modern times.



**Obscure Saint of the week: St. Alexander Sauli (Oct. 11)** was a priest of the Clerks Regular of the Congregation of Saint Paul (Barnabite). He taught philosophy and theology at the University of Pavia, Italy. He became the Superior-General of the Barnabites in 1565. Later he became the bishop of Aleria, Corsica from 1571 to 1591; there the faith was all but dead, and the clergy and people were in a state of deplorable ignorance. With three companions, he reclaimed the inhabitants, corrected abuses, rebuilt churches, founded colleges and seminaries, and returned the Church in Corsica to health. Alexander was appointed the bishop of Pavia, Italy in 1591. He left a number of catechetical works. In addition, he was the spiritual director of Saint Charles Borromeo.

#### Gospel Shorts— Not Every Marriage is Made in Heaven

We'd like to think every marriage is "Made in Heaven," but divorce statistics ... and sometimes our own failed or failing marriages ... bring us to stark and painful reality. Although the Bible is clear about God's will for the permanence of the marital union.

The selection from Mark's Gospel does not have its head in the sands of wishful thinking, but clearly in the realities of our sins and failures ... even in something as sacred as marriage. In these words, Our Lord deals with the realities and helps us be honest to God and ourselves about marriage.

**Reflection— Hymns of the Heart** There is a story about a young, medieval monk and his visit to a wayside monastery. The monk had a glorious tenor voice, and when he sang the Matins, the others gradually stopped singing just to listen to his round, sweet notes floating heaven-ward. At evensong, the same thing happened, and the story goes that God appeared in a dream to the old abbot that night.

"Why did I hear no singing at the worship services today?" he asked.

"Lord," replied the old man, "You must have heard the beautiful hymns. Our new brother lifted his voice to sing, and we fell silent, ashamed of our poor, cracking notes.

"I heard no hymns," insisted the Lord. "It is the praise of the heart I hear, and your hearts were silent this day. Your ears are not like my ears."

## Catholic Snacks, Get Fed

How did John Paul II help bring down the Berlin Wall?



The people were elated to receive him. The Communist government was not.

One of the first trips John Paul II made as pope was to his native Poland, which was suffering under the tyranny and violence of Communism.

“Be not afraid.

It was June 1979. Pope John Paul II, elected only a year before, was speaking to the people of Poland on one of his first trips as pope.

The Communists hated God and everything to do with Him. Their atheistic philosophy saw God—a Supreme Being Whose law far transcends any human law—as their mortal enemy. When the people believed in God, they believed in a higher authority than the State, and that was dangerous to the Communist regime.

But there was nothing the Communists could do to stop Christ’s Vicar.

“We want God! We want God!” shouted the people.

The authorities could not silence this man. They could not kill him. They could not make the Polish people ignore his message. He had a power they could not understand or control; a power that entered the hearts of his fellow Poles and didn’t go away.

John Paul II would make other trips to Poland in following years. The trips not only gave hope to the Polish people—they also helped bolster the nascent Solidarity movement, which would play a pivotal role in breaking the power of Communism and bringing freedom to Poland.

Ten years later, Soviet rule would come to an end in that country, and other Soviet holdings soon followed. The Berlin Wall, the symbol of the Iron Curtain, fell in 1989.

Unfortunately, those who don’t know history are doomed to repeat it. Those who promote socialist and communist ideas in our modern world often find eager audiences in those who haven’t been taught what Marxism and Communism actually did to the world in the 20th century.

Communism and atheism still afflict our society today, but they don’t stand a chance against John Paul II and the Holy Rosary. Pray for our country and our world with this beautiful and handy John Paul II Tenner. It’s the perfect way to bring the intercession of JP II and the power of the Rosary with you wherever you go.

-reprinted with permission The Catholic Company

**The Sunday gospel in everyday English** Pharisees came up, intending to give him a hard time. They asked, “Is it legal for a man to divorce his wife?”

Jesus said, “What did Moses command?”

They answered, “Moses gave permission to fill out a certificate of dismissal and divorce her.”

Jesus said, “Moses wrote this command only as a concession to your hardhearted ways. In the original creation, God made male and female to be together. Because of this, a man leaves father and mother, and in marriage he becomes one flesh with a woman—no longer two individuals but forming a new unity. Because God created this organic union of the two sexes, no one should desecrate his art by cutting them apart.”

When they were back home, the disciples brought it up again. Jesus gave it to them straight: “A man who divorces his wife so he can marry someone else commits adultery against her. And a woman who divorces her husband so she can marry someone else commits adultery.”

The people brought children to Jesus, hoping he might touch them. The disciples shooed them off. But Jesus was irate and let them know it: “Don’t push these children away. Don’t ever get between them and me. These children are at the very center of life in the Kingdom. Mark this: Unless you accept God’s kingdom in the simplicity of a child, you’ll never get in.” Then, gathering the children up in his arms, he laid his hands of blessing on them (*from Mark 10*).



## Questions Catholics Ask

### How did the Catholic church get into the hospital business?



From ancient times, the healing ministry was a natural function of religion.

Hospitals have a fascinating history. In the 19th century, they were popularly conceived as places where you were assured "a bed to lie in and to die in." People reacted to hospitals similarly to the Sacrament of the Sick: as a sure sign you were on your way out. In the era before

germ theory was understood, the chances of getting sicker in a hospital—where the critically ill were gathered and treated by doctors who didn't wash their hands between patients—was admittedly high. For this reason, some older people still avoid doctors and hospitals, seeing both as omens of the end.

