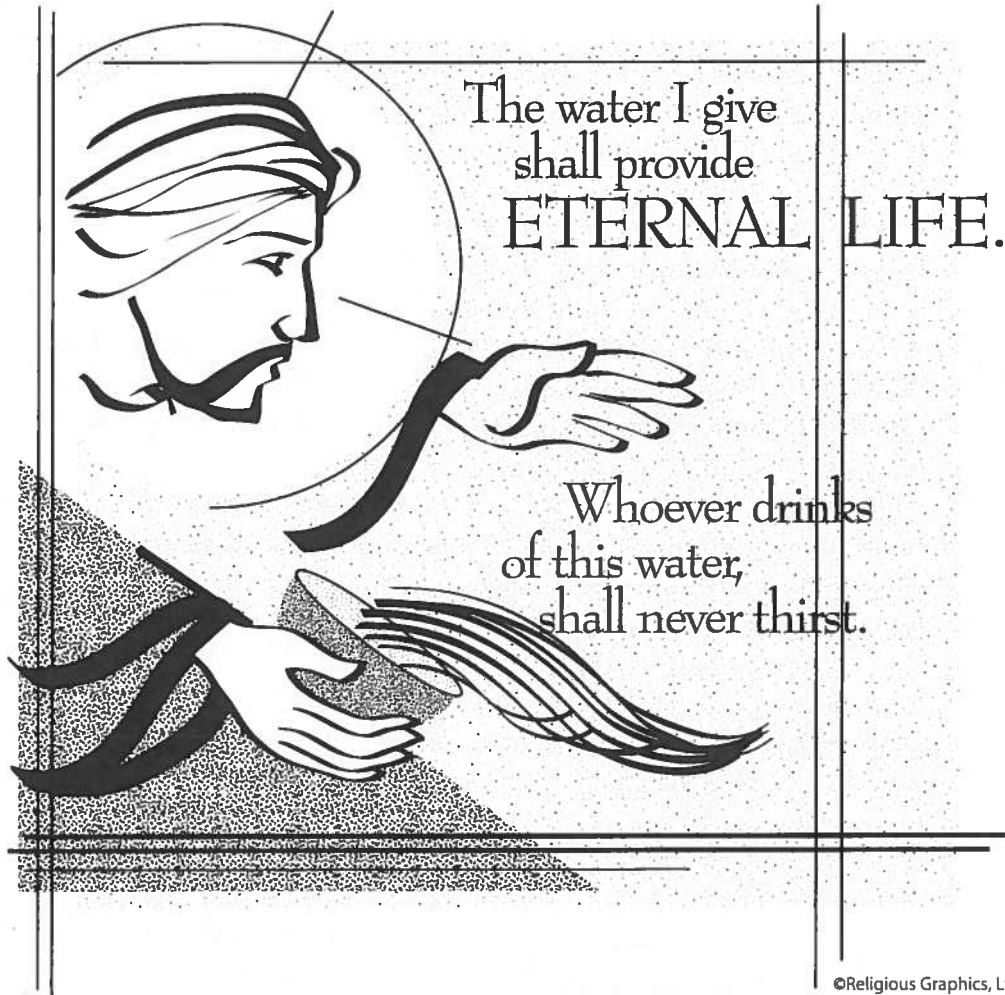


**The Roman Catholic Parishes of  
St. Margaret Mary, Herscher  
St. James the Apostle, Irwin  
Sacred Heart, Goodrich**



**Third Sunday of Lent**

**March 14-15, 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: "Love to pray. Prayer enlarges the heart until it is capable of containing God's gift of Himself."  
 ~Mother Teresa

