

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

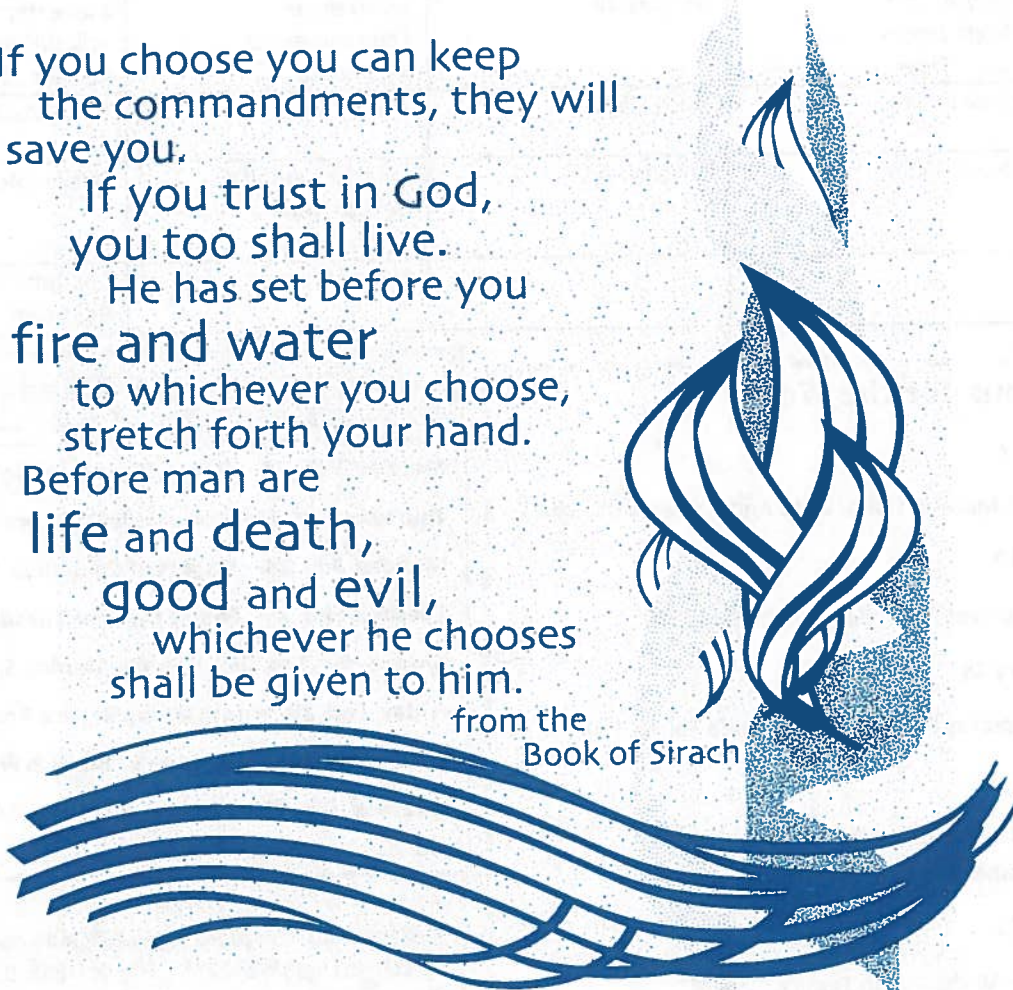
If you choose you can keep  
the commandments, they will  
save you.

If you trust in God,  
you too shall live.

He has set before you  
fire and water  
to whichever you choose,  
stretch forth your hand.

Before man are  
life and death,  
good and evil,  
whichever he chooses  
shall be given to him.

from the  
Book of Sirach



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**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**February 15-16, 2020**

Church Mailing Address:

207 E. 5th Street

Herscher, IL 60941

Phone: 815-426-2550

Confessions:

St. Margaret Mary Sat. 4:15 pm

Sacred Heart Sun. 7:05-7:20 am

St. James Sun 8:35-8:50 am

View bulletins online at [www.triparishcatholics.org](http://www.triparishcatholics.org)

Quotable: "Miss no single opportunity of making some small sacrifice, here by a smiling look, there by a kindly word; always doing the smallest right and doing it all for love."

