

Easter Sunday

April 5, 2026



***“Recognition is the sweetest grace of the
New Testament.” — Bishop Daniel Flores***

***Let us spend this Easter Season recognizing
Christ in one another!***

You Will Be My Witnesses Capital Campaign

Bishop Malloy's Capital Campaign is designed to help “**low annual income Parishes**” like ours. Whereas, every Parish in **the Rockford Diocese** will get 40% of the monies they raise toward **the Campaign** to come back to their Church—all three of our Churches will also get (in addition to our 40%) what is called the “**Parish Opportunity Fund.**” This is an amount of money that other more prosperous Parishes in **the Diocese** will give to our Churches—so that we can continue to **praise, adore, and worship** God. Knowing how committed **the Bishop** is to keeping our beautiful Churches celebrating **the Eucharist**—please consider making a generous pledge to your Church.

	Goal	40%	Opportunity Fund	Total Revenue
St. Patrick	\$30,044	\$12,018	\$14,421	\$26,439
SMA	\$43,888	\$17,355	\$30,826	\$38,181
OLPH	\$115,881	\$46,352	\$40,452	\$86,804

From the Gusset

When **Mary Magdalene** met the Resurrected Lord outside **the tomb** – she thought He was the **gardener**. When the disciples on the road to Emmaus met our Lord – they only recognized Jesus when He **broke the Bread** for them at supper. Even the six disciples, who joined **St. Peter** on that late night fishing trip – they had trouble recognizing their Best friend until the Lord served them **fish for breakfast** on the seashore of Galilee! Why did they not know Him? Why did the Lord's closest loved ones not recognize Him? There must be something very different about His new, **Resurrected** Body! It was the same person, but He was also different! I need only tell a **newly married couple** that the difference between Jesus and the **Resurrected** Jesus is the difference between their **unborn baby** and their **baby** once he is born – and they understand what I mean. **Mom** and **Dad** know their child in the womb (ultrasound photos, indeed the baby has been living with them for nine months! – of course they know their **unborn baby**), but once they give birth to their child – aaahh – now they truly fall in **love** with the child – their **love** for their **newborn baby** explodes! All of us **love** Jesus, we just spent **the 40-days of Lent** suffering with our Lord – spending time with Him in **the darkness**. Now, **Easter** has arrived – and so let us spend the next **50-days** listening to His voice, allowing our Lord to break **the Eucharist** for us, and gathering in great numbers with others who are in **love** with the Son of God – let us spend our **Easter Season** allowing the Holy Spirit **to pour out** all of God's **love** upon us – may God's **love** explode in our **hearts!! Happy Easter!!!**



Yours on the Path

Fr. Randy

THE ILLUMINATION OF THE ORIGINAL IMAGE OF DIVINE MERCY

St. Mary's Church in Byron is hosting a special presentation on the image of **Divine Mercy** on Monday, April 6th at 6:30pm.

The world's foremost expert on the image, **Danel DiSilva**, will give an unforgettable multimedia presentation covering the implausible history and unique significance of **St. Faustina's Masterpiece of Mercy**, and an inspiring talk on **mercy**.

St. Mary's Church

226 East Second Street,
Byron, Ill. 61010

For more information call:

815-234-7431

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

In our neck of the woods, will find us celebrating the Mass at:

8:00 am **St. Patrick's, Maytown**

10:00 am **SMA, West Brooklyn**

Noon **OLPH, Sublette**

We will recite **the Divine Mercy Chaplet** before all **Masses**, so that a **Plenary Indulgence** maybe worked.

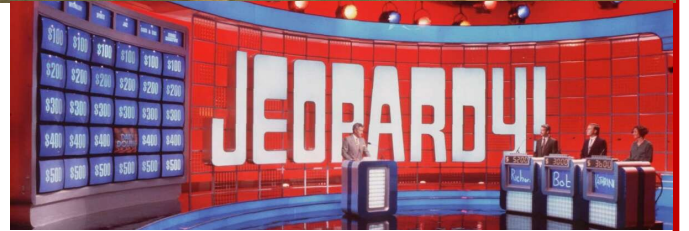
Confessions will be heard before all Masses.