### Fourth Sunday of Lent March 21-22, 2020

Liturgical Schedule	St. Margaret Mary Saturday, March 21 5:00 pm	Sacred Heart Sunday, March 22 7:30 am	St. James Sunday, March 22 9:00 am	St. Margaret Mary Sunday, March 22 10:30 am
Celebrant	Fr. Ron	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron	Fr. Ron	Fr. Ron
Ushers	Dan Hoffman Todd Datweiler Gery Wright Roger Jensen	Kyle Ferris Daryl Ferris	Bee Papineau Dallas Ferris Jeff Steinke Jerry Ogrentz	Conner Settles Joe Smolkovich Larry Wolles Jeremy Wolles
Lector	Dave Emling	Darlene Cipcich	Andy Hansen	Julie Splear
Communion Ministers	Ellen Emling	Deacon Ron	Joyce Ferris Dallas Ferris	Megan Splear
Servers			Ayla Summers	Garrett Smolkovich

### Mass Intentions for the Week

#### Monday, March 16

8:00 am Healing for John & Janet Andrzejewski  
(SMM CCW)

#### Tuesday, March 17

8:00 am +Carson Cross (Jamie & Aaron Beedle) (SH)

#### Wednesday, March 18

8:00 am +Floyd Tobenski (Geri Tobenski) (SJ)

#### Friday, March 20

8:00 am +Sondra Hertz (John & Dawn Deany)  
+Mark Gray (Pat Gray) (SMM)

#### Saturday, March 21

5:00 pm +Denise Jepsen Blake (Jim & Kathy Jepsen)  
+Marge Heeler (Tom & Bernice Hughes) (SMM)

#### Sunday, March 22

7:30 am +Sondra Hertz (Sharon Dummer)  
+Dick Fitch (Bev Studenborg) (SH)

9:00 am +Thomas Lee Smith (The Family)  
+Bonnie Draper (Mike & Shelly Hertz) (SJ)

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

### A Look Ahead

Sunday, March 15—Parent meeting 1st Communion  
SMM

Sunday, March 15—Spring Forward Party SJ 11:15 am

Monday, March 16—SH Parish Council 7 pm

Thursday, March 19—Community Quilters 9am SJ

Sunday, March 22—No RE at SJ and SMM

Monday, March 23—Knights of Columbus 7 pm SJ

Thursday, March 26—Night in Italy at SMM 5-7pm

Sunday, March 29—No RE Classes at SJ

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  
March 7-8, 2020**

St. Margaret Mary—\$1,181      Easter Flowers—\$445  
St. James—\$986                  Easter Flowers—\$390  
Sacred Heart—\$886              Easter Flowers—\$270

**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 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**
- ⇒ The Office of Human Dignity of the Joliet Diocese is holding a Life Advocacy Day in Springfield on March 25th. There is a flier on the bulletin board of each church with more information. Please register by Friday, March 20 if you plan pm attending.

**CENSUS 101: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW**

The 2020 Census is closer than you think!  
Here's a quick refresher of what it is and why it's essential everyone is counted

**Everyone counts.**

The census counts every person living in the U.S. once, only once and in the right place.



**It's about fair representation.**

Every 10 years, the results of the census are used to reapportion the House of Representatives, determining how many seats each state gets.



**It's in the Constitution.**

The U.S. Constitution requires a census every 10 years. The census covers the entire country and everyone living here. The first census was in 1790.



**It's about redistricting**

After each census, state officials use the results to redraw the boundaries of their congressional and state legislative districts, adapting to population shifts.



**It's about \$675 billion.**

Census data determine how more than \$675 billion are spent, supporting your state, county and community's vital programs.



**Taking part is your civic duty.**

Completing the census is required: it's a way to participate in our democracy and say "I COUNT!"



United States  
**Census  
2020**

[2020census.gov/jobs](https://2020census.gov/jobs)  
1-855-JOB-2020

**Parish News:**

**St. Margaret Mary—**

- Mark your calendars for our **Night in Italy** which will be held on **Thursday, March 26** from 5-7. There are sign-up sheets in the back of the church for food items we will need that night.



Thank you to all who have signed up to bring food. We will need volunteer workers for the Night in Italy from 4 until 8 for set up, cooking, serving and clean up. We will put a sign-up sheet at the church. Contact the officers with questions.

**Sacred Heart—**

- **Sacred Heart CCW's Spring Luncheon** will be Thursday April 16th at 11:30am. at the church hall. 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. Thank you in advance for your help.

