1st Unility OF ADVENT



PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Robert Regan PASTOR

Rev. Kevin Gregus ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Rev. Norman Trela **RETIRED PRIEST IN RESIDENCE**

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** FXT. 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 **BULLĖTIN & GENERAL** OFFICE ADMIN EXT. 221

SCHOOL STAFF

Kathy Berry SCHOÓL 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

CHURCH 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

SATURDAY VIGIL

5:30 PM

RECONCILIATION

TUESDAY | 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

R 773.767.1523

- Ռ www.twoholymartyrs.org
- \bowtie 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
- \bowtie 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



And so, our Advent season begins.

We begin the four-week journey toward the Nativity of the Lord; a.k.a. Christmas. The invitation for us is to slow down; to avoid the urge to rush into Christmas. We see the rush all around us; a rush that now begins before we even celebrate Thanksgiving.

What should be a season of preparation and expectation risks becoming a frantic quest to buy material gifts and attend numerous parties so that by the time Christmas arrives, we're already Christmas-ed out. Just as the Church begins to sing Adeste Fidelis, a lot of people are already taking down their Christmas trees and prepping for New Years Day.

Let's slow down! One day at a time. One week at a time. One season at a time.

Jesus' message to his disciples and his message for us today is, "Be watchful. Be alert!"

Why? Because we do not know when the time will come; the time of our bodily death and/or the coming again of Christ in glory. We need to be alert to what really matters in the end. The reality of "the end" is supposed to wake us up to living the truth in love each day.

We begin Advent not merely by looking back but also looking forward. Yes, God

FR. BOB'S WEEKLY BLOG

the Father sent his Son into the world as a baby king in a manger in an obscure portion of the vast Roman Empire, but we're also preparing for Christ's Second Coming when all will be brought to fulfillment. Some folks forget the promise that awaits us. We're looking forward.

Please find more time for prayer during Advent. Prayer is more than rattling off memorized words. Prayer is intimate time spent with God. We get quiet. We get still. Let's be honest, this can be tough these days in our noisy, agitated world, but pray we must. If you need an idea, consider praying through the Book of Psalms during Advent. Fr. Kevin recently wrote in the parish bulletin about the beauty of The Psalms

There are 150 Psalms in a Catholic Bible. The Psalms take us on a journey of life's highs and lows. We can relate to them. Here's the very last stanza in Psalm 150. It reads, "Let everything that has breath give praise to the Lord! Hallelujah!

Staying present in Advent prepares us for the celebration of the Christmas season, which begins on December 25 and runs through the Baptism of the Lord on January 8.

May our hearts be receptive to the grace God desires to give each of us this Advent.

Mondays During Advent

Please consider joining us for the next three Mondays during Advent for a talk series on the Eucharist. We will gather at 7 PM on December 4 (St. Rene church), December 11 (St. Symphorosa church), and December 18 (St. Rene Church). The Catholic Church in the United States of America is in a year of Eucharistic Revival. This revival will culminate next July in Indianapolis, Indiana with a National Eucharistic Congress. Tens of thousands of people from across the country will gather.

Fr. Kevin and I thought it was important for us to use Advent as a time to rediscover the gift of the Eucharist. Each of the three talks has a specific theme with the goal of helping us grow closer to the Lord and closer to one another.

We get no closer to the Lord in this world than when we receive Him in Holy Communion. We are not receiving a piece of bread. We receive Jesus; Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity. This is a dogmatic teaching of our faith and has been for 2,000 years. It's not magic but it is mystery.

A better understanding of the Eucharist helps us appreciate what a gift we are privileged to receive on a regular basis. We find ourselves growing in respect and reverence for the Blessed Sacrament, and this gift nourishes us in the spiritual life. Jesus knows we're hungry, and the Lord feeds us in the Eucharist.

Quote -- "If we but paused for a moment to consider attentively what takes place in this Sacrament, I am sure that the thought of Christ's love for us would transform the coldness of our hearts into a fire of love and gratitude." -- Angela of Foligno





Having been prepared to celebrate the liturgy with reverence, attention, and receptivity, we sit down together to hear some readings from Sacred Scripture, and so begins the Liturgy of the Word.

As Catholics, we believe that the words in the Bible are from God. Jesus Christ is the supreme Word of God, but he mediates this to us as the words of scripture.

Pope Benedict XVI wrote that "the Word of God is given to us in sacred Scripture as an inspired testimony to revelation; together with the Church's living Tradition, it constitutes the supreme rule of faith." It is essential that, as Catholics, we have an intimate knowledge of scripture, for as St. Jerome said, "Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ."

Lucky for us, the liturgy is the privileged place for hearing God's word and receiving that word into our hearts.

