

Easter Sunday

©LPi



March 31, 2024



TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH
ST. SYMPHOROSA + ST. RENE GOUPIL

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Robert Regan
PASTOR

Rev. Kevin Gregus
ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Rev. Norman Trela
RETIRED PRIEST

PASTORS EMERITUS

Rev. Ted Bojczuk
PASTOR EMERITUS

Rev. Peter Paurazas
PASTOR EMERITUS

Rev. Idzi Stacherczak
PASTOR EMERITUS

PARISH STAFF

Ken Hilliard
OPERATIONS DIRECTOR
EXT. 222

Magdalan Koziar
OFFICE & TUITION COORDINATOR
EXT. 248

Irene Perconti
ADMINISTRATIVE
ASSISTANT EXT. 241

Peg Siebenaler
FAITH FORMATION
COORDINATOR EXT. 226

David Boyle
MUSIC DIRECTOR EXT. 225

Dcn. Raul Duque
PARISH ORGANIST

Mark Schusteric
MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR

Jacqueline Guerrero
BULLETIN & GENERAL
OFFICE ADMIN EXT. 221

SCHOOL STAFF

Kathy Berry
SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Chris Garza
ASSISTANT SCHOOL PRINCIPAL



Contact the Two Holy Martyrs
St. Vincent de Paul at (312) 316.3725

WELCOME TO TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH MASS SCHEDULES

ST. SYMPHOROSA

6135 S. Austin Avenue
Chicago, IL 60638

SUNDAY MASS

9 AM | 12 PM

MONDAY — SATURDAY MASS

8 AM mass is held during:

February | April | June
August | October | December

RECONCILIATION

TUESDAYS | 6 PM—7 PM

ST. RENE GOUPIL

6949 W. 63rd Place
Chicago, IL 60638

SUNDAY MASS

7:30 AM | 10:30 AM

MONDAY — SATURDAY MASS

8 AM mass is held during:

January | March | May
July | September | November

SATURDAY VIGIL

4 PM

RECONCILIATION

SATURDAYS | 3 PM—3:45 PM

All are welcome to join in praying the Rosary after 8 AM mass Monday through Saturday! Come meditate on Christ with us!

PARISH OFFICE

6135 S. Austin Avenue
Chicago, IL 60638

*Located on Austin between
the school and church buildings*

📞 773.767.1523

🌐 www.twoholymartyrs.org

✉ info@twoholymartyrs.org

MONDAY—FRIDAY

9 AM—4 PM

SATURDAY

9 AM — 12 PM

SCHOOL OFFICE

6125 S. Austin Avenue
Chicago, IL 60638

📞 773.585.6888

🌐 www.stsymsschool.org

✉ office@stsymphorosaschool.org

MONDAY—FRIDAY

9 AM—3 PM

PARKING AND SAFETY REMINDER

The safety of our parish community is important and must be taken into consideration at each gathering. Should serious medical or facility issues arise unexpectedly we must be prepared. We ask that you observe parking regulations on both campus locations, churches, loading zones, etc.

PLEASE REFRAIN FROM PARKING IN THE FIRE LANES



FR. BOB'S WEEKLY BLOG

Our tears of sorrow in the reality of Good Friday transform into tears of joy on Easter. Only the risen Lord can boldly say to us, "Do not be afraid." When we truly walk this earthly life heart-to-heart with the Lord, we need not live in fear. When crippling fear enters our life, we can be certain we've lost our trust in God, or we've forgotten what Easter is about.

mission, as a sign of the first and a foretaste of the second."

In this world, we are mere pilgrims. We're passing through.

Our citizenship, however, is in heaven. And yet, we use our God-given time on Earth to love God and to love neighbor; to live both worship and service. We are people of hope, and the truth of Jesus is the reason for our hope.

Our faith becomes God's love working in and through each one of us.

As many of you have heard me preach, there cannot be two truths about Jesus. He either is or he isn't. He either rose from the dead, or he did not. If he did not, then yes, our faith is a lie or mere fantasy. But if he did? Then it truly is the GOOD NEWS OF VICTORY. Love is stronger than death, and we sing "Alleluia."

Will we be mocked for our faith? Yes, as Jesus was mocked. Will we be laughed at? Yes, as Jesus was laughed at. Will we be hated? Yes, as Jesus was hated.

Will we be persecuted? Yes, as Jesus was persecuted. Will we have to carry a cross? Yes, as Jesus carried his cross.

