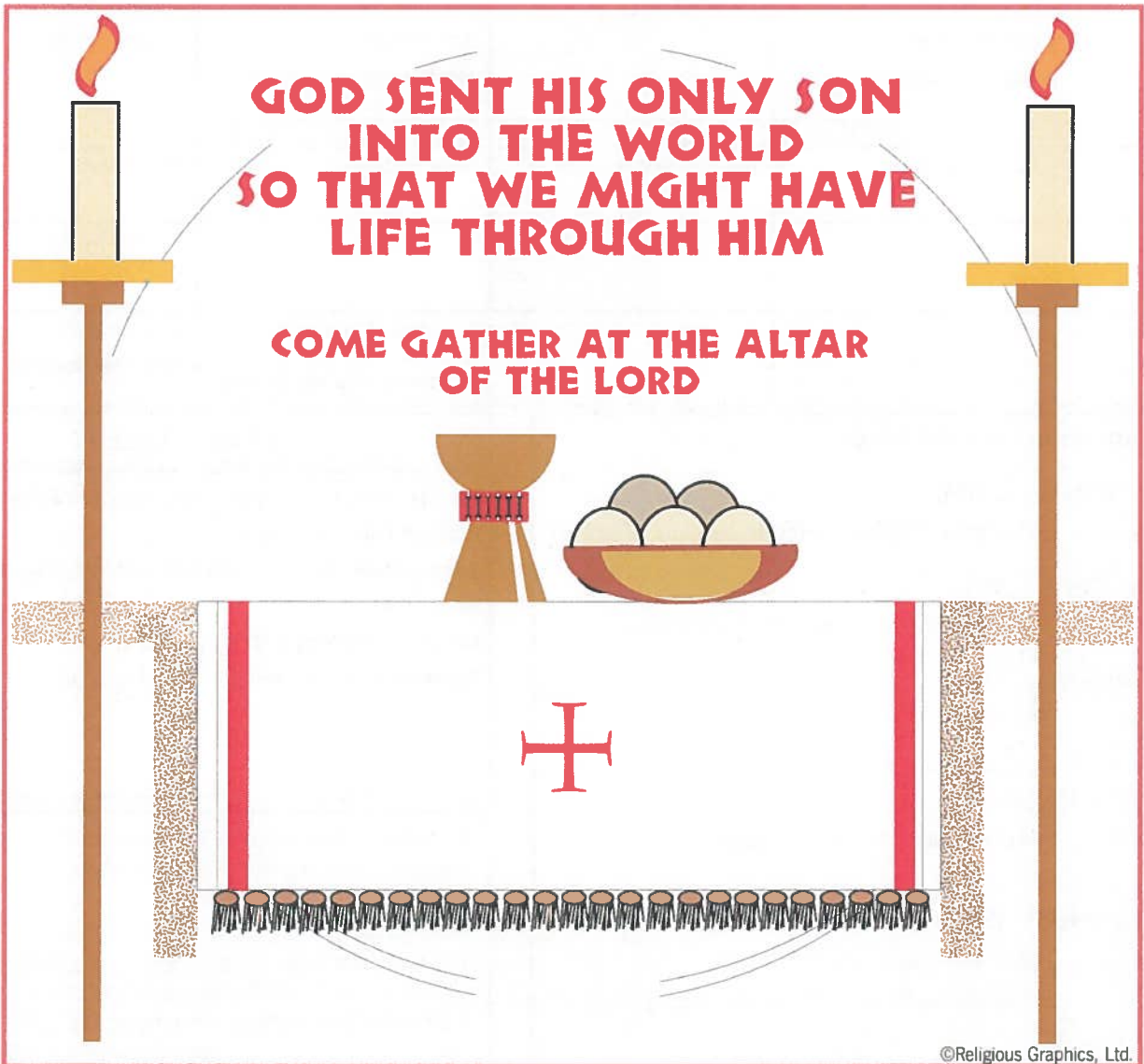


The Roman Catholic Parishes of
St. Margaret Mary, Herscher
St. James the Apostle, Irwin
Sacred Heart, Goodrich

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 4-5, 2024



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

Quotes: " Hold back nothing of yourself for yourself, so that He who gives Himself totally to you may receive you totally."

