

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

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

NOVEMBER 2-3, 2024

Hear, O Israel!
The LORD our GOD is one!
You shall
LOVE the LORD
with all your heart
with all your soul
✠ with all your mind
and with all your strength
and you shall
LOVE your NEIGHBOR
as yourself

There is no commandment greater than these.

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ALL SOULS DAY 11/2/2024 PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER OUR BELOVED DEAD.

YVONNE BLOCK

MADELINE BOUCHARD

DOLORES CLODI

INEZ CRAWFORD

CHARLES DOWN

MARIAN MCKENNA

JANET DENAULT MENKE

PAUL MUHLSTADT

VAUGHN PEERBOLTE

JAMIE SEBASTIANI

GARY WOOD

REGINA WEBBER WHITE

JIM WEBBER

VICKI WEBBER

Quotable: "The Bible tells us to love our neighbors, and to love our enemies; probably because they are generally the same people. "
 ~G.K. Chesterton

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time				November 9-10, 2024
Liturgical Schedule	St. Margaret Mary Saturday, Nov. 9 5:00 pm	Sacred Heart Sunday, Nov. 10 7:30 am	St. James Sunday, Nov. 10 9:00 am	St. Margaret Mary Sunday, Nov. 10 10:30 am
Celebrant	Fr. Ron	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron	Fr. Ron,	Fr. Ron
Ushers	Dave Emling Roger Jensen Gery Wright Bob Schultz	Dennis Pankey James Mallaney	Vic Carlile Jeff Martin Jeff Steinke Dallas Ferris	Brent Fulton Erik Wheeler Corinn Wheeler Darren Lovell
Lector	Rob Landeck	Mike Hertz	Dave Ladehoff	Steve Jacob
Eucharistic Minister			Joe Benoit	Hollie Lovell
Servers				Caroline Fulton
Greeters			Greeter—C. Forsythe R. Leader—Rita Thiesen	Julie Splear

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, Nov. 4 (SMM)

8:00 am +Avina "Babe "Clodi

Tuesday, Nov. 5 (SH)

8:00 an +Russ LaGesse (Terri/Jerry Weakley)

Wednesday, Nov. 6 (SJ)

8:00 am +Cindy Frerichs (Louise Devine Family)

Friday, Nov. 8

8:00 am SMM +Winifred Gash (Sheila Koerner)

Saturday, Nov. 9 (SMM)

**5:00 pm +Brian Buckley (Mary McDonald)
+Adam Andrzejewski (Uta Dubravec)**

Sunday, Nov. 10

**7:30 am (SH) +Don St. Germaine, Sr. (SJ Parish , Arlington)
+Robert "Flip" Henry (Tom Henry Family)**

**9:00am (SJ) +Pat Perreault (Mark/Terri O'Connor)
+ Franklin Forsythe (Dan/Chris Forsythe)**

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

Question of the week

How do I show my love for God and my love for neighbor? When have I felt myself giving that love with all my being?

A Look Ahead

Nov. 9/10—2nd Collection for Seminarian Endowment

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

Nov. 16/17—2nd collection Campaign for Human Dev.

Sat., Nov. 23—SH Cash Bash

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 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

Collections Week of Oct. 26-27, 2024

St. Margaret Mary—\$1,494 Hurricane relief-\$3,370
St. James—\$2,072 Hurricane relief-\$2,382
Sacred Heart—\$874 Hurricane relief-\$2,194

Thank you for your generosity!

Gospel Shorts— Life's Ultimate Hang-up

There are basic human questions that all of us have. In effect, we come into the world with them, although we may not be able to articulate them until we are older. In this well-known incident in which Jesus is asked what is the greatest commandment, Jesus' response provides for us the answer to one of those basic human questions: "Why am I here?" We do not know if the questioner actually has that question on his lips, but it is a question deeply etched in the human heart.