Will we die? Yes, as Jesus died. Will we rise from the dead? "Behold, I make all things new."

Grace and gratitude, all the way Home. Happy Easter !!!



My dear brothers and sisters in Christ.

Wishing you and your loved ones a Happy Easter.

Today specifically, but throughout the year, we live with the hope that love is stronger than death. We proclaim Christ crucified and risen from the dead. The "Alleluia" returns to our liturgy, and it means "Praise the Lord."

Through the cross is the promise of a new life.

Please ponder the following two words throughout the Easter season, which runs through Pentecost (May 19).

The two words are: **grace** and **gratitude**.

Why grace? Because we need God's grace. Sanctifying grace is available to us in this world thanks be to Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. To say we don't need grace in the spiritual life is like saying we don't need oxygen in the physical life. We need oxygen. We need grace.

Why gratitude? Because of what Christ has done for us that we were not capable of doing on our own. His suffering, death, resurrection and ascension pave the way for new life in this world and for eternal life. Jesus says, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

Easter points us beyond bodily death to the promise of resurrection. Humanity has a 100 percent mortality rate. We might not like this fact, but it is a fact.

Our physical body has an expiration date, but as human beings we are more than our physical body. We are body and soul. We are embodied souls.

The soul is immortal.

The promise of Christ is that one day our immortal soul is joined to a glorified body in a new heaven and new earth.

God makes this possible; not Jeff Bezos, not Bill Gates, not Oprah, not the next president, whoever that might be. All things are possible for God.

Jesus says, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live. And everyone who lives and believes in me will never die." Jesus then asks Martha, "Do you believe this?"

Martha answered yes. What about you? Do you believe Jesus truly is the resurrection and the life? It's a yes or no question.

Ponder these words from scripture scholar N.T. Wright.

He wrote, "Our task in the present ... is to live as resurrection people in between Easter and the final day, with our Christian life, corporate and individual, in both worship and



FR. KEVIN'S GREGORIAN RANTS

Alleluia! CristoV anesth! AlhqwV anesth! That's the traditional Greek greeting for the Easter season (it's pronounced, "Christos anestei, aleithos anestei"). It means, "Christ is risen! Truly he is risen!" A happy and most blessed Easter to you and your families.

The Sacred Triduum rightly is the most solemn and most unique of the liturgies in the Church year. We don't need to do anything extra; it's just a matter of being present and experiencing the beauty of each of the aspects of the three-day liturgy. Since it's Easter, we'll turn our attention to the Easter Vigil and the Masses of Easter Day.

If you've ever been to the Easter Vigil, you probably remember it as the Mass that begins in the dark and has a bunch of readings. Maybe you remember holding your own candle as a child. Maybe you've attended to see a family member be baptized or received into the full communion of the Church.

Maybe you've even dozed off since the Mass is later in the evening (it's not supposed to begin until sunset).

There are several elements dripping with meaning that communicate God's salvation to us.

The Mass begins with the blessing of the Easter fire outside the Church and the creation of the Paschal Candle.

A cross, the year, and the alpha and the omega (the beginning and the end of the Greek alphabet) are carved or traced into a large candle made primarily of beeswax. The priest says, "Christ yesterday and today, the Beginning and the End, the Alpha and the Omega; all time belongs to him and all the ages, to him be glory and power through every age and forever."

He then inserts five grains of incense with large pins, representing the five wounds of Christ (hands, feet, and side), while stating, "By his holy and glorious wounds, may Christ the Lord guard us and protect us." The candle is lit and processed into the darkened church. A smoking thurible full of incense proceeds the candle. This recalls the pillars of smoke and fire that guided the Israelites through the desert and the Red Sea as they fled slavery in Egypt.

As the candle is processed in, the people begin to light their candles from the Paschal candle, which quickly spreads through the church as the light of Christ is passed along to others. Once the candle reaches the front, the Exsultet is proclaimed by a priest or deacon.

I could do several columns of this beautiful and epic chanted prayer, and I plan to do that next week as we close out the Easter Octave. For now, we'll say that the Exsultet sings of the triumph of God over sin and death and the rejoicing the Church now is able to do. It speaks of what we celebrate on this most holy of nights: the Passover feast, the freedom from slavery to sin, and

Christ's victory over death and isolation.

This is the night of rejoicing for all Christians to share. As the Exsultet states about the Paschal Candle: "A fire into many flames divided, yet never dimmed by sharing of its light."