—Saint Francis of Assisi

The Ascension of the Lord			May 11-12 2024	
Liturgical Schedule	St. Margaret Mary Saturday, May 11 5:00 pm	Sacred Heart Sunday, May 12 7:30 am	St. James Sunday, May 12 9:00 am	St. Margaret Mary Sunday, May 12 10:30 am
Celebrant	Fr. Ron	Fr. Ron Deacon Ron	Fr. Ron	Fr. Ron
Ushers	Todd Datweiler Bob Schultz Dan Hoffman Roger Jensen	Kyle Ferris Jim Mallaney	Dallas Ferris Arlen Hansen Bob Buente Jeff Martin	Darren Lovell Larry Wolles Jeremy Wolles Kim Smicker
Lector	Dave Emling	Rhonda Berns	Kelly Buente	Diane Long
Servers				Sydney Weldon
Greeters			Greeter—C. Forsythe R. Leader—Reatta Gohlke	Kim Smicker Mary McDonald

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, May 6 (SMM)
8:00 am +Margaret Halpin (Halpin/Hoffman Family)

Tuesday, May 7 (SH)
8:00 am +Danielle Tim (Jerry/Teri Weakley)

Wednesday, May 8 (SJ)
8:00 am No Mass

Friday, May 10 (SMM)
8:00 am +Tom Lane (Mariann Lane)

Saturday, May 11 (SMM)
5:00 pm +Carson Cross (Jackie Cross)
+Madeline Bouchard (Jackie Cross)

Sunday, May 12
7:30 am (SH) All Mothers of the Triparishes
9:00am (SJ) +Jared Devine (Terri/Lenny Devine)
+Carson Cross (The Family)

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

Question of the week:

What sacrifice have I made this past week for someone I love?
 What sacrifice can I make this coming week? What sacrifice am I willing to make for someone I hardly know?

A Look Ahead

Sunday, May 5—SJ Youth Mass, May Crowning and last Religion Education Class
Sunday, May 5—May Crowning and last Religious Ed Class at SH
May 11/12 & May 17/18—Fr. Allam
Tuesday, May 14—SH CCW meeting 6:30 pm

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
 Sacred Heart – Rhonda Berns – 426-5015
 St. James—Tanhya Osenga tosenga81@gmail.com
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 April 27-28, 2024

St. Margaret Mary—\$1,371 Home Mission— \$295
 St. Jame—\$1,1,400 Home Mission-\$192
 Sacred Heart—\$1,016 Home Mission-\$190

Thank you for your generosity!

Reflection Discipleship

A disciple is someone who listens to, learns from, and loves his master. Or rather, he is someone who listens and learns because he loves his master, the Lord Jesus Christ. A disciple's life is a continuing effort to become a more faithful follower of Jesus and to lead others to him. To listen, to learn, to love, and then to lead — this is what a disciple strives to do.

Note the sequence in which a disciple does these things: he starts by listening and he ends by leading. In Matthew's gospel, the first command he utters begins, "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations" (Matthew 28:19). A disciple does not begin by going out to preach: he begins by coming to the Lord.

Father Allam will be returning to the Tri-Parish community to say masses the weekends of May 11-12 and May 18-19.

Father will be sharing his mission work in India with us the first weekend. There will be a second collection for Father Allam's Safe Harbor Mission the weekend of May 18-19.

Please support his mission work if you are able. Checks should be made to Safe Harbor.

1st Friday Adoration



Adoration will take place on Friday, May 3 after the 8:00 mass at St. James. Benediction will close adoration at 3:00.

"Every consecrated host is made to burn itself up with love in a human heart."

-St. John Vianney



Current Status for 2024 CMAA

Parish	Goal	Pledged	Paid
St. MM	\$9,400	\$7,605	\$6,980
St. James	\$8,800	\$5,065	\$4,807
Sacred Heart	\$6,000	\$6,950	\$3,730

Parish News:

St. Margaret Mary—

- ◆ Spring Institute is Wednesday, June 5th at St. James. If you'd like to attend please sign up by 5/12/24. The cost is \$20 with the participant paying \$10 and the CCW covering the other half. Any questions—please see the flyer on the board.

