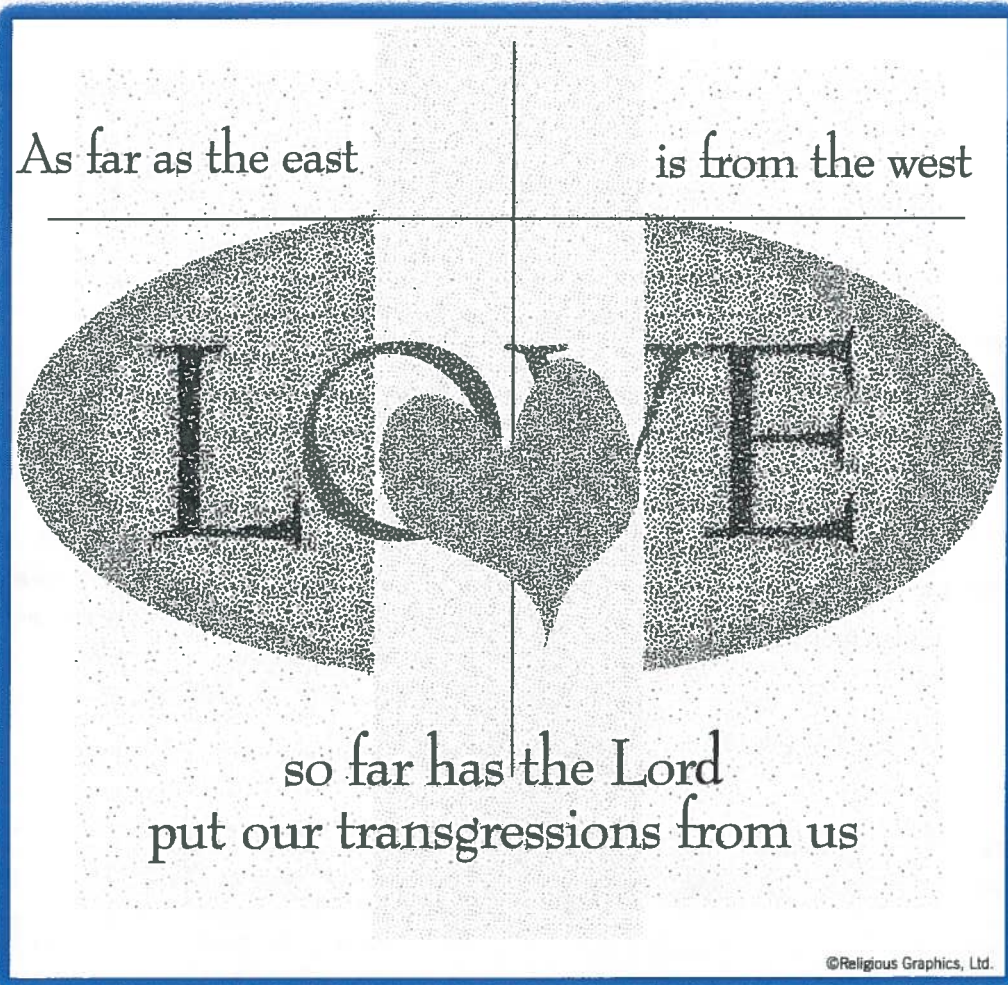


**The Roman Catholic Parishes of
St. Margaret Mary, Herscher
St. James the Apostle, Irwin
Sacred Heart, Goodrich**



Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 12-13, 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: *“May we never risk the life of our souls by being resentful or by bearing grudges.”*
~St. Gregory of Nyssa

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time September 19-20, 2020

Liturgical Schedule	St. Margaret Mary Saturday, Sept. 19 5:00 pm	Sacred Heart Sunday, Sept. 20 7:30 am	St. James Sunday, Sept. 20 9:00 am	St. Margaret Mary Sunday, Sept. 20 10:30 am
Celebrant	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron
Ushers	Dave Emling Robbie Landeck	Dennis Pankey Dale Pfeiffer	The committee will take care of ushering duties Greeter— Rita Thiesen Rosary—Reatta Gohlke	Erik Wheeler Conner Settles Joe Smolkovich
Lector	Jackie Eberle	Terri Weakley	Brett Miller	Corinn Wheeler

