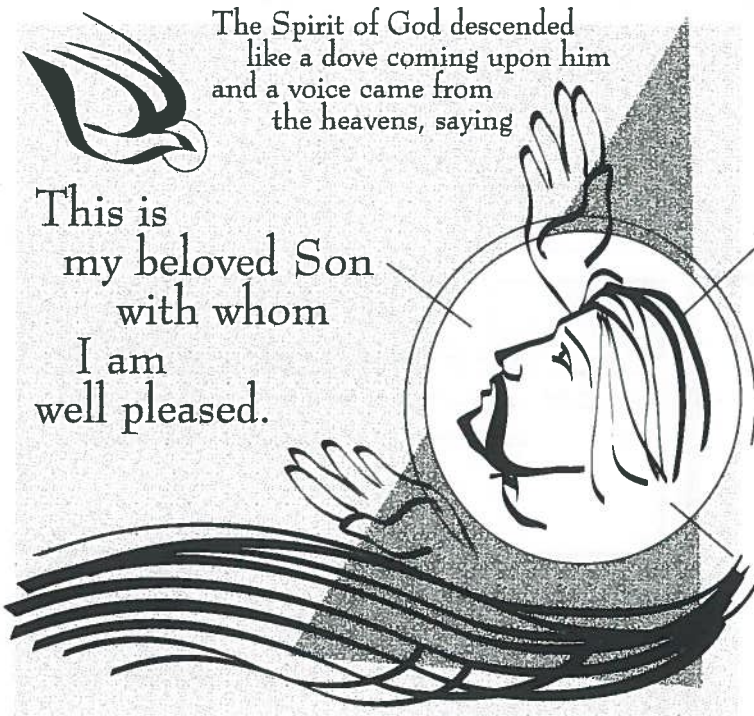


The Roman Catholic Parishes of
St. Margaret Mary, Herscher
St. James the Apostle, Irwin
Sacred Heart, Goodrich

The Baptism of the Lord

January 9-10, 2021



©Religious Graphics, Ltd

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, January 11 (SMM)

8:00 am +Jim Gray (Pat Gray)

Tuesday, January 12 (SH)

8:00 am +Margaret Donahue (Terri/Jerry Weakley)

Wednesday, January 13 (SJ)

8:00 am Rita Thiesen Special Intention (Pam Cuchiara)

Friday, January 15 (SMM)

8:00 am +Theresa & Oliver Fritz Family & Friends

Saturday, January 16 (SMM)

5:00 pm +Theresa Gualandi (Jackie Eberle)
 +Aldine O'Brien (Dennis & Sue O'Connor)

Sunday, January 17

7:30 am +Cecelia Monk (Shirley St. Germaine)
 +Sondra Hertz (Tim Buckley) (SH)

9:00 am +Michael LaGesse (Pat Perreault)
 +Alex Denault (SJ)

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

A Stewardship Moment Weekend of Jan. 9-10, 2021

On this first weekend after the Feast of the Epiphany, the Gospel reading reminds us of Jesus' baptism. It gives meaning to our own baptism into Christ Jesus. Jesus' baptism is a reminder that he is not only our Lord but also our brother. He was baptized, just as we are. He shares in our humanity. Good stewards recognize that their baptisms call them to conform their daily lives to Jesus' teachings, and to live their lives as Jesus did. Through their baptism, they have been given the necessary gifts to share with others the new creation that Christ brings. The stewardship question is whether we can recognize our own baptismal gifts, and like Jesus, use those gifts to bring the hope of Christ to the lives of others.

Confessions:

St. Margaret Mary	Sat. 4:15 pm
Sacred Heart	Sun. 7:05-7:20 am
St. James	Sun 8:35-8:50 am

We are baptized
 in the SPIRIT
 of the LORD

©Religious Graphics, Ltd

Church Mailing Address:

207 E. 5th Street

Herscher, IL 60941

Phone: 815-426-2550

Quotable: "The Lord was Baptized, not to be cleansed Himself, but to cleanse the waters, so that those waters, cleansed by the flesh of Christ which knew no sin, might have the power of Baptism.

