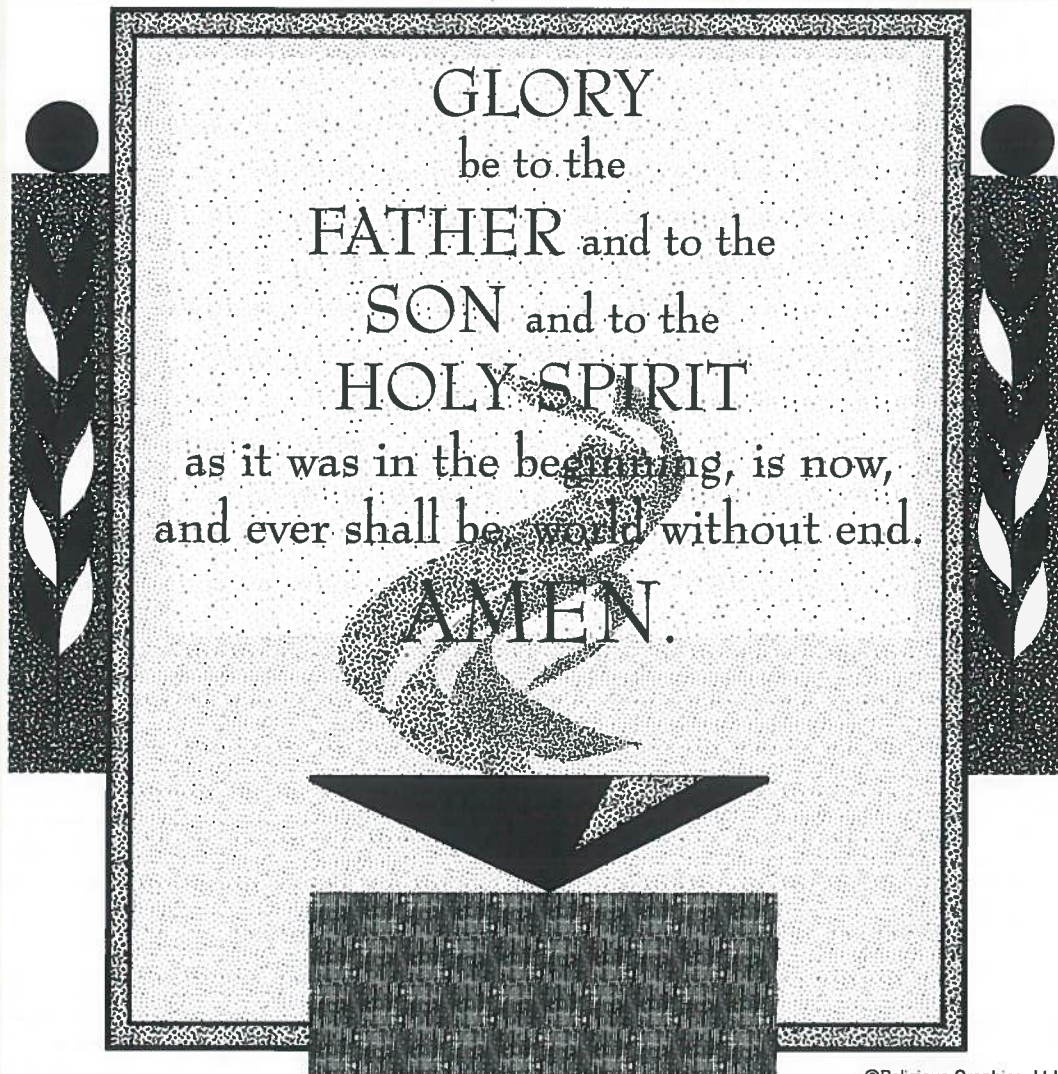


The Roman Catholic Parishes of
St. Margaret Mary, Herscher
St. James the Apostle, Irwin
Sacred Heart, Goodrich

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

JUNE 3-4, 2023



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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: "You may never know what results come of your action, but if you do nothing, there will be no result."
 ~Mahatma Ghandi