**St. James -**

- Our Spring Forward event is a St. Patrick's Day theme this year and will be held on Sunday, March 15 at 11:15am in the church hall. If you would like to volunteer, please check the bulletin board in the foyer for opportunities.
- Our Lenten giving project this year is for the Living Alternatives Center in Kankakee. They are a pregnancy resource center offering counseling, classes, and testing. We will be collecting needed items (see flyer for ideas) throughout Lent in the church entrance.
- The Bishop Blanchette and Fr. Sebahar Scholarships are accepting applications throughout March. If you are student wishing to attend a Catholic high school in the fall of 2020 (Bishop Blanchette Scholarship) or a high school senior who demonstrates outstanding voluntary Christian service (Fr Sebahar Servant Leadership



Have you marked your calendar for Sunday, June 14 to come help celebrate Sacred Heart's 125th Anniversary (Quasiquicentennial)? There will be Mass at noon followed by a catered meal. RSVP letters will be sent out soon for members of the parish. Anyone wishing to attend who is not a member of the parish are welcome and will need to call the office with your RSVP.



This week there are two feasts that are prominent : St. Patrick and St. Joseph.

**Saint Patrick** was kidnapped from the British mainland around age 16, and shipped to Ireland as a slave. He was sent to the mountains as a shepherd, where he spent his time in the field in prayer. After six years of this life, he had a dream in which he was commanded to return to Britain; seeing it as a sign, he escaped. He studied in several monasteries in Europe. Patrick was sent by Pope Celestine to evangelize England, then on to Ireland. During this time his chariot driver was Saint Odran, and Saint Jarlath was one of his spiritual students. In 33 years he effectively converted Ireland. In the Middle Ages Ireland became known as the Land of Saints, and during the Dark Ages its monasteries were the great repositories of learning in Europe, all a consequence of Patrick's ministry. St. Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland, Nigeria, against snake bites, against snakes, those who fear snakes, barrel makers, barbers, blacksmiths, coopers, cattle, hairdressers, and excluded people. His feast day is March 17<sup>th</sup>.



**St. Joseph** is a descendant of the house of David. He was a builder by trade; traditionally a carpenter, but he may have been a stone worker. He was the earthly spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. St. Joseph was the foster and adoptive father of Jesus Christ. He was a visionary who was visited by angels. Noted for his willingness to immediately get up and do what God told him to do, his feast day March 19<sup>th</sup>.



## VOTER INFORMATION

The Catholic Bishops have once more voted that **LIFE** is the preeminent issue in the upcoming elections.

***"As Catholics/Christians we are not single-issue voters. A candidate's position on a single issue is not sufficient to guarantee a voter's support. Yet a candidate's position on a single issue that involves an intrinsic evil, such as support for legal abortion or the promotion of racism, may legitimately lead a voter to disqualify a candidate from receiving support."*** Faithful Citizenship NCCB 2016

Since it is difficult for the average citizen to find accurate information about how the many candidates stand on the life issues, **Illinois Right to Life Action** has prepared non-partisan voter information based on responses to a questionnaire, public statements, and/or voting records. ***This guide is not an endorsement and may not be used to advance the candidacy of any individual.*** Go to the Illinois Right to Life Action web site at [www.VoteProLifeIllinois.com](http://www.VoteProLifeIllinois.com) or call **630-358-0042** for assistance

### Catholic Charities of Joliet is hosting this event.

**WHO:** The Alzheimer's Association Illinois Chapter

**WHAT:** Effective Communication Strategies

**WHEN:** Thursday, April 9th from 2:00pm – 3:30pm

**WHERE:** The Kankakee First Church of the Nazarene, 1000 N Entrance Ave., Kankakee IL 60901

**WHY:** Communication is more than just talking and listening – it's about sending and receiving messages through attitude, tone of voice, facial expressions and body language. As people with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias progress in their journey and the ability to use words is lost, families need new ways to connect. Join us to explore how communication takes place when someone has Alzheimer's, learn to decode the verbal and behavioral messages delivered by someone with dementia, and identify



SACRED HEART PARISH  
CAMPUS, IL  
CORN BEEF & CABBAGE DINNER  
PARISH HALL – CAMPUS  
SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 2020  
11:00 am – 2:30 pm



