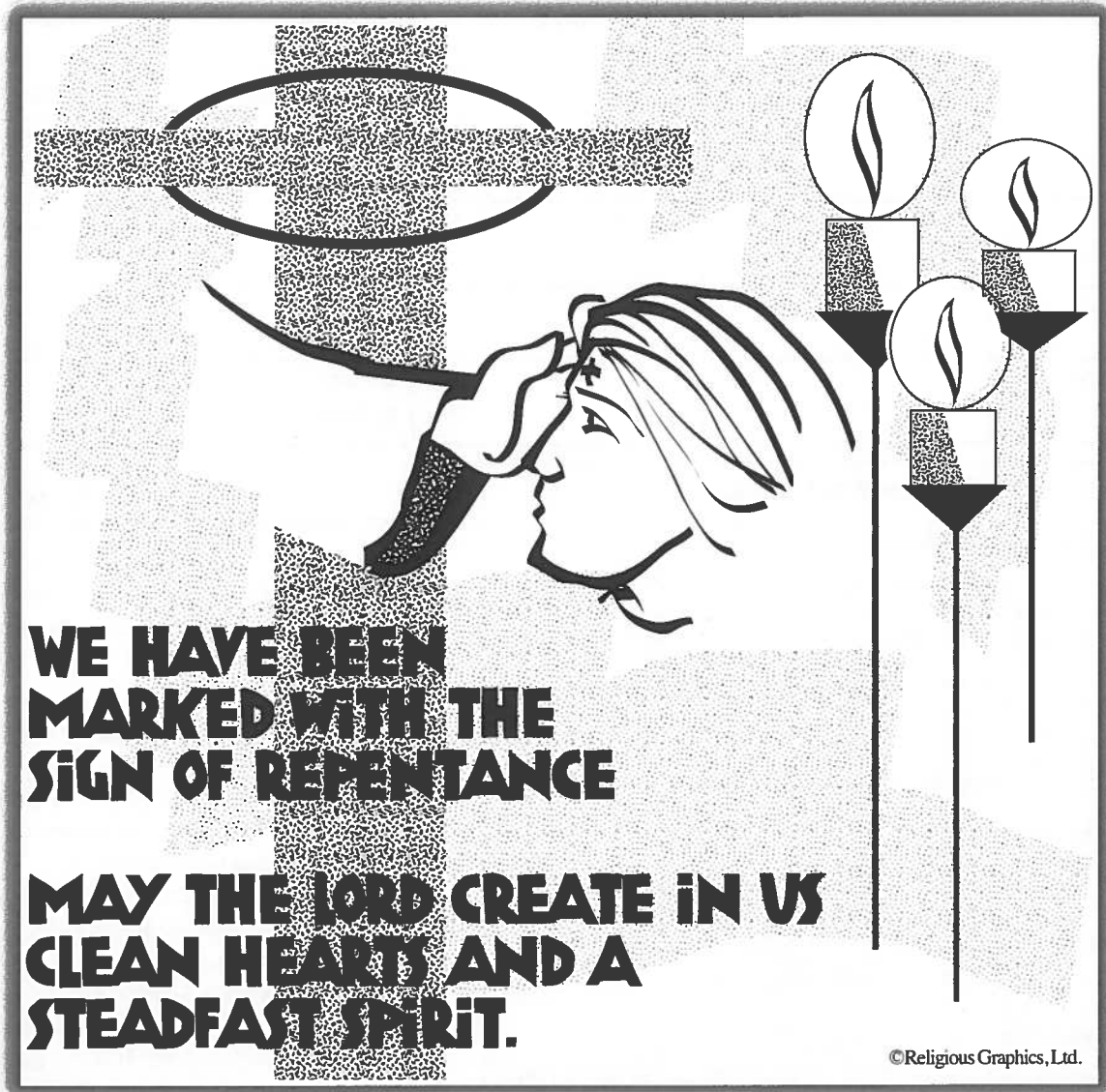


**The Roman Catholic Parishes of
St. Margaret Mary, Herscher
St. James the Apostle, Irwin
Sacred Heart, Goodrich**

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

FEBRUARY 25-26, 2023



**WE HAVE BEEN
MARKED WITH THE
SIGN OF REPENTANCE**

**MAY THE LORD CREATE IN US
CLEAN HEARTS AND A
STEADFAST SPIRIT.**

©Religious Graphics, Ltd.