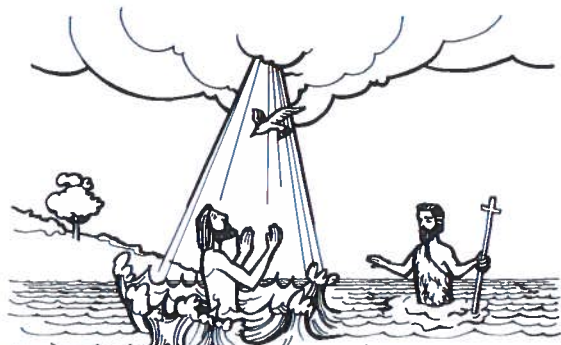
-St. Ambrose of Milan

2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time — January 16-17, 2021

Liturgical Schedule	St. Margaret Mary Saturday, Jan. 16 5:00 pm	Sacred Heart Sunday, Jan. 17 7:30 am	St. James Sunday, Jan. 17 9:00 am	St. Margaret Mary Sunday, Jan. 17 10:30 am
Celebrant	Fr. Ron	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron	Fr. Ron	Fr. Ron
Ushers	Dan Hoffman Gery Wright	James Mallaney Kyle Ferris	The committee will take care of ushering duties Greeter— Dallas Ferris R.Leader—Joyce Ferris	Larry Wolles Jeremy Wolles
Lector	Rob Landeck	Darlene Cipcich	Dave Ladehoff	Julie Spllear

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



"ON COMING OUT OF THE WATER HE SAW THE HEAVENS..." MK. 1: 10

A Look Ahead

Jan. 23-24—2nd collection for Africa and Latin America
Mon., Jan. 25—Knights of Columbus meeting 7pm at SJ

If you have not done so, please pick up your church envelopes in the back of each church. If you are attending one of our other churches, let us know and we will get the envelopes to you.

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 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)

Collections Week of Dec. 26-27

St. Margaret Mary—\$1,690

Holy Day - \$230

St. James—\$1,720

Holy Day—\$240

Sacred Heart—\$509

Holy Day— \$450

Thank you for your generosity



There will be a Knights of Columbus meeting on Monday, January 25 at St. James at 7 pm.

Apostolic Penitentiary Grants a Plenary Indulgence in Honor of the Anniversary of St. Andrew Kim
From the Desk of the Vicar General

Greetings to all:

The Catholic Church in Korea is celebrating the 200th anniversary of the birth of St. Andrew Kim Tae-gon, the first Korean Priest and Patron Saint of Korean Priests. This Jubilee celebration runs from November 29, 2020 through November 27, 2021, concurrent with the entire Church year.

They have received from the Apostolic Penitentiary a Plenary Indulgence for all the faithful who take part in devotions with general and special conditions, which entails a visitation to a sanctuary or shrine in honor of St. Andrew Kim, as listed by the Bishops of Korea.

One of the included sites is the Church of St. Andrew Kim in Itasca, Illinois, in the Diocese of Joliet. It would behoove the faithful of the area to seek spiritual nourishment at this shrine and obtain the Plenary Indulgence attached to this devotion during this Church Year.

Thank you, and once again, Merry Christmas,
Very Reverend Richard Smith
Vicar General, Diocese of Joliet

*The Spirit
of God
came upon him*



Religious Graphics, Ltd.

A Stewardship Prayer for the New Year

Lord of new life,

*Thank you for the gift of a new year.
You have entrusted us with the coming day,
weeks and months as stewards of your divine plan;
to live in gratitude, joy, and an ever growing
confidence in your kingdom to come.*

*We ask for the humility to reform our lives;
the courage to commit ourselves to you
no matter the cost;
and the wisdom to shine the light of faith on others.*

*Open our hearts, give us your Spirit
and show us how to share your love so that
we may bring hope to a world in need
of your justice and peace.*

*We pray to be a sign of your grace in this new year
through your son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and
ever.*

Amen

Parish News:

Sacred Heart-

- ◆ Sacred Heart church wishes to thank all those who helped in any way with decorating for Christmas, whether it was decorating the altars, Christmas trees, windows or mangers inside or out. We could not do it without you.
- ◆ Rectory Update— We are in the process of reassembling the rectory at Sacred Heart. Currently it is inhabitable, but it has passed inspection by the county. As it looks now, we are in need of some "gently" used furniture. I think we could use couches, chairs, end table, and lamps for two sitting rooms on the second floor and the living room on the first floor. If you have furniture that you would like to get rid of please call the office and we will see if we can use it.—Thanks, Fr.
- ◆ It has been brought to my attention that for the past month (yikes) Sacred Heart has been covered up on the front cover of the bulletin by my rearranging boxes of text. Please shoot me an email if you notice such a glaring error. I don't need to hear about every little one, but that was a biggie! My apologies—DJ