June 10-11, 2023		The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ		
Liturgical Schedule	St. Margaret Mary Saturday, June 10 5:00 pm	Sacred Heart Sunday, June 11 7:30 am	St. James Sunday, June 11 9:00 am	St. Margaret Mary Sunday, June 11 10:30 am
Celebrant	Fr. Ron	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron	Fr. Ron	Fr. Ron
Ushers	Dan Hoffman Roger Jensen Gery Wright Todd Datweiler	James Mallaney Dennis Pankey	Cathy Jensen Jeff Steinke Dallas Ferris Dan Forsythe	Corinn Wheeler Darren Lovell Larry Wolles Jeremy Wolles
Lector	Rob Landeck	Terri Weakley	Dave Ladehoff	Julie Splear
Servers				Charlotte Fulton
Greeters			Greeter— Rita Thiesen R. Leader—Reatta Gohlke	Kim Smicker Mary McDonald

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, June 5 (SMM)

8:00 am +Brian Buckley (Jackie Eberle)

Tuesday, June 6 (SH)

8:00 am +Dick Fitch (Barb/Maynard Denault)

Wednesday, June 7 (SJ)

8:00 am +Willard Larsen (Bee Papineau)

Friday, June 9 (SMM)

8:00 am +JR Matern (Bonnie Siedentop)

Saturday, June 10 (SMM)

5:00 pm +James Feller (Dave/Ellen Emling)
 +Rita Deany (Dick/Sue Cotter)

Sunday, June 11

7:30 am (SH) +Dorothy Brouillet and Linda Patterson
 (Jackie Cross)

9:00 am (SJ) +Geri Tobenski (Kathy Dumas)
 +Marjorie Nelson (Steve/Dena Coy)

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

A Look Ahead

June 17/18—2nd Collection for Retired/Infirm Priests
 Thurs., June 15—Combined Parish Council meeting 7pm
 at St. James



The next Knights of Columbus next Food for Families collection is June 3-4 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

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)

Questions of the week:

What concrete actions can I take to be a more forgiving person?
 Can I overcome my insistence that those whom I forgive be deserving of it?

Collections Week of May 27-28, 2023

St. Margaret Mary—\$1,735
St. James—\$1,519
Sacred Heart—\$786

Thank you for your generosity!



Please pray for the repose of the soul of

+Connie Denault

mother of Pete (Diane) Denault

sister of Jackie Cross

May she and all the faithful departed rest in
eternal peace.

Our sincere sympathy to her family and friends.

The Sunday Gospel in Everyday English

"This is how much God loved the world: He gave his Son, his one and only Son. And this is why: so that no one need be destroyed; by believing in him, anyone can have a whole and lasting life. God didn't go to all the trouble of sending his Son merely to point an accusing finger, telling the world how bad it was. He came to help, to put the world right again. Anyone who trusts in him is acquitted; anyone who refuses to trust him has long since been under the death sentence without knowing it. And why? Because of that person's failure to believe in the one-of-a-kind Son of God when introduced to him" (from John 3).



Welcome into the faith to
Jaxon Weidner
son of Jessica and Mark Weidner
who was baptized at St. Margaret Mary
on May 21, 2023



You are Cordially Invited!

Diocese of Joliet Grandparents Mass

at the Cathedral of St. Raymond

Celebrated by Bishop Ronald Hicks

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Date: July 23, 2023. Time: 2:00pm

Please RSVP below - QR Code or

Contact Jessica Kreiter 815-221-6192



"His mercy is From Age to Age" Luke 1:50

Parish News:

St. Margaret Mary—

St. James—

Sacred Heart—

◆ The week of June 4, the Blessed Virgin Mary candle burns in prayer for Ryan and the St. Joseph candle burns in prayer for Andy Berns.

◆ Sacred Heart Church is again going to honor fathers for Fathers' Day by placing flowers on the altars. The white represent pure love and are honoring the deceased fathers and the red are a symbol of deep love and affection and are representing living fathers. There is a basket on the table at the entrance with envelopes for the money and names. Include your name as well. Check the list from last year that is there and if there is no change, write "same as last year". Checks should be made out to Sacred Heart Church.

◆ If you have anything you would like to donate to this year's garage sale, please call Rhonda 815-545-9519 or Jamie 815-278-9520. The proceeds will benefit The American Brain Tumor Association this year. Sale is June 15-17

All Parishes—

◆ The combined Parish council meeting will be June 15th at 7pm at St. James.



◆ The rosary makers are asking for your help to buy supplies. We have made and sent 26,485 rosary's please make donations to St James CCW in a separate envelope We appreciate any help you can give so that we can continue our ministry. Thank you

◆ Thank you to the following who worked last Saturday at Sacred Heart to begin our renovation: Auggie Azzarelli, Wayne Bisailon, Dave Emling, Fran Feller, Tom Henry, Mike Hertz, and Joe & Tina Petersen.

