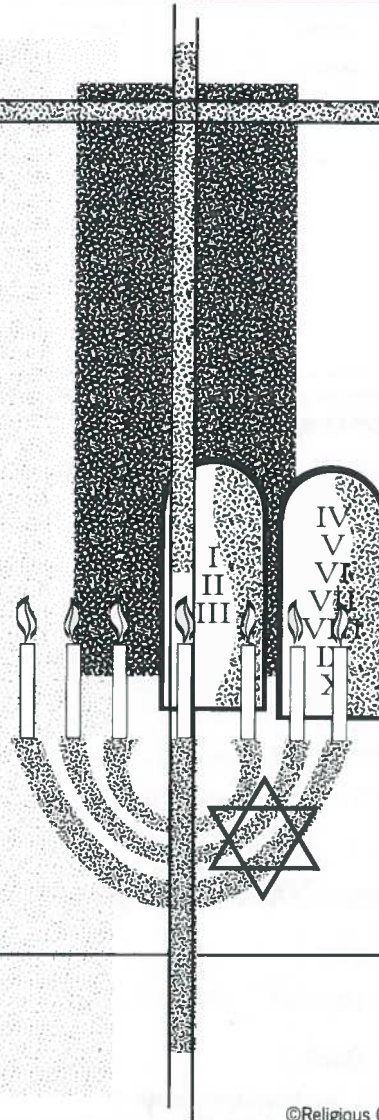


The Roman Catholic Parishes of
 St. Margaret Mary, Herscher
 St. James the Apostle, Irwin
 Sacred Heart, Goodrich

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 12-13, 2023

They are Israelites;
 theirs the ADOPTION,
 the GLORY,
 the COVENANTS
 the giving of the LAW,
 the WORSHIP, and the
 PROMISES;
 theirs the PATRIARCHS,
 and from them,
 according to the flesh,
 is the **CHRIST**,
 who is over all.



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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: "What good is having someone who can walk on water if you don't follow in his footsteps?"
—Anonymous

August 19-20, 2023

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Liturgical Schedule	St. Margaret Mary Saturday, August 19 5:00 pm	Sacred Heart Sunday, August 20 7:30 am	St. James Sunday, August 20 9:00 am	St. Margaret Mary Sunday, August 20 10:30 am
Celebrant	Fr. Ron	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron	Fr. Ron
Ushers	Bob Schultz Dave Emling Gary Nelson Dan Hoffman	Kyle Ferris Daryl Ferris	Vic Carlile Dennis O'Connor Jeff Martin Jeff Steinke	Galen Fritz Marko Smolkovich Wayne Bisailon Brent Fulton
Lector	Bobbi Buza	Rhonda Berns	Andy Hansen	Steve Jacob
Servers				Sydney Weldon
Greeters			Greeter— Jerry Ogrentz Leader— Reatta Gohlke	Wayne Bisailon

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, August 14 (SMM)
8:00 am +Francis O'Brien (Ed/Amy DeMarah)
7:00 pm (SJ) +Joan Smith (Cathy/Bruce Jensen)

Tuesday, August 15 (SH)
8:00 am (SH) +Zeb Pfeiffer & Cecelia Monk (Dale/Marilyn Pfeiffer)
7:00 pm (SMM)+Jim Feller (Norm/Sharon Riordan)
 +Marie Duval (Jackie Eberle)

Wednesday, August 16 (SJ)
8:00 am Intention of Rita Thiesen (Pam Cuchiara)

Friday, August 18 (SMM)
8:00 am +Ivan Denault (Jackie Eberle)

Saturday, August 19 (SMM)
5:00 pm For All the Parish Family

Sunday, August 20
7:30 am +Leland Denault (The Page Family)
9:00 am (SJ) +Stephen Jensen (Bruce/Cathy Jensen)
 + Darlene Peerbolte (Jim/Linda Booth)
10:30am (SMM) +Tom & Nina Smolkovich (Donna Ruder)

A Look Ahead

Monday, August 14—Holy Day Vigil Mass at SJ 7 pm
Tuesday, August 15— The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass at SH 8 am and SMM 7 pm
Monday, Sept. 4—Herscher Labor Day celebration
Sunday, October 22—St. James Donut Sunday after Mass



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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:

Who can I accompany on their journey through stormy waters?
 How can I reassure them and assist them?

