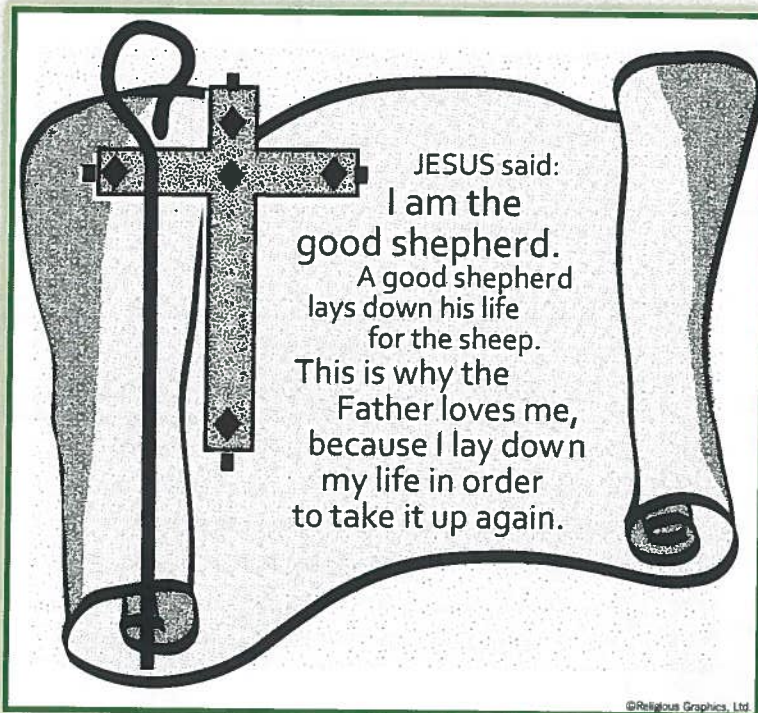


**The Roman Catholic Parishes of
St. Margaret Mary, Herscher
St. James the Apostle, Irwin
Sacred Heart, Goodrich**

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 24-25, 2021



Mass Intentions for the Week

- Monday, April 26 (SMM)**
8:00 am +Louise, Charlotte, & Madeline
Hildebrand (Mariann Lane)
- Tuesday, April 27 (SH)**
8:00 am +Don St. Germaine, Sr. (Rhonda/Joe
Berns)
- Wednesday, April 28 (SJ)**
8:00 am + Joan Scanlon (John/Sheila Boyle)
- Friday, April 30 (SMM)**
8:00 am +Dick Fitch
+Joan Scanlon (Scott Frerichs)
- Saturday, May 1 (SMM)**
5:00 pm +Madonna Hoffman (Steve/Donna Jacob)
+Margaret Halpin (Halpin/Hoffman
Families)
- Sunday, May 2**
7:30 am +Zeb Pfeiffer (The Family)
+Bernadette Denault (Joe/Rhonda
Berns (SH))
9:00 am +Lorraine Brennan (Jeff/Lorann Bruer)
+Geri Tobenski (Marion Sanders) (SJ)
10:30am For All the Parish Family (SMM)

**A STEWARDSHIP MOMENT
WEEKEND OF APRIL 24-25, 2021**

In today's Gospel reading we hear Jesus referring to himself as "the good shepherd." His sheep know him, trust him, listen to him and follow him; having faith that no harm will come to them as long as they stay close to him. We reaffirmed our faith in Christ when we renewed our baptismal promises at Easter. As stewards of our relationship with Jesus Christ, are we, like the sheep, willing to listen to Jesus, follow him, trust him?

Confessions:

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

Anointing of the Sick

If you would like to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick please call the office and arrange for a day/time. In the event of an emergency contact the office first (426-2550) and call the rectory as well (426-2153). If no one answers please leave a message at both numbers and someone will get back to you as soon as possible.

Church Mailing Address: 207 E. 5th Street Herscher, IL 60941 Phone: 815-426-2550

Quotable: "Never be afraid to sit awhile and think."

- Lorraine Hansbury

Fifth Sunday of Easter—May 1-2, 2021

Liturgical Schedule	St. Margaret Mary Saturday, May 1 5:00 pm Easter Vigil Mass	Sacred Heart Sunday, May 2 7:30 am	St. James Sunday, May 2 9:00 am	St. Margaret Mary Sunday, May 2 10:30 am
Celebrant	Fr. Ron	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron	Fr. Ron	Fr. Ron
Ushers	Dave Emling Roger Jensen	James Mallaney Dennis Pankey	The committee will take care of ushering duties Greeter— Karen Miller R.Leader—Rita Thiesen	Marco Smolkovich Joe Smolkovich Nick Zerebny
Lector	Rob Landeck	Terri Weakley	Dave Ladehoff	Corinn Wheeler



Food Collection

The next Knights of Columbus Food for Families collection will be on May 1-2 at all three parishes.

