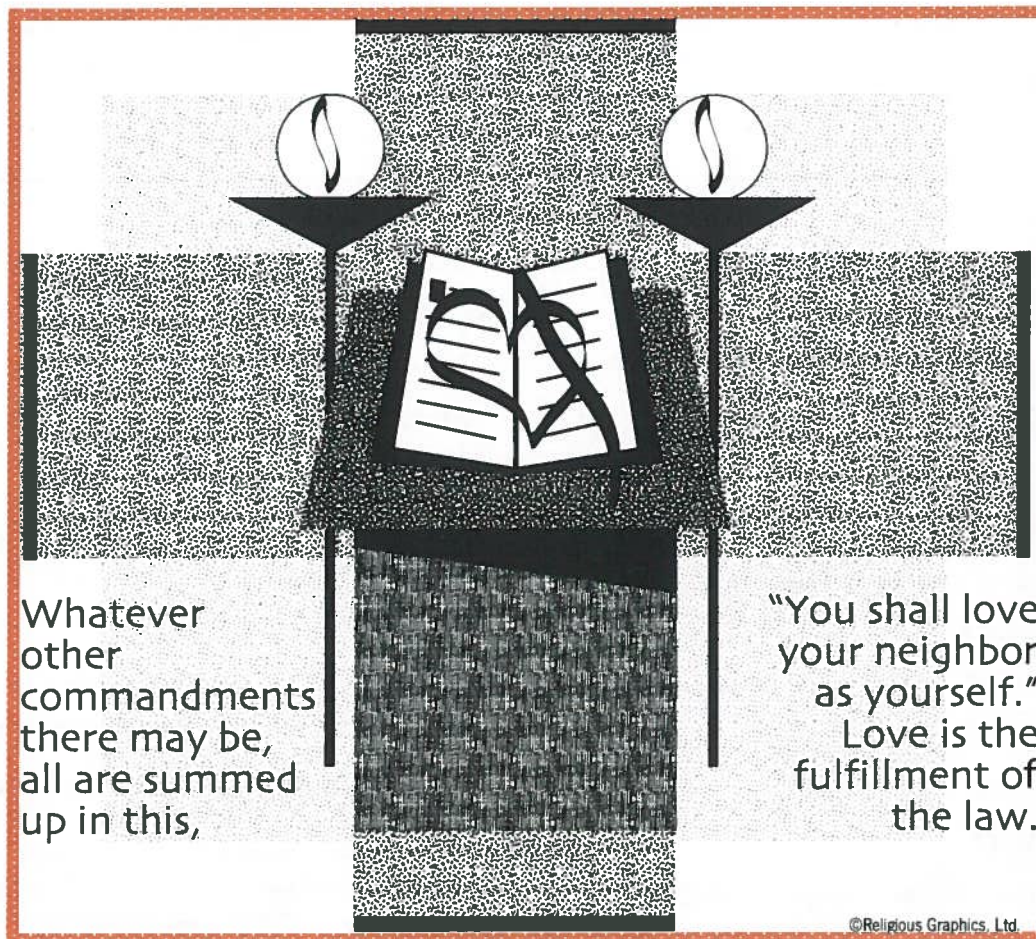


**The Roman Catholic Parishes of
St. Margaret Mary, Herscher
St. James the Apostle, Irwin
Sacred Heart, Goodrich**



Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 5-6, 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: "To live charitably means not looking out for our own interest, but carrying the burdens of the weakest and poorest among us."
 ~ Pope Francis

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time September 12-13, 2020

Liturgical Schedule	St. Margaret Mary Saturday, Sept. 12 5:00 pm	Sacred Heart Sunday, Sept. 13 7:30 am	St. James Sunday, Sept. 13 9:00 am	St. Margaret Mary Sunday, Sept. 13 10:30 am
Celebrant	Fr. Ron	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron	Fr. Ron	Fr. Ron
Ushers	Dan Hoffman Gery Wright	Kyle Ferris Daryl Ferris	The committee will take care of ushering duties Greeter— Dallas Ferris Rosary— Rita Thiesen	Corey Eich Bill Powers Darren Lovell
Lector	Bobbi Buza	Darlene Cipcich	Dave Ladehoff	Diane Long

