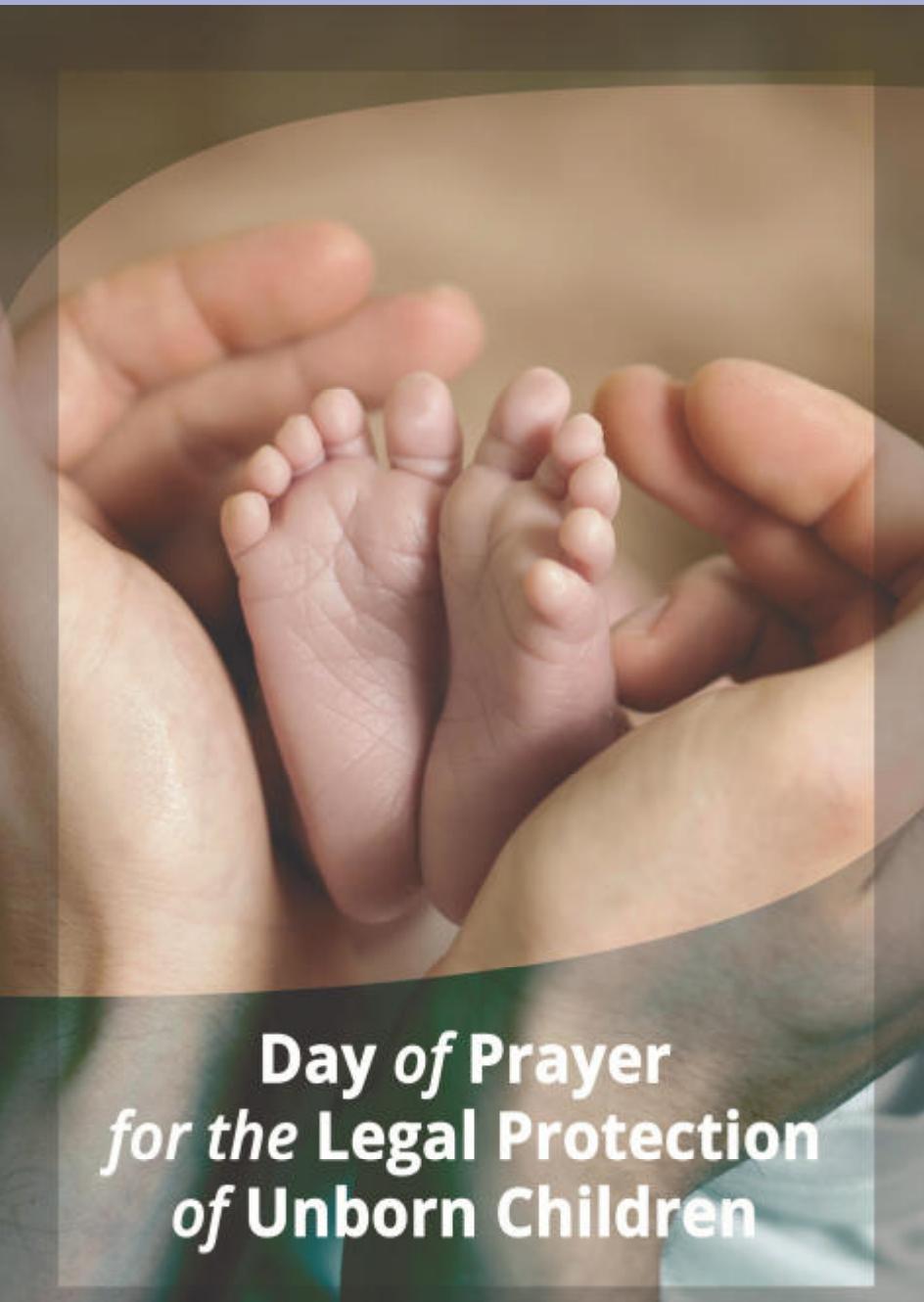


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Catholic Church

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**Day of Prayer
for the Legal Protection
of Unborn Children**

January 16 - 17

**2nd Sunday in
Ordinary Time**

**Fr. Ervin Pio M. Caliente
Pastor**

**Fr. James C. Canova
Associate Pastor**

**Deacon Robert Collins
Deacon Kevin Hunter
Deacon John Huntley**

MASS TIMES

Weekdays

Monday - Saturday8:15am

Weekend

Saturday (Vigil)4:30 pm
Sunday8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am

