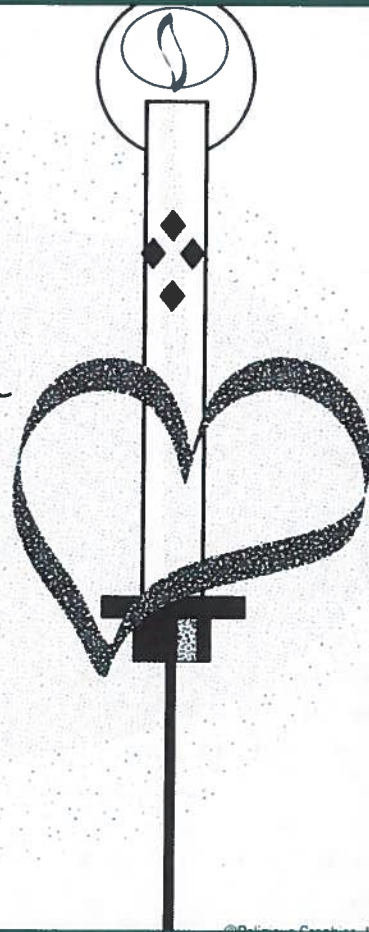


**The Roman Catholic Parishes of
St. Margaret Mary, Herscher
St. James the Apostle, Irwin
Sacred Heart, Goodrich**

*You have heard
that it was said,
You shall love your
neighbor as yourself
and hate your enemy.*

*But I say to you
love your enemies,
pray for those who
persecute you,
that you may be
children of your
heavenly Father.*

*So be perfect
just as
your heavenly Father
is perfect.*



Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 22-23, 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

Quotable: "The ultimate goal of fasting is to help each one of us to make a complete gift of self to God."
 ~Pope Benedict XVI

First Sunday of Lent February 29-March 1, 2020

Liturgical Schedule	St. Margaret Mary Saturday, Feb. 29 5:00 pm	Sacred Heart Sunday, March 1 7:30 am	St. James Sunday, March 1 9:00 am	St. Margaret Mary Sunday, March 1 10:30 am
Celebrant	Fr. Ron	Father Ron Deacon Ron	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron	Fr. Ron
Ushers	Dan Hoffman Gery Wright Robbie Landeck Jason Piper	Kyle Ferris Daryl Ferris	Dallas Ferris Jeff Steinke Todd Mesewicz Arlen Hansen	Joe Smolkovich Larry Wolles Jeremy Wolles Nick Zerebny
Lector	Bobbi Buza	Terri Weakley	Jeff O'Connor	Corinn Wheeler
Communion Ministers	Gayle Landeck	Deacon Ron	Mary Peerbolte Darwin Peerbolte	Lynda Wolles
Servers			Ayla Summers	Kayla Scanlon

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, February 24

8:00 am +LaVern Denault (Ann Gehrke) (SMM)

Tuesday, February 25

8:00 am +Joan Scanlon (Gayle Plate) (SH)

Wednesday, February 26 Ash Wednesday

8:00 am +Leola Ader (Joe & Rhonda Berns) (SJ)
 12:00 pm +Leo Feller (Debie & Cindy Witheft) (SH)
 7:00 pm +Dick Fitch (Don & Jane Granger) (SMM)

Friday, February 28

8:00 am +Gary Jensen (Kate & Gary Cloonen) (SMM)

Saturday, February 29

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

Sunday, March 1

7:30 am +Mary Ann O'Connor (Joe & Rhonda Berns)
 +Ted Wheeler (Jackie Cross) (SH)
 9:00 am +Joan Scanlon (John & Sheila Boyd)
 + Daniel King (Jerome Schneider) (SJ)
 10:30am +Francis O'Brien (Pat Wagner)
 +Thomas L. O'Connor (Darlene Dittus) (SMM)

A Look Ahead

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
 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. 15-16, 2020

St. Margaret Mary—\$1,914
St. James—\$1,314
Sacred Heart—\$1,014

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/ccce.