~ St. Therese de Lisieux

### Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time February 22-23, 2020

| Liturgical Schedule | St. Margaret Mary<br>Saturday, Feb. 22<br>5:00 pm         | Sacred Heart<br>Sunday, Feb. 23<br>7:30 am | St. James<br>Sunday, Feb. 23<br>9:00 am                      | St. Margaret Mary<br>Sunday, Feb. 23<br>10:30 am               |
|---------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Celebrant           | Fr. Ron<br>Deacon Ron                                     | Father Ron<br>Deacon Ron                   | Fr. Ron<br>Deacon Ron  | Fr. Ron<br>Deacon Ron  |
| Ushers              | Dan Hoffman<br>Gery Wright<br>Roger Jensen<br>Jason Piper | Kyle Ferris<br>Daryl Ferris                | Dallas Ferris<br>Jeff Steinke<br>Todd Mesewicz<br>Rick White | Darren Lovell<br>Steve Hertz<br>Erik Wheeler<br>Conner Settles |
| Lector              | Dave Emling   | Cindy Gagnon                               | Jeff O'Connor  | Dana Masching  |
| Communion Ministers | Deacon Ron  | Deacon Ron                                 | Jonathan Wood<br>Deacon Ron                                  | Deacon Ron   |
| Servers             |   |  | Dylan Miller   | Charlotte Fulton<br>Bella Eich                                 |

### Mass Intentions for the Week

#### Monday, February 17

8:00 am +JR Matern (John/Janet Andrezejewski) (SMM)

#### Tuesday, February 18

8:00 am +Dolores Fitch (Shirley Parcell) (SH)

#### Wednesday, February 19

8:00 am +Dolores Fitch (Kurt & Rhonda Foltz) (SJ)

#### Friday, February 21

8:00 am +Sterling Bouchard (Mrs. Dick Kelch)  
+Esther Regnier (Pat Gray) (SMM)

#### Saturday, February 22

5:00 pm For All the Parish Family (SMM)

#### Sunday, February 23

7:30 am +Dennis Henry (William Kaska)

+Rita Deany (Jackie Cross) (SH)

9:00 am +Laurie Hansen (Jim Borschnack Family)

+Dick Fitch (Geri Tobenski) (SJ)

10:30am +John Brown (Sharon Schneider /Rob Vega)

+Bob Deany (Brian Frerichs) (SMM)

### A Look Ahead

Monday, Feb. 17—SMM CCW Ladies Night 7pm

Thursday, Feb. 20—Community Quilters 9 am SJ

Monday, Feb. 24—Knights of Columbus 7 pm SJ

Tuesday, Feb. 25—Family Day Fat Tuesday 6:15 pm SMM

Wednesday, Feb. 26—Ash Wednesday Special Collection

Friday, Feb. 28—Youth Group Service Project

Friday, Feb. 28—SMM Men's Club Fish Fry

Saturday, Feb. 29—First Reconciliation 10am SJ & SMM

Pastor— Fr. Ron Neitzke- 815-426-2550

Deacon – Ron Gagnon—rjgckg@gmail.com

cell -815-953-2407 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

Tri Parish Faith Formation – Stacie Powers –426-2550

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

RE Coordinators –

St. Margaret Mary – Stacie Powers – 426-2550

St. James – Alicia Miller – 933-5443

Sacred Heart – Rhonda Berns – 935-8669

Parish Nurse – Jackie Eberle – 815-421-4048

Prayer Line– SMM—Pat Wagner 815-592-0773

SMM -Janice 815-426-2574 Jdstreefarms@aol.com

St. James— Mary Offerman—602-670-8888 (call or text)

**Sunday Collections  
Feb. 8-9, 2020**

St. Margaret Mary—\$2,059  
St. James—\$1,059  
Sacred Heart—\$870

**Thank you for your generosity**

**ALL PARISHES-**

⇒ **Food for Families:** The Knights of Columbus is collecting non-perishable food items to help feed the poor and homeless in our area. There will be a container in in each church to collect these items. Please help us feed those in need. Thank you!!  
“For I was hungry and you gave me food...”  
**Matthew 25:35**

⇒ Anyone wishing to receive a statement for donations to the church in 2019 for taxes, please contact the church office at 815-426-2550.



⇒ **On Ash Wednesday**, we will take up the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. This collection supports the Church in more than 20 countries that still struggle to recover from Communist rule. Funds from this collection support pastoral care, catechesis, building renovations, and seminary formation. Your support restores the Church and builds the future in this region. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection next week. More information can be found at [www.usccb.org/ccee](http://www.usccb.org/ccee).

**A Stewardship Moment—  
Weekend of February 15-16**

In today's Gospel, part of his Sermon on the Mount, Jesus does not speak of replacing the law of the Old Testament. He goes beyond it. He obliges his followers to work at being holier than even the strictest of Pharisees. But the work is not accomplished by following a religious “law”, it requires growing in love for other human beings. Followers of Jesus know they are required to be good stewards of others. In what way will you exercise good stewardship over other people this week?