Confessions

Tuesdays**6 - 7 pm**
Saturdaysfollowing 8:15 am Mass
and 3:30 - 4:15 pm

Adoration

M - F 3- 8 pm (Chapel)
Tuesday 7- 8 pm
(Church)
Thursday6:30 - 7:30 pm
(Church)

Holy Days: Mass schedule may vary.
Please check bulletin, website or call the
Church Office

Baptisms/Weddings

Please call the parish office to
arrange baptisms and weddings.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Friday 9:00 - 5:00 pm

CLOSED for lunch...12:30 to 1:30 pm

PASTOR'S LETTER

Beloved,

Praised be Jesus Christ!



I was watching a television program a few days ago and a man was talking about new year's resolutions. During this time of the year, we usually think of what we can do to achieve a particular goal to make our quality of life better for us and those around us. The man mentioned that the best new year's resolution is "rest solution". He advocates for longer sleep and mentioned that seven to nine hours of sleep will help us in many of our problems both physical, psychological and also relational.

Our loving Father has made us for rest. From the very beginning, work and rest bring about a balance in life and make it pleasant and good. The Roman Catholic monks, particularly Saint Benedict, spoke of "ora et labora", "work and prayer" as the foundation of a good life. Work makes our body and mind healthy and sharers in the creative power of God. Prayer allows us to rest with God, particularly in the beginning and end of every day. Prayer allows us to digest all the experiences of the day and surrender everything to God that we may have a restful night. The book of Genesis also recounts the creation of the world, saying that God is at work until the seventh day, which He designated as a day for rest.

That seventh day is now for us Christians the Sunday of rest. Sunday is a day to celebrate the most beautiful event of the Resurrection of Jesus. It is a day for faith, family and rest. It is a day that should be different from the others. It is a day where rest and recreation is commenced with worship, adoration and thanksgiving.

To be able to rest properly, it is recommended that nothing in our bedroom or place of prayer and rest distracts us. Right now, the number one enemy of rest is attachment to our gadgets that leads to hours of screen time. Even science reports that screen time destroys sleep. So for those who love reading, I recommend the old method of reading an actual book instead of a tablet.

In all of these, developing a good habit is key. Good habits are turned into virtues and virtues are key to making good decisions, that ultimately leads to a good, healthy and happy life. Bad habits on the other hand are turned into vices that lead to addictions and then to misery and other problems.

So this year, let's pray for each others' new year's rest solution. Plan, everyday, on how to get more quality sleep and rest. With good daily planning and the help of our guardian angel, I pray that you may have this quality rest and wake up every morning of 2021 rested and refreshed by the goodness of our good God.

In His Merciful Heart,

Fr. Caliente



2nd
Sunday
in
Ordinary
Time

Today's readings focus on the attributes of being a disciple of Christ. Our journey as disciples is an ongoing adventure. To grow on this journey, we can seek first the Kingdom of God, listen to God's voice in our lives, and be good stewards of what He has gifted us.

Take time, each day, in silence and ask the Lord what it is that He wants you to do.

WE ARE A STEWARDSHIP PARISH

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR JANUARY 9 - 10

Stewardship of Treasure (212)	\$9,035.00
Loose Collection	\$233.00
Electronic Transfers (21)	\$786.00
Immaculate Conception (1)	\$25.00
Christmas (8).....	\$525.00
Solemnity of Mary (8).....	\$176.00

St. Rita Home & School Calendar Raffle Fun Facts



The **2020** annual Home & School calendar raffle generated **\$16,000** in profit. Total payouts were **\$14,175** to the winners.

There were 315 different winning tickets pulled, 46 of them were pulled twice and one lucky ticket was pulled 5 times! The person with that one lucky ticket actually won another time on a second ticket they purchased, so they had 6 winners in total for the year! In fact most of you buy more than one ticket and it does increase your odds of winning. When counting winnings on multiple tickets 83 people won twice, 13 people won 3 times, 2 of you won four times, and again we had a lucky 6 time winner. The profit from the raffle combines with the Race for Education profit to offset tuition costs, provide some tuition aide and fund the numerous technology and facility projects that are beyond the scope of the normal school budget.

Want to be a winner this year? Tickets still available at both the school and parish offices.