Collections Week of August 5-6, 2023

St. Margaret Mary—\$1,817

St. James—\$2,368

Sacred Heart—\$1,313

Thank you for your generosity!

Gospel Shorts

From Fear to Faith

Wouldn't it be great if every time a storm came up in our lives, our Lord would just say "Peace, be still" to calm everything down? But he doesn't always choose to solve our problems that way. Many times, he calls us (like Peter) to walk on the water in the midst of the waves on faith only. And it is our choice to trust ... or live controlled by the fear of drowning. We must keep our eyes focused on his power, or we'll see the waves and go under.

In Matthew 14: 22-33, we will climb out of the boat with Peter and we won't be wearing a life-preserver either.



The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Holy Day Schedule

Mon., August 14 7 pm Vigil Mass at St. James

Tues., August 15 8 am Mass at Sacred Heart

Tues., August 15 7pm Mass at St. Margaret Mary



Save the Date— Saturday, November 18th

Sacred Heart Parishes Fall Cash Bash 4pm—8 pm

The cash bash will include: Euchre and Texas Hold'em Tournaments, basket and silent auctions, 50/50, Black Jack and more.

Tickets are available this weekend at the entrance to the church. This fundraiser will be replacing the stag dona-

Reflection

Draw Close to Christ

To accomplish the great work of salvation Christ is always present in his church, especially in her liturgical celebrations. He is present in the sacrifice of the Mass, not only in the person of his minister, "the same one now offering, through the ministry of priests, who formerly offered himself on the cross," but especially under the Eucharistic species. By his power he is present in the sacraments, so that when a man baptizes it is really Christ himself who baptizes. He is present in his word, since it is he, himself, who speaks when the holy Scriptures are read in the church. He is present, finally, when the church prays and sings, for he promised: "Where two or three are gathered together for my sake, there am I in the midst of them" (Mt. 18:20).

Parish News:

St. Margaret Mary—

St. James—

Sacred Heart—

- ◆ The week of August 13th, the St. Joseph candle burns in prayer for the St. Germaine family.
- ◆ Time is flying by and soon, our CCW will again be sending "Boxes of Joy" to children who will not receive any Christmas gifts. Last year we were able to send 46 boxes. We will have a list of items that you can place in the boxes in the church, along with those that can not be sent (liquids, candles, gun toys, etc.). The boxes will be available at a later date.

All Parishes—

- ◆ There will be no Knights of Columbus blood drive in September or November this year. Please check for other local blood drives so you make continue to make a difference.
- ◆ **Adult Education**—I have been asked to move our adult ed program to Wednesday nights so this fall, we will offer the classes on Wednesdays. They will begin in September. If you plan on attending our adult Ed classes, please call the office (426-2550) by August 21 so we can order supplies.



Please pray for the repose of the soul of

+Virginia Fritz

sister of Tom, Kathy, & Gene O'Connor

sister of Dave (Martha) O'Connor

sister of Pat (Rose) O'Connor

sister-in-law of Donna Bernicky

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

Our sincere sympathy to her family and friends.

A Stewardship Moment Weekend of August 12/13, 2023

Today's Gospel reveals what miraculous things can happen when one embraces a single-minded faith in Jesus Christ. Peter gets out of a wind-tossed boat when the Lord calls him. His faith is tested by his obedience to Jesus who is calling him out onto the water. In the midst of the waves and the wind, Peter gets out of the boat and walks toward Jesus. Good stewards heed Christ's call to them. Sometimes that call directs them to take on seemingly impossible challenges. This week, reflect on how the Lord could be calling you out of the safety of your own "boat" to take on the impossible.



Saint of the week: St. John Berchmans (August 13) was the son of a shoemaker, and one of five children, three of whom entered religious life. John had great devotion to his position as an altar boy. He spent much of his time caring for his mother, who was in poor health. John entered the Jesuit novitiate in 1616, deciding to become a Jesuit after reading the life of Saint Aloysius Gonzaga. He was a student at the Jesuit College at Malines, Belgium. John studied philosophy in Rome. John had a dream of helping and teaching multi-lingual migrants, so he studied all the chief languages of Europe. He wanted to work in China after ordination. He died of unknown causes following his participation in a public debate defending the faith, and while clutching his rosary, crucifix, and rules of his order; he did not live to be ordained.