JESUS, I trust in YOU



The Last Supper by Leonardo da Vinci



When I was a **Seminarian**, I kept having a reoccurring **nightmare**. I was on *the Jeopardy* game show as one of the contestants, and **the Final Jeopardy Category** is revealed as **the Last Supper**, and the question is: list out **the Twelve Apostles**. Well being a **Seminarian** and wearing my clerics on the show, I am embarrassed that I do not know the names of **the Twelve**. Indeed, it is almost **scandalous** that any **Catholic** would be unable to list off **the Twelve best friends** of our Lord—for that—in all regards—is what the Apostles are: **the Twelve best friends** of Jesus. God the Father wanted **the Twelve** to listen to our Lord **preach**, watch Jesus work His **miracles**, and allow the Son of Man to **break bread** for them at their meals (remember, **the Disciples** on the road to Emmaus only recognize **the Risen Lord** by how He **broke the bread**); but most of all, God the Father wanted **the Twelve** to be present on **Calvary** and witness our Lord give up His **life** for the Salvation of mankind. I think that one of **the joys of Heaven** is when we introduce our **Twelve best friends** to Jesus, and listen to God's Son introduce His **Twelve best friends** to us! This is how the Body of Christ grows!! Just as Jesus **prayed** and did **penance** for **the Twelve** (and especially for **St. Peter**) – so we also are called **to pray** and do **penance** for our **Spiritual Twelve** (the people we most want to see in **Heaven**). I finally stopped having my reoccurring **nightmare**, when I made a trip to **Milan, Italy** and saw the original *Last Supper* fresco by **Leonardo da Vinci**. I thought I would take the Sundays of **the Easter Season** to introduce **the Twelve** to you by using their order at *the Last Supper table* as depicted by **Leonardo**. By picturing **the Apostle**—what his face looks like, the position of his hands, and who **the best friend** is sitting next to—**da Vinci** actually teaches us—who is who at *the Last Supper*. Every **Catholic** on *the Jeopardy* game show ought to know the names of Jesus' **best friends**, so that they can wager their maxim amount on **the Final Jeopardy Category** and help pay off not only our **DSA** amount for next year, but also contribute **handsomely** to **the Bishop's Capital Campaign!**

Mass Intentions

Saturday, April 4th Easter Vigil

7:30 pm, **SMA** (+) Darlene Gehant/ Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Bresson

Sunday, April 5th Easter Sunday

8:00 am, **St. Patrick** (+) Julie Malch/ Mr. & Mrs. Mark Streit

10:30 am, **OLPH** Pro Populo/ Fr. Randy

Monday, April 6th

(+) Eleanor Dvorsky/ Fr. Randy

Tuesday, April 7th

(+) Howard McInnis/ Fr. Randy

Wednesday, April 8th

(+) Schoenfeld Family members/ Dr. & Mrs. Fred Schoenfeld

Thursday, April 9th

(+) Ronald Fronck/ Roger & Richard Fronck

Friday, April 10th

(+) Richard & (+) Mary Ann Cardot/ Fr. Randy

10:00 am, **Newman High School** All School Mass

Saturday, April 11th

6:00 pm, **St. Peter's Cathedral, Rockford** Pro Populo

Sunday, April 12th Divine Mercy Sunday

8:00 am, **St. Patrick** (+) Julie Malch/ Mr. & Mrs. Mark Streit

10:00 am, **SMA** (+) Rita Haefner/ Mr. & Mrs. Michael Schultz

Noon **OLPH** (+) Pat Painter/ Mr. & Mrs. Mark Atherton



With the conclusion of the **CCD school year**, our Weekend Mass schedule will change. Starting **Divine Mercy Sunday**, April 12th—we will celebrate **Mass** at all three Churches with the **Mass** times staggered two hours apart from one another. This will also afford us the opportunity to go to **Confession** before the start of **Mass** at all three Churches. There will only be **one Vigil Mass** on Saturdays during the

Summer, and that **Mass** will take place in **Sublette** at **Our Lady of Perpetual Help** at 4:00 pm. When the **CCD year resumes**, we will look at reverting to the old schedule of two **Masses** on the **Vigil** and two **Masses** on Sunday. This **Centennial Year** of our Country will also find us adding a **Holy Hour** to our schedule on Wednesdays in the **early evening hours** to offer **prayers** of **thanksgiving** for all that God has done for us.