Weekend Masses:

St. Margaret Mary	Sat. 5:00 pm	Sun. 10:30 am
Sacred Heart	Sun. 7:30 am	
St. James	Sun. 9:00 am	

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: “ Adam was but human—this explains it all. He did not want the apple for the apple’s sake, he wanted it only because it was forbidden.

~Mark Twain

Second Sunday of Lent

March 4-5, 2023

Liturgical Schedule	St. Margaret Mary Saturday, March 4 5:00 pm	Sacred Heart Sunday, March 5 7:30 am	St. James Sunday, March 5 9:00 am	St. Margaret Mary Sunday, March 5 10:30 am
Celebrant	Fr. Ron	Fr. Ron	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron	Fr. Ron
Ushers	Bob Schultz Dave Emling Todd Datweiler Gery Wright	Dennis Pankey Dale Pfeiffer	Jeff Martin Dallas Ferris Dave Ladehoff Dan Forsythe	Brent Fulton Erik Wheeler Corinn Wheeler Darren Lovell
Lector	Bobbi Buza	Terri Weakley	Andy Hansen	Julie Splear
Servers				Caroline Fulton Charlotte Fulton
Greeters			Greeter— Karen Miller R. Leader— Joyce Ferris	Stacy Powers

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, February 27 (SMM)

8:00 am +Michael McClain (Pat Gray)

Tuesday, February 28 (SH)

8:00 am +Michael Soucie (Jerry/Terri Weakley)

Wednesday, March 1

8:00 am SJ +Ivan Denault (His Family)

Friday, March 3 (SMM)

8:00 am +Carson Cross (Jackie Cross)

Saturday, March 4

5:00 pm +James Jepsen (Pat Gray)

Sunday, March 5

7:30 am (SH) +Verna Emling (Dan Hoffman & Mary Lou Murphy)

9:00 am (SJ) +Ambrose Perreault (Bruce/Cathy Jensen)

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

A Look Ahead

Friday, March 3—First Friday Adoration at SH

Friday, March 3—Stations of the Cross at SH 3:00

March 4-5—Knights of Columbus Family Food Drive

March 6,7,8—Parish Mission

Questions of the week:

When does my self-centeredness lead me to give into temptation? How can my Christian concern for others help me resist that temptation?

Pastor— Fr. Ron Neitzke- 815-426-2550

Deacon – Ron Gagnon— rjgckg@aol.com
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

Bulletin – Debbie Jensen - 426-2550

debjen04@gmail.com

Religious Education –

St. MM – Jill Fulton jfulton.stmm@gmail.com

St. James – Carolyn Levyclevystjames@gmail.com

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)



The next Knights of Columbus next Food for Families collection is March 4-5 at all three parishes. This is a great way to give to help those in need.

“For I was hungry and you gave me food...
”Matthew 25:35

Collections Week of February 19-20, 2023

St. Margaret Mary—\$1,637 Eastern Europe—\$245
 St. James—\$1,264 Eastern Europe— \$95
 Sacred Heart—\$945 Eastern Europe—\$227

Thank you for your generosity!

Gospel Shorts—When Temptation Comes

Part of our human dilemma has to do with the temptations that come to us. They are luring and magnetic in their attractions to us. Yet to submit to them is to court disaster. So how are we to deal with them?

Our Lord shows us the way. When he was tempted in the wilderness, he kept spurning temptation by seeking first loyalty to God. Remember his rejection of the tempter? Jesus said, "Begone Satan! It is written, 'you shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.'"

Do you recall the result of his rejecting temptation? The Gospel tells us that "the devil left him and behold angels came and ministered to him."

The important point to remember is that God does not forsake those who do not forsake him. Instead, God blesses abundantly those who are faithful.