A Look Ahead

- Sun., April 25**—Last Day of Religious Ed at SMM
- Mon., April 26**—Knights of Columbus at SJ 7 pm
- May 1-2**— K of C Food for Families collection
- Friday, May 7**—1st Friday Adoration at Sacred Heart
- Sat., May 8**—First Communion at SJ 10 am
- Wed., May 12**—Knights of Columbus Blood Drive

Support the Catholic Home Missions Appeal today!
Over 40% of dioceses United States and its territories are considered mission territories, because they are unable to fund essential pastoral activities needed in their communities. Your support funds religious education, seminary formation, lay ministry training, and other programs that build vibrant faith communities right here in the United States. Please be generous. More information can be found at www.usccb.org/home-missions.



Current Status for CMAA

Parish	Goal	Pledged	Paid
St. MM	\$10,500	\$10,210	\$9,500
St. James	\$7,400	\$5,990	\$5,990
Sacred Heart	\$5,700	\$6,620	\$4,050

Pastor— Fr. Ron Neitzke- 815-426-2550
Deacon – Ron Gagnon—rjgckg@gmail.com
Home—815-933-4077
Parish Email – smm_sja_sh@yahoo.com
TriParish web page – www.triparishcatholics.org
Like us on Facebook [triparishcatholic communities](https://www.facebook.com/triparishcatholiccommunities)
Tri Parish Church office –Barb Riker 426-2550
Julie Bisailon 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 March April 17-18

St. Margaret Mary—\$1,808

St. James—\$1,688

Sacred Heart—\$1,189

Thank you for your generosity



Please pray for the repose of the soul of

+Noreen Saathoff

May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in eternal peace.

Our sincere sympathy to Noreen's, children, entire family, and friends.



Give blood, save a life.
We know you've got it in you!

BLOOD DRIVE

Knights of Columbus Blood Drive
Wednesday, May 12 3:00—7:00 pm
at St. James Parish Hall

Along with helping save lives, there are a number of reasons why donating blood is important.

1. A single donation can save three lives. One blood donation provides different blood components that can help up to three different people.
2. Blood cannot be manufactured. Despite medical and technological advances, blood cannot be made, so donations are the only way we can give blood to those who need it.
3. Blood is needed every two seconds. Nearly 21 million blood components are transfused in the U.S. every year.
4. Only 37 percent of the country's population is able to donate blood.

Fightin' Irish 5K Ken Klipp Classic: Save the Date! Join us for the 2021 Fightin' Irish 5K Ken Klipp Classic on Monday, May 31st (Memorial Day)! Whether you're an avid runner, a new runner, or walker, we would love to see you at this fun school event. Sponsorship opportunities and virtual options are available! Questions, reach out to the chairpersons, Haven and Anna Provost at FightinIrish5K@bmcass.org, see the Tuesday Folder insert, or visit our website at bishopmac.com/5K for full event details

Parish News:

Sacred Heart-

- * Darlene Cipcich has been chosen by Sacred Heart C.C.W. as their "Woman of the Year." Darlene has been very active in the church and community for years. She was honored at the 43rd Annual Woman of the Year Mass, April 24th, at St. Raymond's Cathedral. The theme of the Mass is "Women Persevering in Faith".
- * Envelopes are provided at the entrance to the church for ordering carnations for Mother's Day. The price is \$1.25 per flower. Checks may be made out to Sacred Heart Church. You may place envelopes in the collection basket. For more info call Terri at 815 933-9043. Sunday, April 25 is the final day to turn names and money in.
- * Spring Cleaning? The SH Catholic Education Fundraising Committee is having its annual garage sale July 8-11. Please drop any donations at the parish hall. Also, remember the "Pennies From Heaven" container is located in the entrance of the church. Any donations are appreciated. 100% of both fundraisers benefit the scholarship fund.

St. James-

- * We are looking for volunteers to serve on the St. James CCW executive board. If you are interested, please contact Jen Hansen.

St. Margaret Mary—

- * Thank you to all who supported the Taste of Italy through your help, donations of supplies and food, and monetary donations.



Due to the corona virus, Sacred Heart's C.C.W., has not been able to have their main fundraiser, the Spring Luncheon and Raffle for 2020 or 2021. Through the gener-

osity of some of its members, we have raffle tickets and cash prizes, that were donated in April of 2020. We will have a raffle this spring, using those tickets and cash prizes of \$300. An envelope with a letter explaining the raffle and the use of the tickets in the envelopes will be handed out at Mass. The drawing will take place May 23. Extra tickets will be available. Checks should be made out to Sacred Heart CCW and returned in the collection basket. For more information, contact Terri Weakley 815-933-9043 or Therese Phillips 815-933-6210.