Gospel Shorts Take a Look at Yourself

St. Paul wrote to the Corinthian Christians: "Examine yourselves to see whether you are living in the faith. Test yourselves ..." (II Corinthians 13:5). Now that advice is appropriate for us too. Occasionally we need to take a look at ourselves. We need to examine the condition of our spirit. We need to test the strength of our faith. We need to consider how close we are living to Christ.

Now it may be that when we examine our spirit, we might not like what we find. There may be sins and an ugliness we have been trying to hide or ignore. Even so, we must not despair.

St. Paul reminded the Christians that Christ lived in them and they should focus on that goodness within. "Christ in you the hope of glory" he wrote.

Congratulations to all our high school graduates and all our eighth grade students who were promoted to high school. May God bless you and watch over you as you begin the next phase of your life.



BETHLEHEM ARTS

JUNE 10TH AND JUNE 11TH



We will host representatives of the Catholic Christian Community from Jerusalem and Bethlehem in the Holy Land who will be displaying handcrafted olive wood religious figurines and articles. Due to the political conflict and covid19 results in the reduction of tourism, the Catholic Community has come to depend more on the sale of these articles abroad to survive. The woodcarvings are beautiful and reflect faith and love for the Lord.

Please consider purchasing a gift that will be remembered and cherished for yourself or someone dear to you. The handcrafted olive wood religious figurines and articles will be available for purchase after all the weekend Masses.

Mystery of the living God, and of his love for humankind, the Most High sends his Son to us and reveals himself as our Father; Christ exalted in glory gives us his Spirit in whom we praise you, God who is, who was, and who comes!

—Antiphon of Canticle of Mary, Trinity Sunday

We are excited to invite all parishioners with wedding anniversaries in 2023 for **10, 25, and 50 yrs. and above** to the 2023 Wedding Anniversary Mass, celebrated by Bishop Ronald Hicks! The Anniversary Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral of St Raymond in Joliet at 2pm on August 27, 2023.

If you are interested in attending, please call the TriiParish office with the following information:

Your name Address Anniversary length



Current Status for 2023 CMAA			
Parish	Goal	Pledged	Paid
St. MM	\$9,900	\$8,350	\$7,155
St. James	\$8,000	\$7,010	\$6,780
Sacred Heart	\$6,100	\$7,100	\$4,505

Relay for Life of Kankakee County

Free community event benefitting the American Cancer Society

Kids' Games—Entertainment-Concessions—Ceremonies for Survivors, Caregivers, and all affected by Cancer

Saturday, June 10, 2023 2 pm—10 pm

Bishop McNamara Catholic School

Survivors/Teams/Volunteers can register at relayforlife.org/kankakeeil

Contact Michelle Pruitt—michelle.pruitt@cancer.org or

Beth Brosseau—bethk3relay@gmail.com



Saint of the week: St. Boniface (June 5) was educated at the Benedictine monastery at Exeter, England. He was a Benedictine monk at Exeter and a missionary to Germany from 719. He was assisted by Saint Albinus, Saint Abel, and Saint Agatha. They destroyed idols and pagan temples, and then built churches on the sites. Later Boniface was named the Archbishop of Mainz. He reformed the churches in his see and built religious houses in Germany. Boniface ordained Saint Sola and founded or restored the dioceses of Bavaria, Thuringia, and Franconia. He evangelized in Holland, but was set upon by a troop of pagans, and he and 52 of his new flock, including Saint Adaler and Saint Eoban were martyred.

Once in Saxony, Boniface encountered a tribe worshipping a Norse deity in the form of a huge oak tree. Boniface walked up to the tree, removed his shirt, took up an axe, and without a word he hacked down the six foot wide wooden god. Boniface stood on the trunk, and asked, "How stands your mighty god? My God is stronger than he." The crowd's reaction was mixed, but some conversions were begun.

One tradition about Saint Boniface says that he used the customs of the locals to help convert them. There was a game in which they threw sticks called *kegels* at smaller sticks called *heides*. Boniface bought religion the game, having the *heides* represent demons, and knocking them down showing purity of spirit.



to



Obscure saint of the week: Dorotheus of Tyre (June 5) was a Priest, scholar, and author at Tyre, Lebanon. He was driven into exile during the persecutions of Diocletian, but later returned. Dorotheus was named bishop of Tyre and attended the *Council of Nicaea* in 325. He was driven into exile three times at Odysopolis, by Julian the Apostate. There the 107 year old bishop was arrested, beaten, and murdered for his faith.