We then listen to a number of readings from the Old Testament that highlight the key moments of salvation history.

This culminates with the singing of the Gloria as the altar candles are lit and the church bells ring out. We hear from St. Paul's letter to the Romans and then the gospel account of the Resurrection, following the singing of the Alleluia for the first time since Lent began.

After the Homily, RCIA candidates are baptized, confirmed, and received into the Church, and the new waters are blessed. As the faithful, we each renew our baptismal promises and are sprinkled with the Easter waters. This renewal and sprinkling also happens on Easter Day.

From there, it is a familiar Mass: the offertory, the Eucharistic prayer, and the reception of holy communion.

The tabernacle is again filled and the red sanctuary lamp lit.

The risen Christ remains truly with us in the Eucharist.





For the week of:

March 30th - April 7th

Saturday March 30th

07:00 PM | St. Symphorosa | Easter Vigil

HOLY WEEK

Sunday March 31st

7:30 AM | St. Rene Goupil | Presider: Fr. Kevin

EASTER

9:00 AM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Bob

EASTER

10:30 AM | St. Rene Goupil | Presider: Fr. Kevin

EASTER

12:00 PM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Bob

EASTER

Monday April 1st

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa

✠Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)

Health & God's Blessings for Fr. Norm Trela (Lorraine DeLauriea)

Ilona Szkodon Birthday Blessing & Improvement of Health (Friends)

Tuesday April 2nd

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa

Health & God's Blessings for Steve Chavos (Nancy Shotas)

Health & God's Blessings for Frances Higgins (Neighbor Angela)

Wednesday April 3rd

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa

✠Richard Jovanovich

Health & God's Blessings for Fr. Norm Trela (Maria & Carlos Montez)

Thursday April 4th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa

✠Kevin Meng (Meng Family)

Heavenly Birthday Blessings for Patrick Hickey (Diana Schmidt)

✠Maureen Feeley Balto (Barbara Rendak)

Friday April 5th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa

✠Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)

✠Kathy Arvetis (Husband)

Birthday Blessings for Danah Battung (Rosario Battung)

Saturday April 6th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa

✠Frank & Virginia Krzan (Pat Soltis)

Praying for the health of Byron O'Donnell (Family)

04:00 PM | St. Rene Goupil | Presider: Fr. Kevin

✠Michael Trendle (Ray & Mary Lou Kolasinski)

✠Kathleen Denwood (Capparelli Family)

✠Ida Marie (DOLLY) Renaud (Frank & Roxane)

Health & God's Blessings for Bernice Cieslewski (Toni P)

Health & God's Blessings for Linda Martinez (Donna Topp)

Sunday April 7th

7:30 AM | St. Rene Goupil | Presider: Fr. Bob

✠Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)

✠Christian Furczon

✠Mini Esposito (Three Sons Restaurant)

✠Lorraine O'Connor (Sister & Family)

9:00 AM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Kevin

All Members of the Altar & Rosary Society Living & Deceased (A&R Society)

✠John Schramm (Mary Shilney)

All Members of the O'Leary & Byrne Families (Mike & Bea)

✠Michael Trendle (Arlene Scaletta)

10:30 AM | St. Rene Goupil | Presider: Fr. Bob

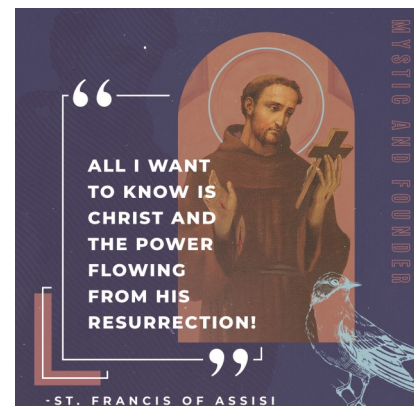
PRO POPULO

12:00 PM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Kevin

✠Nancy & Richard Kukulski (Sons)

✠Rose Gurgone (Jordyn & Dan Goon)

✠Nancy Janda (Douglas Janda)



Presiders are subject to change without notice.

TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH | March 31, 2024





OUR SANCTUARY CANDLES

BURNING BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT ARE OFFERED FOR THE FOLLOWING INTENTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF

MARCH

VINCE PORCELLI & MARIA PORCELLI

For the repose of their souls, given by Family.

ALBINA STRZELEC, SOPHIE PLOSAJ, JOSEPH & LEOPOLD STASZEL

For the repose of their souls, given by Bas Rendak.