John Berchmans was not noted for extraordinary feats of holiness or austerity, nor did he found orders or churches or work flashy miracles. He made kindness, courtesy, and constant fidelity an important part of his holiness. The path to holiness *can* lie in the ordinary rather than the extraordinary.



Obscure saints of the week: : St. Wigbert of Fritzlar (August 13) became a monk as a very young man, possibly at Glastonbury Abbey. He later became a missionary who worked with Saint Boniface. He arrived in Germany c.734. Wigbert became the abbot of the monastery of Hersfeld, Hesse. He was the spiritual teacher of Saint Sturm of Fulda. Wigbert became the abbot of Ohrdruf, Thuringia in 737. He later retired to Hersfeld where he spent his remaining days as a prayerful monk. He was known as a very quiet man, and a miracle worker.

The Sunday Gospel in Everyday English

As soon as the meal was finished, he insisted that the disciples get in the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he dismissed the people. With the crowd dispersed, he climbed the mountain so he could be by himself and pray. He stayed there alone, late into the night.

Meanwhile, the boat was far out to sea when the wind came up against them and they were battered by the waves. At about four o'clock in the morning, Jesus came toward them walking on the water. They were scared out of their wits. "A ghost!" they said, crying out in terror.

But Jesus was quick to comfort them. "Courage, it's me. Don't be afraid."

Peter, suddenly bold, said, "Master, if it's really you, call me to come to you on the water."

He said, "Come ahead."

Jumping out of the boat, Peter walked on the water to Jesus. But when he looked down at the waves churning beneath his feet, he lost his nerve and started to sink. He cried, "Master, save me!"

Jesus didn't hesitate. He reached down and grabbed his hand. Then he said, "Faint-hearted, what got into you?"

The two of them climbed into the boat, and the wind died down. The disciples in the boat, having watched the whole thing, worshiped Jesus, saying, "This is it! You are God's Son for sure!" (from Matthew 14).

Questions Catholics Ask

“What are third orders, oblates, and associates?”

Throughout its history religious life has had people who are attracted to and want to be part of the spirit of a particular community but not necessarily become a religious sister or brother, nun, or monk. In response, religious communities have over time established various ways so that such folks can more formally share in the spirit of the community. These formal relationships with a community may involve mutual responsibilities, a renewable or life-long commitment, and a rule of life.

I'll briefly describe a few of them:

- **Third Orders.** In some of the early religious communities, the “First Order” referred to the original group of monks or friars. The “Second Order” referred to contemplative nuns who wished to follow in the founding spirit of the First Order. The “Third Order” or “Secular Order” referred to women and men who wanted to live in the spirit of the religious community but remain in their current state of life. The three main congregations with Third Orders are the Carmelites, the Franciscans, and the Dominicans.

- **Oblates.** The word *oblate* comes from the word *oblation*, which in Latin means “offering.” An oblate, then, is one who offers herself or himself to God in and through their association with a particular religious community. This term is most often used within the Benedictines and monastic life.

- **Associates.** The words *associates* or *affiliates* are often used in relation to apostolic religious communities that are not “orders” or monastics as mentioned above.

Each community has different customs in regard to *tertiaries* (the term for people who belong to a third order), oblates, and associates, so I encourage you to check out their websites and connect with the vocation director of the community. She or he will be able to talk with you not only about religious life but also some of these other approaches to participating.

In addition to these and other formal paths to relationship with a religious community, there are many others. At the I.H.M. Sisters people join us all the time for liturgies, volunteering on a project, helping support the community, visiting with members, attending events, and other activities. Often these are great ways for anyone—including someone discerning a call to religious life—to get to know the community.



