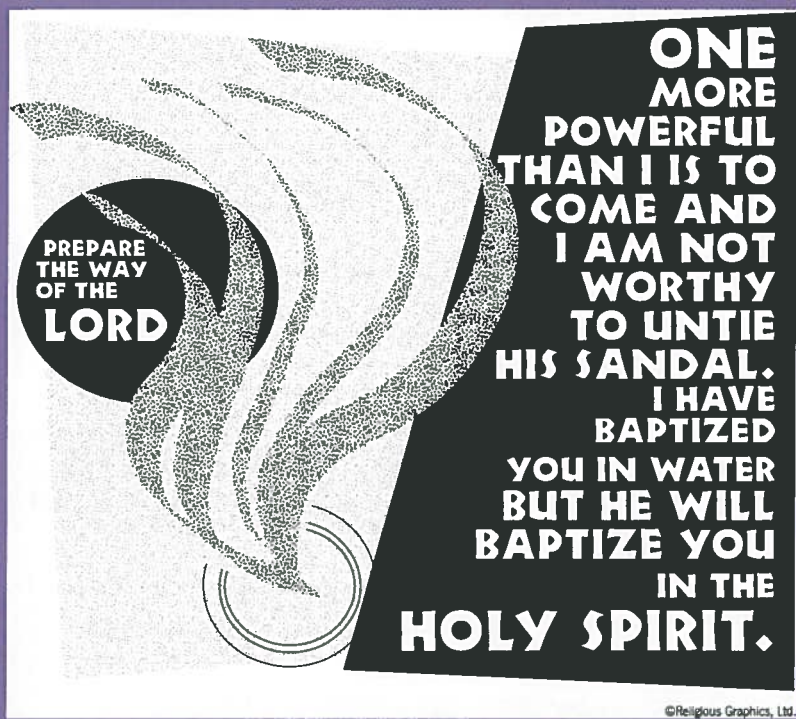


**The Roman Catholic Parishes of
St. Margaret Mary, Herscher
St. James the Apostle, Irwin**

Second Sunday of Advent

December 5-6, 2020



A Stewardship Moment

2nd Sunday of Advent December 5-6, 2020

Today's second reading is about Christ's coming again, "The day of the Lord," Peter calls it, but that day isn't December 25th. It's that other day, that second-coming day about which Peter is concerned. He waits with great hope and anticipation for God to remake the earth into a place of perfect justice and peace. And he sets some demanding goals for the Christian community as it awaits that final day of accounting and reconciliation: strive to be at peace, without spot or blemish. Christian stewards work for peace. As we await the coming of Christmas, what can we do to promote peace in our homes, workplaces, community and world?

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, December 7 (SMM)

8:00 am +John Andrzekewlo (Pat Gray)

7:00 pm +Janet Bever (Mariann Lane)

Tuesday, December 8 (SH)

8:00 am +Carson Cross (Rita & Denny Beaupre)

Tuesday, December 8 (SJ)

7:00 pm +Vicki Hensley (Dennis & Sue O'Connor)

+Geraldine Tobenski (Kathy Dumas)

Wednesday, December 9 (SJ) TBD Father may be gone

8:00 am For All the Parish Family

Friday, December 11 (SMM)

8:00 am +John Brown (Jackie Eberle)

Saturday, December 12 (SMM)

5:00 pm +Daniel LeDuke (Darlene Dittus Family)

+Sterling Bouchard (Jackie Eberle)

Sunday, December 13

7:30 am +Lela Madison, Steven Riley, Dean

Madison, Dale Pool (The Family) (SH)

Confessions:

St. Margaret Mary Sat. 4:15 pm

Sacred Heart Sun. 7:05-7:20 am

St. James Sun 8:35-8:50 am



Church Mailing Address:

207 E. 5th Street

Herscher, IL 60941

Phone: 815-426-2550

Quotable: “It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope.”