Jesus' answer, which is actually multi-faceted, is one in which he quotes Deuteronomy and other parts of Jewish law and tradition. Jesus' answer helps us to answer the question for ourselves. Life's ultimate hang-up, "Why am I here?" has an ultimate set of answers, each dependent on the other: love God; love yourself; love your neighbor. We must do all three — and none may be left out. If this is a question on which we get hung-up, well, it's a "hang-up" we should welcome and embrace!



Ladies of SMM—don't forget to drop your bake-less bake sale donation into the collection basket with a memo that states what it is for. It one of our main fundraisers each year to support all of our ministries throughout the year. It couldn't be any easier than this. Thank you for your support of our ministries!

St Margaret Mary Totes



Totes are available each week for your little ones thanks to the SMM religious ed students. Pick one up and return it after mass in the back of the church. Enjoy!



Please pray for the repose of the soul of

+Robert "Flip" Henry

brother of Tom (Carol) Henry

May Robert and all the faithful departed rest in eternal peace.

Our sincere sympathy to Tom and his family and friends.

Parish News:

St. Margaret Mary—

- ◆ Boxes of Joy are available. Remember to include your \$9 for mailing. If you use the qr code to pay your \$9 for shipping, please contact the office to let us know. Remember boxes are due back on Nov. 3.

St. James—

- ◆ We are collecting winter wear accessories (mittens, hats, etc) in the hallway of St. James for the Salvation Army. Thanks to all who participate!

Sacred Heart—

- ◆ The Nov. C.C.W. meeting has been changed due to the parish mission, It will be Thursday, Nov. 14 at 6:30 pm. Hostesses for the evening are Pam Dumas and Lori Jensen.
- ◆ 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. Must be turned in by Nov. 2. They may be brought to the hall, where there is a table setup on the south side. Thanks so much for your generous support.

All Parishes—

- ◆ **Adult Religious Ed Class—Class Wednesday, Nov. 7pm**
- ◆ 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.**

Catholic Charities provides outpatient counseling in DuPage, Will, Grundy, Kendall, Kankakee, Ford, and Iroquois counties. We offer individual, group, family, and couples therapy, including specialized services like anger management and preventative education programs.

Our services are available to those in financial need, and we accept most major insurance. If you or a loved one are struggling with anxiety, depression, substance use or relationships issues, we are her to help.

Call 815-723-0331 for more information, to verify insurance coverage, or to schedule an appointment. We are now accepting in new clients. or more information about the programs and services provided by Catholic Charities, visit catholiccharitiesjoliet.org.

Obscure saint of the week: St. Amicus of Fonte Avellana (Nov. 3) was born to the Italian nobility. Amicus gave up the worldly life for a religious one in a Benedictine monastery near his home. About age 20, he left the monastic life to become a diocesan priest. He then gave up parish work to return to the monastery and encouraged all his family to take up religious life (several, including his parents, did so), gave away his remaining possessions, and then lived for over twenty years as a hermit in a cave on Mount Torano dell'Aquila in the diocese of Ascoli Piceno, Italy. His piety and reputation for holiness led to several other would-be spiritual students to become hermits. In his 90's, he returned to the life of a monk at the monastery of Saint Peter in Fonte Avellana, Italy.



Obscure saint of the week: The grandson of Charibert, King of Toulouse, the eldest son of Bertrand, Duke of Aquitaine. He was a worldly, popular and dissolute layman courtier at Nuestria in northwest France in his youth. For political reasons he emigrated, to Austrasia in the border area between modern France and Germany. Hubert married in 682 to Floribanne, daughter of Dagobert, Count of Louvain. He was the father of one son, Saint Floribert of Liege.

Hubert was passionately devoted to hunting. While chasing a stag on a Good Friday morning, he received a vision of a crucifix between the animal's antlers. A voice warned him, "Hubert, unless you turn to the Lord, and lead a holy life, you shall quickly go down to hell." It was a conversion experience for Hubert.