A Stewardship Moment First Sunday of Lent Weekend of February 25-26, 2023

In today's Gospel reading we listen to the confrontation between Jesus and the devil, who thought he might tempt Jesus to forget who he was and commit a grievous sin when he was most vulnerable. Jesus had just spent 40 days and nights out in the desert, alone, away from civilization. He was hungry, thirsty, and tired. If there ever was a time to tempt Jesus, that was it. Temptations to sin come at us every day, from many directions and in many different forms. When the temptation to sin tries to overcome us, how do we react? Do we consciously remind ourselves that we are followers of Christ? Is there a time this week when you have needed to confront a temptation to sin? What lessons did you take away from the experience?



St. Margaret Mary's Men's Club Annual Fish Fry will be held on Friday, Feb. 24 at the Herscher Legion Hall from 4:30—7:00pm

Adults—\$9 Children 5-12—\$7 4 and under free
 Family discount special 2 adults, 2 or more kids \$30
 Raffle, 50/50, and other prizes
 3 Grand Prizes of \$150

Parish News:

St. Margaret Mary—

- ◆ Our Night in Italy has had a date change. It will now be held on Thursday, March 16 from 5:00—7:00 pm. Please sign up on the sheets in the back of the church to help out.
- ◆ Ladies, It is time to nominate a deserving lady from our parish for Woman of the Year! Ballots will be in the back of the church for the first two weekends of March

St. James—

- ◆ St. James is hosting a reception after the Mission on March 8th. Please sign up to bring a snack on the bulletin board in the back

Sacred Heart—

- ◆ For the week of February 26th, the Blessed Virgin Mary candle burns in prayer for all the priests and deacons in our diocese.
- ◆ Our CCW will be selling "Split the Pot" tickets from this weekend until our parish breakfast on May 21 when the drawing will take place.
- ◆ Our CCW Spring Luncheon will be on Thursday, April 13 at 11:30 am this year. There will be progressive Bunco and card games. The day will include basket raffles, door prizes, and other raffles. Everyone is welcome to come share the day with us.

All Parishes:

- Adult Education Classes at St. Margaret Mary in February. The last class this month is Tuesday, February 28.
- Call or email the parish office to request your statement of donations to the parish for 2022.

Reflection Lent is About Baptism

Lent is first, last and foremost about baptism. Baptism is about going down with Christ unto death and being raised up with him to glory. This death and rising can be celebrated only after it has been experienced and lived in the daily fabric of human life. So Lent is about dying to self for the life of others. Lent is about dying to all human supports that blind us from seeing that true life is in God alone. Lent is as serious as coming to know that the deepest meanings of human life are seen in Jesus who fights every temptation to take the world by power, force or the razzle-dazzle of miracles.

**WE ARE
 ON THE ROAD
 TO EASTER**





Saint of the week: St. Gregory of Narek (Feb. 27) was the son of Bishop Khosrov Andzevatsi, and was descended from a line of scholars and churchmen. He was educated by his father and Anania Vartabed, abbot of Narek monastery. He and both his brothers became monks as young men. Gregory excelled in music, astronomy, geometry, mathematics, literature and theology. He was ordained a priest in 977 in his mid-20's. He lived most of his life in the Narek monastery, where, for his entire adult life, he taught theology in the monastic school. His writings began with a commentary on the *Song of Songs*, which was commissioned by an Armenian prince, but continued through his life with letters, poems, hymns, music, and essays. Many of his prayers are included in the Divine Liturgy celebrated each Sunday in Armenian Churches around the world, and his masterpiece is considered to be his *Book of Lamentations*, which has a theme of man's separation from God, and his quest to reunite with Him; it has been translated into at least 30 languages. He is one of the greatest figures of medieval Armenian religious thought and literature, and has been declared a Doctor of the Universal Church.



Other saint of the week: St. Anne Line (Feb. 27) was the daughter of a wealthy and ardent Calvinist. When she and her brother converted to Catholicism, they were disowned and disinherited. Anne married another convert, Roger Line, who was soon arrested for attending Mass, then exiled to Flanders, Belgium where he died in 1594.