We'll come to you

a virtual marriage encounter



restore
communication
rekindle
romance
renew
commitment

2021 February 4, 11, 18,
25, March 4, 11, 18, 25
at 7PM

For more information
call 630-577-0778 or to
apply go to
[www.wmwc-
Chicagoland.org](http://www.wmwc-chicagoland.org)





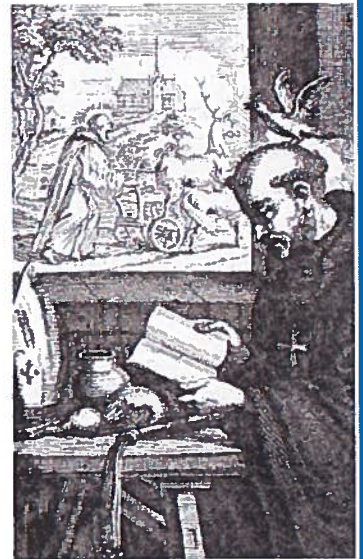
Saint of the week: St. Hillary (Jan. 13) was born to a wealthy polytheistic pagan nobility. Hillary's early life was uneventful as he married, had children (including Saint Abra), and studied on his own. Through his studies he came to believe in salvation through good works, then monotheism. As he studied the Bible for the first time, he literally read himself into the faith, and was converted by the end of the New Testament.



Hilary lived the faith so well he was made bishop of Poitiers, France from 353 to 368. Hilary opposed the emperor's attempt to run Church matters and was exiled; he used the time to write works explaining the faith. His teaching and writings converted many, including Saint Florence of Poitiers, and to reduce his notoriety he was returned to the small town of Poitiers where his enemies hoped he would fade into obscurity. His writings continued to convert pagans.

He introduced Eastern theology to the Western Church, fought Arianism with the help of Saint Viventius, and was proclaimed a Doctor of the Church in 1851.

Obscure saint of the week: St. Kentigern (Jan. 13) was the son of St. Thenevea and the grandson of the British prince Lothus. He was a hermit, monk and a missionary to Scotland, beginning at Cathures. He became the Bishop of the Strathclyde Britons in the area of modern Glasgow in 540. He taught and led there for 13 years, living in great austerity. Kentigern was exiled in 553 during an anti-Christian uprising by local pagans, he fled to Menevia, Wales, where he stayed with Saint David of Wales. He founded a monastery at Llanelwy, and served as its first abbot. He returned to Scotland in 573, evangelizing the areas of Galloway and Cumberland. He returned to Glasgow in 581 and led his people there for his remaining 22 years. Known as the Apostle to northwest England and southwest Scotland.



Glasgow's Coat of Arms includes a bird, a fish, a bell and a tree, the symbols of Kentigern.

The Bird commemorates the pet robin owned by Saint Serf, which was accidentally killed by monks who blamed it on Saint Kentigern. Saint Kentigern took the bird in his hands and prayed over it, restoring it to life.

The Fish was one caught by Saint Kentigern in the Clyde River. When it was slit open, a ring belonging to the Queen of Cadzow was miraculously found inside it. The Queen was suspected of intrigue by her husband, and that she had left with his ring. She has asked Saint Kentigern for help, and he found and restored the ring in this way to clear her name.

The Bell may have been given to Saint Kentigern by the Pope. The original bell, which was tolled at funerals, no longer exists and was replaced by the magistrates of Glasgow in 1641. The bell of 1641 is preserved in the People's Palace.

The Tree is symbol of an incident in Saint Kentigern's childhood. Left in charge of the holy fire in Saint Serf's monastery, he fell asleep and the fire went out. However he broke off some frozen branches from a hazel tree

Shining the Light of Christ through the 2021 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal

It is time for the 2021 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA). Your gift is especially important this year, during the pandemic, as our diocese continues to explore new and innovative ways to serve those in need.

The 2021 theme is *Shining the Light of Christ*. The 30 ministries the CMAA supports allow parishes to join together to shine Christ's light to the benefit of many, from the poor and vulnerable to seminarians and schoolchildren. No parish could provide all of these ministries on its own.

70 percent of any amount we raise over our goal will be returned to us. This is a great opportunity for our parish! Please review the materials you receive in the mail from the Diocese of Joliet and prayerfully reflect on your gift to this year's annual appeal.

