

www.saintmaryinbyron.org |815-234-7431| secretary@saintmaryinbyron.org

Fr. Richard Rosinski, Pastor Thomas Petit, Deacon 226 E. Second Street PO Box 1070 Byron, Illinois 61010-1070 Phone: (815) 234-7431 Fax: (815) 234-2133 Sacramental Emergencies 815-406-8193 Emailrichr@saintmaryinbyron.org (Need an Appointment With Fr Rich) **Mass Times** Weekend: Saturday 5PM Sunday 8:00AM & 10:45AM Weekday Mass

Tues, Wed , Thurs, Friday: 7:30AM Holy Day **See Bulletin**

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Fridays 8-8:30am Saturday 3:30-4:30pm

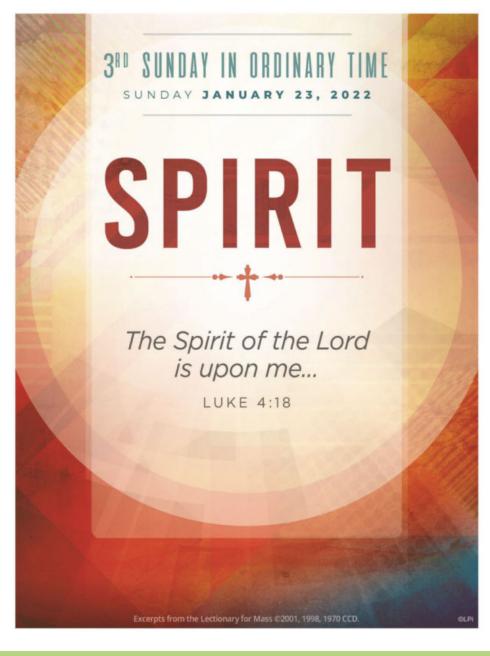




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Parish Office 226 E 2nd St | PO Box 1070 | Byron, IL 61010 (815) 234.7431 Mon-Thurs 8am-4pm (closed 12-1) lunch Fri 8-12pm ST Vincent de Paul - Helpline 815-406-8368



<u>Tuesday 1/25</u> 7:30am Michael Warren † SVDP <u>Wednesday 1/26</u> 7:30am Frank Merrion † P Detmer <u>Thursday 1/27</u> 7:30am Kathryn Biberstein † Bratta Family <u>Friday 1/28</u> 7:30am Danny Harper † SVDP

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

<u>Saturday 1/29</u>5pm John Dotzel † Family <u>Sunday 1/30</u> 8am Michael Medeisis † Rosinski Family 10:45am For the People



Please Pray for those who need our Prayers **For those who are sick**

All those on our Prayer List All those who have asked for Prayers

For those who have died

For all teachers, aids, and support staff

* For all those who are homebound, and In a nursing home, and unable to attend Mass

*For all those who are having surgery

*Please pray for our First Responders; Police, Fire and Paramedics and all our Civil Servants. All those serving to Protect us Doctors & Nurses all those on our prayer list and all those serving in the Military and their families our priest, and all priests.

Please Pray For Vocations



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As we listen to the passage this weekend from the Book of Nehemiah, the event described should sound familiar. Not necessarily from this event for the people of Israel, but from what happens every Sunday as we gather. Many of our liturgical practices are taken from or reflect on the Sacred Scriptures. This is one case! As we begin our prayer of the Mass every Sunday, the ministers

of God process into the sanctuary and the Book of the Gospels is carried to the altar. It is carried in procession so that the people can see it and to highlight its importance. Like the people of Israel who listened attentively to God's word read by the priest Ezra, so we listen attentively to God's word. The first half of our prayer; the Liturgy of the Word, helps to focus and lead us to a deeper encounter with God. By listening and reflecting on the Scriptures, we remember that these are not just "old" stories and have nothing to do with us, but they are teachings and guidelines of how we are to live our lives. They invite us to remember that God has touched and guided His people from the beginning of creation and that this awareness of God's presence has always meant that we are called beyond ourselves to a deeper relationship with our Creator. Our pray is rooted in the Scriptures and as we read from both Testaments we are touched and inspired by God's presence.