It is hard to believe that millions of Christians/Catholics do not bother to vote. Is it any wonder that we have legislators in Illinois who have no fear of voting for laws that destroy the lives of innocent babies during all nine months of pregnancy?

The deadline to register is February 19, twenty-seven days before the March 17 primary. Or you can register online until March 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Board of Election website <http://www.dupageco.org/election>. You can go to this website at this address for any questions. PLEASE don't be indifferent. We need every person of faith to be ready to vote on March 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Parish News:**

**St. Margaret Mary—**

- ◆ Nominate your choice for the CCW's Woman of the Year. Place names in the box in the vestibule of the church.
- ◆ Ladies come out to be pampered! It's Ladies Night—5 minute massages, make your own bath salts, chocolate fondue—Mon., Feb 17 at 7pm . Hope to see you there!

**Sacred Heart—**

- **Pennies From Heaven:** There is a jug in the entrance of the church - please donate your pennies (or any of your change). All of the money collected benefits the Catholic Education scholarships.

**St. James—**

- We are Springing Forward by a week for our Annual St. James Spring Forward event. Mark your calendars for Sunday, March 15th at 11:15 am for a cozy lunch, entertainment, and fellowship. More details to follow."

**St. Margaret Mary will celebrate our 150th Anniversary on Oct. 11, 2020. Please put this on your calendar. We will be sending an RSVP letter in the near future. Watch the bulletin for more information.**



The Tri-Parish Rosary Makers need help to continue their mission. Thus far, they have made 19,400 rosaries. There are envelopes in the back of each church or in the pews for your donations. Please make checks payable to St. James CCW. Just drop your envelope in the collection basket. Thank you for your help and support.

## From the Pastor's

February 15-16, 2020 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

There are no major feasts of saints this coming week but there are two feast of obscure saints that show up on the calendar.

Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order (13<sup>th</sup> Century). Today numbering more than 1,000 members, the Servites were founded by seven cloth merchants from Florence, Italy, in 1233 to promote devotion to Our Lady of Sorrows. At a time when Florence was rocked by political and spiritual upheaval, these saints left their families and their work to lead lives of poverty, simplicity, prayer and fellowship based on a literal translation of the Gospel. They were canonized in 1888.



Feast day Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>.



Saint Peter Damian (1007-1072). St. Peter Damian emerged as a voice of truth and reform at a time when the Church was struggling with corruption and immorality. A reformist Benedictine monk, he founded several hermitages. He also wrote letters, sermons, hymns, prayers and liturgical texts. He was declared a Doctor of the Church in 1828.

**Stewardship:** Folks, all three parishes are facing projects that are going to be costly. I am asking every family to consider increasing your offering by \$1, \$2, or \$5 a week to help meet these expenses. I also ask you to consider remembering your parish in your will. Your gift today helps us provide for tomorrow.

As a parish we are a spiritual family to each other. Are you celebrating a special birthday this year? *18, 30, 40, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, 100.*

Are you celebrating a special anniversary this year? *10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80 years.* If so, please let me know. Thanks

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### The Meaning of the Mass part 2 WHO WE ARE AND WHO WE ARE BECOMING

The Mass calls us to come before the cross as we touch the suffering that led to our salvation. The eternal once-for-all sacrifice of Christ becomes present to us in a way we cannot fully comprehend on this side of heaven. The Eucharist is about being and becoming, seeing where we are in our walk with Jesus and where we are going as we grow within the body of Christ. The liturgy is not some cold ritual to be carried out, a duty done, or a mark on a weekly spiritual checklist. It is our lifeline to our Savior and to one another. Through the word of God and the Eucharist, we are reminded of our identity as believers and invited to the feast where we touch the divine and are nourished with the bread of life. We renew our commitment to the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church to which we belong. We reach into the heavenly realms and share in the sacred sign of the Eucharist, our sacrament of spiritual nourishment. And we are sent forth into the world as those who have been called to a mission of love and service in the name of our Savior.

Every gesture and prayer and posture of the Mass has significance, not as magical rites that cause our God to comply with our needs, but as intimate and relational reminders of who and what we are as a Church. Liturgy is a deliberate and personal commitment to the One who has called us his own. From first to last, we speak and move with holy purpose as we lift up our hearts in praise to our heavenly Father, confessing our sins, consuming the word, and coming to the table to receive the food that is our very life. It is a wonderfully divine drama that is played out on the stage of our hearts, and we answer the call to worship with faith-filled hearts, not because we have learned the forms, but because he has formed us in his image. Together we live and move and have our being because God's Spirit has moved in us.