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, September 14

8:00 am +Rita Deany (Dave Riordan) (SMM)

Tuesday, September 15

8:00 am +Walter Pieszka (Terri & Jerry Weakley) (SH)

Wednesday, September 16

8:00 am +Ruth Martin (Dennis & Diane Martin) (SJ)

Friday, Sept. 18

8:00 am +Madonna Hoffman (Jackie Eberle) (SMM)

Saturday, September 19

5:00 pm +Les Styck & Bob Landeck (Rob & Gayle Landeck)
 + Bob & Rita Deany (The Family) (SMM)

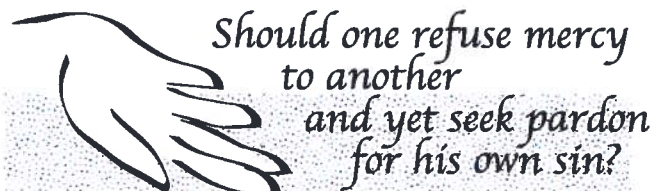
Sunday, September 20

7:30 am +Zeb Pfeiffer (Mark & Roxanna May)
 +Cecelia Monk (Terri & Jerry Monk) (SH)
 9:00 am +Rhea Suprenant (Louise Devine)
 +Fred Gohlke (Arlen Hansen Family) (SJ)
 10:30am For All the Parish Family (SMM)

A Look Ahead

Sunday, Sept 12— Religious Ed. Classes at SH 9-10:15
Sept. 12 & 13—Collection for the Holy Land
Monday, Sept. 14—SH Parish Council 7 pm
Sunday, Sept. 20—Parent meeting for RE at SMM & SJ
Sunday, Sept. 20—St. James CCW meeting
Monday, Sept. 21—SMM CCW meeting 7 pm
Saturday, Sept. 26—First Communion at SJ 10 am
Sunday, Sept. 27—Religious Education Classes begin at SMM & 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
 Like us on Facebook [triparishcatholiccommunities](https://www.facebook.com/triparishcatholiccommunities)
 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 – 426-5015
 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)



Collections Week of Sept. 5-6

St. Margaret Mary—\$ 1,665

St. James—\$1,108

Sacred Heart—\$1,217

Thank you for your generosity

ALL PARISHES-

- ◆ For the 30 of you who had received a bulletin last week, this one may seem familiar. I ran the same information as last week if the events had not taken place as of yet.
- ◆ All three parish members are invited to join together for one hour of prayer every Monday at 2:00 pm in the church sanctuary at St. Margaret Mary. The rosary and a Divine Mercy chaplet will be said. We will focus on praying for our country and on any personal petitions. We hope to see you on Mondays.
- ◆ RCIA classes will begin on Saturday, Sept. 19 at 6 pm in the hall at St. Margaret Mary. Deacon Ron welcomes anyone who would like to attend.
- ◆ **Thank you** to all for continuing to wear your masks into and during the Mass services. With the latest restrictions once again in our county, we need to continue to be diligent in following the diocese's and the state's guidelines so we may remain open for in-

Parish News:

St. Margaret Mary-

- * SMM CCW meeting will be held on Monday, September 21st at 7pm. Due to Covid restrictions refreshments will not be served.

Sacred Heart-

- * Parish Council Meeting Monday, Sept. 14 in the church hall at 7 pm.

St. James -

- * We will have a CCW meeting on Sunday, September 20. Please note that this is a date change. Hostesses are Amy Harwood and Jen Hansen. All women are invited to attend.