Sacred Heart—

- ◆ The week of May 5th, the Blessed Virgin Mary candle burns in memory of Dick Fitch.
- ◆ We will once again honor our mothers for Mothers' Day by placing flowers on the altars. The white represent pure love and are honoring the deceased mothers. The pink are a symbol of a mother's undying love and are representing living mothers. The envelopes for the money and names are in the entrance of the church. Include your name as well. Just write "same as last year" if there is no change. Checks to Sacred Heart Church.
- ◆ Our CCW meeting will be Tuesday, May 14 at 6:30 pm.

St. James—

- ◆ There will be an Open House for Rita Thiesen's 75th birthday in the Church Hall on Sunday, June 9th from 1-4pm. Please join us.
- ◆ All are invited to Donut Sunday on Sunday, May 19th after church in the St. James Hall. If you'd like to bring a pastry to share please sign up on the bulletin board.
- ◆ Spring Institute is Wednesday, June 5th at St. James. If you'd like to attend please sign up by 5/19/24. The cost is \$20 with the participant paying \$10 and the CCW covering the other half. Any questions—please see the flyer on the board.

All Parishes—

- ◆ Please prayerfully consider serving in one of our ministry opportunities. There will be a form in the next week or so to sign up. We are looking for ushers, lectors, greeters, rosary leaders, and altar servers .
- ◆ **The phone number for the rectory will no longer be in service. All calls should be made to the parish office number 815-426-2550.**



Please pray for the repose of the soul of

+Francis Dale Weber

father of Mary Jane Weber, Paula O'Connor, and Brenda Adams

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

Our sincere sympathy to his family and friends.



Obscure saint of the week: St. Angelus of Jerusalem (May 5). Angelus' parents were 12th century Jewish converts. At age 18, Angelus and his twin brother joined a group of hermits who formed the first Carmelite house. He was sent to evangelize in Sicily and met with great success in converting some Sicilian Jews, but great hatred from others, especially around Palermo and Leocata. He was murdered by thugs in the employ of Count Berengarius, a man whose incestuous relationship Angelus had denounced.



Obscure saint of the week: St. Avertinus of Tours (May 5) was a deacon who traveled into exile in France with Saint Thomas Becket. He participated in the synod of Tours, France in 1163. After the death of Saint Thomas Becket, Avertinus dedicated himself to the service of the poor and strangers at Vinzai, Touraine, France, and spent his final years as a hermit.

Catholic Snacks, Get Fed

What does the word "metanoia" mean?

And why might it challenge us?

From that time, Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of Heaven is at hand."

These lines from Matthew's Gospel are immediately recognizable. Matthew marks this line the beginning of Jesus' public preaching. Opening up His public ministry, Christ calls us to repent.

However, although easy to recognize, these words are difficult to truly understand. A part of this difficulty lies in the use of the word *repent*.

For English-speakers, *repentance* has a connotation of sorrow accompanied by action. However, in the original Greek, the first spoken word of Christ's public ministry is *metanoia*, which, when translated literally, means *to go beyond the mind you have*. *Metanoia* is formed by combining two smaller Greek words: *meta* (beyond) and *nous* (mind or spirit).

Metanoia connotes something more than what we typically mean by the word *repent*. *Metanoia* hints at a change occurring on a deeper and more fundamental level of one's being. Rather than urging us to a single instance of sorrow, Jesus is urging us to change our way of seeing and knowing, to go beyond ourselves.

Christ is calling us to go beyond our own mind, to see things from God's perspective. Our mind is a human mind, a broken and weak mind. But with the advent of Christ, Who took on our nature and transformed it, everything is changed.

With Christ, we receive grace. Grace enables us to think and act beyond our fallen human mind and ways. With Christ, we can truly repent with a spirit that is beyond our own. This is true conversion. This is the way Christ called us from the start of His public ministry.

When we act in accordance with Christ, following His call to *metanoia*, we can be transformed, and transform the world along with us! This is the beautiful truth contained in the famous phrase, "Be who God meant you to be and you will set the world on fire," inspired by the words of St. Catherine of Siena. Remind yourself of this powerful reality every day with a [framed print](#) of this galvanizing quote. Perfect for any home or office or as a Confirmation gift! [Available today from The Catholic Company!](#)



as
of



God's Blessings on all the following students:

Confirmandi:

