

The Roman Catholic Parishes of

St. Margaret Mary, Herscher

St. James the Apostle, Irwin

Sacred Heart, Goodrich

**It's Mission week! Hope
to see you at 7:00 pm at
SMM tonight, SH on
Monday and SJ on Tues
day!**

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

NOVEMBER 9-10, 2024



**IF YOU
WANT
TO THANK
A SOLDIER**

**BE THE KIND OF
AMERICAN
★ WORTH ★
FIGHTING FOR**

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: "Never measure your generosity by what you give, but rather by what you have left.

—Bishop Fulton J. Sheen

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time				November 16-17 2024
Liturgical Schedule	St. Margaret Mary Saturday, Nov. 16 5:00 pm	Sacred Heart Sunday, Nov. 17 7:30 am	St. James Sunday, Nov. 17 9:00 am	St. Margaret Mary Sunday, Nov. 17 10:30 am
Celebrant	Fr. Ron	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron	Fr. Ron	Fr. Ron
Ushers	Dave Emling Roger Jensen Gery Wright Dan Hoffman	David Kirkpatrick	Youth Mass	Youth Mass
Lector	Bobbi Buza	Darlene Cipich	Youth Mass	Youth Mass
Eucharistic Minister				Lynda Wolles
Servers				Caroline Fulton
Greeters			Greeter—Youth Mass R. Leader—Youth Mass	Youth Mass

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, Nov. 11 (SMM)

8:00 am All Veterans Living & Deceased

Tuesday, Nov. 12 (SH)

8:00 am +Ray Sliwinski (Dorothy Mescher)

Wednesday, Nov. 13 (SJ)

8:00 am +Juanita Papineau (Gary/Carla Papineau)

Friday, Nov. 15

8:00 am SMM +Anne Gehrke (Charlotte Emling)

Saturday, Nov. 16 (SMM)

5:00 pm +Cindy Frerichs (Jeff/Lisa Mendell)
+Robert & Lillian Schierer (John/Shirley Esch)

Sunday, Nov. 17

7:30 am (SH) +Hazel Riley, Ralph Rathman, Mike Foltz,
Christina Berns, Susan Denault-Winterroth,
& Christopher Rathman (The Family)

9:00am (SJ) +Bill Miller (His Family)
+ Beth Coy Hubert (Steve/ Dena Coy)

10:30 am SMM For All the Parish Family

A Look Ahead

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

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

Sunday, Nov. 17—Youth Mass at SMM and SJ

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

Question of the week

When am I like the widow, giving when it hurts? When am I like the scribe, taking advantage of others' generosity and rationalizing it?

Collections Week of Oct. 26-27, 2024

St. Margaret Mary—\$2,193

St. James—\$2,041

Sacred Heart—\$876

Thank you for your generosity!

Gospel Shorts— Empty Religion Not Wanted

Despite the fact that there seems to be a growing interest in religion among some segments of the population, it is no secret that many others are turned off or find little meaning in religion. More often than not the problem is to be found in the pew of the practitioner, rather than in the creed of the church. Jesus speaks in no uncertain terms of those who trot their religion about in word or gesture with little or no substance behind them than a need to be impressed, if only by themselves. In pointing to a widow lady who gives her last penny, he offers us an example of the kind of genuineness that impresses in heavenly places.

Sacred Heart is looking for basket donations, items to include in baskets, and auction items (both silent and live) for their Cash Bash which will be held on Saturday, November 23. Please contact Kendall Wenzelman or Terri Weakley for more information. As always, your help and support are so appreciated.



LORD
✠ Bless those who have served our country

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

Children's Christmas Program
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.



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!

Parish News:

St. Margaret Mary—



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!

◆ **Christmas Pageant/ Breakfast, Basket Raffle Dec. 15**

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.

◆ The week of November 10th, the Blessed Virgin Mary candle burns in prayer for all Veterans - living and deceased and the St. Joseph candle burns in memory of Don St. Germaine, Sr.

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—Class Wednesday, Nov. 14 at 7 pm.**

◆ **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.



Saint of the week: St. Leo the Great (Nov. 10) was born to the Italian nobility. Leo was a strong student, especially in scripture and theology. He was ordained a priest and was an eloquent writer and homilist.