This week, let us reflect deeper on God's presence in the Bible. May His inspired word truly help us to live lives reflecting His love. Like our ancient ancestors may we too lift our hands and hearts in a great Amen (I believe) and so rejoice in the Lord who is our strength.

Peace always, Fr. Rich

January 23: Third Sunday in Ordinary time

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus reads the words of scripture: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor."

In the month of January, through your gifts, the Society of

St. Vincent de Paul was able to assist many families, providing them with food, utility and rent, bills, etc. Thank You!

SVDP Helpline 815-406-8368



Mass is Streamed LIVE @8am Can watch replay of Mass at anytime. https://stmarylive.com YouTube Saint Mary

PLANT YOUR WORKS

One of the things about Scripture is that even the smallest word and shortest phrase can be critical to the overall message. When you take a quiet moment to rest with the Word, you find how quickly the most mundane sentence can reach out and grab you, pulling you into a deeper contemplation of some truth you hadn't even considered until then.

But we often fail to act as the Israelites in the Book of Nehemiah, standing before the Water Gate "listening attentively." Whether it's at Mass during the Liturgy of the Word or at home poring over the Bible, time after time we find ourselves less mindful than we could be. Our ears accept the sounds of the words and our eyes glance over the shape of the letters. The best answer is hopefully at least sometimes. There are always tasks to be completed, problems weighing on our minds that we can't quite give over to God. We lose ourselves in these things instead of in Scripture. We "clock in" with Bible reading instead of "diving in."

We can never forget that the words of the Lord are spirit and life. They are the soil that quickens the seed of all stewardship. There is no mindfulness, no prayer, no graciousness, no gratitude or accountability or sense of commitment unless there is the Word.

So let us pray today for mindfulness, that our every action will be grounded in the law of God — giving it true spirit and life.

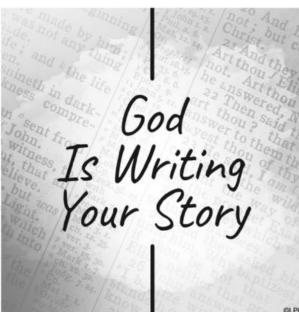
—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

But are we mindful — truly?

IS IT RIGHT TO SUE SOMEONE? ISN'T IT A WAY OF GETTING REVENGE?

Revenge is inflicting harm for harm's sake, the idea of an eye for an eye, a tooth for a

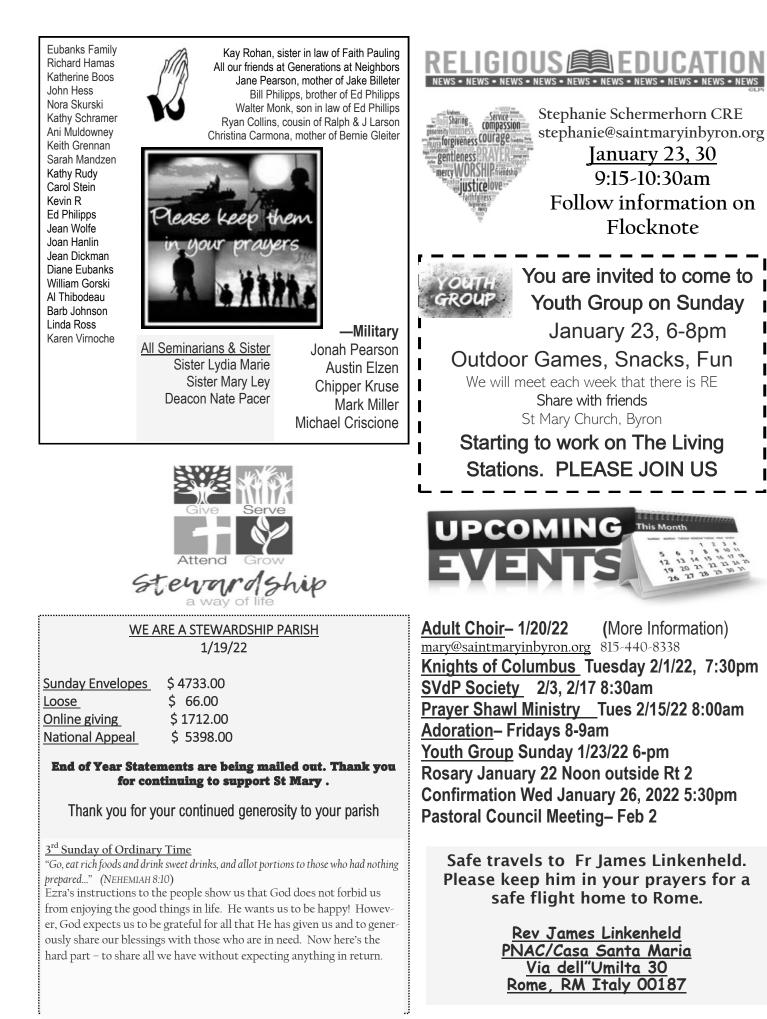
tooth, and then some. There is often a fine line between justice and mercy, between compensation and forgiveness. Unfortunately, things can happen to us that cause harm, suffering, and damage, regardless of people's intentions. When someone is hurt. especially in such a way that special care or treatment is required, the cost of that care needs to be paid.