*John Andrew Abrassart
Jace Andrew Adams
Mackenzie Catherine Of Bologna Adams
Jacob Luigi Scrosoppi Benoit
Margaret Veronica Benoit
Xander Francis Buza
Reese Christopher Denault
Bella Florian Eich
Charlotte Sophia Fulton
Addyson Francis Gagnon
Madeline Rose of Lima Goudie
Gianna Elizabeth High
Mia Margaret de Castello Martin
Cooper Andrew Meredith*

*Everett Sebastian Osenga
Ruby Veronica Renchen
Audrey Margaret Clitherow Scanlon
Breck Isidore Scanlon
Connor Sebastian Sharper
Makenzie Monica Soucie
Addilynn Elizabeth Ann Summers
Jesse Daniel Tresouthick
Kendahl Agatha Wakey
Sara Rita Weldon
Drew Christopher Wenzelman
Olivia Cecilia White
Lucas Columbanus Wood*

Questions Catholics Ask
Who are the twelve?

The Twelve are listed in Mark, Matthew, Luke and Acts. Luke's two books show the most enthusiasm for this group, using "Twelve" frequently and interchangeably with "apostles." John refers to the Twelve only twice and never lists them.

The listings betray a hierarchy. Four names top every list: brothers Simon Peter and Andrew, and Zebedee's sons James and John. Peter is always first. The other three vary. The next grouping is shuffled but consistent: Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, and Thomas. The surprise is Bartholomew, who never speaks and of whom nothing is known.

The final four are James, son of Alphaeus; a disciple known as Thaddeus or Judas, son of James; Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, closing every listing as the least esteemed.

With two Simons, two James, and possibly three Judases, epithets or nicknames are added. Simon Peter is distinguished from the Zealot. Zebedee's James is "the Greater," and Alphaeus' son "the Lesser." Thaddeus/Judas, assuming the same position on various lists, is shortened to Jude to lose the reviled name. Thomas is called "Judas, not the Iscariot" in John's gospel and other extra-biblical texts. That identification is simply dropped.

In John's gospel, Andrew, Peter, Philip, and Nathanael are the original recruits. Nathanael? Since Philip recruits Nathanael, and Philip is paired with Bartholomew elsewhere, the idea that Nathanael IS Bartholomew is suggested. John gives Zebedee's sons only a vague post-resurrection nod. John favors other followers: Sanhedrin member Nicodemus; Mary, Martha, and Lazarus of Bethany; Mary Magdalene, Joseph of Arimathea, and an unnamed "beloved" disciple. Thomas plays a heftier role, as does Judas. After Easter, Luke says, Matthias replaces Judas. The symbolic authority of Twelve lasts for a generation. As each is martyred, none are replaced.

Scriptures: Mark 3:14-19; Matthew 10:1-4; Luke 6:12-16; John 1:37-51; 3:1-15; 6:70-71; 11:16; 13:23; 18:15-16; 14:22; 19:26-27, 38-42; 20:1-29; 21:1-2, 7, 20-25; Acts 1:13



Apostles of Jesus

ST JOHN PAUL II CATHOLIC CHURCH

PRESENTS
DAMIEN

A ONE-MAN PLAY BY ALDYTH MORRIS - AN INSPIRATIONAL TRUE STORY

"A brilliant portrayal of a modern day saint."

"A must see for anyone who believes in real heroes."

"Wayne Messmer brings Father Damien to life telling an unforgettable true story of love for one's fellow man."

"Damien is a hero for men and women for all ages. His character is a glowing example of what faith and courage looks like."



"The world needs more men of real conviction like Father Damien"

"This performance is highly recommended to anyone who believes in the power of the truth of one voice."

"A theatrical event that I shall never forget..."

"Wayne Messmer delivers a truly amazing portrayal of a truly remarkable man."

WAYNE MESSMER

AS FATHER (Saint) DAMIEN, "THE LEPER PRIEST OF MOLOKAI"

Produced by: WPM Productions, Inc.