Leo was pope from 440 to 461 during the time of the invasion of Attila the Hun. When Attila marched on Rome, Leo went out to meet him and pleaded for him to leave. As Leo spoke, Attila saw the vision of a man in priestly robes, carrying a bare sword, and threatening to kill the invader if he did not obey Leo; Attila left. As Leo had a great devotion to Saint Peter the Apostle, it is generally believed the first pope was the visionary opponent to the Huns. When Genseric invaded Rome, Leo's sanctity and eloquence saved the city again.

He called the *Council of Chalcedon* to condemn the heresies of his day. Leo fought Nestorianism, Monophysitism, Manichaeism, and Pelagianism. He built churches, wrote letters and sermons encouraging and teaching his flock, many of which survive today; it is for these writings that Leo was proclaimed a Doctor of the Church in 1574.

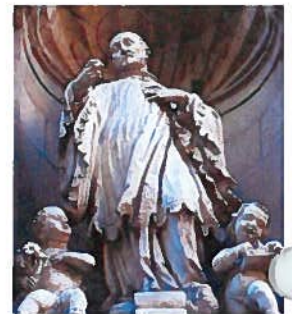
Obscure saint of the week: St. Andrew Avellino (Nov. 10) studied humanities and philosophy at Venice, Italy. He earned a doctorate in civil and ecclesiastical law. Andrew was ordained a priest at age 26.

He was a lawyer at the ecclesiastical court at Naples, Italy. During a heated courtroom argument on behalf of a friend, he supported his position with a lie; in that setting, he had committed perjury. It shook him so badly, he gave up the legal profession, and settled into a life of penance.

Commissioned by his archbishop to reform the convent of Sant' Arcangelo at Naples, a house of such lax discipline it had become a topic of gossip in the city. Through good example, constant work, and the backing of his bishop Lorenzo managed to restore celibate discipline to the house, but was nearly killed for his efforts when he was attacked by people who had been ordered off the premises.

The night of the attack, he was taken to the house of the *Theatine Clerks Regular*. He was so impressed with them that he joined the *Theatines* at age 35, taking the name *Andrew* in reference to the crucified Apostle. He served as the master of novices for ten years, and superior of the *Order*. He founded Theatine houses in Milan, Italy and Piacenza, Italy and helped establish others. An eloquent preacher, and popular missionary and spiritual director, bringing many back to the Church. Known as a writer and extensive correspondent, he was also a friend and advisor of Saint Charles Borromeo.

Andrew suffered a stroke while celebrating Mass and died soon after. Legend says that his blood bubbled and liquified after death, which led some to think that his stroke had left him catatonic, and that he was buried alive; a papal investigator found no credibility to any of this.



The Sunday gospel in everyday English

"David here designates the Messiah 'my Master'—so how can the Messiah also be his 'son'?"

The large crowd was delighted with what they heard.

He continued teaching. "Watch out for the religion scholars. They love to walk around in academic gowns, preening in the radiance of public flattery, basking in prominent positions, sitting at the head table at every church function. And all the time they are exploiting the weak and helpless. The longer their prayers, the worse they get. But they'll pay for it in the end."

Sitting across from the offering box, he was observing how the crowd tossed money in for the collection. Many of the rich were making large contributions.

One poor widow came up and put in two small coins—a measly two cents. Jesus called his disciples over and said, "The truth is that this poor widow gave more to the collection than all the others put together. All the others gave what they'll never miss; she gave extravagantly what she couldn't afford—she gave her all" (*from Mark 12*).

Catholic Snacks , Get Fed
How can rest be holy?

And why must we rest on Sundays and holy days?

Nowadays, we think of rest as a sort of “mental health break,” a thing which we grasp at in our exhaustion from the helter-skelter of life but never quite catch. That’s a misrepresentation of this important aspect of the Christian life.

Think of the seventh day of Creation, when God rested from His labors. Genesis reckons six days of divine labor, which shows us the enormity of Creation. Then, on the seventh day—God rested.

Not only did God rest—an act totally unnecessary for Him—but He rendered sacred to Man the day on which He rested and gave it to Man as a gift he must keep.

The Jewish people called this day the Sabbath and kept it on what is now Saturday.

However, because Our Lord rose on a Sunday—completing a new creation—we Christians keep Sunday as our day of rest. This expands into important feasts whose solemnities approach that of a Sunday.

The Church considers rest so important that, in addition to attending Mass, she actually commands us to rest from work on Sundays and holydays!

The key to practicing rest as a virtue—as something we should actively, intentionally cultivate—is to see it as a visit with God, a time to rest in Him.

Now, you might ask, “Well, *how* do I rest?” Good question!