There is a second collection this week, September 12-13 for the Holy Land. Many of you have already sent this offering in. This collection is usually taken up on Good Friday, but due to the pandemic it did not take place then. The Christian communities in the Holy Land, also exposed to the risk of contagion and living in contexts already full of serious suffering, benefit every year from the generosity of the faithful from all over the world. Thank you for your continued sup-



Molly Hertz of Buckingham

and

Benjamin Spraggon of Pontiac

Wedding Bans III

2020 PUBLIC SQUARE ROSARY RALLY
PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYING FOR OUR NATION
WHERE: ST. MARGARET MARY CHURCH
WHEN: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10
ROSARY WILL BEGIN AT NOON
PLEASE BRING A LAWN CHAIR
FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT
JACKIE EBERLE AT 815-421-4048



There is a VERY important parent ONLY meeting at 9:00 am on Sunday, Sept. 20 at St. Margaret Mary for anyone planning on Religious Education classes this year. At least one parent MUST attend

this meeting where we will be going over the safety procedures that will be in place for our program.

If you cannot make this meeting, you will need to contact Stacie Powers to arrange a separate time before your child/children will be able to attend RE classes. Classes will begin on Sunday, September 27 at 9 am. 815-426-2550 faithfor-
mationstmm@gmail.com



Welcome to

Walter Kasmir Kostelicz , son
Darius & Jenna (Scanlon) Kostelicz who
was baptized at St. James on
August 29, 2020.

Folks, I have been receiving comments from people on both sides of the mask issue and they are all asking the question, "why?" "Why do I have to wear a mask when Covid is not an issue here?" "Why isn't everyone wearing a mask while in church?" I understand why people are asking the question. One thing I have noticed is that every time someone sneezes or coughs in church everyone seems to cringe. People are afraid and react as such.

I have some questions of my own to pose to you. Is our response to this virus political, medical, or a combination of both? What are the long term health effects of all this hand sanitizer that we are being exposed to? What are the long-term effects of the masks, gloves and other personal protective equipment (ppe) being disposed of in our landfills?

In my homily two weeks ago I spoke of us as being a family, not in the blood sense but in the spiritual sense. As a "family," there are times when we may disagree. But we should never be disagreeable with each other. No matter where one falls on the mask issue their opinion should be respected. Together we are strong! We cannot let this issue or any other come between us as a spiritual family.

That having been said, the virus is real and there are those among us who are susceptible to it. We need to keep their needs in mind. We are mandated by the State and the Diocese to take preventive measures to help slow the spread of the virus. As the Tri-Parish Community, we are sanitizing our churches after every weekend mass. In addition, we are sending out updates through e-mail of the current restrictions. (If we do not have your e-mail address please provide it to us.) Even if we are skeptical about the benefits of wearing a mask in public, we should comply in consideration of others who are vulnerable to the virus.

My hope is that none of you or your family ever catch this virus. My advice is wash your hands frequently with soap and water, keep a safe distance from others but do not be "distant" from them, eat a well-balanced diet so as to build up your immune system, and get out in the fresh air often. Personally, I take Vitamin D and zinc which aid the immune system. I have also found 'Airborne' to help ward off viruses. Many people believe local honey helps to build the immune system.

Stay safe, stay healthy, and continue to fight the good fight!

Saint of the week: St. John Chrysostom (Sept. 13)

John's father died when he was young, and he was raised by a very pious mother. He was well educated; he studied rhetoric under Libanius, one of the most famous orators of his day. He was a monk, preacher and priest for a dozen years in Syria. While there he developed a stomach ailment that troubled him the rest of his life.

It was for his sermons that John earned the title *Chrysostom = golden mouthed*. They were always on point, they explained the Scriptures with clarity, and they sometimes went on for hours. He was made a reluctant bishop of Constantinople



in 398, a move that involved him in imperial politics. He criticized the rich for not sharing their wealth, fought to reform the clergy, prevented the sale of ecclesiastical offices, and called for fidelity in marriage. He encouraged the practices of justice and charity. John became the Archbishop and Patriarch of Constantinople. He revised the Greek Liturgy. Because John's sermons advocated a change in their lives, some nobles and bishops worked to remove him from his diocese; he was twice exiled from his diocese. Eventually he was banished to Pythius, where he died on the road.