The liturgy provides the structure and the context for how scripture is experienced in our daily lives.

It was the liturgy that gave form to the Bible, not the other way around. The books that were

FR. KEVIN'S GREGORIAN RANTS

believed to have been inspired by God were those that would be read as a part of the Mass in the early Church.

The letters of St. Paul, the Gospels, and the Hebrew Bible (known to us as the Old Testament) were proclaimed so that the people could be nourished by God's revelation to them.

Today, we have a total of four readings as a part of the Liturgy of the Word. The first reading is taken from the Old Testament and always has some relation to the Gospel of the day.

After all, the New Testament is concealed in the Old Testament, and the Old is revealed in the New.

However, during the Easter season, the first reading comes from the Acts of the Apostles as we hear about the life of the early Church.

The first reading tells us how God has been revealing himself and working in the world since the very beginning of time. The second reading comes from the New Testament.

Usually, these are St. Paul's epistles, but they can also be letters from other Apostles (John, Peter, James, Jude) or from the book of Revelation. These readings teach us about discipleship and what Jesus' mission and life means for us as we live in the world as Christians.

On Sundays, the readings follow a three-year cycle, meaning we will hear the same set of readings every three years. We're currently nearing the end of Year A, which features the Gospel of Matthew. Year B will start this Advent with the Gospel of Mark, and then Year C uses the Gospel of Luke. The Gospel of John in sprinkled into Year B and the Lent and Easter season.

"The Word was made flesh" (John 1:14), so it is important that we hear and understand the Word before we receive him in Holy Communion. When we hear how people throughout salvation history have listened and dialogued with God, we learn how to better listen and respond to him in our own time.

I encourage all of us to come to each Mass prepared to hear each reading.

One way to do this is to read them before you arrive, either by yourself or with your family.

All the readings can be found on the website of the US Congregation of Catholic Bishops. (<u>https://</u> <u>bible.usccb.org/daily-bible-reading</u>)

In this way, we attune our ears to hear the word during the Mass and can supplement our own reflections on each reaching with the priest's or deacon's homily.



PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Two Holy Martyrs Parish

O COME LET US ADORE HIM

Talk Series on the Eucharist

In this year of Eucharistic Revival, come reflect on the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist as we prepare celebrate his coming at Christmas

First Three Mondays of Advent at 7PM

Monday, December 4th Location: St. Rene Goupíl Church Fr. Bob Regan, Pastor The Eucharist and Parish Renewal

Monday, December 11th Location: St. Symphorosa Church Fr. Kevin Gregus, Associate Pastor The Eucharist and Community

Monday, December 18th Location: St. Rene Goupíl Church Fr. Kevin Gregus, Associate Pastor The Eucharist and Friendship with God

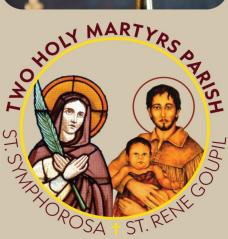
Receive a free copy of Bishop Robert Barron's book "This is My Body", which will serve as a guide for our reflections



Contact Us 773-767-1523 kgregus@archchicago.org

More Information www.twoholymartyrs.org







St. Rene Goupíl Church 6949 W. 63rd Place Chicago, IL 60638

St. Symphorosa Church

6135 S. Austin Ave. Chicago, IL 60638

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Two Holy Martyrs Holiday Basket Raffle All 11 baskets are unique with item such as: VISA Gift Cards, Gift Certificates, Gourmet Chocolate, Lottery

- All 11 baskets are unique with item such as: VISA Gift Cards, Gift Certificates, Gourmet Chocolate, Lottery Tickets and much, much more.
- Tickets are now on sale in the Parish Office
- Tickets can also be obtained in the back of the church
- Tickets & money can also be dropped off into the offertory basket in church
- Tickets will be \$5 each, 3 for \$10 or 7 for \$20
- The drawing will take place on Tuesday December 19th at 12pm (noon) in our St. Symphorosa Church! (Winners of basket do not need to be present at time of drawing)



two hory martyrs annuar



Once again Two Holy Martyrs Parish is sponsoring our annual Advent Giving Tree Project. If you would like to participate in this project, please select ornaments from our Giving Tree found in the Gathering Space of church. Shop for the gift requested on the ornament, attach the ornament to the wrapped package, and return to church at masses the weekend of **December 16**th and 17th.

Some of the ornaments have a request for a gift card. For your convenience, a member of the Transformation Team will be selling Walmart, Jewel and Target gift cards in the Gathering Space after all masses the weekend of <u>December 9/10th.</u>

Thank you in advance for your continued generosity with this project.