Put aside housework, chores, and errands. Mentally close up shifting thoughts about what needs to be done. Do something you enjoy—reading, getting outdoors, engaging in a hobby.

Consider turning off your phone and iPad for a while. Enjoy your time of rest with God and share it with Him.

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Reflection — Veterans Day

Lincoln’s familiar words continue to evoke painful memories for many Americans, both for those who served our country and for those who lost family members and friends in the ravages of war. Yet Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address also challenges us to hold precious the many rights we enjoy in America’s democracy.

We pause, then, on Veteran’s Day to recall the suffering and bravery. But we pause also to recall the jubilation in knowing that our freedoms have been preserved, time and again for future generations.

Americans continue to commemorate our heroes on the eleventh day of the eleventh month and that is the date now reserved as a time for solemn ceremonies and for flying the flag in gratitude in this year of world turmoil, we can ever more appreciate the value of their sacrifice.

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

A Prayer for Our Veterans

Oh God, Our Heavenly Father,
You have blessed us with
brave men and women
who are willing to defend our freedom.
May Your protection and grace
surround them each day.
Let Your healing hand be upon those
who suffer wounds and injuries.
May those who have made the
Ultimate sacrifice rest forever in
Your Holy Presence.
Comfort the families who mourn
and are left to remember
the precious lives of their loved one.
Help us to honor and support them.
Let us ever be mindful of each sacrifice made
on behalf of the American people by our
sons, daughters, husbands, wives, mothers,
fathers, and friends.

Amen



Questions Catholics Ask

Why does the Catholic church place so much importance on sacraments?

There are plenty of ways to talk about the significance of sacraments. Among the most compelling is that they are actions which reveal and conceal God. This doesn't imply that seven, and *only* seven, actions have this sacred power. Quite the opposite: the sacraments listed by the church (Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick, Matrimony, and Holy Orders) remind us how many ways God seeks to be known to us.



What sacraments reveal best of all is the conviction that God's loving intention is to save humanity, not to judge or condemn us.

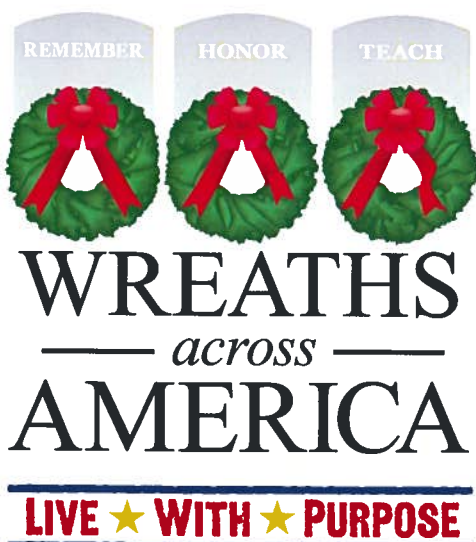
So we find God at work in welcome and in mission and at meals. We experience God in hours of forgiveness and healing. We anticipate God in loving relationships and the call to service. As theologian Mark Francis says, what sacraments reveal best of all is the conviction that God's loving intention is to save humanity, not to judge or condemn us. This intention isn't just the basis for sacraments, but for the church's existence altogether.

How did so many of us manage to miss this beautiful idea? Chances are we learned our lessons about sacraments without ever appreciating their meaning. The traditional definition of a sacrament we were taught is that it's an outward sign instituted by Christ to give grace. This formula, popularized at the Council of Trent (1545-1563), was an outgrowth of an era that loved classifying things—especially since the Protestant Reformation was in the process of challenging every practice of the institutional church. Numbering the sacraments and explaining how they impart grace (by imprinting an indelible character or seal on the soul, for one) became the lesson plan. Reciting lists and formulas became more important than understanding what these symbolic actions communicate.

A sacrament is an event emerging from mystery: it bears a hidden component of divine love and power manifesting in space and time. Saint Augustine preferred to describe a sacrament rather than to define it. He called it a "visible word." This fits more with contemporary theology, which names the incarnation of Jesus as the first sacrament, and the church as the second. If Jesus is the sacrament of God—revealing and concealing the "visible word"—and the church is the sacrament of Jesus, you and I might be rightly called sacraments of the church. We begin to understand why thoughtful participation in seven sacramental moments of church life is so significant. They train our vision to see where God is concealed, and seeks to be revealed, everywhere life takes us.