Questions Catholics Ask

Why pray the rosary?

The rosary is a method of prayer, not a mandate. It doesn't hold the weight of a precept of the church, like the one that obliges Catholics to gather for Mass each Sunday. Like the Stations of the Cross, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, or daily scripture reading, I think of it as an offering of the church: a way to grow closer to God and the divine mysteries.

So what's to be gained by this particular prayer form? The rosary supplies a healthy appreciation of Mary's role in Catholic identity: the whole-souled human response to God's invitation that she embodies so beautifully. Mary is the realization of our vocation to "be church." She is what we must become. Mary shows us how discipleship is done. But she's not to be confused with a celestial celebrity. She's better than that. She's the one who assures us that saying yes to God, fully and completely, is possible. Her story and her destiny shine a light on human potential in relationship to God. We, too, yearn to become "full of grace."

The rosary offers a unique view of the gospels through the heart of the woman from Nazareth. Mary was the first to ponder the greatest events of salvation history. Through her eyes, we reflect on these moments of joy, light, sorrow, and glory and learn to appreciate life's sacred dimensions. Birth and death, joy and grief, expectation and loss are not only details of our humanity but mysteries connected to sin and grace. We reclaim all the hours of our experience as holy when we pass these simple beads through our hands.

The rosary multiplies the avenues of prayer. It's Scripture meditation, petition, song of praise, and instruction in the faith all at once. Pope Pius XII called it a "compendium of the entire gospel" presented in jewel-like cameos. Blessed John Henry Newman declared that the rosary provides us with a way of "holding in our hands all that we believe." Silence and vocal prayer are the rosary's alternating energies. If we race through it, we miss the graced encounter that lurks between the beads. Pope John Paul II declared that a "rosary personality" is a witness against violence, injustice, arrogance, and intolerance in any form. In which case we might hope more folks will take up the practice of the rosary.

Scripture [Luke 1:26-55; 2; 9:28-36; 24:1-8](#) [Matthew 1:18-23; 26:26-30, 36-46; 27:22-26](#) [John 2:1-12; 19:1-5, 26-30](#)
[Mark 1:1-8, 14-15; 15:20-22](#) [Acts 1:6-12; 2:1-3](#)

The Blessed Mother's message is not over.

The sheep grazed lazily, drifting about with heads to the ground and eyes half-closed. The three children who herded them were busy about a little furze bush, building a wall with the loose rocks lying about. A bee buzzed nearby in the last of the spring flowers.



Suddenly, a flash lit the air.

The children hesitated, dropped their stones, and looked at the sky.

"We'd better go home," said the oldest, "that's lightning; we may have a thunder-storm."

They had pushed the reluctant sheep onto the road when a second flash like lightning flickered around them. Then, on a holmoak quite near them, a radiant Lady appeared and said to them, "Do not be afraid. I will do you no harm."

Thus began the Fatima apparitions, wherein the Blessed Mother appeared to the children six times, bringing them a message that urged repentance. If the world did not repent soon, she said, God would send horrific punishments upon it.

We know what happened over the next one hundred years: the horrors of World War I ended, only to return with greater force in World War II; Russia, "spreading her errors," embroiled the world in the Cold War and the influences of the Communist ideology; countless martyrs shed their blood for the Faith.

It would be easy to draw a breath of relief and say, "Well, thank goodness all that is over now."

But is it? Lucia warned us that—because the Fatima message has been ignored—another terrible punishment will fall on the world.

"The final battle between the Lord and the reign of Satan," she said, "will be about marriage and the family."

In our times, we can see that the battle has begun—but it's not too late. God's punishment is not fixed. Just as He offered the city of Nineveh an opportunity to repent of their sins, so He now offers a way by which mankind can be saved. If we turn to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and follow her plan for peace, we can lessen the full consequences of our sin by means of penance.

Fatima Mysteries: Mary's Message to the Modern Age will help you learn about and live the Blessed Mother's urgent message. Filled with colored photographs and detailed accounts of the Fatima message's impact, this coffee table-style book plumbs the depth of the apparition and will inspire you to do the same.

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Catholic Charities' Telephone Reassurance Program

The Telephone Reassurance Program (TRP) is a friendly caller program that matches volunteer callers to older adults in our community. The Program connects older adults and volunteers through weekly telephone conversations that foster connection and reduce social isolation and feelings of loneliness. Telephone Reassurance Participants and Volunteers develop person-to-person supportive relationships that support and help combat loneliness and feelings of isolation of the older adult.