Obscure saint of the week: Blessed Gertrude Prosperi (Sept. 13) was born to a wealthy, pious family. She was the daughter of Dominic and Maria Diomedi. She joined the Benedictines at the monastery of Sante Lucia di Trevi on May 4th, 1820, taking the name *Sister Maria Luisa Angelica*. She served as nurse, sacristan, camerlenga and novice mistress. She was elected abbess on October 1, 1837; she served in that position for the rest of her life. Sr. Maria revived observance to the Rule of the Order. She was devoted to Eucharistic adoration. Sr. Maria received visions of Christ carrying his cross, of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and of Jesus as a pilgrim.



The five finger prayer is a great way to teach someone to pray, or a good model for anyone to use to pray. Remember, James 5:13-16 teaches us to pray for one another.

First, your thumb is nearest you. Begin your prayers by praying for those closest to you.

Second, the next finger, is the pointing finger. Pray for those who teach, instruct and offer comfort. This can include teachers, doctors, and ministers. They need support and wisdom in pointing others in the right direction.

Third comes the tallest finger. It reminds us of our leaders. Pray for the president, leaders in business and industry, and administrators. These people shape our nation and guide the public in many different ways. They need God's guidance.

Fourth comes our ring finger. We could pray for marriages and families. We could also pray for those who are weak, because our ring finger is the weakest of the five. You cannot pray too much for those who are weak, in trouble or in pain.

Fifth comes our little finger. It is the smallest of the five. It should remind us of our place in relation to God and others. God's Word teaches us that, "the least shall be the greatest among you" (Matthew 23:11). Your pinkie should remind you to pray for yourself. By the time you have prayed for the other four groups, your own needs will be put into proper perspective and you will be able to pray for yourself more effectively.

Keep praying!

St. Margaret Mary, St. James, and Sacred Heart and the Diocese of Joliet are overjoyed to invite all the people of the Diocese of Joliet and throughout the Church to join us in celebrating the installation of our new bishop, Most Reverend Ronald A. Hicks, later this month.

On the eve of the Installation, Bishop Hicks will join our priests for a **Vespers Service of Welcome** at the Cathedral of St. Raymond Nonnatus. This will begin at **7:00 p.m. on Monday, September 28, 2020.**



Bishop Hicks will be installed as the sixth Bishop of Joliet by the Apostolic Nuncio to the United States, the Most Reverend Archbishop Christophe Pierre, on **Tuesday, September 29, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.** The **Installation Mass** will also take place at the Cathedral of St. Raymond Nonnatus.

Due to the gathering limitations in place during COVID-19, participation will be by invitation only. **Both events will be livestreamed for all to join us virtually at <http://www.dioceseofjoliet.org/> or <http://www.youtube.com/DioceseofJolietIL>.**

Bishop Hicks will begin his service to the Diocese of Joliet on Wednesday, September 30. Correspondence and invitations to activities, or requests for appointments on or after that date should be submitted to Julie Grzadzinski, Administrative Assistant to the Bishop, at jgrzadzinski@dioceseofjoliet.org, (815) 221-6185, or at the Blanchette Catholic Center, 16555 Weber Road, Crest Hill, Illinois 60403

A Stewardship Moment— Weekend of September 12-13

Today's Gospel reading continues Jesus' instructions on being good stewards of others – the direction that if we love Jesus Christ, we must forgive an individual 77 times. The reading compels us to consider one of the most difficult practices of Christian discipleship. Forgiveness is the way of Jesus, the way of the cross. Vengeance, bitterness and hatred seem so much easier and certainly more desirable. Forgiveness is a hard road to travel, but it is the only road that leads to life in Christ. Consider this week who you need to forgive.