Scriptures: Proverbs 8:22-36; Wisdom 6:22; Matthew 11:25; 13:10-17; John 1:1-5, 14; Romans 16:25-27; 2 Corinthians 1:21-22; Ephesians 1:7-14; 4:11-16; Revelation 7:2-8

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 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 (lmiteders@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.

November 10, 2024

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kgs 17:10-16 | Heb 9:24-28 | Mk 12:38-44 or 12:41-44

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

“Give it your all! Leave it all on the field! Trust in your training/preparation/coaches.” We’ve all heard a version of this type of exhortation. It requires a great amount of confidence and trust – faith, if you will – to let go of our doubt and fears. The two widows of today’s readings had such confidence, as they offer us heroic examples of faith. The widow of Zarephath uses her only remaining food to cook for Elijah. She did this after receiving God’s promise that, “The jar of flour shall not go empty, nor the jug of oil run dry.” The widow had the assurance that God would sustain her, and she lived by it – trusting she could give her all, because with God’s help there would be more. Likewise, the widow in the Gospel could make an offering to the temple treasury because of her limitless confidence in God: she gave “her whole livelihood.” From that moment, she would have nothing to sustain her but God’s providential care. By their unreserved acts of generosity, both women consented to rely on God in the most absolute sense. And in so doing, they silently proclaimed their faith in the personal and unconditional love that God had for each of them.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

So deeply did these two women believe in God’s goodness that they were able to act without fear. Confident in his love, they could give to the point of having nothing left. They, literally, “gave it all that they had.” Rather than being burdensome, however, their surrender was the basis of their relationship with God and therefore, it was a much greater treasure than material goods. This message is clearly at odds with the notion that possessions and wealth are the basis of happiness. By rejecting this idea, giving generously of ourselves and trusting God to sustain us, we gain more than we could ever give up. Like the widow whose jar never runs dry, when we fill our lives with what God offers and not what the world offers, we live with abundance.

REFLECT Choose one aspect of your life you can mentally “reframe” in order to see it not as a lack but as an opportunity to cast yourself more fully on God. Spend 15 minutes this week speaking to God about this. If you can, thank him for the chance to draw closer to him. If it is too difficult to thank him for your trial, ask him to *help you* see and appreciate how he is leading you along this path of greater intimacy with him.



WE HONOR AND REMEMBER THOSE WHO SERVED:

WE APPRECIATE AND THANK OUR VETERANS-

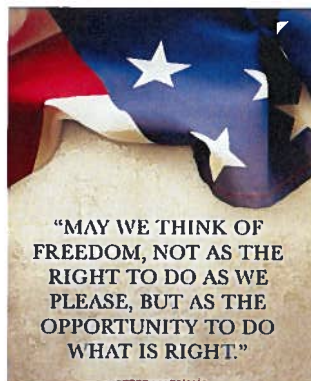
Robert Buente	Air Force	Zoe Buza	Army NG
Vic Carlile	Army	Adam Cross	Navy
Dave Emling	Army	Dallas Ferris	Army
John Fulton	Army	Deacon Ron Gagnon	Air Force
Andrew Jackubowski	Army NG	Thomas Kieffer	Navy
Mike Landeck	Army	Fr. Ron Neitzke	Navy
Thomas R. O'Connor	Army	Darwin Peerbolte	Army NG
Dale Pfeiffer	Army	Harry Phillips	Army
Chuck Riker	Navy	Gary Riley	Air Force
Dennis Schneider	Army	Jerome Schnieder	Army
Ronald Schneider	Army	Conner Settles	Air Force
Larry Stevenson	Army	Donald Wagner	Army

WE REMEMBER WITH GRATITUDE:

John Andrzejewski	Army	John Brown	Air Force
Joel Eberle	Army	Duane Ferris	Army
Earl Frerichs	Army Air Corps	Fred Gohlke	Navy
Jim Gray	Navy	Gary Jensen	Army
James Jepsen	Navy	Joseph Kieffer	Marines
Robert Lambert Sr.	Army	Bob Landeck	Navy
James McBarnes	Army Air Corps	William (Bill) Miller	Army
James Palinski	Army	Gerald Regnier	Marines
James Riley	Army	Robert Ruder	Army
Don St. Germaine Sr.	Army	Gerald Schneider	Army
Robert Schneider	Navy	Thomas E Sullivan	Army
Gilbert Wheeler	Army		

“This nation will remain the land of the free only so long as it is the home of the brave.”

—ELMER DAVIS



“Courage is resistance to fear, mastery of fear— not absence of fear.”

—MARK TWAIN