When Father John Gerard established a house of refuge for priests in London, England, Anne was put in charge. Father Gerard was sent to the Tower of London, and then escaped in 1597. The authorities suspected Anne of hiding him, and she moved to another house, which became a rallying point for Catholics. On Candlemas Day, 1601, Father Francis Page was about to celebrate Mass there, when priest-catchers broke in. Father Page quickly unvested and mingled with the others, but the altar was all the evidence needed to arrest Anne. She was tried, convicted and hanged for harboring priests. She was martyred with Blessed Mark Barkworth, and her friend Blessed Roger Filcock. St. Anne Line was one of the *Forty Martyrs of England and Wales*.

Wales.

Questions Catholics Ask

Why isn't the Gloria sung during Lent?

Let's start with some basic rules of liturgy set down by the Second Vatican Council in its *Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy*. The aim of liturgy is to serve the need to worship God in "full, active, and conscious participation" (no.14). The rituals in the Mass should therefore bear a "noble simplicity" that is "within the people's powers of comprehension" (no.34). The unfolding of the church year with its various feasts and seasons seeks to do that by revealing "the whole mystery of Christ" from Incarnation to Pentecost in due season (no.102). The church is to be particularly directed toward feasts of the Lord that point to salvation (no.108).

In other words, a huge principle in ritual is to move up and down a sliding scale of magnificence so that it will be clear to the youngest child what's really important in the full spectrum of what the church believes. The Resurrection of Jesus is the number-one mystery Christians celebrate, so it's enhanced with three days of intense liturgy (the Triduum), a full week of solemn commemoration (Holy Week), preceded by 40 days of penitential preparation (the season of Lent)—not to forget every celebration of the Eucharist of course.



Gloria
 Glory be to God in the highest,
 and on earth peace to his people of
 good will.
 We praise you, we bless you, we adore
 you, we glorify you, we give you
 thanks for your great gifts.
 Lord God, heavenly King, O God
 of angels, glorious
 Lord Jesus Christ,
 Only Begotten Son,
 Lord God, Lamb of God,
 Son of the Father,
 you take away the sins of the world,
 have mercy on us,
 you who take away the sins of the world,
 merciful and gentle,
 you who are seated at the right hand of the
 Father, have mercy on us.
 For you alone are the Holy One,
 you alone are the Lord,
 you alone are the Most High, Jesus
 Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
 in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Along with prayer, fasting, and almsgiving to get ready for Easter, the church also fasts from saying or singing the word *Alleluia* (some traditions have even buried the *Alleluia* with great pageantry on the Sunday before Ash Wednesday and "resurrected" it again at Easter) as well as singing the *Gloria*. As one perceptive music minister put it: The church doesn't sing these great words during Lent for the same reason the church don't sing *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*—until we get there liturgically.

Just as the church refrains from the *Gloria* during Lent, it does the same during Advent, which is another great season of preparation for a greater mystery, the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas. We don't sing Christmas carols during Lent (not in church, anyway!), so we don't sing the mother-of-all-carols, the song of the angels, until then. *Gloria in Excelsis Deo* is heaven's response to the glorious birth of Jesus. If the angels can wait until that holy night to sing it, I suppose the rest of us can, too.

The *Gloria* is an exalted hymn which is not to be replaced by any other at that time in the Mass, so say the norms of the Roman Missal. It adds a "celebratory character" to the Introductory Rites that is better expressed sung than in recitation, and increased in collaboration with a full choir—reminding us of its debut performance. "To sing belongs to lovers," as Saint Augustine once said. To yearn also belongs to lovers—which is why sometimes the church saves the song until its proper hour.

Scripture

- Luke 2:14; Colossians 3:16; Ephesians 5:19; Acts of the Apostles 2:46-47

Sunday Gospel in Everyday English

Next Jesus was taken into the wild by the Spirit for the Test. The Devil was ready to give it. Jesus prepared for the Test by fasting forty days and forty nights. That left him, of course, in a state of extreme hunger, which the Devil took advantage of in the first test: "Since you are God's Son, speak the word that will turn these stones into loaves of bread."

