

Welcome to the QUAD PARISHES!

ST. MARY'S, SACRED HEART, VISITATION, & ST. SEBASTIAN

PASTOR: REVEREND TEDDY ADUKUS

TADUKUS@DIO.ORG

QUADPARISHES1.ORG

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time *September 13 2026*



MASS TIMES

If you are new to our parish please visit our website www.quadparishes1.org to register. We look forward to meeting you. The office is located at 306 E. Birch St., PO Box 20, New Berlin, IL 62670.

CONTACT US

PARISH OFFICE: 217-488-3545

HOURS: 8:30AM-1:30 PM Monday-Friday
secretary@quadparishes1.org

Weekdays:

Mon. 8:00AM Visitation
Tues. 5:30PM St. Mary's
6:00PM Adoration
Wed. 8:00AM Sacred Heart
Fri. 8:00AM St. Sebastian
No Mass on Thursday

Weekends:

Saturday:
4:00PM Visitation
5:45PM St. Sebastian
Sunday:
8:00AM Sacred Heart
10:00AM St. Mary's

Confession Times-Sat.- 3:00-3:40 PM Visitation
Tues.-6:00-6:30 PM St. Mary's

Other times by appointment

“FORGIVE FROM THE HEART”

This Sunday’s Gospel continues Jesus’ teaching about life in the Christian community. Last Sunday, Jesus spoke about correcting a brother or sister who has gone wrong. Today Peter raises another very practical question: “Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive him? As many as seven times?” (Matt 18:21)

Peter probably thinks he is being generous. Seven times sounds like a lot. But Jesus answers: “Not seven times, but seventy-seven times.” Jesus is not asking Peter to keep a larger record of offences. He is saying that forgiveness cannot be reduced to a number. For the Christian, forgiveness must become a way of life.

Jesus then tells the parable of a servant who owes his king an enormous debt, a debt he could never repay. When the servant begs for patience, the king is moved with compassion and cancels the entire debt. But the same servant goes out and meets a fellow servant who owes him a much smaller amount. Instead of showing the mercy he has just received, he grabs the man and demands immediate payment.

The contradiction is clear. He has received mercy, but he refuses to give mercy. This is the heart of today’s Gospel. God has forgiven us far more than we will ever be asked to forgive another person. Every time we pray the Our Father, we say: “Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.” We cannot ask God for mercy while refusing it completely to others.

Forgiveness, however, does not mean pretending that nothing happened. It does not mean calling evil good, nor does it mean that trust must immediately return after it has been broken. Some wounds take time to heal. Sometimes justice, distance or clear boundaries are necessary. Forgiveness means refusing to allow anger, hatred and the desire for revenge to take possession of our hearts.

The first reading reminds us of this very strongly: “Wrath and anger are hateful things, yet the sinner hugs them tight.” (Sirach 27:30). Sometimes we hold on to resentment because we believe it gives us power over the person who hurt us. In reality, resentment often keeps the wound alive within us. The person we refuse to forgive may have moved on, while we continue carrying the pain.

Jesus therefore calls us to something difficult but freeing: forgive from the heart. Sometimes forgiveness happens slowly. We may have to choose it again and again. We may even have to pray, “Lord, I want to forgive, but I am not there yet. Help me.” That prayer itself can be the beginning of healing.

Today the Gospel asks each of us a simple question: Is there someone I still hold imprisoned in my heart because of what they did to me? We live because God has shown us mercy. The more deeply we understand how much we ourselves have been forgiven, the more capable we become of offering mercy to others. A Christian community grows not because its members never hurt one another, but because they learn, with God’s help, to forgive and begin again.

May the Lord forgive us where we have not been fully responsive to His Word and grant us also the grace to forgive those who have offended us, Amen.

Mass Intentions

Mon.	9/14	Mr. & Mrs. E.B. Eck (<i>Bob & Lola Eck</i>)
Tues.	9/15	Jane Sullivan-Ishii (<i>Jodi Marr</i>)
Wed.	9/16	Bernice Bergschneider (<i>Frances Lawless & Family</i>)
Thu.	9/17	No Mass
Fri.	9/18	No Intention
Sat.	9/19	
	4:00 PM	Cheryl Danner (<i>Kevin & Christi Degroot</i>)
	5:45 PM	Russel & Marie Jackson (<i>Linda Wohlers Famil</i>)
Sun.	9/20	
	8:00 AM	Our Holy Father, Cardinal, Bishops & Priests & Seminarians (<i>Pam Blackorby</i>)
	10:00 AM	Jeannine Frank (<i>Alice Moss</i>)

Next week our parish will take up a collection to support the **Solidarity Fund for the Church in Africa**. As the Church in Africa grows, its need for pastoral leaders increases. The Solidarity Fund supports pastoral projects that build the capacity of the Church and foster lasting peace and reconciliation across a continent often marked by division and tension. To learn more, visit www.usccb.org/africa. iGiveCatholic also accepts funds for this appeal if you prefer to donate online (see QR code).