Each Ornament has a Gift Request for the Needy to be given to one of the following Charitable Agencies

Y	Catholic Charities	
PA	DS-Homeless Shelter in Marquette Park	
WHITE	U. S. Veterans living in Hines Hospital	
PINK	U. S. Veterans living in Manteno	
BLUE	St. Vincent De Paul Society	

Please shop for the gift requested on the ornament(s) you have taken. <u>Securely tape</u> the gift request ornament to the gift bag or gift box in which you have placed your purchase.

Please return all gifts to church the WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 16/17.





On behalf of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Two Holy Martyrs Parish, thank you to all who donated with dignity.

Thank you to all of our generous parishioners, neighbors, and parish staff for their support. We could not have done it without you!

Our Weekend Bundle drive not only meet its goal but exceeded it tremendously. We even had to use our second trailer.

Collected donations are prepared and then provided to families in need throughout the Cook and Lake County areas. Thank you for your servant's heart and generosity.



Oplatki Christmas Wafers

Oplatki are available for purchase in the Parish Office or after all Masses in the narthex of our churches. Each package of oplatki contains 3 white wafers and 1 pink wafer. A \$4.00 donation per package is requested. Limited quantity available



Saturday December 2nd

Sunday December 3rd

07:30 AM | St. Rene Goupil | Presider: Fr. Kevin [⊕]Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)

[⊕]Laverne Kenney (Kenney Family)

[⊕]Ken Jaros (John & Gloria Bodoki)

[⊕]Bogdan Jaronczyk (wife & Family)

09:00 AM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Bob

Altar & Rosary Members (Altar & Rosary Society)

骨Rita Mae Sullivan (Patti & Kelli) 骨Carm Scialabba (Mary Trendle) Living & Deceased Members of Simon Family (Family)

10:30 AM | St. Rene Goupil | Presider: Fr. Kevin Health & God's Blessings for Louise Siebenaler (Peggy Siebenaler) 학John & Robert Richards (Siebenaler Family) 학John Siebenaler (Peggy Siebenaler) 학Christian Furczon 학David Valles (Valles Family)

12:00 PM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Bob Pro Populo (for the People of the Parish)

Monday December 4th

Tuesday December 5th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Kevin Praying for good health for Fr. Norm Trela (Friend)

Wednesday December 6th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Kevin ⊕Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy) ⊕Nick Bouzios (Janina)

For the week of:

DECEMBER 2nd - DECEMBER 10th

Thursday December 7th

Friday December 8th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Bob ⊕LaVerne Slowinski (Daughters & Family) Pescosolido Family (Family) Health & God's Blessings for Linda Martinez (Family)

07:00 PM | St. Rene Goupil | Presider: Fr. Kevin Pro Populo (for the People of the Parish)

Saturday December 9th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Bob Praying for good health for Fr. Norm Trela (Friends)

- **04:00 PM** | St. Rene Goupil | Presider: Fr. Bob Pro Populo (for the People of the Parish)

Sunday December 10th

- **O9:00 AM** | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Kevin Mary & Michael Connellan (Health & Anniversary) (Monica Normoyle & Family) Ann Keniry (Health) (Monica Normoyle & Friends) & Claude Wiatrak (Wife Clara) ☆Alicia Gaffney (Clifford & Arlene Whitehouse) & Tiffany Meng (Meng Family)
- 10:30 AM | St. Rene Goupil | Presider: Fr. Bob Living & Deceased Members of Fox & Oczkowski Families (Fox Family) �Mico & Ruth Toribio (Almendarez Family) �John Chavez (Maria Chavez) �Nydia Buentello (Daughter Nydia)
- 12:00 PM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Kevin [⊕]Lucio & Guadalupe Gonzalez (son Lucio Gonzalez) [⊕]Krystyna Lukasik (Stanley Lukasik) [⊕]Chester Mateja (Michael & Nora Filetti)



Presiders are subject to change without notice.



OUR SANCTUARY CANDLES

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

DECEMBER

VINCE PORCELLI & MARIA PORCELLI For the repose of their souls, given by Family.

MICHAEL NOWAKOWSKI

For the repose of his soul, given by Joe & Josie Pulido.

PHIL SCALETTA

For the repose of his soul, given by Wife Arlene Scaletta.

THANKSGIVING FOR BATTUNG FAMILY

given by Rosario Battung.

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

Shirley Tloczek Fr. Norm Trela Beverly Zummerling



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





Thank you for your generosity!