Daily Readings:

Jan. 11th. Nothing ordinary about the reign of God

Today is the first weekday of Ordinary Time—that period in the church’s liturgical year after the close of the Christmas season that stretches until Ash Wednesday (and then picks up after Pentecost until Advent begins again). This time after the holidays can indeed seem “ordinary,” when all the commotion dies down and all the decorations are put away. Some people, especially those who live with long, cold winters, might even feel a little blue. But while sacred seasons are important, getting down to business is too. After all, there’s a reign of God to help build. Think about everything Jesus did between the bookends of his life that we celebrate—and roll up your sleeves for some extraordinary work.

Today's readings:

Hebrews 1:1-6; Mark 1:14-20 (305).

“Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.”

Jan. 12th. The power of a name

The Holy Name of Jesus is a devotion that was championed by Saint Bernardino of Siena in the 1400s—with the Holy Name Society dating to the 1200s. As a feast day, it’s been celebrated during the first week of January by various Christian denominations and by Catholic religious orders, most notably the Jesuits, who use a monogram of the name (IHS) as their emblem. For Catholics, the entire month of January is dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus. Pray the Litany of the Holy Name of Jesus today, recalling how even the unclean spirits of Jesus’ day recognized his name.

Today's readings:

Hebrews 2:5-12; Mark 1:21-28 (306).

“What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth?”

OPTIONAL MEMORIAL OF HILARY, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Jan. 13th. Be gracious in your disagreements

Catholics of the 21st century profess the belief that Jesus is both human and divine every time we recite the Nicene Creed at Mass. However, that profession of faith was challenged mightily in the fourth century when followers of Arius argued that Jesus was a great man—but not God. The conflict involved bishops and emperors on both sides and it went on for years. Hilary of Poitiers converted to Christianity at the age of 35 and was elected a bishop three years later. Hilary was a friendly and courteous man who persistently championed belief in Jesus’ divinity. Even exile did not silence his voice. In our own times of conflict and division, Saint Hilary, guide us to God’s grace.

Today's readings:

Hebrews 2:14-18; Mark 1:29-39 (307).

“For this purpose have I come.”

Jan. 14th. Reach out and touch an outcast

Jesus heals a leper in today's gospel. Leprosy is relatively rare now in most regions of the world, so it's hard to understand the fear and revulsion that people with this disease triggered at one time. Even someone as close to God as Saint Francis struggled to be comfortable with touching a leper. Every age has its outcasts, and the Christian challenge has always been to learn to accept those others find unacceptable, love those others find unlovable. Prisoners, poor people, those with dark skin or foreign accents, the homeless—the list of modern lepers is long. Who do you avoid? Acknowledging your aversion is a step toward acceptance.

Today's readings:

Hebrews 3:7-14; Mark 1:40-45 (308).

"He . . . touched the leper, and said to him, 'I do will it. Be made clean.' "

Jan. 15th. Color blind no more

Today in Guatemala, a major religious procession honors an image of Christ on the cross carved from dark wood and renowned throughout the region as the "Black Christ of Esquipulas." The statue was commissioned by Spanish colonial leaders looking to convert the indigenous people who worshipped a dark-skinned deity. Today the image affirms the fact that in Latin America there has been a certain "fluidity between races through inter-marriage and more blending of cultures and religions when compared to the experience of Native Americans and African Americans," as El Paso Bishop Mark J. Seitz wrote in a remarkable pastoral letter on the history of racism, *Night Will Be No More*. Today would be a good day to dip into this document for insights into the history and persistence of racism, regionwide. May the Black Christ be a symbol of hope!

Today's readings:

Hebrews 4:1-5, 11; Mark 2:1-12 (309).

"They were all astounded and glorified God, saying, 'We have never seen anything like this.' "

Jan. 16th. Be present to the Presence

The great paradox of God's kingdom is often expressed in the teachings of Jesus: The blind see, the lame walk, the deaf hear, the last are first, the dead live. The first and most profound paradox is that the Virgin conceives. Our Blessed Mother experienced the coming Kingdom in her own body. She shares that experience with us in our communion with the Lord. We carry the Real Presence of the Savior in our own bodies. The ongoing paradox is that the Lord calls us, who are sinners, to be the vessels of his presence in the world. Express that presence today by lifting up the lowly.

Today's readings:

Hebrews 4:12-16; Mark 2:13-17 (310).

"I did not come to call the righteous but sinners."