Welcome To The Quad Parishes!

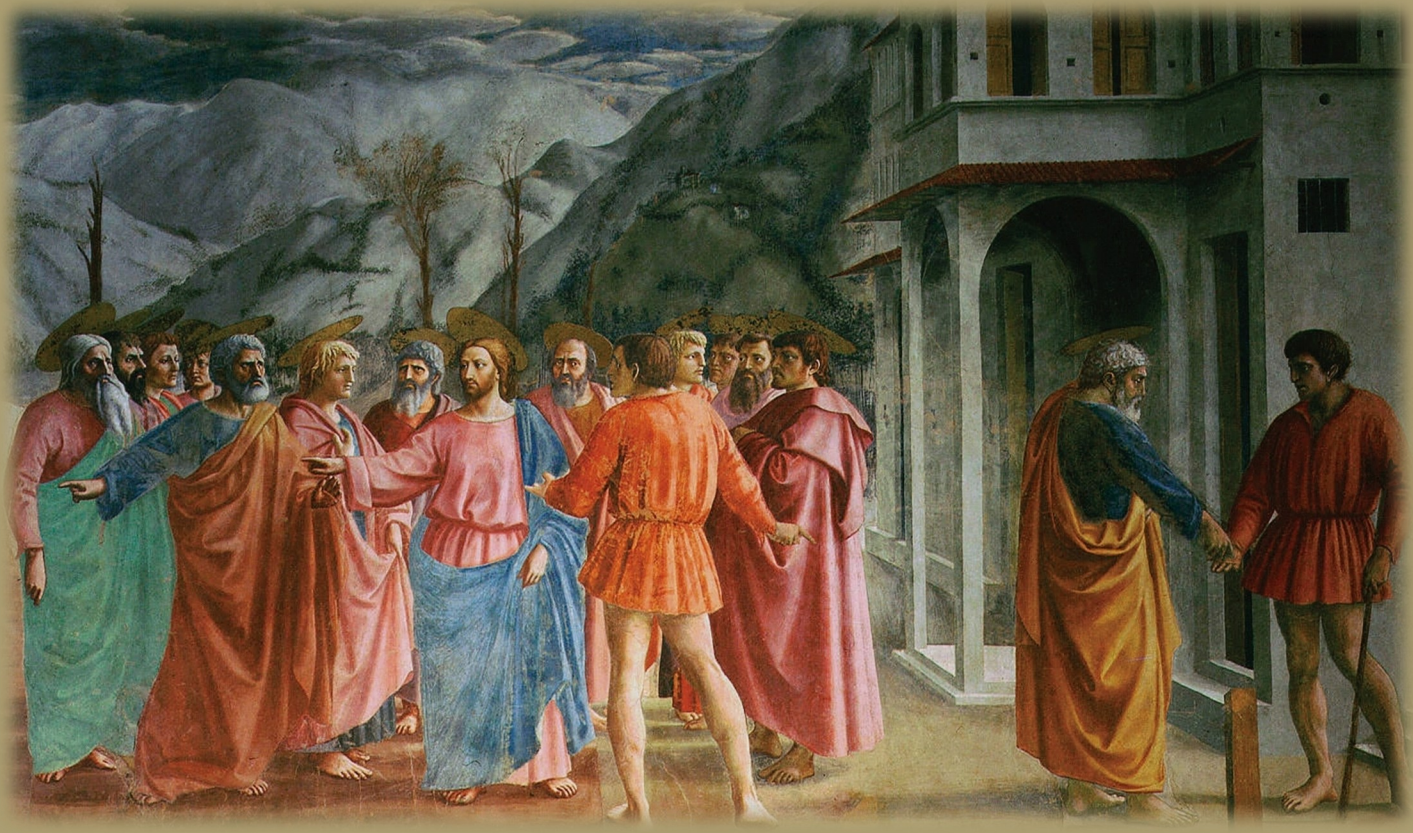
St. Mary's, Sacred Heart, Visitation & St. Sebastian

PASTOR: REVEREND TEDDY ADUKUS

TADUKUS@DIO.ORG

QUADPARISHES1.ORG

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 18, 2026



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

Mass Times

Weekdays:	Weekends:
Mon. 8:00AM Visitation	Saturday:
Tues. 5:30PM St. Mary's	4:00PM Visitation
6:00PM Adoration	5:45PM St. Sebastian
Wed. 8:00AM Sacred Heart	Sunday:
Fri. 8:00AM St. Sebastian	8:00AM Sacred Heart

Confession Times- Sat.- 3:00-3:40 PM Visitation

Tues.- 6:00-6:30 PM St. Mary's

Other times by appointment

Pastor's Pen

"GIVE TO GOD WHAT BELONGS TO GOD".

This Sunday's Gospel begins with a trap. The Pharisees and the Herodians come to Jesus with a question: "Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?" It sounds like a simple question, but it is dangerous. If Jesus says no, he can be accused of rebellion against Rome. If he says yes, he risks disappointing those who resent Roman occupation. They are not really looking for truth. They are looking for something they can use against him.

Jesus sees through them. He asks for the coin used to pay the tax and says, "Whose image is this and whose inscription?" They answer, "Caesar's." Then Jesus gives the famous reply: _ "Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."

Jesus does not teach us to ignore our responsibilities in society. Christians live in the real world. We pay taxes, obey just laws, contribute to the common good, vote responsibly and respect legitimate authority. The first reading even shows God working through Cyrus, a foreign ruler, to accomplish his purposes. Political authority has a place in human society.