CAREGIVER EDUCATIONAL SERIES

2:00pm - 3:00pm

Kankakee Public Library, 201 E Merchant St., Kankakee



Aug.
30

FINDING HELP AND ACCESSING SERVICES

Amanda Foltz, Catholic Charities



Sept.
6

NURTURING THE CAREGIVER: THE POWER OF SELF-CARE

Emily Eikeland, Catholic Charities



Sept.
13

UNDERSTANDING AND RESPONDING TO DEMENTIA RELATED BEHAVIORS

Hadi Finerty, The Alzheimer's Association



Sept.
20

THE LEGAL HOW TO'S: GUARDIANSHIP OF THE ESTATE AND POA OF PROPERTY

Deanna Carlson Webb, Attorney at Law



Sept.
27

NEW RULES FOR END OF LIFE CARE

Darla Savoie, Uplifted Care

For more information or to register, please contact Amanda at 815-523-9919.

We are a faith-based organization providing service to people in need and calling others of good will to do the same.



COME & SEE what it means to be a Servant of the Holy Heart of Mary!

A retreat for women ages 35-55 who are considering the possibility of life as a religious sister. We begin on Friday, September 8th at 7 PM and end after noon meal on Sunday, September 10. You will meet our Sisters and explore what it means to live our life: how we pray, discern our ministry, and live in community. Please come; we would love to meet you!

Nazareth Spirituality Center

717 N. Batavia Avenue, Batavia

For more information or to register, contact Kathy at 815-814-1414 or email to sscm.vocations@gmail.com



Lord, save me!
MT.14:30

Where did the "O my Jesus" Rosary prayer come from? Everyone says it between the decades of the Rosary. What are the origins of this prayer?

"Sacrifice yourselves for sinners, and say many times, especially whenever you make some sacrifice: O Jesus, it is for love of You, for the conversion of sinners, and in reparation for the sins committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary."

Our Lady spoke these words to the children of Fatima on July 13th, 1917, during the third of the six visits she would pay them. After saying these things, she showed them a terrifying vision of Hell.



After this vision, she spoke of God's desire to establish devotion to her Immaculate Heart. She asked for Russia's consecration to her Heart and the devotion of the Five First Saturdays. She spoke of what would happen in the world if her requests were not heeded and of the final triumph of her Immaculate Heart.

She then gave the children the prayer we know so well, instructing them to recite it after each decade of the Rosary:

O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell. Lead all

souls to Heaven, especially those in most need of Thy mercy.

Our Lady's love and concern for sinners was a consistent theme of her apparitions at Fatima. She showed the children the vision of Hell in order to stir up their compassion for sinners heading for that dreadful place. She constantly urged them to pray and sacrifice for the salvation of souls, and the children—touched by what the Lady told and showed them—spent their lives doing just that.

Let's join them in their mission!

Pray the Rosary—and the "O My Jesus" prayer Our Lady taught us—every day. Make the Five First Saturdays of Reparation and add in some sacrifices when you can. In this way, you will be honoring Our Lady's requests at Fatima, requests which call out to us more than a century later.

You can learn more about the powerful First Saturday devotion, Our Lady's apparitions at Fatima, and her various requests and messages in the comprehensive book, *Fatima For Today: The Urgent Marian Message of Hope*. In this book, Father Andrew Apostoli—one of the world's foremost experts on Fatima—carefully analyzes the events that took place in Fatima, clears up lingering questions about their meaning, and challenges us anew to heed Our Lady's call.

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Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary Spiritual Ministry Programs September 2023

Poetry of Presence Workshop

WHEN: Saturday, September 9, 10:00 am - 11:30 am
Saturday, September 16, 10:00 am - 11:30 am
Saturday, September 30, 10:00 am - 11:30 am
Saturday, October 7, 10:00 am - 11:30 am

WHERE: Online via our ZOOM online platform

Finding Miracles in Our Everyday Life

WHEN: Thursday, September 14, 10:00 am-12:00 pm

WHERE: One Heart, One Soul Spirituality Center,
Kankakee, IL

19th Annotation of the Ignatian Retreat

Kickoff: Tuesday, September 19, 7:00 pm-8:00 pm

WHERE: Online via our ZOOM online platform L

What is the Significance of the Psalms in Christian Prayer?