We are actively seeking individuals who are interested in participating in the Program.

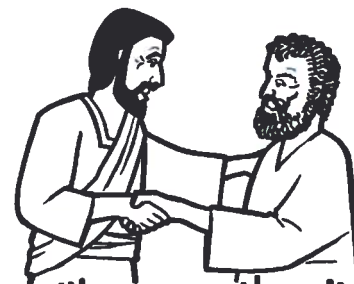
To receive calls, you must be 60+, live in Grundy, Will, or Kankakee counties, and want to make a social connection over the phone.

To volunteer for the Telephone Reassurance Program, we ask volunteers to serve 3-6 hours a week. As a volunteer, you will receive pre-service orientation and training. All volunteers must pass federal and state background checks. You can volunteer from the comfort of your own home.

To learn more about this social and rewarding opportunity, please contact Crystal Del Rio at 815-221-6020 / trp@cc-doj.org

Reflection

Teaching is less the communicating of a truth than the preparing of the mind to see it by virtue of its own innate capacity. At the moment of illumination all the teacher's words are seen for what they are, mere footholds on the climb to the light.



...agree with one another, live in peace
and the God of love and peace
will be with you.

2 COR.13:11



June 4, 2023

Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

Ex 34:4b-6, 8-9 | 2 Cor 13:11-13 | Jn 3:16-18

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

Last Sunday the Church celebrated the Solemnity of Pentecost: the birthday of the Church and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit into the world. Today we celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, giving adoration and glory to the three divine persons in our one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit - three in unity, or Triune. In the Gospel we heard, John tells us: "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son." If you're going to write one Bible verse on a piece of cardboard and hold it up at a football game, this is it! John 3:16 encapsulates a Christian belief: We are loved by the Father beyond measure, and that love is incarnated - takes human flesh - in the divine person of his Son. But there is something deeper within this verse that comes to light much later in the Gospel: Jesus revealed that when he, the Son, returned to the Father, he would not leave us alone. (Jn 14: 26-28) Instead, the Holy Spirit came to be with us and remain with us. This is our God whom we celebrate and give thanks to: one in being, three in person. His love is unceasing and his Spirit dwells within and among us to guide us, advocate for us, and draw us ever closer to himself in that love.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

When it comes to evangelization, you could write a Bible verse on a piece of cardboard, hold it up in a crowded place and hope it piques someone's interest. But we can take a cue from St. Paul in the second reading as well. He encourages us to mend our ways, encourage one another and "greet one another with a holy kiss." And then he offers a prayer for the Corinthians: "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with all of you." Imagine what the world would be like if we all lived like that - if we worked to mend our mistakes, encouraged each other, and earnestly prayed for the grace, love, and fellowship of God to be upon every person. That would be a true witness to God's presence in the world.

PRAY This week, pray a Holy Trinity novena. The word "novena" comes from the Latin word for "nine," and they typically include nine days of prayer, asking God for a specific intention, and beginning or ending on a feast or solemnity. Trust in the Triune God who loves you and offer him your heart. You may find the comfort or wisdom you seek.

Sunday, Jun 04, 2023

Widen the circle

Trinity Sunday isn't for parsing the Three-in-One. It's an invitation to meditate on the mutual self-giving of Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier, who "so love the world" that we all share in the divine embrace. Yet to child victims of aggression, their experience has felt outside of any caring circle. That's why the U.N.'s "Convention on the Rights of the Child" was the most rapidly and widely ratified rights treaty in history. It ensures every child has a right to life, a name, family or guardian, health care, education, freedom of religion—even the right to play. Encircle the children in your life with tenderness.

SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

TODAY'S READINGS: Exodus 34:4b-6, 8-9; 2 Corinthians 13:11-13; John 3:16-18 (164). "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son."

Monday, Jun 05, 2023

Make your life a work of art

Artist and author on interreligious thought, Frederick Franck was born in 1909 in Holland and died on this day in 2006 in Warwick, New York—the place of his life's work, *Pacem in Terris* ("Peace on Earth"), a garden of more than 70 sculptures, open free to the public and dedicated to Pope John XXIII, Dr. Albert Schweitzer, and the Buddhist teacher D.T. Suzuki. Raised agnostic in a Catholic region of his country and a student of Zen Buddhism, Franck was inspired during the Cuban Missile Crisis to go to Rome in 1963 to draw all the sessions of the Second Vatican Council. "Art is neither a profession nor a hobby, it is a way of being," he said. Take inspiration to creatively express your spirituality in your own way of being.