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, September 7

9:00 am +Louis, Charlotte, & Madeline Hildebrand
 (Mariann Lane) (SMM)

Tuesday, September 8

8:00 am +Walter & Mary Pieszka (Angie Kmetz) (SH)

Wednesday, September 9

8:00 am +Daniel King (Jerome Schnieder) (SJ)

Friday, Sept. 11

8:00 am +Marge Heeler (SMM)

Saturday, September 12

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

Sunday, September 13

7:30 am +Sondra Hertz (Sharon Dummer)

+Jerry Whalen (Jackie Cross) (SH)

9:00 am +Thomas O'Connor (Joyce & Dallas Ferris)

+Ruby Strahan Sue & Paul Muhlstadt (SJ)

10:30am +Gary Jensen (Scott Frerichs)

+Richard Kelch (John & Diane Smolkovich) (SMM)

A Look Ahead

Tuesday, Sept. 8—SH CCW meeting 7 pm

Saturday, Sept. 12—First Communion at SMM 10 am

Sept. 12 & 13—Collection for the Holy Land

Sunday, Sept. 20—St. James CCW meeting

Monday, Sept. 21—SMM CCW meeting 7 pm

Saturday, Sept. 26—First Communion at SJ 10 am

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 Aug. 29-30

St. Margaret Mary—\$ 1,285 Fr. Allam—\$895
St. James—\$1,422 Fr. Allam- \$1,300
Sacred Heart—\$5,892 Fr. Allam—\$1,062
Thank you for your generosity

ALL PARISHES-

- ◆ 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-person services.

*Donate
Blood...
Saves
Lives!*

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BLOOD DRIVE

Thursday, September 10 3-7 pm

St. James Hall Irwin

Appointments are preferred,
but walk-ins are welcome

Text or call Joe Petersen 815-861-9634 for
an appointment

Donated blood will be tested for COVID-19 antibodies

Masks are required

ATTENTION!

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
faithformationstmm@gmail.com

Parish News:

St. Margaret Mary-

- * Unfortunately, SMM's 150th Anniversary Celebration has been postponed. We will keep you informed as to rescheduling details as they become available.
- * SMM CCW meeting will be held on Monday, September 21st at 7pm. Due to Covid restrictions refreshments will not be served.

Sacred Heart-

- * Rescheduled CCW meeting—Tuesday, Sept. 8 at 7 pm in the church hall. Bring your mask—social distancing will be observed as well. We will be discussing the Boxes of Joy.

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 next 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 support.



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



Molly Hertz of Buckingham
and
Benjamin Spraggon of Pontiac
Wedding Bans II

Owe nothing
to anyone, except
to LOVE one another.

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View bulletins online at www.triparishcatholics.org

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: Saint Peter Claver (Sept. 9) was born a farmer's son. Peter studied at the University of Barcelona. He became a Jesuit at the age of 20. He was a priest who was influenced by Saint Alphonsus Rodriguez to become a missionary in America. He ministered, physically and spiritually, to slaves when they arrived in Cartagena, converting a reported 300,000, and working for humane treatment on the plantations for 40 years. He organized charitable societies among the Spanish in America similar to those organized in Europe by Saint Vincent de Paul.



Obscure saint of the week: Alonso Rodriguez (Oct 31.) was the third of eleven children in the family of the wealthy wool merchant Diego Rodriguez. He met Blessed Peter Faber when he was 10; Father Faber prepared the boy for his First Communion. At age 14, Alonso was sent to study with the Jesuits, but Alonso's father died within a year, and he returned home to learn and manage the business.

He was married to Mary Suarez at age 26. His business suffered, and two of the couple's children died in infancy; one son survived. He became a widower in his early 30's, Alonso's mother died soon after. He sold the business and moved in with his sisters; they helped Alonso raise his son, and taught their brother prayerful meditation.