DECEASED MEMBERS OF CALCAGNO & BLUISS FAMILIES

For the repose of their souls, given by Kathy Calcagno.

FOR ALL BIRTHDAYS & SOULS IN PURGATORY

given by Battung Family.

In the lighting of candles, we remember and truly live the words of Our Lord: "I am the Light of the World." In the lighting of the sanctuary candles we honor a loved one, living or deceased.

Please Join Us in Praying for the Sick

- | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Arnold Adaska | Natalie Lecompte | Katrina Sigafoose |
| Guadalupe Almendarez | Debbie Lipien | Karen Singer |
| Fr. Ted Bojczuk | Rosemary Litwin | Manuel Soto |
| Maxine Carey | Joelee MacMaster | Shirley Tloczek |
| Margaret Dalton | Rich Marcello | Fr. Norm Trela |
| Joanne Gallas | Cathy Mazeika | Judith Webber |
| Mitch Gallas | Clarence Oleszkiewicz | Beverly Zummerling |
| Karen Holmes | Ramon Perez | |
| Joan Juris | Ann Robertson | |
| Ron Kelly | Michael Roman | |
| Sharon Labiak | Adan Sanchez | |



Due to privacy laws, names may only be added by immediate family members. Please call the parish office to add or remove a name.



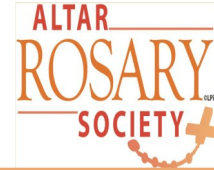
If we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. - Romans 14:8

Eternal Rest

Rosemary Labno



There will **NOT** be a Holy Hour **NOR** Confession on **Tuesday, April 2, 2024.** Holy Hour and Confession will resume the following **Tuesday April 9, 2024.**



We would like to invite you to join us on **Sunday April 7th at 9:00am Mass at St. Symphorosa worship site.**

Our next meeting will take place on **Tuesday April 9th at the St. Rene narthex at 12pm (noon).** Come join us for **CRAZY BUNCO**

SEE YOU THERE!!



Thank you for your generosity!

PARISH OFFERTORY 3/24: \$12,485.07

Split the Pot Winning Envelope #: 63394: \$480.00

To our registered parishioners, please remember a minimum of \$5 is required to participate.



ONLINE/ELECTRONIC DONATIONS

\$7,823.00

February 1, 2024 to February 29, 2024

Total number of transactions:
240

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

TWO HOLY MARTYRS

GRAND RAFFLE

THE GRAND RAFFLE IS HERE!

NEW... Four Early Bird Drawings with massive **LOTTERY BASKETS** each jammed with **\$500 in Lottery Tickets.**

Grand Raffle Tickets go on sale next **Sat. April 6th** in the back of the church until **Sun. June 23rd** drawing date!

Still, **\$20 each ticket or 6 for \$100.**

OVER \$18,500 in Cash Prizes!

YOU COULD BE A MILLIONAIRE!

IMPORTANT REMINDER

If you have any items you would like to donate, you can do the following:

- ◆ Hold for **May 18 & 19** for **St. Vincent de Paul** drive.
- ◆ If you can not wait until **May 18 & 19**, please drop off items at the drop box at the St. Rene Campus (**blue box**) or at your nearest **Salvation Army or Goodwill.**
- ◆ There is a **Salvation Army on 63rd St. and Nagle Ave.**
- ◆ **DO NOT DROP OFF ANY ITEMS AT THE PARISH OFFICE**
Unfortunately, the Parish Office does not have the resources to manage unplanned drop offs.

Thank you!

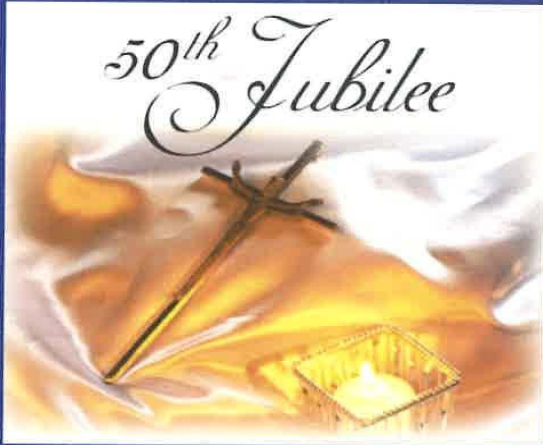


CAUTION

Parking Notice for Parishioners

Please refrain from parking on the north side of 63rd Place across from the St. Rene campus. The north curb is now Permit Parking Only. It's okay to park on the south side of 63rd Place, but you risk being ticketed by police if you park on the north curb if you do not have Permit #2417. Thank you!