MEMORIAL OF BONIFACE, BISHOP, MARTYR

TODAY'S READINGS: Tobit 1:3; 2:1b-8; Mark 12:1-12 (353). "By the Lord has this been done, and it is wonderful in our eyes."

Tuesday, Jun 06, 2023

One bread, one body

A painting by Flemish artist Peter Paul Rubens—called *The Defenders of the Eucharist*—includes a serene Saint Norbert, his white robes wrapped around a *ciborium* (the cup that holds the consecrated Eucharist) as he cradles the Blessed Sacrament. Norbert founded the Norbertine religious order as well as the first Third Order for laypeople embracing the spirit of religious life. And, as a successful peacemaker, he's often depicted with an olive branch. But Norbert's preaching about the Blessed Sacrament, convincing entire villages to reclaim their lost belief in the Real Presence—also having eucharistic miracles happen on his watch—has earned him the title "Apostle of the Blessed Sacrament." May he inspire our devotion as the National Eucharistic Revival enters its second phase this month.

MEMORIAL OF NORBERT, BISHOP

TODAY'S READINGS: Tobit 2:9-14; Mark 12:13-17 (354). "Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."

Wednesday, Jun 07, 2023

Transcending prejudice in service to God

This day marks the 105th death anniversary of Servant of God Julia Greeley, one of seven African-American Catholics on the path to sainthood. She is one of two such candidates born into slavery in Ralls County, Missouri during the mid-19th century,

alongside Venerable Augustus Tolton. Freed during the Civil War, she emigrated to Colorado with her employer and became a Catholic due to their influence. There she would become known as "Denver's Angel of Charity" despite her own poverty, assisting the destitute at night so as not to offend her white beneficiaries. She died in 1918 and was the first and only Catholic layperson to lay in repose in the city—later becoming the first buried in the cathedral. May her legacy of service live on in all of us.

TODAY'S READINGS: Tobit 3:1-11a, 16-17a; Mark 12:18-27 (355).

"When they rise from the dead, they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but they are like the angels in heaven."

Thursday, Jun 08, 2023

Love begets love

It's June, a popular month for weddings in North America. Church teachings about marriage varied for the first millennium. Today they communicate high ideals, resting on this basic framework, paraphrased from the Catechism of the Catholic Church: God loves us with a definitive and irrevocable love; married couples share in this love, which supports and sustains them. Their faithfulness to each other witnesses God's persistent love. Many are called to marriage, but others follow a different path. How has God called you to share the love poured out on you?

TODAY'S READINGS: Tobit 6:10-11; 7:1bcd, 9-17; 8:4-9a; Mark 12:28-34 (356). "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength."

Friday, Jun 09, 2023

A troubled land calls for compassion

Saint Ephrem of Syria was a prolific writer of poetry, hymns, poems, sermons, and biblical commentaries. He has been called the most significant of all the fathers of the Syriac-speaking church tradition. He addressed the church in Syria in troubled times ... and Syria's troubles continue, perhaps never more acutely than today. Already suffering badly the devastation of 12 years of ruthless suppression, in February it suffered a devastating earthquake that killed more than 7,000 people and devastated more than 10,000 buildings in northwest Syria. The U.N. reports that more than 4 million Syrians, mostly women and children, depend on humanitarian aid to survive. Mercy USA invites donations for housing for destitute Syrians. Consider a donation in honor of Ephrem.

MEMORIAL OF EPHREM OF SYRIA, DEACON, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

TODAY'S READINGS: Tobit 11:5-17; Mark 12:35-37 (357). "I am certain that his eyes will be opened."

Saturday, Jun 10, 2023

The widow's mite revisited

It is ironic that the story of the widow's mite in today's gospel is so often used as an example of generous giving when it's obvious that giving "all she had, her whole livelihood" had left her destitute and penniless. Jesus actually uses the widow's action as an example of what happens when the unscrupulous clergy of his day, with their long robes and the esteem of the people, "devour the houses of widows." The lesson is for religious leaders *not* to push poor people into deeper poverty. Pray for your pastors.

TODAY'S READINGS: Tobit 12:1, 5-15, 20; Mark 12:38-44 (358). "They devour the houses of widows . . . They will receive a very severe condemnation."

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



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