

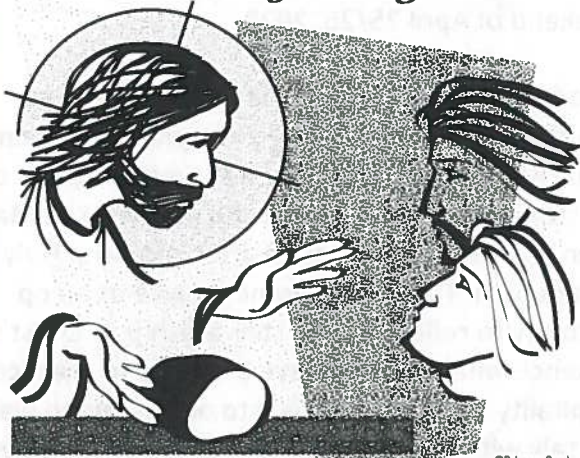
**Third Sunday of Easter Week of April 26, 2020**

**The Roman Catholic Parishes of**

**St. Margaret Mary, Herscher**

**St. James the Apostle, Irwin**

*When he BROKE the BREAD  
and said the BLESSING,  
their eyes were opened and  
they recognized him.*



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All mass intentions for the last few weeks will be rescheduled once we are back on our regular schedule. Thank you for being understanding and cooperative with this rescheduling process.

During this time of quarantine, we are praying for the health and safety of all our parishioners, their families, and the world. If you are in a position to support your Church by sending in your weekly donation to help with the costs of maintaining our buildings, it would be greatly appreciated.

St. Margaret Mary  
207 E 5th Street  
Herscher, IL 60941

Please indicate which parish you are sending your donation in for.

**Mail in Collections  
as of April 26, 2020**

St. Margaret Mary—\$200  
St. James—\$1,224  
Sacred Heart—\$700

Thank you for your  
continued support.

**Thank you for your generosity**

Each week of April, we will be asking you to add special intention to your prayers.

Prayer Intentions for Week of April 26, 2020

During this week, please add to your daily prayers all those who are suffering in any way due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

*May we who are merely inconvenienced remember those whose lives are at stake.*

*May we who have no risk factors remember the most vulnerable.*

*May we who have the luxury of working from home remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making their rent.*

*May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close remember those who have no options.*

*May we who have to cancel our trips remember those that have no place to go.*

*May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market remember those who have no margin at all.*

*May we who settle in for a quarantine at home remember those who have no home.*

*During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other, let us find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors. Amen*

From Stacie Powers—Faith Formation

Trip parish Catholics,

The free subscription to [formed.org](http://formed.org) ends this weekend. I hope you have enjoyed this resource. Send me an email with any feedback.

Stacie at [faithformationstmm@gmail.com](mailto:faithformationstmm@gmail.com)

HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY TO  
FATHER RON **who celebrated his  
birthday this past  
week.**



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CCW Spring Deanery Update-

There has been much conversation between Deanery Presidents and JDCCW about our Spring Institutes. The current pandemic and restrictions have changed the way we usually function with most events being cancelled or postponed. Although our Spring Institute is scheduled the first week of June, we felt it is best to cancel it for this year. It was a very difficult decision, but the safety of our attendees was the deciding factor.

We plan to have the next Kankakee Deanery Spring Institute in June 2021. St. Anne will be the host parish with St. Margaret Mary, Herscher the co-host.

A Stewardship Moment—Third Sunday of Easter  
Weekend of April 25/26, 2020

As today's Gospel reveals, the first meal shared with the risen Lord happened in a place called Emmaus. Perhaps there is no better time to reflect on this story than in those prayerful moments at Mass when we return to our place after receiving Holy Communion. Those few moments give us an opportunity to reflect on our stewardship of Christ's presence within us. We have a chance to practice hospitality by inviting Jesus into our hearts to walk and talk with us about our own Emmaus journey. We can relive once again the time when he broke bread for the disciples. And just as they did, we too can recognize Christ in this meal made to be shared with others.

## Stewards of Ourselves and Our Neighbors

During these unsettling times, there can be a temptation to focus only on ourselves and our immediate loved ones to get through the current crisis. Depending on our situations, we may not have the ability or resources to do more. But for those of us who do have the ability to support others, especially the most vulnerable people in our neighborhood, parish or broader community, it's a crucial time to help them. Let's not write off the vulnerable among us. Let us reach out to them.

Staying at home doesn't mean we can't stay connected in other ways.

Maintain a safe distance from other people—at least 6 feet.

- Make sure to stay socially connected. Walk around your neighborhood, go out in nature, talk to friends—but keep a safe distance.
- • Pick up the telephone or use Zoom, Skype, or FaceTime. The good news is many people will be home, so it can be easier to reach them.
- • Use email, texts, and social media to stay connected with friends, family, and your community.