A spiritual student of Saint Lambert of Maastricht. When his wife died, Hubert renounced all his worldly positions, titles and wealth, handed his patrimony, and the care of his son, to his brother, and studied for the priesthood. After ordination, he served as assistant to Saint Lambert. While on a pilgrimage to Rome, Lambert was murdered. Hubert was chosen bishop of Maastricht. Known for his excellent preaching and his generosity to the poor, stripping the diocese of all excesses to help them. Following another vision, and to defend of the memory of Lambert, he moved his mentor's body from Maastricht to Liege, and built a church for it on the site of Lambert's martyrdom. Hubert was the first bishop of Liege.

Hubert evangelized the Ardenne region, converting pagans and strengthening Christians. He tracked down some of the old idolatrous places of worship, but generally permitted the new converts to decide for themselves to destroy the old idols. They all, naturally, did so.

Hubert predicted the date of his own death and died while reciting the *Our Father*. He became highly revered in the Middle Ages, and there were several military orders named in his honor. His association with the hunt led to his patronage of furriers and trappers, and against rabies and bad behavior in dogs, primarily hunting dogs. The breed commonly known as *bloodhounds* are also called *Saint Hubert's hounds*.

The Sunday gospel in everyday English

Hearing the lively exchanges of question and answer and seeing how sharp Jesus was in his answers, he put in his question: "Which is most important of all the commandments?"

Jesus said, "The first in importance is, 'Listen, Israel: The Lord your God is one; so love the Lord God with all your passion and prayer and intelligence and energy.' And here is the second: 'Love others as well as you love yourself.' There is no other commandment that ranks with these."

The religion scholar said, "A wonderful answer, Teacher! So lucid and accurate—that God is one and there is no other. And loving him with all passion and intelligence and energy, and loving others as well as you love yourself. Why, that's better than all offerings and sacrifices put together!"

When Jesus realized how insightful he was, he said, "You're almost there, right on the border of God's kingdom" (from Mark 12).

Catholic Snacks , Get Fed

-What are the three holy oils we use in the sacraments?
And when do we use these little seen sacramentals?

Let's say you're visiting a church and you notice a tiny door in the wall of the sanctuary or the vestibule. You ask someone what it is and they reply, "Oh! That's the ambry."

"Sorry, come again?" you ask quizzically. "The *ambry*?"

"Yes, the place where the holy oils are kept."

Ah, yes, the place where the holy oils are kept. You move away and are exiting the church when you suddenly think, "Wait, I forget what exactly the holy oils are." By now, it's too late to find your knowledgeable friend again, so you go home and consult your other knowledgeable friend—Get Fed!



You search "holy oils" and discover that these oils are blessed by the bishop at the Chrism Mass during Holy Week. There are three, each with a special sacramental use:

The **Oil of the Sick** is used during the Anointing of the Sick. The priest applies it to a sick person while invoking the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ. This oil is the vehicle through which Our Lord sends a person the graces and strength to bear illness. While it is in no way medicinal, it has been known to work spiritual, emotional, and even physical healing. It is made of pure olive oil.

The **Oil of Catechumens** is applied during the Baptism ceremony, right before the actual baptism with water. This oil is like a closed door between the soul and the devil, shutting out the latter in order that the soon-to-be-baptized soul may better prepare for life with and in Christ. It is also pure olive oil.

The **Oil of Chrism** is used in multiple sacraments. Most commonly, it is applied after Baptism and at Confirmation. It signifies the Holy Ghost and consecrates a person to God's service. Priests at their ordination are also anointed with this oil. It is used at the consecration of bishops and churches, the blessing of new altars and holy vessels, and—now rare—at the coronation of royalty. It is made of olive oil and balsam, which gives it that distinct, incense-like aroma.

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Reflection — The Solemnity of All Saints

The Feast of All Saints began as a festival in the East in honor of all martyrs inclusive of those whose names were unknown and hence didn't have their own festivals. The dates varied but were always set in relation to the Easter season in celebration of the paschal victory over death. The observance later spread to Rome where it was introduced as the "Feast of All Holy Martyrs" on May 13, 610. In the year 835, Pope Gregory IV moved the date of November 1 for seemingly practical purposes. Because of the popularity of this feast, great numbers of pilgrims traveled to Rome to celebrate. In the fall, more food was available after the harvest. By this time, the commemoration had developed into the feast now known as "All Saints."