\$15.00 – ADULT  
\$5.00 – AGE 6- 12  
5 AND UNDER FREE  
50/50 RAFFLE  
\$1.00 PER TICKET/ 6 for \$5.00  
WIN HALF OF THE POT  
DRAWING AT 2:30 PM

## Part 1 Why does the Catholic Bible have more books (73) than the Protestant one (66)?

That's a question often asked during a parish RCIA or inquiry class. The reference, of course, relates to the seven additional books in the Catholic Old Testament: Baruch, Judith, Sirach, Tobit, Wisdom, 1 and 2 Maccabees, plus parts of Daniel and Esther. A common presumption is that the Catholic Church added seven books. That is not the case, so why the difference?

### Protestant Reformation

When Martin Luther (1483–1546) broke from the Church in the sixteenth century, he translated the Christian Latin Vulgate Bible into German and chose not to include the seven books with the other inspired writings. He separated these books out of the Old Testament sacred Scriptures and put them in as a kind of addendum or insert (some called them “the books between the Testaments”). They could be read but were not considered sacred Scripture. Luther took this largely unilateral action even though Christians had used the same Scriptures, including the seven books, for more than 1,100 years. Protestants call them *apocrypha*, a Greek word meaning hidden or secret, to describe or set apart these books. In fact, they are not secret, not hidden, but were included in the Bible and part of the Christian Bible since at least the fourth century. Luther's revolt against the Church caused Pope Leo X to condemn him in a 1520 papal bull, *Arise O Lord (Exsurge Domine)*, issued well before the German translation of the Bible. Pope Leo, who served from 1513–1521, referred to Luther as a “wild boar” in the Church and wrote of him and his followers, “Wise in their own eyes, according to the ancient practice of heretics, they interpret these same Scriptures otherwise than the Holy Spirit demands, inspired only by their sense of ambition....In fact, they twist and adulterate the Scriptures.”

From Luther's translation in 1543 until the early nineteenth century, Protestant Bibles placed the seven books in a separate section of the Bible and denied that they were inspired. Today only a few such Bibles even mention the books. Thus, thousands of Christians in the past and more to come have not and will not be exposed to these Holy Scriptures. They don't know the beautiful story of Susanna and “how justice was served that day” (Daniel 13) or the courage, confidence, and faith of Judith who saved Israel (Judith 12–13), they won't become familiar with the Archangel Raphael, only named in the book of Tobit, or be comforted and encouraged by the Book of Wisdom. All these Scriptures are filled with words graced by the Holy Spirit.

That an excommunicated Catholic priest would decide that certain sacred books were not sacred, not inspired, after generations of acceptance and use is difficult to comprehend. Was Martin Luther really the wild boar running around in God's church? Did he disregard these books as being inspired based on his personal beliefs? Did he know better than Church councils, popes, and bishops? Did the books support Catholic teaching that he opposed? Part of his rationale was that the books were not in the ancient Hebrew Old Testament and, he believed, they should never have been considered as inspired books. The long-held Catholic Church belief about these books is well-articulated in our *Catechism*: “It was by the apostolic Tradition that the Church discerned which writings are to be included in the list of the sacred books. This complete list is called the canon of Scripture. It includes forty-six books for the Old Testament (forty-five if we count Jeremiah and Lamentations as one) and twenty-seven for the New” (CCC 120).

Translating the Bible into German was one thing, but changing, deleting these most Holy Scriptures, the word of God, revered in the Mass next to the Eucharist, is another story. The

timing of Luther's translation in relation to the invention of the printing press can't be overlooked. "It was well for Luther that he did not come into the world until after the immortal discovery of Gutenberg. A hundred years earlier, his idea of directing two hundred and fifty million men to read the Bible would have been received with shouts of laughter..." (*Religion in Society*, Vol II, translated by Abbe Martinet, D&J Sadler & Co., NY, 1850). The original Gutenberg Bible of 1455, nearly a century before Luther's translation, contained the seven books as part of the inspired Scriptures.

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