~ Pope Benedict

Third Sunday of Advent—December 12-13, 2020

Liturgical Schedule	St. Margaret Mary Saturday, Dec. 12 5:00 pm	Sacred Heart Sunday, Dec. 13 7:30 am	St. James Sunday, Dec. 13 9:00 am	St. Margaret Mary Sunday, Dec. 13 10:30 am
Celebrant	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron
Ushers	Dan Hoffman Todd Datweiler	Dennis Pankey James Mallaney	The committee will take care of ushering duties Greeter— Rick White R.Leader—R. Gohlke	Marco Smolkovich Nick Zerebny Corey Eich
Lector	Dave Emling	Mike Hertz	Mary Peerbolte	Dana Masching

ALL PARISHES-

- ◆ St. James and St. Margaret Mary—If you did not pick up a Today’s Missal book last week, please do so if you are interested. Remember you must take yours home and bring it back with you each week. Please do not leave them in your pew at the conclusion of mass.
- ◆ The Prayer Hour on Mondays has been canceled until further notice.
- ◆ **With rising Covid numbers, please follow the guidelines put forth by the Diocese and state.** All parishioners are reminded by the Bishop that:
 - the dispensation from the Sunday obligation remains in force indefinitely
 - if you are fearful or have reluctance to return to Sunday observance at this time, you should not do so
 - those most susceptible to contracting COVID-19 by virtue of age, medical condition or other vulnerability should not attend the in-person Mass

Ministries for the Holy Day Masses are on the back of the bulletin this week.

A Look Ahead

Monday, Dec. 7—Vigil Mass at SMM 7 pm
Tuesday, Dec. 8—Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass 8 am at SH and Mass 7 pm at SJ
Sunday, Dec. 6—Religious Ed Classes at SMM
December 12-13— Second Collection for Retired Religious

Pastor— Fr. Ron Neitzke- 815-426-2550
 Deacon – Ron Gagnon—rjgck@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 – 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)

PICK UP

- ◇ Envelopes for 2021 (good bye 2020) are in the rear of the Churches. Please pick your envelopes up. If your envelopes are not there, please call the church office. You may notice that your number has changed, that is not a mistake. They have been renumbered.
- ◇ Lector workbooks are also available in each parish.

Collections Week of Nov. 28-29

St. Margaret Mary—\$1,538

St. James—\$1,687

Sacred Heart—\$489

Thank you for your generosity

Parish News:

St. James-

- ◆ Please mark your calendar for Monday, December 21st at 6 pm when we will be cleaning and deco-

A STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

Heavenly father,
You give us this blessed
season of Advent as a gift
of time to prepare for the
coming of the Christ child.

But all too often we turn
this gift into a source of
frenzy, stress and anxiety;
a time when we're apt
to prepare for a Christmas
celebration looking perfect
on the outside,
but spiritually exhausting
and without true meaning.

Restore in us that inherent
quest for quiet expectation
and hope.

Show us the way to a more
peaceful, prayerful
disposition that makes us
more open to a conversion of
heart.

FOR DECEMBER

And give us the courage to
let go of things that are
ultimately unimportant to the
true meaning of Christmas.

Help us be good stewards of
this Advent season,
so that on the Feast of the
Nativity, we will be ready
with our own sacred space
for the arrival of you Son,
Jesus Christ, in whose name
we now pray.

Amen



Bambinelli Sunday

This tradition origi-
nated under Pope
John Paul II. The
children of Rome
and their families fill

St. Peter's Square on the 3rd Sunday of Advent
(Gaudete Sunday) for the blessing of "Gesù Bam-
bino" (little baby Jesus). On this day, the children
bring from home the Jesus figure (the bambino)
in their hands, backpacks, pockets from their
family nativity scenes. Some will even bring the
Bambinelli of friends and neighbors unable to
attend. During the noontime Angelus address,
the pope invites all to hold up their Bambinelli for
a special blessing of the Christ child figure, the
children and their families. Once home the figure
is set out of sight for the remainder of Advent
until joyfully placed in the nativity scene on
Christmas. Some put the figure in a gift box,
wrap it or place it in an unseen place of honor
until Christmas.