Sacred Heart Church is 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 and Bunco (with a buy in by 5pm) & Black Jack. The evening

will include basket raffles, silent & live auctions, 50/50's and plenty of food and drinks.

For more info call Terri 815 514-8171

SUBS FOR A CAUSE

Please join us for a fundraiser to support:

Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary

Come to Subway
Located at 646 S. Main Street, Bourbonnais
Between 4-7pm
On Tuesday, November 5, 2024

50% of your entire purchase will be given to the organization

All you have to do to participate is show this flyer (printed, or on mobile device) or just mention the fundraiser to the cashier.

Proceeds benefit local charities and nursing homes, Clergy Appreciation lunch and supporting seminarians.

SUBWAY



Questions Catholics Ask

Who are the church fathers?



The general idea is that a church father was significant to the formation of Christian doctrine in the early centuries.

Often in the course of spiritual reading, we'll stumble on a quote from someone described as a father of the church. Such a person appears to be an authority whose teaching is unassailable. You begin to wonder: how many of these guys are there, and is there a cut-off moment when names were no longer added to the list?

(You may also wonder if there are church mothers. The short answer is: not officially. But of course there are holy women who were teachers and desert mothers, martyrs, and mystics of renown. Their names and stories are collected in many books, including Martha Ann Kirk's *Women of Bible Lands* and Mary Forman's *Praying with the Desert Mothers*.)

The church father designation isn't casual, yet it's assigned more by popular acclaim than definitive assignment. The general idea is that a church father was significant to the formation of Christian doctrine in the early centuries.

Intriguingly, qualifications for joining this elite group are otherwise vague. Not all were bishops. Some were questionable in their orthodoxy overall. In the eastern tradition, it's generally assumed that the era of church fathers ends in the 8th century with John Damascene. The western church concludes its list with Gregory the Great (7th c.) or sometimes as late as the Venerable Bede (8th c.).

In biblical times, someone who provides spiritual instruction for another is esteemed as a father. The prophet Elisha calls his mentor Elijah his father. Paul refers to himself as the father of those Corinthians who came to the faith through his teaching. So it was natural for second-century martyr Polycarp to be regarded as a father to his community, and for early leaders like Irenaeus, Clement, and Origen to utilize the relationship in their writings.

By the 4th century, church writers routinely refer to earlier teachers they cite by this title. Bishops who gathered at early councils like Nicaea, which gave us the Nicene Creed, and Ephesus, where certain heresies were condemned, pretty automatically qualified as fathers. Jesuit Joseph Bianco offers a comprehensive list that includes 5 apostolic fathers of the first century, 13 post-apostolic fathers of the second and third centuries, 56 Golden Age fathers of the fourth to eight centuries (31 writing in Greek, 20 in Latin, 5 in Syriac), and 12 desert fathers stretching from the fourth to the fourteen centuries. Bianco's count provides 86 church fathers to the tradition.

Scriptures: 2 Kings 2:12, 1 Corinthians 4:15

There are two different opportunities for you to place a wreath on a Veteran's grave for the holidays. One is for a gravesite at the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery and the other is for veterans that are buried in local cemeteries. The information for both opportunities is below. Thank you in advance for showing support for our veterans.