MAGNIFICAT SUBSCRIBERS

Your **February** issue is now available for pick-up in the Church Office. Office hours are from 9 to 5. We are closed for lunch from 12:30 - 1:30 pm.

NEED PRAYER ?
Please call our Prayer Line
(815) 226-4376



Monday, January 18 • Weekday

(Martin Luther King, Jr.)

8:15 am † Bill Schwarzbach (Richard & Nancy Zemaitis)

Tuesday, January 19 • Weekday

8:15 am † Mark Harmon (Glenn & Eileen Trenholm)

Wednesday, January 20 • Ss. Fabian & Sebastian

8:15 am † Bernice Croushore (Kathy Petrak)

Thursday, January 21 • St. Agnes

8:15 am Special Intentions for the Sewing Ministry (Patty Powers)

Friday, January 22 • Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of the Unborn

8:15 am † Rose Klym (Shives Family)

Saturday, January 23 • St. Marianne & St. Vincent

8:15 am † Amber Alberts (S.V.D.P.)

Vigil for 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30 pm † Heidi & Mark Buffington (Trudy Stroyan)

Sunday, January 24 • 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am † Dennis Bachta (Family)

9:30 am † Michael Tyson (Reyes Family)

11:00am † Mark Harmon (Glen & Eileen Trenholm)

SANCTUARY LAMP MEMORIALS

Memorial candles are located near the tabernacles and in front of the St. Rita icon. Consider offering a candle in memory of someone special or as a special intention. Candles for the week of January 17 - 23 are being offered for:



Chapel: † Deceased Members of Family (Jane Polnow)

Church: † Paul Misiunas (Dorothy Cieskus)

St. Rita: † Deceased Souls of the Unborn

Readings for the week of January 17, 2021

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| Sunday: | 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9,
10 [8a, 9a]/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/
Jn 1:35-42 |
| Monday: | Heb 5:1-10/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4 [4b]/Mk 2:18-
22 |
| Tuesday: | Heb 6:10-20/Ps 111:1-2, 4-5, 9 and 10c [5]/
Mk 2:23-28 |
| Wednesday: | Heb 7:1-3, 15-17/Ps 110:1, 2, 3, 4 [4b]/
Mk 3:1-6 |
| Thursday: | Heb 7:25—8:6/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17
[8a and 9a]/Mk 3:7-12 |
| Friday: | Heb 8:6-13/Ps 85:8 and 10, 11-12, 13-14
[11a]/Mk 3:13-19 |
| Saturday: | Heb 9:2-3, 11-14/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 [6]/
Mk 3:20-21 |
| Next Sunday: | Jon 3:1-5, 10/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [4a]/
1 Cor 7:29-31/Mk 1:14-20 |

FOR A CHILD IS BORN TO US, A SON IS GIVEN US ...

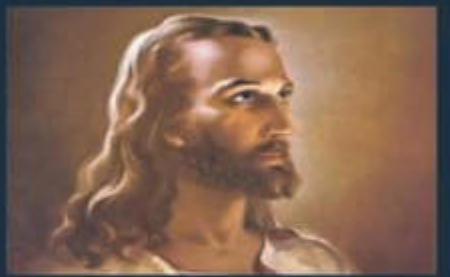


ROCKFORD WALK FOR LIFE Saturday Jan. 23rd, 2021 - 10:00am

The walk begins and ends at the Rockford Federal Courthouse 327 So. Church St., Plenty of free public parking near the Courthouse.

ROCKFORD WALK FOR LIFE

Please join us in prayer, to hear inspiring speakers, and to walk with our fellow Christians as a witness to Christ's love for the unborn and to pray that the Roe V. Wade decision is overturned.



Speakers Include:

Hope Miller, President Crusaders for Life

Chris Iverson, Chicago Pro-Life Future

Danniel Pribble, Rockford Family Initiative

Joe & Ann Scheidler, Pro-Life Action League

"Whatever you do to the least of My people you do unto Me"

YOU are needed to be a witness for

CHRIST & LIFE



Join us for the First Rockford Walk for Life

This will take place On Saturday, January 23 at 10am. You can meet us there or we encourage you to start the morning with our 8:15am Daily Mass & Devotions. We will have pre-packaged muffins for the taking. We will then drive to the Courthouse. Please dress for the weather and wear something blue if possible.