**I invite you to bring your Jesus figures to church
the weekend of Dec. 12/13 for the blessing.**

advent—epiphany *journey joyfully*

<p>DECEMBER 6 2nd Sunday of Advent Readings: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11, Psalm 85:9-14 2 Peter 3:8-14 Mark 1:1-8 Feast of St. Nicholas</p>	<p>7 Memorial of St. Ambrose In Sunday's Gospel, John the Baptist preaches on Baptism and repentance. Pray together the Act of Contrition.</p>	<p>8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception Today we celebrate Mary having been born without sin. Pray the Rosary, focusing on the joyful mystery of the Annunciation. (Luke 1:26-38)</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 Read Psalm 85: 9-14 as a family. Find or draw a picture of God's Kingdom to display in your Advent space. Share what you can do this Advent to bring forth God's Kingdom.</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE Many migrants look to Our Lady of Guadalupe as a source of strength and intercession. Take some time today to pray for migrants around the world.</p>
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Saint of the week: St. Ambrose (Dec. 7) was born to Roman nobility. He was the brother of Saint Macellina, and Saint Satyrus. He was educated in the classics, Greek, and philosophy in Rome, Italy. Ambrose was a poet and noted orator. He converted to Christianity. He was the governor of Milan, Italy. When the bishop of Milan died, a dispute over his replacement led to violence. Ambrose intervened to calm both sides; he impressed everyone involved so much that though he was still an unbaptized catechumen, he was chosen as the new bishop. He resisted, claiming that he was not worthy, but to prevent further violence, he assented, and on December 7, 374, he was baptized, ordained as a priest, and consecrated as bishop. He immediately gave away his wealth to the Church and the poor, both for the good it did, and as an example to his flock.



Ambrose was a noted preacher and teacher, a Bible student of renown, and writer of liturgical hymns. He stood firm against paganism and Arians. His preaching helped convert Saint Augustine of Hippo, whom Ambrose baptized and brought into the Church. Ambrose's preaching brought Emperor Theodosius to do public penance for his sins. He called and chaired several theological councils during his time as bishop, many devoted to fighting heresy. He welcomed Saint Ursus and Saint Alban of Mainz when they fled Naxos to escape Arian persecution, and then sent them on to evangelize in Gaul and Germany. He was proclaimed a great Doctor of the Latin Church by Pope Boniface VIII in 1298.

Obscure saint of the week: Saint John the Silent (Dec. 7) was the son of Enkratios, a military commander, and Euphemia. His brother and other family members were advisors to emperors. John received an excellent secular and religious education. His parents died in 471, and at age 18 John used his inheritance to build the Church of the Most Holy Mother of God in Nicopolis. By age 20 he had founded a monastery for himself and ten fellow young monks. He became the bishop of Colonia (Taxara) by age 28; ecclesiastical duties permitting, he continued to live as a monk. In his tenth year as bishop, his brother-in-law, Pazinikos, was appointed governor of Armenia, and immediately began meddling in Church affairs. Overwhelmed by secular matters he was not prepared for, he secretly fled to Jerusalem, praying for a place to hide from the world. He was accepted as a novice at Saint Sabas monastery working as a steward and construction worker. After four years at the monastery, he was being considered for ordination, and felt compelled to reveal his secret life to the Jerusalem Patriarch Elias. Elias permitted him to take a vow of silence, and wall himself into his cell for another four years.



He lived as a hermit in a hut built against a rock face in the desert wilderness for nine years; legend says he was protected from brigands by a lion that stayed nearby. Saint Sava convinced John to return to the monastery. His secret came out, and he lived many years at the monastery under the protection of Sava. Late in life he left his solitude to fight the Origenists. He was known as a miracle worker, healer, and exorcist.

Monday, Dec. 7 7 pm St. Margaret Mary Ushers—Dan Hoffman, Roger Jensen Lector—Jackie Eberle	Tuesday, Dec. 8 Sacred Heart 8 am Ushers—Dale Pfeiffer, Daryl Ferris Lector—Darlene Cipcich	Tuesday, Dec. 8 7 pm St. James Greeter—Rita Thiesen Rosary Leader—The Peerboltes Lector—Andy Hansen
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