Parish News:

St. Margaret Mary—

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.
- Sacred Heart CCW unanimously chose Darlene Ipcich as their "Woman of the Year" to represent them at the annual Mass and luncheon on April 25, 2020 at the Cathedral of St. Raymond in Joliet. The theme this year is "Serving with Humble Hearts".
- **Sacred Heart CCW's Spring Luncheon** will be Thursday April 16th at 11:30am. at the church hall. It is our main fundraiser, and because of your sacristsy. We would appreciate any donations of door or raffle prizes. Raffle tickets will be available in the coming weeks. Thanks so much for your help.
- The Sacred Heart Religious Ed is collecting non-food items for Gift of God Shelter during Lent. There is a box in the entrance of the church for these items. You can help by donating any non-food items (for example: toilet paper, paper towels, paper plates, paper cups, napkins, toothbrushes, travel sizes of shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, bodywash etc). Thank you in advance for your generosity.

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."

A Stewardship Moment—
Weekend of February 22-23

In another passage from his Sermon on the Mount, Jesus continues to turn his disciples' way of thinking upside down. One of the lessons for the Christian steward in today's Gospel is that if we have a chance to help someone in need, we should be generous and give more than is expected of us. Jesus went "the extra mile" for us. Can we be more like Jesus and "go the extra mile" for others?

St. Margaret Mary's Men's Club Annual Fish Fry
Friday, February 28, 2020 Herscher Legion Hall

4:30 pm—7:00 pm

Adults—\$9.00 Children (5-12) - \$7.00
Shrimp Dinner (one serving only) \$10.00



3 Grand Prizes of \$150 each in honor of our 150th anniversary

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.

Sacred Heart Church will be celebrating their 125th Centennial on Sunday June 14th, 2020. As part of the festivities, we will be having a 12 noon Mass with celebrants Bishop Conlon and or Bishop Pates, followed by a catered meal. We will be sending out an RSVP letters soon. Anyone who is not a member of the parish are welcome and will be able to call with their RSVP to the Herscher office.

From the Pastor's



February 22-23, 2020 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Meaning of the Mass Part 3
CONSUMING THE WORD AND THE EUCHARIST

Catholics are truly a people of the Bible. As we celebrate the Liturgy of the Word, we taste the sweet Scriptures, the eternal and living message that is sharper than any double-edged sword. It truly divides soul and spirit, exposing us to the purity of God's truth and the impurity of all that separates us from Christ. The Bible is salvation's story, prefigured in the Old Testament and fulfilled in the New. Everything in the Scriptures points us to Jesus and the awesome reality of his sacrifice on the cross. It is our prayer book that calls us to respond to such a great sal-vation with awe and wonder. It is our strict instructor, offering us daily discipline as we learn what it means to be a son or daughter in the kingdom of God. As we listen to the word at Mass, we are fed and we are led to the table where our salvation lies. The Liturgy of the Word is God's heavenly dialogue with his people, the place where we are called and we are challenged, and where we answer our Savior in obedience and love.

The table is then set, the bread and wine brought forth, the blessings offered, and the miracle once more made real. The ordinary elements of bread and wine, the fruit of the field and the vineyard, become the Body and Blood of Christ. In thanksgiving we offer our praise, our prayers, and our very lives as our "Holy, Holy, Holy!" joins with the heavenly host and we bear witness to our salvation. Here, we recall the Last Supper and re-present the perfect sacrifice of Christ for our sins, as present and past are joined together in the ultimate act of self-giving. As the host and the chalice are lifted up, we place a hand to our hearts, daring to raise our eyes to witness heaven coming down to earth, and bowing our heads in utter astonishment at the unfathomable mystery that so powerfully changes our lives.

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With the liturgical reform of the Second Vatican Council many of the feasts of saints were taken off the calendar for the Lenten and Easter seasons. This week is one of those weeks where there are no obligatory feasts or memorials on the Church calendar. This week's saint is obscure and I have never heard of him.

Arnold of Carcassonne: A cousin of Saint Peter Nolasco, Arnold joined the Mercedarians on the first day of their founding in the early 13th century, and lived in the monastery in Valencia, Spain. He helped spread interest in the Order and its work by explaining the virtues that develop from living the Order's Rule. Feast day is Feb. 24th.



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.

Volunteers Needed!

St. Mary's Volunteer Services invite you to join our team to provide and excellent experience for our patients and their families. We are looking for friendly, energetic men and women that would like to make a difference in our patient and family experience! If you have four hours a week to share, the following volunteer opportunities are available:

- *Gift Shop—Tuesday, Wednesday or Friday 9:00 am—2 pm with 30 minute lunch
- *Concierge—Monday 12 noon—4 pm and Friday 8 m—12 noon
- *Transporter—Tuesday 8 am—12 noon

We strive to find the perfect position for you! To learn more about these specific volunteer opportunities, contact Volunteer Services at 815.937.2479