From ancient times, the healing ministry was a natural function of religion. Faith healing was in the hands of religious practitioners. The Bible describes how priests were invested with the authority to banish the contagious from public life, and also to pronounce them cured and restored to the community. The popularity of healing pools is evident in the gospels, as well as exorcisms and magical rituals. In the century before Jesus, Sirach puts in a good word for doctors too. During Jesus' ministry, people naturally bring their sick to the man "who speaks with authority," and receive physical and mental cures. The evangelist Luke was attracted to the church as a physician and recorded many healing narratives.

As early as the 5th century BC—when Hippocrates uttered his oath, "First, do no harm"—science joined the healing business. Medical schools were operating in 40 BC. Yet the church continued to engage in healing ministries with sacraments for the sick and the sinner. Care for the sick was declared a work of mercy. When Constantine embraced Christianity in the 4th century, hospitals opened in every cathedral town of the Roman empire. Early hospitals functioned as hostels, almshouses, and healing facilities at once. In a word, they offered hospitality: a term rooted in addressing the needs of the stranger. Many saints took the infirm into their homes or pursued full-time doctoring at no charge like Cosmas and Damian.

Secular hospitals emerged by the 16th and 17th centuries. Yet often the church embraced patients they refused: Damien de Veuster and Marianne Cope ministered to lepers in Hawaii. Frances Cabrini opened hospitals for the under-served poor in New York and Chicago. The esteemed Mayo Clinic was founded and funded by Franciscan Sisters in Rochester. If we take seriously the concept that "all healing is faith healing," it's hard to imagine the church getting out of the hospital business.

**Scriptures:** Leviticus 13:1-46; Sirach 38:1-15; 7:31-37; 8:22-26; Matthew 4:23-24; 8:1-17; 10:5-8; Luke 17:11-19; 18:35-43; John 5:1-9; 9:1-7; Acts 3:1-10; 5:12-16; 8:9-25; James 5:13-15



The Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary will be selling 50/50 Raffle tickets after 5:00 pm mass on Saturday, September 28th and after all the Sunday masses on October 6th. Drawing will be October 13th. Proceeds benefit local

charities, Clergy Appreciation lunch and supporting seminarians.

## Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary Fundraiser

October 13, 2024  
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

St. James Church Hall  
4372 Main St., Kankakee (Irwin)



Dessert will be served  
Basket raffles  
Drawing for 50/50 Raffle

Free will donation

Proceeds benefit donations to local nursing homes/charities, clergy appreciation dinner and supporting seminarians

Sacred Heart Church will soon be selling tickets for their "Fall Cash Bash" which will take place Sat., November 23 from 4p.m. till 8 p.m. in the church hall. Tickets are \$50 a piece and will admit 2 adults with a chance of a 1st Prize of \$1,500 or \$500 2nd Prize. There will be games of Euchre (with a buy in by 5pm) & Black Jack. Basket Raffle, Silent & Live auctions, 50/50's with plenty of food and drinks.

For more info call Terri  
\$15 514-8171



HOLY  
HOLY  
HOLY  
is the Lord GOD



October 6, 2024

## Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Gn 2:18-24 | Heb 2:9-11 | Mk 10:2-16

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

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

Everything in God's creation is intended to reflect his goodness and proclaim his glory. It's not hard to understand this idea when we behold the majesty of the sea. It can be more difficult, however, to remember this is also present in each of us and in our relationships - including that relationship God designed for man and woman: marriage. Our ability to turn away from God means that we sometimes reject, rather than reflect, him. This is one reason why Jesus responds to the Pharisees' question by revoking Moses' allowance for divorce, a concession God had made to the Israelites in the Old Testament. Jesus' statement might be unsettling because, in our time, divorce has affected nearly *everyone* in one way or another. But his words indicate the strength of the covenant the Lord has made with us: his love is permanent and unbreakable. We learn that the unbreakable bond between spouses reflects, in an imperfect way, God's perfectly faithful love for us.

### **GO EVANGELIZE**

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

We find this truth about love in the wisdom of the Church. Love is not a "feeling." It is an action - a virtue - in which we consistently *will the good of another*. After all, this is who and what God is: a continuous outpouring of love. Our triune God is a relational community of love, and Jesus offers us the preeminent example of this: As the Son and out of love for the Father, he *chose* to remain on the cross, regardless of how he *felt*. Such was his love for us that he willed our redemption and sent us the Spirit to help us remain with him. Marriage, designed by God to mirror this triune communal, covenantal love, likewise requires a *decision to love* that is firm and constant, despite how we might *feel*. If we wish to be capable of the fidelity required for marriage, family life, or simply for our relationship with God, we must make the deliberate choice to love - *and we must do it over and over*. With time and with God's grace, the habit of choosing another's good becomes easier, and we experience the joy of a stable and authentic love.

**PRACTICE** We can reflect God's faithful love by becoming faithful ourselves. Choose one or two ways to exercise fidelity in little things this week. Examples might be getting up at the same time every morning without hitting the "snooze" button; spending five extra minutes in prayer each day; or offering a prayer of thanksgiving to God every time you are tempted to check your phone unnecessarily.



# Tri-Parish Mission

Sunday, Nov. 10 at St. Margaret Mary

All sessions begin  
at 7:00 pm

Monday, Nov. 11 at Sacred Heart Tuesday, Nov. 12 at St. James

# MEET THE MAN WHO MAKES KINDNESS

*His plan!*



## FATHER JIM SICHKO "60 Minutes for Jesus"

General Themes are Kindness, Trust, and Leadership.  
Fr. Jim is a priest of the Diocese of Lexington, storyteller,  
Papal Missionary of Mercy.

Each night of the mission is a stand-alone talk.  
You'll laugh, you'll cry, you'll sing, you'll be inspired!