THEY NAME HIM WONDER-COUNSELOR, GOD - HERO,



PREPARE AHEAD

St. Rita will be sending out charitable contribution statements soon. The majority of statements go out by e-mail, unless you have notified us to send them by mail. If you need to update your e-mail, phone number or address, please do so as soon as possible. Contact the Church Office or e-mail us at: parishoffice@stritarockford.org with your current information so that we can change our records. Thank you for working with us.

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December 8, 2020 – December 8, 2021

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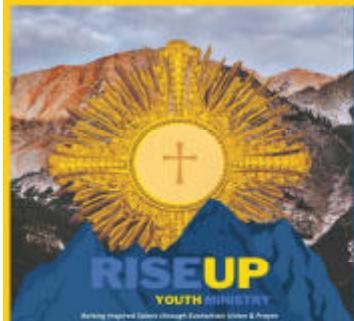
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♦ Sign up today to attend the upcoming virtual Worldwide Marriage Encounter Lenten experience February 18 - March 31 once per week.

♦ Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit our website at: alifetimeoflove.org or call (888) 574-5653.



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THAT MAN IS YOU IS
CONTINUING INTO 2021!

EVERY SATURDAY
6:30 AM - 7:45 AM
BEGINNING JANUARY 23

SESSIONS ARE VIRTUAL ONLY

Overview of the NEW Meeting Format

A NEW WAY TO DO WHAT WE DID BEFORE
You will receive an email link to join a Zoom meeting from our group. Join by clicking on the link and you will be added via your computer or you can dial in and have audio access. Everyone joins the same video conference at the start of the meeting - Welcome / opening prayer / and comments.

For more information & please contact
Dale Dickinson
malibu9280@hotmail.com

PRAYERS FOR OUR SICK AND HOSPITALIZED

The current list of our sick and hospitalized parishioners and relatives is as follows:

Bill Easton, Richard Whidby, Greg Beaufils, Val Guyer, Joyce Martensen, Patricia Wright, Angel Torres, Rosemarie Niederman, Lillian Bola

To add or remove the name of a sick person, please call the parish office at: (815) 398-0853 and leave a message on ext. 202, or email: bohara@stritarockford.org. For privacy protection, only names emailed or called in by family members will be added. In order to keep the list current, names will remain on the list for one (1) month. If you would like the name to remain on the list, please call the parish office so that we may add it again.

FATHER- FOREVER, PRINCE OF PEACE



JANUARY Month of Mary Mother of God

This month we celebrate the Feast of Mary the Mother of God. Join us on Tuesday nights at 6 pm, in the Church, to pray the Rosary. Let us also remember that in January we pray for all those affected by the passing of Roe vs. Wade. More significantly on Tuesday, January 19th, four days before the Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children. We will pray for all infants who have lost their lives due to an abortion.

Pope Francis's intention for January is: Human fraternity: "May the Lord give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all".

We will continue to practice social distancing and the wearing of masks. Consider staying after and spend some private time of prayer with our Lord in Adoration from 7 – 8 PM.



THE BLESSED SACRAMENT IS EXPOSED DAILY 3:00-8:00 pm Monday-Friday IN THE CHAPEL

Thank you to all the Adorers that have signed up to fill all the one hour spots. It is preferable that we have two Adorers for each hour in cases where one cannot be present. There is a need to fill a few more spots with a second Adorer.

If you are willing to spend an hour with our Lord every week, please sign up for one of the remaining open hours listed below:

Monday 4:00-5:00 PM / 5:00-6:00 PM
Tuesdays 4:00-5:00 PM
Wednesdays 5:00-6:00 PM / 6:00-7:00 PM
Thursdays 4:00-5:00 PM
Fridays 4:00-5:00 PM / 5:00-6:00 PM /
6:00-7:00 PM / 7:00-8:00 PM

Christ is Longing for You: we are in need of Adorers that would be willing to be substitutes, when available, for a one hour Adoration slot as needed. Please call the office if you are willing to be listed as a substitute for Adoration. Adoration is available from 3:00 to 8:00 Monday through Friday. Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

Please register on our website at: stritarockford.org or contact the Church Office: (815) 398-0853.