Mass Intentions

Mon.	10/19	† Jackie Hermes *(JR & Allinson Hermes)*
Tues.	10/20	† Jackie Hermes *(Alice Moss)*
Wed.	10/21	† Sharon Johnson *(Bev Watson)*
Thu.	10/22	**No Mass**
Fri.	10/23	† Dick Hall *(Pam Blackorby)*
Sat.	10/24	
4:00 PM		† Ann Craig *(Cathy Stephenson)*
5:45 PM		† Kathy Piel *(Jean Ann Fitzpatrick)*
Sun.	10/25	
8:00 AM		† Ron Fuchs *(Family)*
10:00 AM		† Ed Cantrell *(Shari Cantrell & Kids)*

But Jesus adds something much greater: "Give to God what belongs to God." Caesar may have his image stamped on a coin, but the human person bears the image of God. The coin can go back to Caesar. Our whole life belongs to God. Christian tradition has often understood Jesus' words in precisely this way: our responsibility to civil authority is real, but our belonging to God is deeper and more complete.

This means that no government, political party, employer, ideology or public figure can take God's place in our conscience. We should be good citizens, but we are Christians first. When human authority asks what is good and just, we should cooperate. But when loyalty to any human power begins to demand what belongs to God alone, the Christian must remember where his deepest loyalty lies.

The Gospel also asks us to examine something more personal. We often give God only a small part of ourselves: one hour on Sunday, a quick prayer in the morning, perhaps some money to the Church. Then the rest of life becomes "mine." My business, my relationships, my money, my plans. But Jesus reminds us that God does not ask only for a small religious corner of our lives. He asks for the whole person.

So, the question today is not only, "What do I owe the government?" The deeper question is: "What do I owe God?" I owe him my worship, my conscience, my love, my honesty, my decisions and the way I treat other people.

The coin carried Caesar's image and could be returned to Caesar. We carry God's image. So, when Jesus says, "Give to God what belongs to God," he is speaking about us. The most important offering we can place before God is not simply what is in our pocket. It is our life.

May God help us serve him always.

Prayers for Our Deceased Parishioners

Please keep the families of two of our quad-parish members in your prayers. We grieve the recent passings of **Kathy Piel** of **St. Sebastian** and **Susanne "Susie" Evans** of **Sacred Heart**. We offer our prayers for the repose of their souls and extend our deepest sympathy to their loved ones. May the Lord grant them comfort, peace, and the hope of the Resurrection.

Parish Offering As Of October 15, 2026

	SM	SH	V	SS
Envelope	$ 1,138	$ 1,214	$ 365	$ 1,195
Online	$ 312	$ 212	$ 000	$ 000
Weekly Total	$ 1,250	$ 1,214	$ 365	$ 1,320
YTD Giving	$30,585	$ 18,044	$ 10,253	$ 6,696
YTD Budget	$ 33,350	$ 22,865	$ 11,210	$ 9,122
YTD Net	-$ 2,765	-$ 4,821	-$ 958	-$2,426

Online Giving QR Codes

St. Mary's | Sacred Heart | Visitation | St. Sebastian

Important Dates

Oct 18-World Mission Sunday
Nov 2-Pastoral Council Meeting-6pm
Nov 4-Finance Council Meeting-6pm

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, Russ Adams, Suzanne Berry, Carol Peterson, Alice Greenwood, Matt Cumby, Kevin Howell, Todd Smith.

The Gift of a Mass Intention Did you know that you can request a Mass to be offered for anyone, living or deceased? Offering the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is a beautiful Catholic tradition and a powerful way to lift up your loved ones. You can schedule an intention for a family member, a friend, or even yourself! It is a wonderful way to celebrate birthdays, weddings, and anniversaries, or to pray for the repose of the soul of someone who has passed away. To schedule a Mass intention, please contact the parish office at 217-953-0776 or stop by M-F 8:30 am-1:30 pm.

We are looking for new members who are male Catholic gentlemen, 18 years of age or older, who have an interest in enhancing their church and local communities. Contact Kevin Kirsch at 217-685-1819.

FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY

Next **Sunday October 18** 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.



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.

SAVE THE DATE: All the ladies of the Quad Parishes are invited to **Advent by Candlelight on Sunday, Dec 6th** at the K of C Hall in New Berlin. More details coming soon, text or **call Anne Marie Williams with questions**: **309-339-7918.** Two things to know about Advent by Candlelight: 1) this is a community outreach event, the invite is open to all the women of the quad parishes areas (and Loami!). A notice will be going in the New Berlin Bee and the Waverly Journal, and flyers will go out to local churches. 2) Of course, please invite your mom, sister, daughter, friend. But if they can't make it, just bring yourself. Truly. You don't have to have a "plus one." You can come solo. There's a place for you.

Bishop's Brunch Sign-Up: Please sign up on the sheet in the back of church if you plan to attend the celebratory brunch during the Bishop's visit on **Sunday, December 13.**

Today is World Mission Sunday. Catholics around the world unite in prayer and generosity for the missions. Your gift supports priests, religious, catechists, and the Church where she is too young, too poor, or too persecuted to support herself.

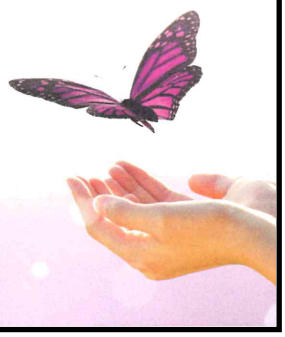
Vocations Corner

Before your (grand)children can discern their own vocations, they need to see you living your faith actively. Do they see you watching religious content on YouTube, TV, or reading religious books or magazines?

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