Jesus answered by quoting Deuteronomy: "It takes more than bread to stay alive. It takes a steady stream of words from God's mouth."

For the second test the Devil took him to the Holy City. He sat him on top of the Temple and said, "Since you are God's Son, jump." The Devil goaded him by quoting Psalm 91: "He has placed you in the care of angels. They will catch you so that you won't so much as stub your toe on a stone."

Jesus countered with another citation from Deuteronomy: "Don't you dare test the Lord your God."

For the third test, the Devil took him to the peak of a huge mountain. He gestured expansively, pointing out all the earth's kingdoms, how glorious they all were. Then he said, "They're yours—lock, stock, and barrel. Just go down on your knees and worship me, and they're yours."

Jesus' refusal was curt: "Beat it, Satan!" He backed his rebuke with a third quotation from Deuteronomy: "Worship the Lord your God, and only him. Serve him with absolute single-heartedness."

The Test was over. The Devil left. And in his place, angels! Angels came and took care of Jesus' needs *(from Matthew 4)*.



St. Jude Lenten Mission:

March 6-8, 2023 7pm Nightly

Monday 3/6 – St. Margaret Mary
Parish, 7pm

410 N Main St., Herscher, IL 60941

Tuesday 3/7 – Sacred Heart Parish, 7pm
588 S. 10000W Rd., Bonfield, IL 60913

Wednesday 3/8 – St. James Parish, 7pm
4372 Main St., Kankakee 60901

St. Jude Mass, Oil Blessing & Veneration
of Relics of St. Jude on March 8

Presented by the Ministries of The
Dominican Shrine of St. Jude

For information, call (815) 426-2550



March 2023

Dear Friends,

Our diocese will take up the annual second collection for Catholic Relief Services on March 19, and it could not come at a more fortunate time.

As the arm of the Catholic Church that helps the poor and vulnerable overseas, Catholic Relief Services plays a vital role during emergencies such as the earthquakes that occurred last month in Turkey and Syria. Catholic Relief Services immediately contacted its partners in those countries to provide safe shelter for individuals and families, and access to food, clean water and hygiene supplies.

Your support of Catholic Relief Services funds organizations dedicated to aiding people affected by war and natural disasters, migrants and refugees in need of material and legal assistance, and people worldwide whose livelihoods are impacted by changing political and environmental conditions.

This is life-saving work. Thank you for your support of our neighbors overseas with your donation to the humanitarian mission of Catholic Relief Services.

Paz y bien,
Most Reverend Ronald A. Hicks
Bishop of Joliet



Blessed Bartolo Longo

Catholic Snacks, get fed

How did the rosary heal a former Satanic priest?

When despair gripped Bartolo Longo, the Blessed Mother came to his rescue.

“The priesthood of Christ is for eternity, so also, perhaps, the priesthood of Satan is for eternity. I am still consecrated to Satan, and I am still his slave and property as he awaits me in Hell.”
This is what Bartolo Longo thought as he wandered in the fields surrounding Pompeii one dark day.

He had come out to find space and fresh air, feeling stifled in the city streets. But his thoughts had not cleared—and he found himself despairing, thinking over every detail of his past sinful life again. He was only ten years old when his dear mother died, back in 1851. After that his path seemed to diverge from everything good. He went to university. There his hatred of priests and the Catholic Faith in which he’d been raised grew into an obsession.

He joined the occult...found himself among the Satanists...nay, led them as their “ordained” high priest. He promised his soul to a demon.

It wasn’t long before his body and soul began to torment him. His health shattered and he began acting like an insane man. Finally, in 1865, he turned to a Dominican priest—a priest!—for help. For three long weeks the priest met with Bartolo; finally he absolved him and Bartolo entered the Church once more.

Shouldn’t everything be alright now? But it wasn’t. He felt damned, and nothing could change that. Why not go now, and end this earthly torment?

Suddenly, Bartolo remembered a promise of the Blessed Mother: “*One who propagates my Rosary shall be saved.*” Desperate and afraid, Bartolo turned to his Mother in the Rosary. There he found healing and trust in God’s boundless mercy. He spent the rest of his life promoting this powerful Marian prayer.