Parish Offering As of 9/10/2026

	SM	SH	V	SS
Env.	\$6,550	\$1,390	\$307	\$684
Online	\$312	\$212	\$000	\$100
Weekly	\$6,862	\$1,602	\$307	\$784
YTD Giving	\$20,548	\$13,348	\$7,873	\$4,520
YTD Budget	\$23,821	\$16,332	\$8,007	\$6,516
YTD Net	-\$3,273	-\$2,984	-\$135	-\$1,996

Online Giving QR Codes



St. Mary's



Sacred Heart



Visitation



St. Sebastian

Important Dates

Sept. 20-Church in Africa-2nd collection
Sept. 20-1st day of PSR for 2nd & 3rd grade
Sept 22-24-No Mass
Sept 27-1st group PSR/potluck after mass-SM

Pray for our sick Parishioners

Janet Blankenship, Sarah Simpson, Louise Lenn, Sue Lowder, Kathy Gordon, Barb Johnson, Mary Lee Staley, Joe Gaston, Lisa Richardson, Mary Hemberger, Roseanne Hartley, Calyssa Richie, Mary McCray, Heather Boudreau, Sy Haber, Donna Reichart, Joyce Henn, Paul Sweet, Carol Bold, Nancy Blankenship, Jackie Hamilton, Kathy Norman, Kathy Piel, Russ Adams, Suzanne Berry, Carol Peterson, Alice Greenwood, Matt Cumby, Kevin Howell.

Thank you for your generous support during last weeks collection for **The Catholic University of America!** All together our parishes **raised \$672** to support Catholic education and form tomorrow's Catholic leaders. If you missed the collection, it's not too late to give! Scan the QR code on the provided envelopes or visit: collection.Catholic.edu

New Berlin Community

Saturday, October 10 8:00 am-11:00 am

Donate on ImpactLife Donor Bus
Knights of Columbus #4372
715 East Illinois St

Successful donors get choice of egift card, donation to charity, or bonus points to use in our Donor Rewards Store!



To schedule, scan the QR Code,
visit bloodcenter.org
or call ImpactLife at 800-747-5401.

Last date to donate elsewhere: 8/15/26
Group Code: 60033

Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time to make **St. Sebastian's Cemetery Mass** a success. We are also grateful to all who attended and donated. A total of **\$1,745** was raised to support the ongoing upkeep of the cemetery. It's not too late to contribute. Donations may be mailed to the parish office; please make checks payable to **St. Sebastian Cemetery**.

FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY

Next **Sunday September 20** is St. Mary's Food Pantry Sunday.

- Any nonperishable boxed, bagged, or canned item is welcome.
- Pasta, jarred pasta sauce, peanut butter, jelly, cereal and pancake mix are all great options.
- Alternatively, as you shop, consider picking up duplicates of nonperishable items your own family enjoys.

Please join us for a fun and joyful

PARISH PSR POTLUCK

ALL PARISHIONERS INVITED

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27
FOLLOWING 10AM MASS
ST MARY'S PARISH CENTER

- Sandwiches & Lemonade Provided
- Sign up to bring a side/dessert at the back of the church by 9/20

We currently have **no volunteers** for **Coffee & Donuts (SM)** next weekend, **Sept. 20**. If you can host please contact the parish office or sign up in the back of church.

The Friends of the Library annual book and bake sale runs Fri, Sept 18-Sun, Sept 20 at the West Sangamon Public Library. This year the bake sale will run Sunday, too, during the Homecoming parade!

ENJOY GOD'S CREATION WITH A

Nature Hike



Sunday, October 18th at 4:30 pm
Weather Permitting

1989 Old Jacksonville Rd
(King's House)

- All Parishioner/PSR Families invited
- Dress for both the activity and the weather
- Hot dogs and smores provided
- BYO Lawnchairs

Do you have a sick family member who would like to receive Communion at home? Please call the parish office and leave your address and we will be happy to schedule a visit.

Vocations Corner

You know the stories that get passed down from one generation to the next in your family? Do you know the story of St. Francis Xavier Cabrini, the Italian religious sister who emigrated to the U.S. and founded schools, hospitals, and orphanages? Watch the 2024 movie Cabrini to learn her story.



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