FRIDAY, MAY 17, 2024 ~ 7:00pm

ST JOHN PAUL II CATHOLIC CHURCH
 907 S 9TH Ave., Kankakee, IL 60901

TICKETS ON SALE NOW

\$15.00 per person

www.jp2kankakee.org/damien

"I feel as though I actually met Father Damien... and I will always remember him"



God's Blessings on the First Communicants at St. Margaret Mary: Avery Adams, Preston Bauer, Reed Bauer, Quinn Bufford, Gianna Ciavrocchi, Gavin Down, Kate Fulton, Madelyn Patchett, John Wepprecht



May 5, 2024

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

Acts 10:25-36, 34-35, 44-48 | 1 Jn 14:23 | Jn 15:9-17

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

“As the Father loves me, so I also love you ... If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love.” We don’t earn God’s love - it is freely given to us. But only by loving God and others, and by keeping his commandments, do we *remain* in that love as our source of life and joy. It becomes the air we breathe, and the breath we exhale. Today’s second reading and Gospel reassure us of the love of God, but also give us a few specifics for how to live in and remain in that love - self-sacrifice and prayer. We are to love one another as Jesus loves us, and we know what that looks like from his life: feeding the hungry, caring for the sick, forgiving one another, and more. Living in the way Jesus instructs is not simply completing a checklist of things to do, however. It’s a way of life - to live in God’s love and to demonstrate his love with our outward actions. When we do so, we are helping bring about the kingdom in a very real way. It’s not complicated. We begin by acting in accordance with the truth that the person in front of us is loved by God.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

The message of the Gospel is countercultural and upends many convictions about what is true, good, and beautiful. What Jesus says can seem upside down to us, as it certainly did to the people of his time! Even the disciples, who walked with Jesus, didn’t fully grasp all of what Jesus had told them until after he had been raised from the dead and appeared in their midst and shared food with them. And even after they understood, they didn’t live it perfectly, nor do we. The things of this world we can mistakenly think are important get in the way of loving as we ought, and they shape our behavior and vision of the world. To counter that, we must focus in on what the Lord is saying and what that demands of us. What exactly that will look like in our lives is the provenance of prayer. Ask for God’s help in loving all those we come across, even (and especially) those we may not particularly care for. He will answer our prayers and show us the way.

WITNESS Think of someone you know personally or whom you know of, who is particularly difficult to *like*. Create a plan to *love* them this week - either through praying for them, or interacting with them in a charitable, selfless way.

6th Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024: Acts 10:25-26,34-35,44-48 | Ps 98:1-4 | 1 Jn 4:7-10 | Jn 15:9-17

Pray: My Lord and my God, abide in me, dwell in me, work with me, and love others through me so my joy will be complete. Amen.

Know Christ, Love Christ, and Love Christ in Others.

"Love one another as I have loved you," says Jesus. At the heart of all Christian faith are the words of the apostle John, who says that God's very being is love. "God is love, and whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him." In today's Gospel, Jesus says, "You are to love one another....it is I who chose you."

Has God chosen us to love everyone? Some people are easy to love, especially those who act and think like us. At times, though, it can be difficult to show love towards family and friends we generally like, let alone those outside our circle of friendship. Why is this? The main reason we have trouble loving others is sin, both ours and the sin of those we are trying to love. Without the power and grace of God, we can be very selfish. Without God's grace, it's easier for us to love ourselves and prioritize our own time, wants, needs, and narrow-minded wills than to love others through the eyes of God, whose holy will is always in our best interest.

Jesus never promised that love would be easy. He showed love and compassion to everyone, even those who mocked and hated Him. He embodied love in all His words and deeds, showing love back to those who hurt Him and those nobody else seemed to care about. He especially loved the poor, vulnerable, marginalized, and excluded. Jesus was unafraid to show love by setting



healthy boundaries, sharing hard truths with the lost, and giving correction and forgiveness to those who repented to direct them on the right path.

God's love is divine, and we are mere humans with too much reliance on our feelings and selfish

attitudes, so how can we possibly love everyone as God commands? God demonstrated His love for us through the ultimate sacrifice of Jesus, His only Son, who suffered, died, and rose again to save us. He showed us that love is a sacrifice of ourselves for others. The more we know Jesus, the more we love Him, and we will want to love Christ as reflected in the faces of others. Every time we receive Christ's Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity in the Holy Eucharist and we trust in the Holy Spirit to guide us, Jesus strengthens us to love as He loves.

Reflect & Discuss:

- † How have you experienced God's love for you? How have you seen God's love revealed in the lives of others?
- † How can you give the love of Christ to someone this week? How can we love others by sharing Christ's truth and hope?
- † How does loving others fulfill our joy in the Lord?
- † How does receiving the Eucharist help us to love others better?