The Blessed Mother had crushed the serpent in Bartolo’s past through her Rosary.

Read more about Blessed Bartolo Longo and 25 other Rosary heroes in Fr. Donald Calloway’s captivating book, *Champions of the Rosary: The History and Heroes of a Spiritual Weapon*. You’ll read about the history of this unconquerable prayer and dive into the exciting tales of some of its greatest victories. A gripping account that you won’t be able to put down this Lent! Get your copy today at The Catholic Company!



February 26, 2023

First Sunday of Lent

Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7 | Rom 5:12-19 | Mt 4:1-11

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

Superbowl Sunday was two weeks ago, and many of us were more likely interested in the commercials than the actual game. After all, companies pay a ton of money to have their products paraded in front of us, and - in theory at least - take the time to make these particular ads memorable and funny. If we can be convinced that we will be better people, or our social outings greater and filled with more laughter, we will buy what they are selling. It's the modern version of the words of the serpent in today's first reading: if you eat this, "you will be like gods"! Today's readings are a reminder that we are all sinners and burdened by being vulnerable to false promises - but also that we are relieved of this burden through one man: Jesus Christ. If we tend to forget that the most important part of our salvation story is that it is full of more grace and forgiveness than we can comprehend, this first Sunday of Lent is a good time to prayerfully ponder this. If God seems far away or distant, let us recall that he loved us so much that he breathed our very life into us, and then gave his only begotten Son to us that we might have life eternally. All he asks in return is for us to accept this gift and follow in his footsteps. Lent is the time to be mindful of grace-filled opportunities that draw us closer to God.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Let's think about these 40 days. In addition to allowing us to grow in understanding of God, this time is also an opportunity to grow in our understanding of how we can be the hands and feet of Jesus in the world and help to build the kingdom right here and now. How can we keep God at the center of our lives and resist worldly temptations to push him aside? Perhaps today's psalm can help us here: Ask for God's mercy, acknowledge our offenses, seek a "clean heart," renew a "steadfast spirit" within us, and ask God to grant us a "willing spirit" to give him praise. And remember Christ's words from the Gospel: Depend on "every word that comes forth from the mouth of God," which is love and mercy.

PRAY Pray today's psalm: "Give me back the joy of your salvation, and a willing spirit sustain in me. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise."

Sunday, Feb 26, 2023

God's messengers

Have you thought much about your guardian angel since you prayed at bedtime when you were a kid? If not, maybe it's time to catch up with the one that's been assigned to help you. The word *angelos* means "messenger" in Greek, and since angels "always behold the face" of God in heaven (Matthew 18:10), they're well-positioned to intercede for you. Appreciate the watchful care that surrounds you and protects you from spiritual and perhaps physical dangers. Their constant attention indicates how precious you are to God and how active God wishes to be in your life.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

TODAY'S READINGS: Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11 (22). *"He will command his angels concerning you and with their hands they will support you."*

Monday, Feb 27, 2023

A book for your nightstand, next to your Bible

Grigor Narekatsi, born near the turn of the first millennium, was an Armenian mystical and lyrical poet, monk, and theologian. He has the distinction of being venerated as a saint in the Armenian Apostolic and Catholic Churches and was declared a doctor of the church by Pope Francis in 2015. The prayer book of Gregory of Narek is a fixture in religious Armenian homes, second only to the Bible, and is considered a masterpiece of Christian spiritual literature. It has been translated into 30 languages, including English. Given the rave reviews, consider this writer-saint for your next read!

MEMORIAL OF GREGORY OF NAREK, ABBOT, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

TODAY'S READINGS: Leviticus 19:1-2, 11-18; Matthew 25:31-46 (224). *"Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."*

Tuesday, Feb 28, 2023

United in prayer

Pope Benedict XVI, may he rest in peace, wrote beautifully on prayer and the Our Father: "In praying our heart is opened. Not only do we enter into communion with God but actually with all the children of God, because we are one body. When we address the Father in our inner room in silence and in recollection we are never alone. Those who speak to God are not alone. We are within the great prayer of the Church, we are part of a great symphony that the Christian community in all the parts of the earth and in all epochs, raises to God." Pray the Our Father slowly and consciously today, with everyone.