WHEN: Wednesday, September 20, 9:00 am 10:30 am

WHERE: Nazareth Spirituality Center, Batavia, IL

2023 Silent Retreat

WHEN: Friday, September 24, 7:00 pm - Sunday,
September 26, 1:00 pm

WHERE: Nazareth Spirituality Center, Batavia, IL

For more information and to register,
visit our website at:

www.sscm-usa.org/Workshops-Retreats.html
or contact Susan Amann: samann@sscm-usa.org

No matter how much
you're hurting

No Marriage is Beyond Hope

RETRouvaille
OF JOLIET ILLINOIS

There is a light at the
end of the tunnel.

#blessedinRETROspect
#RetrouvailleJoliet

Retrouvaille is a program designed for married couples who are struggling. Retrouvaille helps couples learn to communicate on a deeper level, and has helped thousands of couples return to a healthy, God-centered marriage.

>>> Our next weekend will be held September 8th - 10th, 2023 <<<

For information please contact:

Retrouvaille of Joliet - 1-815-246-2080

o you of little faith,
why do you doubt?



Elijah Fed by the Ravens by Giovanni Gaspare Savoldo, c.1600

August 13, 2023

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a | Rom 9:1-5 | Mt 14:22-33

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

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

Unlike with our other important relationships, God isn't exactly someone we can meet for coffee and look into his eyes while having a conversation. Whether we talk to God in our mind or out loud, we recognize that even with a good prayer life it can sometimes be difficult to cultivate and maintain a relationship with God. Doubters and unbelievers are quick to remind us how impossible it is to believe what we cannot see or hear, but today's readings also remind us that God doesn't speak to us as another human being would. Maybe he doesn't speak with the booming voice of a preacher or a politician, and maybe he doesn't write direct messages for us in the sky or sand, but God does speak. Perhaps, like Elijah, we tend to expect God to communicate with huge gestures, such as strong wind that crushes rocks, or earthquakes or fires; but we hear today that God spoke to Elijah in a "tiny whispering sound." It's not unlike a very good teacher who doesn't need to raise her voice to get her students' attention when they lose focus - she has their respect and simply needs to speak normally and calmly and the students quiet down, pay attention, and listen. When we still our hearts and minds and listen, in prayer, let us be confident we will hear God's voice.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Perhaps in order to hear God's voice in our lives we need to fine-tune our "hearing." First, how can we hear if we do not have faith? Jesus called Peter out of the boat and into stormy waters, and though he was able to walk on water for a time, Peter began to sink because he became afraid. Doubt or fear can hamper our ability to listen to the Lord clearly; don't let it cloud your love for Christ! Second, we must keep in mind the many ways God speaks to us: his Word (the Bible), the writings of the saints and Church Fathers, our Catholic Tradition, other people God has placed in our lives, and the "tiny whispering sound" we might hear only within our heart. Stay attuned to God's voice; the rewards are heavenly.

INVITATION Ignatian spirituality - meditations, prayers, and contemplative practices - may help us recognize and truly hear the still small voice of God in our lives. The Daily Examen is a prayerful reflection on the events of the day which might help us identify the movement of the Holy Spirit in those moments. Give it a try.

Sunday, Aug 13, 2023

Value your vocation

Immigrant Catholic families faced the nightmare of living one step away from ruin in the 19th century, when only the least desirable and most dangerous jobs were available to them. Knights of Columbus founder Michael McGivney had to leave seminary to support his family after his father's death. Ordained later, McGivney determined to build a community dedicated to protecting vulnerable families and spent his priesthood promoting the valuable vocation of the laity. Continue the legacy with your own vocation, religious or lay, equally valued and necessary.

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:22-33 (115). *"At once Jesus spoke to them, 'Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid.'"*

Monday, Aug 14, 2023

Holiness becomes you

Maximilian Kolbe is best known for the manner of his death—he volunteered to die in the place of a stranger, who was a man with children, at Auschwitz during World War II. But his path to sainthood began at the age of 10 when his exasperated mother said to her troublemaker son, "I do not know what will become of you!" The Blessed Mother stepped in with a couple options—appearing to the boy in a vision and offering him purity or martyrdom. He gave her the surprising answer: "I choose both." Remarkable conversion, however unlikely, is possible—in others and yourself. Believe it!