Saint of the week: St. Catherine of Sienna, (April 29) was the youngest of 24 children. Her father was a wool-dyer. At the age of seven she had a vision in which Jesus appeared with Peter, Paul, and John; Jesus blessed her, and she consecrated herself to Him. Her parents began making an arranged marriage for her when she turned 12, but she refused to co-operate. She became a Dominican tertiary at age 15 and spent her time working with the poor and sick, attracting others to work with her. She received a vision in which she was in a mystical marriage with Christ, and the Infant Christ presented her with a wedding ring. Some of her visions drove her to become more involved in public life. She became a counselor to and correspondent with Pope Gregory XI and Pope Urban VI. She became a stigmatist in 1375. Catherine lived in Avignon, France in 1376, and then in Rome, Italy from 1378 until her death. She was a friend of Blessed Raymond of Capua who was also her confessor. Catherine was proclaimed Doctor of the Church on 4 October 1970.



Obscure saint of the week: St. Severus of Naples, (April 29) was the bishop of Naples, Italy from 363 to 409. He was a friend of Saint Ambrose of Milan. He built four basilicas and other churches. St. Severus was known as a miracle worker; he once brought a dead man back to life so he could clear his widow of false accusations by a creditor.



We are looking for volunteers from all three parishes to be money counters. The money counters come in on Tuesday mornings for one month at a time. It is a great way to be of service to your parish community. If interested please call the Tri-Parish office at 815-426-2550.

A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.
JN. 10:11

Sunday, Apr 25, 2021

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER; GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

Live with purpose

Collecting a paycheck may be important to make a living, but will it alone make a life? Some Catholics hear the invitation to choose a different path. They're nudged by family members, religion teachers, and homilists. They have opportunities to learn about priesthood and apostolic life, about missions and monasteries and cloisters. They'll encounter members of Third Orders and engage in service projects that put them in touch with those consecrated to spreading the Good News. On this World Day of Prayer for Vocations, let's be sure to issue the invitation—and to receive it.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 4:8-12; 1 John 3:1-2; John 10:11-18 (50).
"No one takes [my life] from me, but I lay it down on my own."

Monday, Apr 26, 2021

EASTER WEEKDAY

Nothing need limit your devotion

The life of Saint Rafael Arnáiz Barón was interrupted by illness. Having endured a pandemic, we know what that's like—we've seen lives cut short by disease and we ourselves have had to put some of our own living on hold. Rafael was born in Spain in 1911 and died at 27. He was a talented artist and studied architecture, then decided to become a Trappist. Severe complications from diabetes prevented him from taking vows as a monk. He accepted God's will, joined as an oblate instead, and died young of his illness. In him you can find an example of surrender, trust, and devotion in the face of loss and disappointment that makes him a model for our times a century later.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 11:1-18; John 10:1-10 (279). "Whoever enters through me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture."

Tuesday, Apr 27, 2021

EASTER WEEKDAY

Plant the seeds of belief

The Syrian city of Antioch played a pivotal role in the growth of the early church. A cross-cultural safe haven, it was here that many of Jesus' first followers—all of them Jewish—took refuge after Stephen was martyred, fleeing Jerusalem as they too became targets. Antioch was a cosmopolitan hothouse, its Jews enjoying friendly interactions with the city's many Gentiles. Once new Jews arrived, bearing witness to Jesus, local Gentiles couldn't help but be intrigued. Soon, the fledgling church of Antioch began evangelizing Gentiles intentionally, planting the seed of belief in unexpected places. Where might you plant such seeds?

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 11:19-26; John 10:22-30 (280). "It was in Antioch that the disciples were first called Christians."

Wednesday, Apr 28, 2021

MEMORIAL OF PETER CHANEL, PRIEST, RELIGIOUS, MISSIONARY, MARTYR

Let your life bring light to others

There is good reason that Peter Chanel (1803-41) is the patron saint of Oceania. A parish priest from France who later joined the Marist missionaries, Peter was missioned to Western Oceania to convert people who worshipped other gods. Peter's missionary method was low key: He learned the language of the people and cared for their sick. For a few years, all was fine until small groups of native people began to be baptized, in particular, the son and daughter of the island king. Peter was then considered a threat to

the island's power elite. On this day in 1841 he was murdered. That is not the end of Peter's story, however. Within two years of his death, the entire island had become Catholic. How do you bring the light of faith to people around you?

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 12:24—13:5a; John 12:44-50 (281). "I came into the world as light, so that everyone who believes in me might not remain in darkness."