1) PARISH OFFERTORY 11/19: \$9,231.26

Split the Pot Winning Envelope # 60591 \$385.00

2) PARISH OFFERTORY 11/26: \$8,435.05

Split the Pot Winning Envelope # 63815 \$330.00

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



The A&R Society and Seniors Club are having their **Christmas Party** on **Tuesday December 5th from 12pm-4pm** at **Mama Luigi's** on

7500 S. Harlem Ave., Bridgeview, IL 60455

Donation is \$25.00.

Any questions please contact Arlene Scaletta at 773.585.0914

Reminder: Tickets must be purchase soon!





Sunday December 10, 2023

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



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MILITARY BOX PROGRAM 2023

That time of year is here again where we collect some fun and useful items for our troops overseas. With a lot going on around the world plenty of our men and women are overseas. From Dec 1 thru Dec 10 the

collection boxes will be placed in the Masses

foyers surrounding all Masses...

- Toiletries like soap, shampoo, deodorant, body wash, toothpaste and brushes, shaving gear etc..
- Non chocolate snacks, energy bars, gum, candy etc...
- Playing cards, small games (Uno, Yahtzee etc...)
- Crossword books, Jumbles, Soduko etc....

Many of these items are available at dollar stores. Also donations for postage can be put in collection basket in envelopes noted "Knights". God bless! K of C

Arnold Adaska Maxine Carey Joanne Galla Mitch Galla Ron Kelly Sharon Labiak Debbie Lipien Cathy Mazeika Fr. John Rudnik Jack Ruggiero

FAITH FORMATION

WE WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE ALL THOSE WHO MADE THEIR FIRST RECONCILIATION MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS YOU!

AMADEUS ALANIS **EMILY ALTAMIRANO ARIANNY ANDRADO DAVID ASENCIO EMILY ASENCIO EVAN AUGUSTINE BRYCE BARNES ADDISON BELL ANGELINA BETANCOURT PAIGE BURANDT ADRIAN CACERES ALEXA CABALLERO ISABELLA CARRENO DAVID CARRILLO** ALFONSO CASTILLO **ALEJANDRO CHAVEZ ARTURO CHAVEZ AXEL CHAVEZ GABRIELLA COLON LILY CORONA OZZIE CORONA JOSEPH CUEVAS MADELINE CUEVAS** JOMAR DE LA PAZ **MICHAEL DE VAN AMERICA DIAZ** ALIYAH DORAN ALLY DORAN **ARIANNA DORAN GRACE DOSPOY EVOLET ESPINOZA AIDEN FIGUEROA** JULIAN FRANCISCO **REYMOND GALVEZ** JUAN PABLO GAMBOA **BRYANNA GARCIA DENISE GARCIA ELIZABETH GARCIA EMILIO GARCIA EVANGELENE GARCIA**

GIOVANNI GARCIA JOAQUIN GARCIA **MIA GARCIA** SOPHIA GARCIA LUCAS GAZDZIAK **GISSEL GODINEZ YANELI GODINEZ CARLO GOMEZ** EMILY GOMEZ **GIANNA GOMEZ** EMILY GONZALEZ LEIHLANI GONZALEZ **QUINN GOON** ALEYNA GUZMAN SEBASTIAN GUZMAN **DANIEL HORNE** SERENA JECMEN JOHNNY KELLY JOAN KIELBASA **JAXSON KIRNER** LIAM KIRNER ALEXANDER KRAWCZYK ALEX LEON ALEXA LEON **MARTIN LEON VIOLET LEON** LILY LIGUE ARELY LOPEZ ELISE LOPEZ **EMILY LOPEZ** NATHAN LOPEZ **ZAVIER LOPEZ** ISABEL MENDEZ ANGEL MEZA ARIANA MIGUEL **ERICK MOJICA** MONROE MONDRAGON LEILIANA MONTOYA **JORGE MORA** JESUS NIETO

JULIAN NIETO HANNAH OROZCO **MELANIE PADILLA DELILAH PEREZ DIANEY PEREZ** LIAN QUILES **EMILY RADEK NOAH ROBLES RAIDEN RODRIGUEZ RYAN ROGERS AIDEN RUBIO GISSELLE RUBIO ISAIAH SANCHEZ GRACE SANDOVAL** MADELINE SERRANO **JAMES SHORTINO ZOEY SILVA-GONZALEZ ALEXA SOTO CAILIN STEWART JAYDEN TORRES OLIVER TORRES** CHLOE VAZQUEZ EMMA VAZQUEZ **BENJAMIN VEGA KATHERINE VEGA VICTORIA VEGA** AUDREY VENEGAS SADIE VILLALPANDO **CAMILA VILLANUEVA** JOAQUIN VILLANUEVA PAULINO VILLARREAL **ALEJANDRO ZAVALA** ALIANA ZUNIGA



PARISH SCHOOL NEWS

