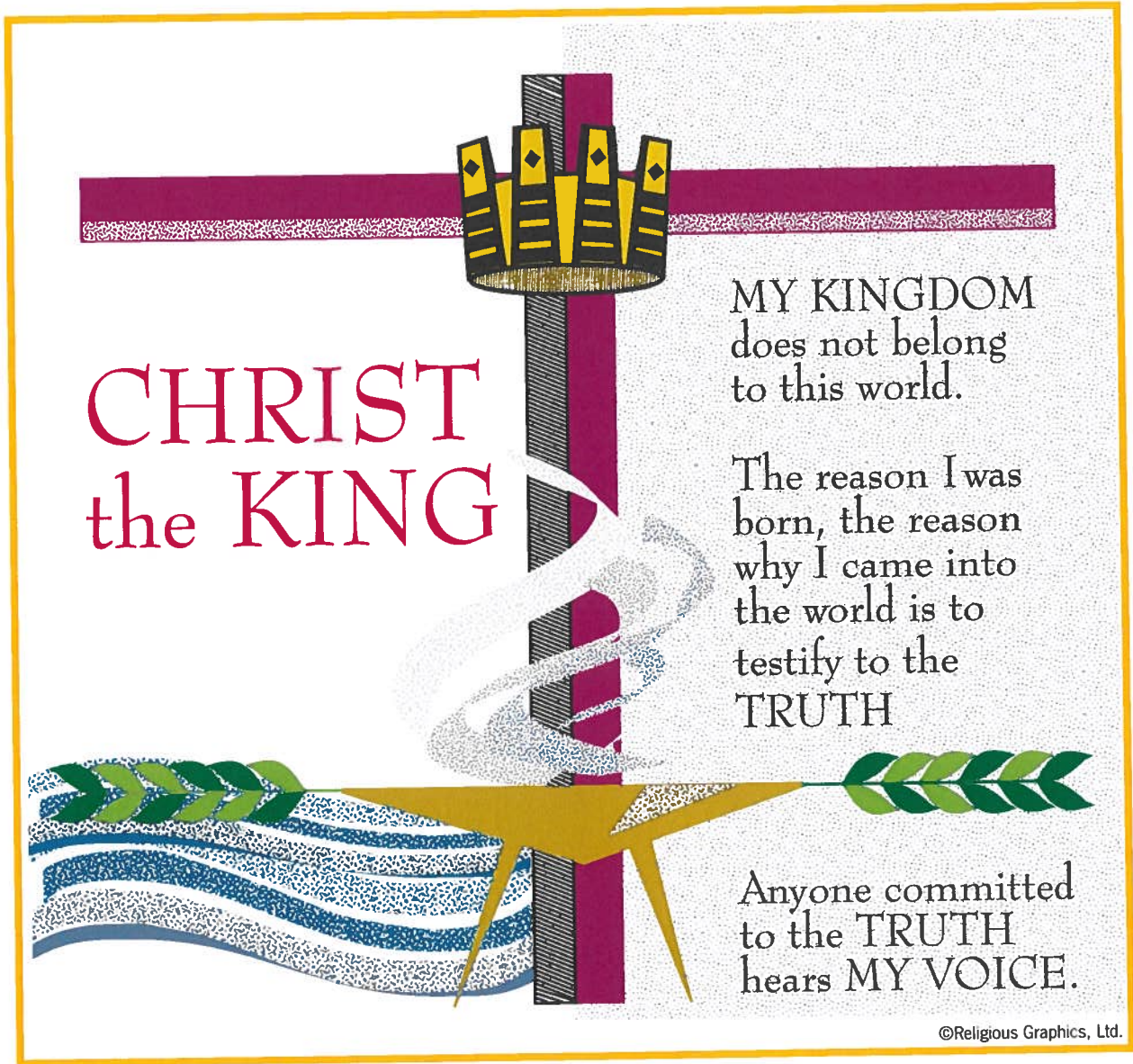


The Roman Catholic Parishes of
St. Margaret Mary, Herscher
St. James the Apostle, Irwin
Sacred Heart, Goodrich

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

NOVEMBER 23-24, 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: ““The secret of happiness is to live moment by moment and to thank God for all that he, in his goodness, sends to us day after day.”
~St. Gianna Beretta Molla

First Sunday of Advent		November 30—December 1, 2024		
Liturgical Schedule	St. Margaret Mary Saturday, Nov. 30 5:00 pm	Sacred Heart Sunday, Dec. 1 7:30 am	St. James Sunday, Dec. 1 9:00 am	St. Margaret Mary Sunday, Dec. 1 10:30 am
Celebrant	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron
Ushers	Dave Emling Roger Jensen Gery Wright Dan Hoffman	Kyle Ferris David Kirkpatrick	Cathy Jensen Jeff Steinke Dallas Ferris Dave Ladehoff	Brent Fulton Corinn Wheeler Erik Wheeler Darren Lovell
Lector	Hillary Webb	Terri Weakley	Andy Hansen	Dana Masching
Eucharistic Minister				
Servers				Caroline Fulton
Greeters			Greeter—Karen Miller R. Leader—Kathy Dumas	Stacy Powers

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, Nov. 25 (SMM)

8:00 am +Jim Feller (Norm/Sharon Riordan)

Tuesday, Nov. 26 (SH)

8:00 am +Dolores Clodi (Gary/Kate Cloonen)

Wednesday, Nov. 27 (SJ)

7:00 pm +Dorene Schafer (Buckley Family)

Thursday, Nov. 28 Thanksgiving

9:00am +Madonna Hoffman (Jeanne Hansen)

Friday, Nov. 29

8:00 am SMM +Tom Smolkovich (Mark/Sue Richie)

Saturday, Nov. 30 (SMM)

5:00 pm For All the Parish Family

Sunday, Dec. 1

7:30 am (SH) +Lela Madison, Steven Riley, Dean
Madison, Dale Pool (The Family)

9:00am (SJ) +Jeffrey Cooley (Richard/Kathy Dumas)
+Dorene O'Connor (Maureen Nourie)

10:30 am SMM Dolores Clodi (Pam/Andrew Matern)

A Look Ahead

Sat., Nov. 23—SH Cash Bash

Wed., Nov. 27—Thanksgiving Vigil Mass 7 pm at SH

Thurs., Nov. 28—Thanksgiving Mass 9 am at SMM

Sunday, Dec. 15—St. James Christmas Pageant, Breakfast,
and Raffles

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](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

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

Question of the week

Have I felt the presence of the kingdom when I have been of service? How can I be of service this week to someone in need?

Collections Week of Nov. 16-17, 2024

St. Margaret Mary—\$1, Human Dev.—\$
St. James—\$2, Human Dev.—\$
Sacred Heart—\$1, Human Dev.—\$
Thank you for your generosity!

Gospel Shorts— Christ—The Lord of Truth

We don't ever have to worry about accepting real truth wherever it is found. God gave us brains to understand the world God created. Our minds were given by God to help us explore, and at least begin to comprehend God's creation.

God created us as thinking, wondering, searching, curious people and God intends us to explore and understand this world he has lent us. We wonder, we probe, we analyze, we marvel, we step back in awe at the intricate functioning of God's world. We attempt to understand truth because Christ is the Lord of truth.

THANK YOU!!
OUR TRI-PARISH COMMUNITY SENT
A TOTAL OF \$10,455.82 TO
CATHOLIC CHARITIES,
DIOCESE OF CHARLOTTE,
NORTH CAROLINA.



Mark your Calendars! The St. James Christmas Pageant/ Breakfast and Basket Raffle will be held on December 15.

If you would like to donate a basket for our raffle, please have it to the church by December 8.

If you have any questions, please contact Tahnya at 815-530-4406 or at the religious ed office.

Set up will be done on December 11.

Reflection—Thanksgiving Today

What first comes to mind when you think of Thanksgiving? Maybe you remember a special year, perhaps one that would prove to be the last for a beloved family member. Or you might think of aromatic pumpkin pie or your grandmother's special mince pie. Your family may use the holiday to recall your blessings. Others pause to consider what that first Thanksgiving was really like for Indigenous Americans and European immigrants.

Whatever family holidays mean to you, have you ever stopped to think that as an adult you can shape those festivities into memorable occasions for future generations? You can continue priceless practices, but you also have the freedom to introduce some of your own new traditions for Thanksgiving.

Parish News:

St. Margaret Mary—

- ◆ Thank you to all who have donated to our SMM CCW Bakeless Bake Sale, your donations are appreciated and will help many worthy causes. It is not too late to send in your donation if you have not done so.

St. James—

- ◆ *Christmas is coming! Please join us Tuesday, December 10th for church cleaning at 5 pm and Christmas decorating at 6 pm. We'll take any time you can donate. Thanks!*
- ◆ We are collecting winter wear accessories (mittens, hats, etc) in the hallway of St. James for the Salvation Army. Thanks to all who participate!
- ◆ **Christmas Pageant/ Breakfast, Basket Raffle Dec. 15**

Sacred Heart—

- ◆ The week of November 24th, the Blessed Virgin Mary candle burns for the Wedding Anniversary of Don and Shirley St. Germaine and the St. Joseph candles burns in memory of Roberta Gagnon

All Parishes—

- ◆ **Dartball Practice!** Come one, come all! Your TriParish Knights Dartball team will be holding practice on the following dates: Nov. 17, Nov. 24, Dec. 1, Dec. 15. If you've ever wondered what it's all about, or just want to try your hand, please join us. The team will be holding practice at St. James at 7:00pm in an effort to improve their standing in the league.
- ◆ **Adult Religious Ed Class—No Class Wednesday, Nov. 27**
- ◆ **Tri-Parish Office Hours—** Our office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday 9am—12 pm.
- ◆ **Christmas Ministries—**If there is a particular mass that you would be attending and would like to serve in a ministry capacity, please email debjen04@gmail.com as soon as possible. I would like to be able to accommodate your schedule



Welcome into the faith to
Lainey Mae Kirkpatrick
daughter of David & Alicia Kirkpatrick
who was baptized at Sacred Heart
on November 9, 2024



Welcome into the faith to
Elliot Leo Bauer
son of Melanie & Austin Bauer
who was baptized at Sacred Heart
on November 9, 2024



Obscure saint of the week: St. Albert of Louvain (Nov. 24) was the son of Duke Godfrey III of Brabant. He was made a canon of Liege, Belgium at age 12, a political appointment for guaranteed income rather than a religious vocation. He gave up the position at age 21 to become a knight under Count Baldwin V of Hainault, a bitter enemy of his native Brabant. He talked of going on a Crusade, but never did, and eventually realized that religious life was calling him. He became a canon of Liege again, this time as a true vocation.

Albert became an archdeacon and provost of Brabant. Later he was made the bishop of Liege in 1191. Albert of Rethel, cousin of Count Baldwin and uncle of the Empress Constance, wife of Holy Roman Emperor Henry VI, had sought the episcopacy. He appealed to the emperor for help; Henry removed Albert from the position and made a third candidate, Lothaire, who was the provost of Bonn, Germany, the new bishop of Liege. Albert then appealed to the Vatican, both for himself and to help clearly establish the pope's supremacy in the matter. Celestine III declared Albert's election valid and returned him to Liege. Lothair refused to surrender the see; Henry backed him and forced the priests in the diocese to submit to Lothair.

Bruno, archbishop of Cologne, Germany was supposed to ordain Albert, but refused, fearing the emperor. William, archbishop of Rheims, France, ordained Albert as priest, and then as bishop. In an attempt to end the matter in the emperor's favor, a group of Henry's knights ambushed and murdered Albert on the road outside Rheims. The plan backfired, however, as Lothair was excommunicated and exiled, and Henry was forced to submit to Rome and do penance; lay investiture (civil control over ordinations) took another serious blow.

Obscure saint of the week: St. Colman of Cloyne (Nov. 24) was the son of Lenin, a royal bard, poet, musician, court historian, and genealogist at Cashel, Ireland. He was an adult convert at age fifty, being baptized by Saint Brendan the Navigator; he had become involved with Brendan and Christianity while helping recover the stolen shrine of Saint Ailbhe from a lake. He became a priest and evangelist in Limerick and Cork. He was a teacher of Saint Columba. Colman was later made the bishop of Cloyne, County Cork, Ireland.

Sponsor a Needy Individual or Family for Christmas

Catholic Charities is offering you the opportunity to help their clients at Christmas this year. The Gift of Christmas is an annual program that fulfills wish lists for individuals and families served by Catholic Charities. Read stories about clients and choose who you would like to help this Christmas. Or, if you prefer, you can direct your donation to an individual or family who hasn't been chosen yet.

Donating is simple: visit catholiccharitiesjoliet.org and click on "donate." Or, call 815-724-1140 to make your donation over the phone. To send a check, please note "Gift of Christmas" in the memo and send checks to:

Catholic Charities
16555 Weber Road
Crest Hill, IL 60403



Current Status for 2024 CMAA

Parish	Goal	Pledged	Paid
Sacred Heart	\$6,000	\$7,675	\$7,675
St. MM	\$9,400	\$10,195	\$10,145
St. James	\$8,800	\$7,830	\$7,784

The Sunday gospel in everyday English

Pilate said, "Are you the 'King of the Jews'?"

Jesus answered, "Are you saying this on your own, or did others tell you this about me?"

Pilate said, "Do I look like a Jew? Your people and your high priests turned you over to me. What did you do?"

"My Kingdom," said Jesus, "doesn't consist of what you see around you. If it did, my followers would fight so that I wouldn't be handed over to the Jews. But I'm not that kind of king, not the world's kind of king."

Then Pilate said, "So, are you a king or not?"

Jesus answered, "You tell me. Because I am King, I was born and entered the world so that I could witness to the truth. Everyone who cares for truth, who has any feeling for the truth, recognizes my voice" (from John 18).

Reflection — Thanksgiving Today

What first comes to mind when you think of Thanksgiving? Maybe you remember a special year, perhaps one that would prove to be the last for a beloved family member. Or you might think of aromatic pumpkin pie or your grandmother's special mince pie. Your family may use the holiday to recall your blessings. Others pause to consider what that first Thanksgiving was really like for Indigenous Americans and European immigrants.

Whatever family holidays mean to you, have you ever stopped to think that as an adult you can shape those festivities into memorable occasions for future generations? You can continue priceless practices, but you also have the freedom to introduce some of your own new traditions for Thanksgiving.



November 24, 2024

Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Dn 7:13-14 | Rv 1:5-8 | Jn 18:33b-37

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

If we reflect on today's Gospel, it might be hard for us to envision Jesus ever dressed like an actual king! When Pontius Pilate asked him if he was a king, Jesus responded, "If my kingdom did belong to this world, my attendants would be fighting to keep me from being handed over." Imagine: Jesus had spent the night in agony; his friends had all abandoned him; and, in a few verses, Pilate will deliver him to be scourged. He must have *felt*, at that moment, like anything but a king. But, indeed, he was (and is) the Creator of the Universe and its rightful king. We Christians – called, like Jesus' first disciples, to be his friends and followers – should do everything we can to proclaim him as king of our hearts, our families, our lives, and our society.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

There is a tradition of placing an image of Jesus' Sacred Heart in a prominent place in the home. The idea is to "enthron" Jesus as king of the home and the family; there is even a small ceremony to go along with the enthronement. In one of the most famous images of the Sacred Heart, Jesus wears a magnificent crown, holds a scepter in his right hand, and carries the earth in his left hand. We see, from this picture, Jesus as a king with a glorious crown who holds the world in his hand – but he does so with a heart burning with love! He loves us so much that he wishes to extend the reign of his love to every human being on earth. We can cooperate with him in this by "enthroning" him as king of our hearts and our homes and allowing his love to impact everything we do and say. By our willingness to welcome God into every aspect of our lives, we will become witnesses of his love to others.

INVITE This week, take one opportunity to invite someone to pray with you. They could be dinner guests, a coworker, or a friend you meet for coffee. Whoever it is, ask him or her if there are any particular intentions you can bring to God in prayer. By doing this, you remind your friend of God's constant presence and his desire to be part of all of your joys, sorrows, and anxieties.

Solemnity of Christ the King

November 24, 2024: Dn 7:13-14 | Ps 93:1-2,5 |
Rv 1:5-8 | Jn 18:33b-37

When the question of Christ's kingship comes up in the Gospel, Jesus redirects us to the true meaning of divine kingship. Without denying that he is king, he says: "The reason I was born into the world is to testify to the truth." He is not the king of a country or a world; he is the king of truth, the ruler of reality.

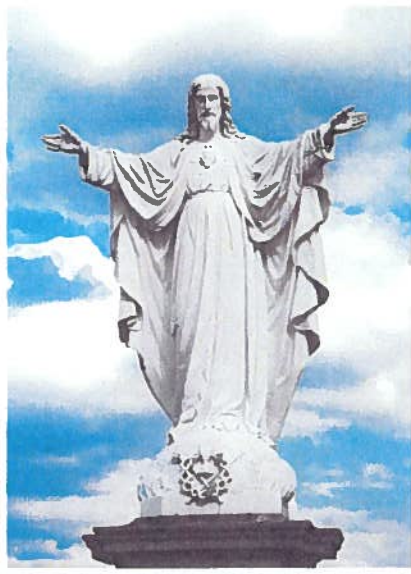
The perception of reality that we develop when Jesus is not our teacher and interpreter and revealer of truth is warped and blurred by the falsehoods and misunderstandings and counterfeits that float around in the kingdom of the world.

When we sin, it's because we don't fully understand the reality of the situation. Jesus is not yet fully the king of that part of our lives.

For example, think of a person who has asked you for something that you cannot afford to give. Perhaps it's the sick neighbor. Or the coworker who doesn't have the level of faith that you have. Or the aging parent who needs more and more assistance.

Do you feel like you don't have enough to satisfy their needs? Are you so tired from your own burdens that you cannot take on someone else's? Well, it's our flesh nature that says we cannot enjoy doing more for others than we're already doing. This is a warped view of reality; it looks like

we'll be happier if we cater to our own desires instead of taking care of someone else's need.



In true reality, a joyful lifestyle develops when we listen to the voice of Jesus, even when he says, "go the extra mile" or "be like the Good Samaritan and take a detour to minister to others". We have to trust the truth that he teaches, regardless of how little we understand it.

Understanding grows in the doing of God's will more than in the thinking about it. Joy grows as we gain the understanding that comes from seeing some of the fruits of what we've done. When we sin, it's because we cannot

envision the good fruits that will come from doing things the way Christ tells us to. Under his kingship and the Holy Spirit's wisdom, we gain freedom to overcome all of our sinful tendencies.

Reflect & Discuss:

- † "FEAR" is "False Evidence Appearing Real." What is fear telling you about the ways of Christ?
- † What will you do to give Jesus kingship in these areas?
- † Name a common misconception you've seen or experienced that keeps people away from Christ. Why do people believe this unreality?
- † How can we help them feel safe in learning the truth and accepting the kingship of Christ?

November, 2024 Tri-Parish Mission with Fr. Jim Sichko



Catholic Snacks , Get Fed

We don't often think of Thanksgiving as a "Catholic" holiday. After all, it is a man-made occasion, rather than a liturgical feast day like Christmas or Easter.

However, a holiday created by Christians and centered around gratitude is something that merges easily with our faith, and so Thanksgiving can be a very Catholic day for us!

Here's some ideas as to how to make it a Catholic Thanksgiving:

1. Start the day with Mass. The word "Eucharist" means "thanksgiving," and indeed, the Mass is the greatest act of thanksgiving we can make to God. Additionally, you can center your prayers on the theme of gratitude throughout Thanksgiving Day. Invite your guests to pray with you, especially at grace before meals.

2. Remember the first Thanksgiving. Do we mean the harvest dinner of the Pilgrims? While we can remember that too, the first Thanksgiving actually took place 60 years earlier. A Spanish fleet arrived in Florida in 1565, and its Franciscan chaplain, Fr. Francisco Lopez de Mendoza Grajales, offered a Mass of thanksgiving when they came ashore. The region's natives joined the Spanish for Mass and a celebratory meal afterwards.

3. Celebrate St. Martin. In Catholic tradition, one of the great saints we celebrate in November is St. Martin of Tours, famous for his act of charity towards a needy beggar. His November 11th feast, called Martinmas, was celebrated much like our Thanksgiving: harvest vegetables, wine from the summer vintage, even roast goose. In fact, there is evidence that this roast goose is the predecessor of our American Thanksgiving turkey.

4. Imitate the charity of Squanto. Although the historical details of the first Thanksgiving are debated, we do know a good bit about a certain key character. Tisquantum, or Squanto, had little reason to be nice to white people: an Englishman had enslaved him and taken him away from his people several years earlier. Through the goodness of two Spanish Franciscan friars who bought his freedom, he was able to eventually return home (and it appears he was baptized a Catholic by these same friars!). Sadly, Squanto found on his return that his whole community had been wiped out by European disease. Nonetheless, he acted as a translator and emissary between the Pilgrims and the natives of the area and taught the newcomers the skills they needed to survive. His story exemplifies forgiveness, charity, and generosity—virtues we should all strive to imitate!

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"Then you are a king?"
JOHN 18:37

The Devil and Thanksgiving

There is an old European story about a traveler who came upon a barn where the devil had stored seeds which he planned to sow in the hearts of people. There were bags of seeds variously marked "Hatred," "Fear," "Doubt," "Despair," "Unforgiveness," "Pride," "Greed," etc.

The devil appeared and struck up a conversation with the traveler. He gleefully told the traveler how easily the seeds he sowed sprouted in the hearts of men and women.

"Are there any hearts in which these seeds will not sprout?" the traveler asked.

A melancholy look appeared on the devil's face. "These seeds will not sprout in the heart of a thankful and joyful person," he confessed.