Second Collection Sept. 26–27

I am sure you are all aware of the tragedy and devastation that continues to affect our brothers and sisters in several parts of our nation affected by natural disaster these past few weeks. We have witnessed devastating impacts from both Hurricane Laura and the Colorado and California wild-fires. Many thousands of families have lost their homes, while many more businesses and churches have been severely damaged or destroyed. The impact will be long-lasting. We will be taking up a second collection to support national disaster relief efforts on Sept. 26–27. Heartfelt thanks are extended to all in the community for your support.

We'll come to you!

a virtual marriage encounter



restore
communication
rekindle
romance
renew
commitment

October 1,8,15,22,29
November 5,12, 2020
@7pm

For more information
or to apply
go to:

Or call
630-577-0778 .

ONLINE CLASSES FRO SENIORS IN KANKAKEE COUNTY
Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet presents two free classes available to individuals ages 60 and older who live in Kankakee County:

Elder Financial Exploitation: Tuesday, September 22nd @ 2:00PM Older adults are at risk for financial exploitation. Abusers can be friends, caregivers, financial advisors, and even family members. In this program we'll focus on recognizing and reducing the risk of financial exploitation for yourself, your friends and older relatives. Resources and strategies for best practices will be shared.

PRESENTER: Sasha Grabenstetter, AFC®, University of Illinois Extension Consumer Economics Educator

Call 815-933-7791 ext: 9910 to register! To learn more about Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet, visit catholiccharitiesjoliet.org

A STEWARDSHIP PRAYER for September

Heavenly Father,
Even during this time of pandemic,
September is a month that offers hope
for things to come:
our daily life has a new rhythm,
there are new beginnings and
a new energy.

In this month of accelerating activities,
keep us mindful that we live for Christ
and not for ourselves, and
that to be good stewards of
his Gospel should be our goal
each and every day.

In this month of transition
help us find a deeper spiritual
balance in our lives
that takes time for you and
listens to the promptings of your Spirit.

And in a time when we are discouraged
from physically embracing one another,
help us find ways to manifest
your loving embrace
to our neighbors.

We ask this through your Son,
Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever.
Amen.

It's Time for a Spiritual Audit!

In virtually every aspect of Life, -corporate, athletic, education etc., -there is a constant evaluation process to measure growth and improvement. Now it is a good time to assess our spiritual progress. Have we made a difference? If God were totally our "faith in action" would He be pleased with what we have done (or failed to do)?

Evils plague our society, such as abortion, pornography "comprehensive sex" education, tax funding of Planned Parenthood, and other anti-God, anti-life and anti-family issues.

As Christians, we know that the Bible commands us to be active in serving God. Service is an action word, so we know that we cannot serve God by sitting on the sidelines, or being a "fence sitter". Are we as Catholics influencing our world, or is today's relativism and secularism influencing us much more?

Are we setting an example to the next generation to protect marriage and to defend life, from conception until natural death, or are we just "passively" pro-life? Do we speak up when in a position to defend innocent life? Do we hold our elected representatives accountable?

Obviously, we cannot do it all, but we can certainly do something! Literally, thousands of lives are at stake each and every day. If we do nothing we collude with the pro-aborts, the purveyor of pornography and those that wish to remove God from society. By doing nothing, we reap what they sow!

"Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins" James 4:17

By Pro-Life Articles Author

September 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4 1st Friday at SH	5
6	7 HAPPY LABOR DAY	8 Sacred Heart CCW meeting 7 pm	9	10 Knights of Columbus Blood Drive St. James 3-7 pm	11	12 2nd collection First Communion 10 am SMM
13 2nd Collection for the Holy Land	14 SH Parish Council 7 pm	15	16	17	18	19 Wedding 2:30 RCIA 6 pm SMM
20 St. James CCW meeting after mass RE Parent meeting SMM 9 am	21 SMM CCW meeting at 7 pm	22	23	24	25	26 St. James First Communion 10 am
27 Religious Education Classes begin SMM 9am	28	29 RCIA class 6 pm	30			