MEMORIAL OF MAXIMILIAN KOLBE, PRIEST, MARTYR

TODAY'S READINGS: Deuteronomy 10:12-22; Matthew 17:22-27 (413). *"The Son of Man is to be handed over to men, and they will kill him, and he will be raised on the third day."*

Tuesday, Aug 15, 2023

Without a doubt, love reigns

Thanks to Thomas the Apostle—that so-called "Doubting Thomas"—Catholic tradition has its earliest account of Mary's Assumption. This tradition holds that, just as Thomas was elsewhere when the other apostles were visited by a resurrected Jesus, he'd likewise been away when Mary, surrounded by the apostles, drew her last earthly breath. As Thomas returned to Jerusalem, three days after Mary's burial, it is said that he saw her gloriously lifted into the heavens. This time, it was the other apostles' turn to doubt Thomas. With great skepticism, tradition tells us, they opened her tomb and found it empty. Pope John Paul II, quoting Saint Francis de Sales, insisted that Mary died "in love, from love, and through love." Love like Mary today.

SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION)

TODAY'S READINGS: Vigil: 1 Chronicles 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2; 1 Corinthians 15:54b-57; Luke 11:27-28 (621); Day: Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; 1 Corinthians 15:20-27; Luke 1:39-56 (622). *"He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly."*

Wednesday, Aug 16, 2023

Infectious faith

An oft-forgotten holy figure, Saint Roch died on this day in the 14th-century Holy Roman Empire, having lived a distinctive life from his birth. He is traditionally regarded as having been conceived by a miracle and later became an ascetic said to have

worked miracles. The patron saint of dogs, he is said to have been healed from the plague by a dog that brought him bread while he was recovering. He modeled for the world a divine confidence in the face of pestilence, which inspired great faith in God among his peers. Having survived a pandemic ourselves, will we trust God with our future as Saint Roch did?

TODAY'S READINGS: Deuteronomy 34:1-12; Matthew 18:15-20 (415).

"Amen, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

Thursday, Aug 17, 2023

Harvest is plenty

Farmers and home gardeners are often busy in mid-August if their crops have done well. It is a time of intense work: harvesting, processing, selling, canning. The spiritual parallel is often made: Our missionary impulse is to plant the seeds of faith in word and action, in hopes that the seeds bear fruit. When times seem difficult, it is heartening to look around for signs of fruit, of God's love made manifest. Take a moment to revel in the witness of a Christian you know who makes God's love visible.

TODAY'S READINGS: Joshua 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17; Matthew 18:21—19:1

(416). *"How often must I forgive [my brother]?" ... Jesus answered, 'I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times.'"*

Friday, Aug 18, 2023

Moved by movies

As the weekend emerged in the last century as a two-day break in the workweek for leisure and spiritual pursuits, filmgoing became a major form of recreation. At its height in the 1930s, 65 percent of the U.S. population went to the movies weekly. "Going to the movies" may now simply mean clicking on a streaming app, but watching films remains a popular weekend pastime. Over the years the Vatican has recognized film as a valuable art form deserving of "praise and support." With that in mind, in 1995, in honor of the 100th anniversary of cinema, the Vatican named 45 important films worthy of watching. Make your way through this fascinating list on a given weekend, and enjoy a guilty pleasure, without the guilt.

TODAY'S READINGS: Joshua 24:1-13; Matthew 19:3-12 (417). *"They fought against you, but I delivered them into your power."*

Saturday, Aug 19, 2023

It's humanitarian nature to help

According to the U.N., this year a staggering 117 million people will be driven from their homes by war, violence, and poverty. Two billion people don't have access to sanitary water at home. World Humanitarian Day, celebrated today, commemorates the lives of the men and women serving in some of the most challenging situations in the world. The voiceless victims of war and poverty need help to alleviate their suffering and draw attention to their plight. Donate to a humanitarian organization like Catholic Relief Services. Do some humanitarian work in your community. Contact your elected leaders and let them know you're concerned.

TODAY'S READINGS: Joshua 24:14-29; Matthew 19:13-15 (418). *"Let the children come to me, and do not prevent them; for the Kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."*

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



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