SEWING MINISTRY NEWS

Greetings and Happy New Year to all St. Rita parishioners from the Sewing Ministry! In spite of our inability to meet in person this past year, the ladies of the Sewing Ministry were busy sewing at home. In 2020 the Sewing Ministry created 6690 items for our parishioners and other agencies in town. That total includes 4898 face masks, 483 Christmas stockings, 224 clothing protectors (adult bibs), 199 pillowcases, 114 decorative pillows, 81 stuffed toys, 73 winter hats, 67 baby blankets, and 56 Baptismal bibs. These items and more have been distributed to our community and our own parish. We continue to sew at home in the new year, and are hoping to be able to meet again soon. If there are any ladies who are getting bored at home and looking for something to do, we can supply you with fabric and patterns to create useful items, to be delivered to someone who can use them. Please contact the office if you are interested, and they will connect you to us. Stay well!



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ST. VINCENT
de PAUL

For help call 815-227-9031

All calls are confidential

Today Jesus asks us, What are we looking for?". Often we are looking for happiness and we usually find, that when we make others happy; we truly become happy ourselves.

So as you continue to generously give to St. Vincent de Paul, know that you are a sign of God's love to those who are suffering, and you give them reason to believe and trust. Thank you.

BOYLAN
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NEW DATE!

PLACEMENT EXAM

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23

**TIME 8:00 AM – 11:30 AM (ARRIVE BY 7:45 AM)
CHECK IN AT STUDENT ENTRANCE (DOOR D)**

Incoming freshmen for the 2021-2022 school year must take the high school placement exam to determine appropriate course placements. Students who score in the 95th percentile or above on the January exam will receive a \$4,000 tuition grant.

PRE-REGISTER NO LATER THAN JANUARY 18, 2021

SAINT RITA DIRECTORY

PASTORAL STAFF

Pastor *Fr. Ervin Caliente* 815-398-0853 x204
 Email..... frcaliente@stritarockford.org

Associate Pastor *Fr. James Canova* 815-398-0853 x203
 Email..... jcanova@rockforddiocese.org

Deacon, John Huntley..... 603-892-0373
 Email jchuntley49@gmail.com

Deacon, Kevin Hunter..... 815-633-5107
 Email lamhunter@comcast.net

Deacon, Robert Collins..... 815-905-0335
 Email robertgcollins@comcast.net

Business Manager, *Michael McGarry* 815-398-0853 x200
 Email mmcgarry@stritarockford.org

Principal, *Patrick Flanagan* 815-398-3466 x221
 Email pflanagan@saintritaschool.org

Office of Catechesis and Evangelization,
Joetta Haas, Director 815-398-0853 x208
 Email..... jhaas@stritarockford.org

Catechesis and Evangelization Assistant
Teddy Pfundstein..... 815-398-0853 x208
 Email tpfundstein@stritarockford.org

Coordinator of Liturgical Music
Cheryl Hochstetler 815-721-3130
 Email..... teachflute03@gmail.com

SUPPORT STAFF

Parish Office
 Email..... parishoffice@stritarockford.org

Parish Secretary
Kathleen Behrens..... 815-398-0853
 Email..... parishoffice@stritarockford.org

Parish Secretary
Becky O'Hara..... 815-398-0853
 Email..... parishoffice@stritarockford.org

Parish Secretary
Jean Peterson..... 815-398-0853
 Email parishoffice@stritarockford.org

School Secretary
Carrie Petrak..... 815-398-3466 x220
 Email schooloffice@saintritaschool.org

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

Athletics, *Joe Sutherland*..... 815-222-7808

Finance Council, *Todd Hughes*..... 815-670-1654

Knights of Columbus #7624, *Jason Sturges*..... grandknight7624@gmail.com

Pastoral Council, *Mike Peck* 815-494-8968

Respect Life, *Mary Kinney* 815-519-7066

Society of St. Vincent de Paul, *Laura Ortiz* 815-262-0206

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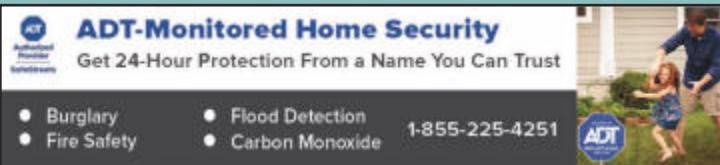
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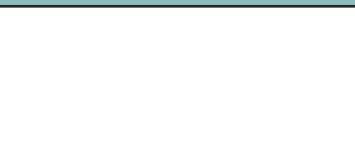
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