Thursday, Apr 29, 2021

MEMORIAL OF CATHERINE OF SIENA, VIRGIN, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Not how long a life is, but how good

Saint Catherine of Siena led a remarkable life for a person of any era but particularly for a woman of the 14th century who only lived 33 years. Mystic, nurse, Dominican, counselor, arbitrator, writer, ambassador—she was all these things. Ordinary people came to her for spiritual council and advice in conflicts, leading her to eventually settle fierce church disputes, becoming a confidante of popes. Central to her strength was her union with Christ, which she wrote about in the classic, *The Dialogue*. Find a quiet moment today to—like Catherine—commune with Jesus, who offers wisdom and strength to all.

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 13:13-25; John 13:16-20 (282). "Whoever receives the one I send receives me, and whoever receives me receives the one who sent me."

Friday, Apr 30, 2021

EASTER WEEKDAY

Try a little tenderness

When God became flesh and dwelt among us, a revolution was started. Not a military coup that some people expected, but a revolution that would strike deep at the heart. This "revolution of tenderness," as Pope Francis called it in *Evangelii Gaudium*, urges each and every one of us to give of ourselves, to be part of community, to serve, and to be reconciled in our relationships with others. In what ways can you respond to Jesus' call to a revolution of tenderness?

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 13:26-33; John 14:1-6 (283). "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me."

Saturday, May 01, 2021

MEMORIAL OF JOSEPH THE WORKER

Wanting for a job

Today's memorial honors Saint Joseph the carpenter, standing in solidarity with all working people on the traditional "May Day" dedicated to laborers around the world. At this time last year, more than 30 million Americans had lost their jobs due to the pandemic, the largest unemployment crisis in the country's history. Many of those jobs have not returned and likely are gone forever. What can you and your faith community do to support those whose livelihoods were lost to the virus?

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 1:26—2:3 or Colossians 3:14-15, 17, 23-24; Matthew 13:54-58 (559); Acts 13:44-52; John 14:7-14 (284).
"If you ask anything of me in my name, I will do it."

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time



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Blessed Margaret Part 12

Word spread quickly that Margaret was expelled from the convent. Margaret's friends Maria and Antonina went in search of Margaret, they found her in her favorite church, the Chiesa della Carita (the church of charity). She was on her knees praying. Margaret did not blame the nuns for her expulsion. She just thought she was not good enough to be a nun. Antonina invited Margaret to live with her but now Margaret would undergo another type of suffering. Eventually Margaret's story circulated among the town's residents and they began to see her for who she was, a person of faith and courage. Some of the people, however, preferred to believe the negative and say she was not a saint.

The children listened to the stories about Margaret told by the elders and they began to harass her. She could not appear in public without the local children calling her names. Despite her suffering Margaret reaffirmed her faith in God. During this very low period in her life she met the Mantellate. Her favorite church was the official church of a society known as the Fraternity of Charity. They were in charge of the Dominican friars. Margaret became familiar with its members through her attendance at daily mass. Mantellate was an organization of women who belonged to the Order of Penance of St. Dominic. While not official members of the Dominican order these women led a religious life and wore the Dominican habit. The issue at hand was that membership in this group was restricted to widows. Margaret's friends were persistent and questioned why she could not join. Eventually the prior of the order let Margaret join the Order of Penance of St. Dominic. After taking a looking into Margaret's life she was also invited to join the Mantellate's. A ceremony was held at Chiesa della Carita receiving her into the order.



Did you know some saints, venerables, and blesseds **physically experienced** Jesus's wounds?

The word *stigmata* comes from the Greek word for physical punctures and wounds. Certain saints experienced the Stigmata, a phenomenon when Jesus's wounds are miraculously placed on a person's body.

Holy men and women who had the Stigmata were united with Christ's Passion in a way no one else was because they could truly feel the pain and anguish our Lord felt at His death.

St. Francis of Assisi was the first saint known to receive the Stigmata. However, some believe that St. Paul also received the Stigmata, since he writes in Galatians 6:17, "*From now on, let no one make troubles for me; for I bear the marks of Jesus on my body.*"

More recently, St. Padre Pio is also believed to have received the Stigmata. In 1921, Padre Pio told an Italian bishop, later cardinal, Raffael Rossi that in 1918, Pio was in the choir area of his church after Mass when he saw a vision of the crucified Christ. Our Lord then invited Padre Pio to join Him in His Passion. Padre Pio looked down to see wounds on his hands and feet.

Other saints that are believed to have had the Stigmata include St. Catherine of Siena, St. Rita of Cascia, and St. Mariam Baouardy.

Learn more about St. Padre Pio's Stigmata in the book [Padre Pio: The True Story](#).

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