



Our Men in Black

Father Sylvester Nnaso Parochial Administrator, St. Mary Church, Byron



Favorite prayer

My favorite prayers are the prayer of St. Francis, the Memorare, and Anima Christi. These prayers put my soul on a faster lane to God. They also define my ministry as a priest.

Favorite saint

Our Blessed Mother is my favorite saint. I lost my mother to heaven when I was 1 1/2 years old. As a result, Mary became the love of my soul since my childhood.

What has been a holy moment for you in your priesthood?

For some mysterious reason, I enjoy preaching. I am happy when I watch people entering the church for vari-

ous liturgical celebrations and when they go forward to receive the Eucharist and blessings from the priest. Finally, it's a holy moment for me when I am able to help someone in need.

What have you learned from your brother priests?

Msgr. Martin Heinz made a great impact on my life. It was not so much about what he said but more about what he did. When he was the vocation director for the Diocese of Rockford, his love, encouragement and support for the seminarians were outstanding and so infectious that many of us fell deeply in love with the priesthood.

Advice for young people considering a vocation

Your age is your greatest gift and strength. Do not waste it! Priesthood and re-

ligious life are noble vocations. If you feel called to it, try it out! It doesn't hurt to try out something noble. Above all, try not to be a tall person with a short character.

Something about you few people would know

I had my driver's license in Nigeria at the age of 14.

Favorite hobby or pastime

I'm a people person by nature. Thus, I love spending quality time with people. Above all, I love to travel.

Favorite temporal things

I enjoy having moments of spiritual silence, enjoy reading books on high Christology, and enjoy playing tennis.