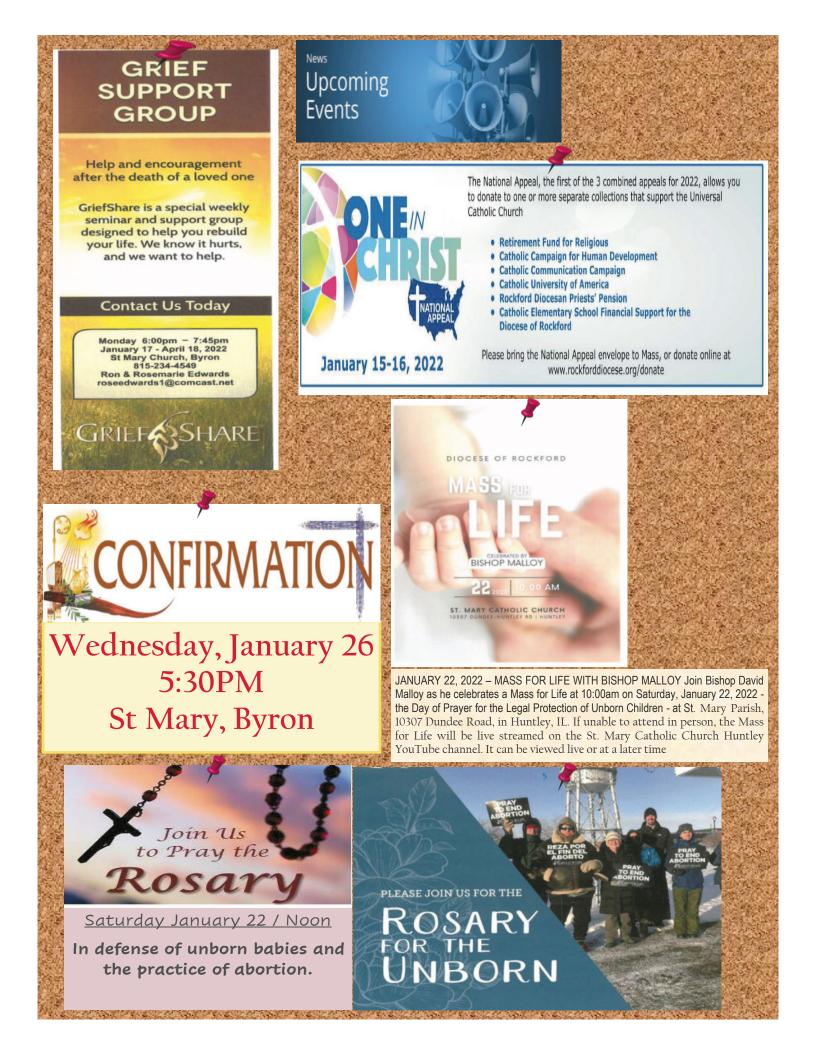


In a perfect world, those with special needs, handicaps, or disabilities would find the help and care they need, including those who are injured or hurt. But justice is not always forthcoming, and people are not always fair. So, using the legal system

to right a wrong is sometimes the only option.

In some cases, it is the only way that people can get the help they need and deserve. However, frivolous lawsuits, or 'fishing for money' is not only unfair, but immoral as well. The law is there to protect people and making use of it when necessary is a good thing.







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