When his son died, Alonso decided to follow his call to the religious life. He gave away what little he had left, and tried to join the Jesuits; he did not have the education they required, and was refused. He attended the College of Barcelona, but could not complete the work. Self-imposed austerities nearly destroyed his health; at age 60 he was ordered to begin sleeping in a bed instead of the chair, bench or ground he had previously used. However, at the recommendation of Jesuit Father Luis Santander, Alonso became a Jesuit lay-brother, admitted on 31 January 1571 at Valencia, Spain, and began to study alongside children.

He was a porter and doorkeeper at the Jesuit college of Montesión at Palma, Mallorca, Spain for 46 years, a duty which involved delivering packages, seeing to the lodging of travelers, and dispensing alms to the poor. From this humble post he influenced many through the years. Obsessed with the spiritual, and given to extreme self-imposed austerities, he had a special devotion to Saint Ursula, and was so obedient to his superiors that when one told him to eat his plate, he tried to cut it with a knife and fork. He was a friend and room-mate of Saint Peter Claver and advised Peter to request missionary work in South America.

Alonso professed his final Jesuit vows at the age of 54. He was reputed to heal by fervent prayer. The night before his death was spent in a visionary ecstasy. Some authors claim he wrote the *Little Office of the Immaculate Conception*, but his part was to make it more popular. He left behind a collection of manuscripts of journal entries, random thoughts, simple illustrations, and musings on things spiritual that are remarkable for their simplicity, sound and correct doctrine, and spiritual understanding; they were published as *Spiritual Works of Blessed Alonso Rodriguez* in Barcelona in 1885.



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 5-6 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Times
 In Saint Paul’s letter to the Romans he suggests that God lavishes his love upon us through Jesus Christ, who calls us to the kind of loving relationship, if we so choose it, that demands accountability. It is like, in Saint Paul’s vocabulary, a kind of “debt” that we can never “pay-infull.” But we begin to repay by following the direction of one of the most familiar statements in the Bible: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Good stewards realize that God does not call them just to love those who are easy to love, but to love the unloved and the hard-to-love people in this world as well. This week, remind yourself: “I am put here as an ambassador of God’s love.”

Bishop Joseph L. Imesch
**Women in the Church
 Lecture Series**

Tuesday, Sept. 8, 2020 at 7 p.m.
 Live streamed from USF
 500 Wilcox Street Joliet, IL

Women in the Church - A Spirituality during Covid 19



We are excited to share Edwina Gateley who brings her delight and wisdom as our Centennial Speaker this year for the **Women in Church** series. This will be live streamed through Zoom.

Edwina is the recipient of sixteen national and international Awards. Born in Lancaster, England, she earned a Teacher’s Degree from her home country, a Master’s in Theology from the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, and certification as an HIV counselor in Illinois.



From 1981 to 1982, Edwina lived for nine months in prayer and solitude in a hermitage in Illinois. In 1983, she spent over a year on the streets of Chicago walking with the homeless and women involved in prostitution learning from the *anawim*. In 1983, Edwina founded Genesis House – a house of hospitality and nurturing for women involved in prostitution. She continues to actively lead retreats, write and offer presentations around the globe. This will probably be her last lecture from the United States before returning to her homeland of England.



“Edwina speaks from a heart of courage and compassion. She is funny, tender and wise.”



Watch and Listen with a Friend!
 Please RSVP: 815-740-3807 or jhicks@stfrancis.edu
 In order to receive the USF link invitation you need to send an email
 Visit edwinagateley.com to learn more.



Where
 two or
 three are
 gathered
 in my
NAME
 I am
 there
 with
 them

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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

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.

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:

How to Save Money on Food: Thursday, September 10th @ 2:00PM
At the end of a busy day, when you're hungry and tired, do you go home knowing you're all set to prepare a tasty, healthy dinner or do you pick up food at the most convenient spot? Are you happy with the amount of money you spend on food every month? In this lesson, we'll examine strategies that you can use to keep food costs low. Learn to create a realistic food plan that balances money, time and nutritional needs.

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

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

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	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			