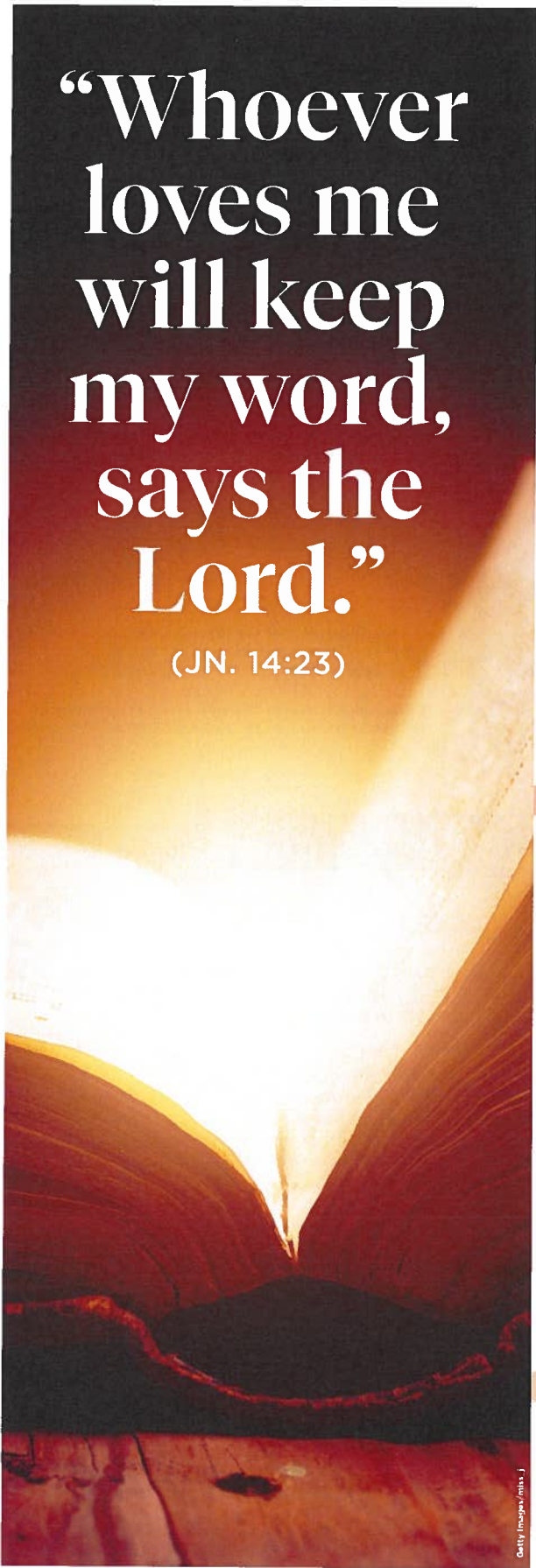


WREATHS
— across —
AMERICA

LIVE ★ WITH ★ PURPOSE

Wreaths Across America is a yearly campaign to have a wreath placed on every gravesite at the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elwood. The cost is \$17 to sponsor a wreath. For more information, call Debbie at 815-953-6492. There are forms in the entrance of all three parishes. These wreaths will be placed on the gravesites on December 14. You may designate a particular grave or just sponsor a wreath for a grave that does not have a sponsor. For ordering wreaths online, follow this link- <https://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/16036/Overview/?relatedId=167754> or go to Facebook—Wreaths Across America Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery

Anyone interested in sponsoring a wreath for our parish veterans at St. Peter and Paul cemetery may do so by contacting Lori (lmteders@hotmail.com, or 815-955-3375) or by using this website <https://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/172360/Overview>. You may also sponsor a wreath at any of the other local cemeteries with the same contact info above. Also, we will be seeking volunteers to lay the wreaths on December 14. Ceremony at the Legion at 11AM and placing wreaths immediately following.



“Whoever
loves me
will keep
my word,
says the
Lord.”

(JN. 14:23)

November 3, 2024

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

Dt 6:2-6 | Heb 7:23-28 | Mk 12:28b-34

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

It is not surprising that we hear both Moses and Jesus speak the same words in today's Scripture. After all, Truth and Good News bear repeating! The Lord our God is Lord alone! "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength." In these words, Moses is instructing the people to fear the Lord and keep all his commandments and in turn God would give them "a land flowing with milk and honey" (Canaan). He is telling them the way to live. When Jesus repeats these words around 1,400 years later, the reason and message are the same, but he also adds to them: "love your neighbor as yourself." The two commandments are inseparable. He tells us the way to live, and *how* to live. It's not enough to *know* what God asks of us, we must *do* what God asks of us: love him and one another. When God is the source and reason for all our thoughts and actions, we too will not be "far from the kingdom of God."