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

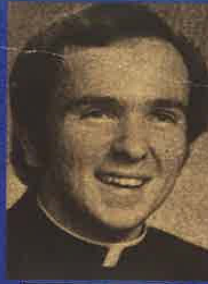


You are cordially invited to celebrate with

Rev. Marcel J. Pasciak

Sunday, April 21, 2024
Fiftieth Jubilee Mass at 3:00 pm
Dinner will follow in the church hall

St. Patricia Church
9050 S 86th Avenue, Hickory Hills IL 60457

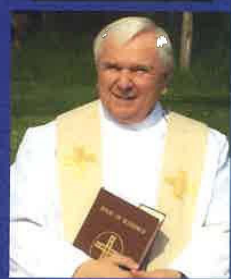
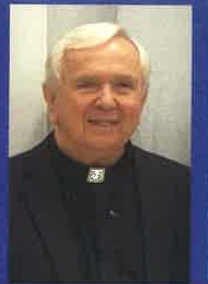


50th Anniversary of Priesthood

Ordained May 8, 1974



Please scan the QR code to RSVP by April 1st. Or email your RSVP at Ksoup24@aol.com. Thank you!



Two Holy Martyrs Parish
St. Rene Goupil Campus
6340 S. New England Ave



Super Bingo

Sunday April 14, 2024

Doors Open 11:30AM - Games Begin 1:00PM

Refreshments & Food are Available for Purchase

FREE COFFEE

Admission \$20 at the Door

For More Information Call 773-767-1523



CASINO Fundraising Night

SATURDAY - APRIL 20, 2024
6:30PM - 11:00PM

TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH SHARP CENTER
LOCATED ON THE ST. SYMPHOROSA SCHOOL CAMPUS
5940 W 62ND STREET | CHICAGO, IL 60638

ENJOY A NIGHT OF GAMING, MUSIC, LIVE DJ, 50/50 RAFFLES, FOOD & DRINKS!
GAMES AVAILABLE WILL BE BLACKJACK, CRAPS & ROULETTE.
ALL PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT ST. SYMPHOROSA SCHOOL STUDENTS AND NEEDS.
ALL GAMING IS TO WIN PRIZES.
NO CASH PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED AT THIS EVENT.

TICKET COST: \$40

TICKET INCLUDES: \$100 CASINO PLAYING CHIPS, FIVE RAFFLE TICKETS AND ONE COMPLIMENTARY BEVERAGE (BEER, WINE OR SODA) ADDITIONAL DRINKS & FOOD AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

TICKETS AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE AT THE RECTORY

OR

SCAN THE QR* CODE BELOW

*CONVENIENCE FEE APPLIES - \$1.25 PER TICKET



PARISH FAITH FORMATION

Important!



EASTER BLESSINGS

May the promise of the Risen Christ be with you this Easter Season and throughout the year.

Upcoming Events:

3/31: HAPPY EASTER

EASTER BREAK

Classes Resume:

4/6: Faith Formation Classes
St. Syms Campus. (Sat.)

4/9: Faith Formation Classes
St. Syms Campus. (Tues.)

4/16: First Communion Pictures.



JESUS PROJECTS

This year, our students in Level Seven are focusing on the Person of Jesus in the Gospels. These students will be using some creative art form to depict a Jesus story of their choice. The projects will be on display in the narthex for viewing by our parish community during the month of April.



Palm Sunday Procession

Pictured Below: Father Bob and our students participating in the procession held at the Family Mass at St. Rene worship site on Palm Sunday.



Pictured above:
Faith Formation students preparing for First Holy Communion.



PARISH SCHOOL NEWS



ST. SYMPHOROSA SCHOOL NEWS



SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADE STUDENTS PERFORM STATIONS OF THE CROSS

OUR SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADE STUDENTS RECENTLY PERFORMED STATIONS OF THE CROSS AT THE CHURCH. EACH STUDENT HAD A SPECIFIC ROLE IN RETELLING THE PASSION STORY. THERE WAS A PERFORMANCE DURING THE DAY FOR THE SCHOOL, AND ONE IN THE EVENING FOR FAMILIES.

CALL 773.585.6888 OR EMAIL R BANDEN@STSYMPHOROSASCHOOL.ORG TO SCHEDULE A TOUR!