LENTEN WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 55:10-11; Matthew 6:7-15 (225). *"This is how you are to pray: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name."*

Wednesday, Mar 01, 2023

Get on board for justice

Today marks the 98th death anniversary of Homer Plessy, the man who attempted to end segregation with his legendary ride on a whites-only streetcar in New Orleans in 1892. His efforts were unsuccessful, and the following seven decades of U.S. jurisprudence included segregation as a bedrock feature. Plessy, however, is much less heralded for the fact that he was a man of faith, a black Catholic whose famous ride was organized by an interracial activist group known as the Comité des Citoyens (Citizens' Committee). Their holy disobedience was one of the first Catholic-led efforts against the

developing hierarchy of racism in the formerly French and Spanish regions of the Deep South. May the courage of Plessy and his allies be of use to us today as we continue the march toward justice.

LENTEN WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Jonah 3:1-10; Luke 11:29-32 (226). *"Man and beast shall be covered with sackcloth and call loudly to God; every man shall turn from his evil way and from the violence he has in hand."*

Thursday, Mar 02, 2023

Read it and reap

Welcome to Read Across America Day, established in 1998 by the National Education Association to encourage this most central, enjoyable, and enriching of activities. Popular among teachers, students, and librarians, today can also be a day for Catholics to explore and support organizations such as the Catholic Media Association, whose members inform, inspire, and educate readers, keeping them connected to their faith, and telling the story of the church. Check a list of Catholic newspapers and magazines to find one you can support with a subscription. You in turn will be supported in your faith.

LENTEN WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Esther C:12, 14-16, 23-25; Matthew 7:7-12 (227). *"Everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened."*

Friday, Mar 03, 2023

Store up treasure in heaven

Saint Katharine Drexel was born in Philadelphia in 1858 to a wealthy family. The Drexels had a reputation for generosity, reportedly opening their home several days a week to feed and care for people in need. They also made time every day to pray together. During a trip to Europe as a young woman, Katharine was able to have an audience with Pope Leo XIII. She asked the Holy Father to send missionaries to Wyoming. He answered, "Why don't you go?" Not long after, Katharine stunned society by leaving behind her privileged life to dedicate herself to religious life. She worked to improve living conditions and educational opportunities for African Americans and Native Americans. She left a legacy far greater than her family fortune.

MEMORIAL OF KATHARINE DREXEL, RELIGIOUS FOUNDER

TODAY'S READINGS: Ezekiel 18:21-28; Matthew 5:20-26 (228). *"Go first and be reconciled with your brother, and then come and offer your gift."*

Saturday, Mar 04, 2023

Short but sweet sainthood

Lenten inspiration can come from anywhere—from scripture to Instagram, from saints to young people. While not a Bible figure or social media influencer, 15th-century Casimir of Poland happens to fit the categories of both saint and young person. Saint Casimir was a prince who was under intense pressure from his family and country to take a leading role in government and politics. But Casimir felt called to focus on prayer, study, and care for people in need. Although he had to contend with some very disappointed people, he stood firm in his decision to follow his calling. Disease cut short his life at the tender age of 25, but his example can inspire us to live out our calling and thus help fulfill his.

MEMORIAL OF CASIMIR, PRINCE

TODAY'S READINGS: Deuteronomy 26:16-19; Matthew 5:43-48 (229). *"This day the LORD, your God, commands you to observe these statutes and decrees. . . . with all your heart and with all your soul."*

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



©2023 TrueQuest Communications. TakeFiveForFaith.com; mail@takefiveforfaith.com. All rights reserved. Noncommercial reprints permitted with the following credit: Reprinted with permission from TakeFiveForFaith.com. Scripture citations from the New American Bible Revised Edition. For more information about TAKE FIVE and our regular contributors, go to PrepareTheWord.com. Free daily email and app available online at TakeFiveForFaith.com/subscribe.