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

How do we put God first in our lives, ensuring he is that source and reason? When *he is everything*? Not a short order, right? He is everything when our heart, soul, mind, and strength are united with his - when Jesus is the lens through which we see the world. The psalm today reveals that it is the Lord, himself, who is our strength. When we surrender to Jesus, he gives us the strength to love him with everything within us. And when we truly love him, we cannot help acting on that love in how we care for and love our neighbor. How will we know he is first in our lives? Jesus' words in today's Scripture tell us how: by accepting God's love for us, by loving him back, his love will overflow to those around us. Think of those whom your life touches daily: your colleagues at work, the barista at the café, those who hit the gym the same time as you and yes, those who live right next door - your neighbors. In your prayers, ask Jesus, "how can I love and serve them better?"

SERVE This week, find a particular and concrete way to love someone who needs it, or who lacks what you have: be a listening ear for someone who has no one to talk to; help a neighbor with physical house or yard work; buy groceries for that person who just lost their job. The opportunities are endless, if we just look for them.

Tri-Parish Mission

All sessions begin at 7:00 pm

Sunday, Nov. 10 at St. Margaret Mary

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



Come to the mission next weekend to see for yourself that Walter knows what he is talking about when he says # 60minutes4Jesus is indeed better than recess.

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!



Diocese of Joliet
Office of the Bishop

dojoliet.org
Blanchette Catholic Center
16555 Weber Rd.
Crest Hill, Illinois 60403

CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT WORKING ON THE MARGINS

November 2024

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Our diocese will soon take up the national collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD). Your support for this collection November 16/17 brings change to communities across the country and empowers those living in poverty to transform their communities into reflections of the Kingdom of God. In addition to making a national impact, you empower those living in poverty in our own diocese, because one quarter of our collection stays within the Diocese of Joliet.

Local grant recipients in our diocese include emergency assistance and food pantry supplies for St. Vincent De Paul chapters, vocational job training for adults with disabilities, and community outreach programming for at-risk youth and families. You can find more information on our local grants at <https://catholiccharities.joliet.org/cchd> or by scanning the QR code below.

When you contribute to CCHD in your parish, not only do you help address the symptoms of poverty, but your donation also helps alleviate the root causes of poverty—both globally and locally. Twenty-five percent of your donation stays in your diocese to support organizations making a difference in the lives of your neighbors.

Please prayerfully consider how you can help CCHD this year. If you would like more information about the national collection and the people it supports, visit the "CCHD Collection" section on the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' website at uscgb.org/cchd.

Thank you for joining us to work on the margins. With every good wish, may God bless you.

As I remain –
Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Ronald A. Hicks
Bishop of Joliet

**National Effort,
Local Impact**

When you support CCHD, you help local communities across the country innovate and work together to solve their own unique challenges. Twenty-five percent of your contribution stays in the Diocese of Joliet to support the organizations addressing our parishioners' needs for housing, jobs, and educational opportunities. To learn more about the collection for the CCHD and the way CCHD upholds the moral and social teachings of the Catholic Church, visit the "About" section at uscgb.org/cchd.

Local grant information:

Office of the Bishop

815.221.6100 | 815.722.6632 (f) | officeofthebishop@dioceseofjoliet.org

Undie Sunday Thank you to SMM

Dear Friends,

I am writing to express gratitude for your participation in Undy Sunday 2024. Your generous contributions were pivotal in making this event a success.

Most of us don't give a second thought to essentials like new underwear, warm socks, and fresh diapers in our daily lives. However, these items are simply out of reach for many families and seniors living on poverty-level incomes. This can impact someone's dignity, health, and confidence. Your kindness has directly impacted the lives of our most vulnerable neighbors.

On behalf of everyone we serve at Catholic Charities, thank you for your support. We are distributing Undy Sunday items to children, families, and seniors who turn to us for assistance. The collective effort will help us provide these items through the coming year.

Once again, thank you for your ongoing generosity and compassion.

May God bless you and all those you love, always.

Kathleen Langdon
Executive Director
Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet