



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
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



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

www.twoholymartyrs.org

info@twoholymartyrs.org

info@twoholymart

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



Last Friday evening I sat down to watch an old black and white movie – the Bells of St. Mary, starring Bing Crosby and Ingrid Bergman.

I had heard of the movie but never saw it. Crosby plays the role of Fr. O'Malley and Bergman plays Sister Mary Benedict. They're both trying to help save a financially struggling parochial school in addition to the two of them learning from each other.

The movie has the charm of the post-World War II era. There were quite a few moments when I laughed out loud (it's not a comedy). My eyes even watered a bit at the very end when Fr. O'Malley tells Sr. Mary Benedict the real reason she was being transferred.

My point, however, is not the details of the movie, but the overall innocence of it without it being naïve. My hunch is that many folks today would find this movie boring or irrelevant. Nothing blew up. Neither Sr. Mary Benedict nor Fr. O'Malley used foul language. There wasn't a salacious scene to "spice things up."

Now, don't take me as some naïve prude. There was a period in my life where movies like Scarface, Pulp Fiction, and Goodfellas regularly found their way into my VCR and DVD player.

With age, however, and perhaps with deeper faith and more wisdom, we find ourselves yearning for more than exploding buildings, vulgar profanity and erotic interludes.

People are hungry for authenticity. People are hungry for something that can stimulate the mind and

FR. BOB'S WEEKLY BLOG

warm the heart. This is why a good book or good movie stands the test of time. It's about reality and the human condition. We can relate. A good book or movie teaches us something about ourselves; makes us think better and helps us to love better.

The good Lord has given us a brain and a heart. May we each find a good balance as we go about our day as intentional disciples of Jesus. I may not have the charming looks of Bing Crosby, but I do thank Christ for calling me to be a priest, doing my best each day to help bring folks closer to the Lord.

Hope Amidst Despair

This weekly bulletin blog usually gets written on Monday or Tuesday prior to the weekend. As I'm writing this week's blog, the news agencies are bringing us the horrific events taking place in the Middle East.

Once again, tensions flare. How ironic that in last week's blog, I wrote about the ugliness of war, and how every external war emerges from the war already taking place in the human heart.

Add this latest Middle East tussle to the already happening war between Russia and Ukraine, and all the skirmishes taking place around the world.

This makes me think of St. Augustine's famous quote. He wrote, "You have made us for Thyself, O God, and our heart is restless until it rests in You."

Oh boy, are we restless. We've been restless since The Fall in the Garden of Eden; and since Cain murdered his brother Abel out of jealousy. Something that began as "good, very good," has gone awry.

Things are not as they should be. Sin disrupted the original harmony that existed between humanity and divinity.

And what makes things worse is when human beings give God a bad name. We do violence in the name of God. We justify sin as we hide behind God to fight over land and natural resources.

Jesus was quite clear about the use of violence going forward. In the Garden of Gethsemane, when soldiers came to arrest Jesus. One of the Apostles produced a sword and cut off the ear of the high priest's servant. Jesus said, "No more of this!" He then touched the servant's ear and healed him.

Every single day, the news media does the job of reminding us that this world -- as it is now -- IS NOT HEAVEN.

Although the eternal supernatural war was won on the cross of Calvary on Good Friday, the battle continues on earth; in our hearts and minds – spiritual warfare that so many people deny is happening, much to the perverse delight of the Adversary. We laugh at the reality of evil as we grow more apathetic or indifferent toward God.

Thankfully, Jesus is the Answer, and sacred scripture reminds us that other human beings are not the enemy.

"Finally, draw your strength from the Lord and from his mighty power. Put on the armor of God so that you may be able to stand firm against the tactics of the devil. For our struggle is not with flesh and blood but with the principalities, with the powers, with the world rulers of this present darkness, with the evil spirits in the heavens."

Mother Teresa told the story of being stopped at a check point while crossing into another country in the Middle East. The soldier asked the diminutive nun, "Do you have any weapons?" She replied, "Oh yes, my prayer books."

Well played, St. Teresa of Calcutta. Jesus is the hope of all humanity. He is the Messiah who says, "Behold, I make all things new."





intimate love shared by the

My favorite opening sequence of

any movie is the Lord of the Rings.

In an epic prologue, we are plunged into the world of Middle Earth created by J.R.R. Tolkien and are caught up on the stakes for the story to come.

The opening words with the music behind them give me chills every time: "The world has changed. I feel it in the water. I feel it in the earth. I smell it in the air. Much that once was is lost, for none now live who remember it."

Just as we would start any gathering or event, the Mass starts with a greeting to the people from the priest, who is acting at all times during the Mass in persona Christi, or in the person of Christ.

The first action is to lead the people in the Sign of the Cross, the ancient symbol that marks us as Christians and calls to mind the central mystery of our faith, the Holy Trinity.

The Sign of the Cross signifies many things for us. First, it acknowledges that all we do should be in union with the Trinity, as all of creation flows from the

persons of the Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

FR. KEVIN'S GREGORIAN RANTS

Second, it claims us as Christ's own people who have been freed by the power of Christ's action on the cross and are protected by its strength as we journey through life.

Third, it reminds us that we are always called to take up our own crosses, our struggles and sufferings in life, and bear them along with Jesus in conformity with his love for us.

Finally, it is an external sign of the invisible mark that was made on our souls at baptism which shows that we are destined for eternal life in heaven.

Following this powerful signifying action, the priest greets the congregation.

There are a few options the priest can use to greet the people. The simplest is, "The Lord be with you".

The others are pulled directly from the epistles of Paul and his letter greetings to those he was writing: "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you".

If a bishop is presiding, he begins with "Peace be with you," which is the greeting used by Jesus to the apostles in the Upper Room after his resurrection.

Unlike a regular meeting, the greeting we participate in at Mass is the start of a conversation between heaven and earth. It is an indication that God is indeed with us as we join to worship and receive from him at the liturgy.

It is God himself who is calling us together. Like everything that comes from God, and every greeting we give, the words demand a response. The people respond, "And with your spirit," which is also taken from the letters of St. Paul.

This is not to say that the priest doesn't have a body or that his body is not important.

Rather, it points to the power of the Holy Spirit that consecrated him when his bishop ordained him as a priest.

It is a direct address to the aspect of the priest that is open to and directly influenced by the Holy Spirit that will direct him throughout the liturgy.

It also invites the people to open their own hearts to the movements of the Spirit during Mass.





Saturday October 14th

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

 廿Lupe & Anthony Mendez (Almendarez Family)

For all the Deceased Members of Skraba Family (Jeanie)

令Walter & Frances Szumowski (Wes & Debbie Szumowski)

[♣]Robert Compton (Wife)

骨Larry Crites, Sr. (Family)

05:30 PM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Norm

骨Gerald Sears (Gregory Jackson & Family)

令Slawomir Michalek - 25th Anniversary

Sunday October 15th

07:30 AM | St. Rene Goupil | Presider: Fr. Bob

∜Vince Porcelli (Judy Porcelli)

\$Sgt. Omar Saucedo (Family)

Health & Healing for Jason Mirabella (Friend)

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

骨Robert Hilliard (Love, your Family & Friends)

骨Thomas Herman (Patti Grzenia)

☆Margaret "Peg" Fonte (St. Vincent DePaul)

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

Pro Populo (for the People of the Parish)

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

☆Krystyna Lukasik (Stanley Lukasik)

₱Janice Gasior (Kolasinski Family)

Monday October 16th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Bob

令Louie Valenciano (Almendarez Family)

Tuesday October 17th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Kevin

Wednesday October 18th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Kevin

骨Rosa Cicchino (Mother)

⊕Vince Porcelli (Judy Porcelli)

⊕Alicia Gaffney (Mother)

MASS INTENTIONS

OCTOBER 14th-OCTOBER 22nd

Thursday October 19th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Norm

骨Virginia Nolniak (Mary Mercado & Family)

Carbone Family (Eugene Tomassini)

骨Thomas Doyle (Barbara Rendak)

♣Dolores Grisko - Anniversary (Family)

Friday October 20th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Bob

骨Vince Porcelli (Judy Porcelli)

Saturday October 21st

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Kevin

Lords blessings and Good Health for Kaelanie Battung on her

Birthday (Rosario Battung)

骨Claude Wiatrak (Wife Clara)

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

引eanne Boyle (Arlene Scaletta)

骨Rose Sircher (Donna Topps)

骨Paolo Chieco (Donna Topps)

骨Casimir Gerlick

05:30 PM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Bob

Pozniak Family

骨Gerald Pannaralla (Markham Family)

令Elvia Zayas (Arlene Scaletta)

Sunday October 22nd

07:30 AM | St. Rene Goupil | Presider: Fr. Kevin

骨Al Beyer (Toni P)

Health & God's Blessings for Joe & Elawe Pinzinec (Friend)

Health & God's Blessings for Jack & Linda Leonard (Friend)

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

Birthday Blessings for Reyes Coronado (Coronado Family)

☆Margaret "Peg" Fonte (Arlene Scaletta)

骨Gerald Pannaralla (Kolasinski Family)

†Kenneth Bivens (Kolasinski Family)

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

骨Vince Porcelli (Judy Porcelli)

⊕Dawn Bodoki (Mom & Dad)

†Elaine Peterson (Alfich Family)

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

Pro Populo (for the People of the Parish)



OUR SANCTUARY CANDLES

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

OCTOBER

VINCE PORCELLI & MARIA PORCELLI

For the repose of their souls, given by Family.

ELIZABETH, WILLIAM, & TONY BOJARSKI

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

JOHN GACA

For the repose of the soul, given by wife Eleanor.

FOR ALL BIRTHDAYS AND ALL SOULS IN PURGATORY 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

Arnold Adaska Joan Juris Guadalupe Rick Jutton John Kappel, Jr. Almendarez Raeann Arends Ron Kelly Mary Bieser Claudia Kwilosz Fr. Ted Bojczuk Sharon Labiak Sara Bragiel Flavia Langan Maxine Carey James Lapsansky Judy Carranza Maryann Larson Giovanni Carrigan Natalie LeCompte Rita Cernick Domenico Lepore Michael Clifford Rose Ann Lindsay Marilyn Crites Rosemary Litwin Margaret Dalton Maria Lopez Leon Detlaf Diane Malarick Debbie Flint Cathy Mazieka Maria Flores Lori McCarthy Ken Fonte Maria Montiel Mia Forbes **Edward Moriarty** Nia Forbes Clarence Oleszkiewicz Sue G. Bob Pac John Garcia Eleanor Pastorek Geri Gestaut Jesus Perez Juan B. Perez Florence Goluch Karen Holmes Maria P. Perez Heather Hradek Maria Paz Perez Shawn Hughes Stanley Polit Denise M. Jandura Leticia Reyes

Graciela Rivas Ann Robertson Fr. John Rudnik Joseph Rudnik Jack Ruggiero Mary Shortall Karen Singer Pat Soltis Brian Styka Sr. Christine Styka Terry Styka Joanne Tishka Shirley Tloczek Adele Vacchiano **Buddy Valela** Dan Volanti Judith Webber Becky Williams JoAnn Wolniak Beverly Zummerling





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

Carol Livingston



The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day) this year is on Thursday, November 2nd.

The Parish office is now collecting **FRAMED PHOTOS** of deceased loved ones from parishioners who would like them included in our Remembrance Altar.

Please bring the photos to the Parish Office . On the back of the frame/photo, please include your name and phone number (so that we can return it), and also designate which church site you'd like the photo displayed.

Photos can also be given to an usher at any weekend Liturgy.



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

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

10/14 - Saturday & 10/15 Sunday

♦ Bake Sale - Altar & Rosary Society | **BOTH CHURCHES - NARTHEX**

10/15 - Sunday

- 7th Gradé Family Mass | Faith Formation | St. Symphorosa at 9AM
- ♦ BINGO | St. Rene Goupil | DOORS OPEN 11:30AM -GAME BEGINS AT 1PM
- Girls varsity volleyball grade 8 Team | St. Symphorosa at 6:30PM

10/16-Monday

♦ BSA Troop Meeting 1439 | St. Symphorosa at 7PM

10/17-Tuesday

- Girls varsity volleyball grade 8 Team | St. Symphorosa at 6:30PM
- CAPS and the Garfield Ridge Neighborhood Watch at 7PM at Ward Hall, located at 52nd St and South McVicker Ave.

10/18 - Wednesday

Choir Practice at the Church | St. Symphorosa at 7PM

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



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



ONLINE/ELECTRONIC DONATIONS

\$7,537.00

September 1, 2023 to September 30, 2023

Total number of transactions:

240

10/19-Thursday

- ♦ Peewee Soccer Program | FIELD | St. Rene Goupil at 3:45PM
- ♦ Girls Varsity Basketball Team | St. Symphorosa at 5PM
- ♦ Weekly Gospel Reflections | St. Rene Goupil at 6:30PM
- ♦ Cub Scout Pack 4439 Mtg | St. Symphorosa at 6:30PM
- ♦ BSA Committee Meeting 1439 | St. Symphorosa at 7PM

10/20 - Friday

- ♦ School Mass | St. Symphorosa at 11AM
- ♦ Girls Varsity Basketball Team | St. Symphorosa at 5PM
- ♦ Girls Varsity Volleyball Team 7gr | St. Symphorosa at 7PM

10/21 - Saturday

- ♦ Faith Formation | St. Symphorosa at 9AM
- 8th Gr. Confirmation Parent/Student/Sponsor Mtg | Faith Formation | St. Symphorosa at 9:15AM

10/22 - Sunday

- ♦ OKTOBÉRFEST BINGO | St. Symphorosa | DOORS OPEN 12:30PM GAMES BEGIN AT 1:30PM
- ♦ Girls varsity volleyball grade 8 Team | St. Symphorosa at 6:30PM

KINDLY NOTIFY THE PARISH OFFICE IF DATES FOR THESE EVENTS HAVE CHANGED.



Thank you for your generosity!

PARISH OFFERTORY 10/08: \$8.062.07

Split the Pot Winning Envelope # 63815 -\$360.00

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



Altar & Rosary Bake Sale will be on October 14th & 15th, this is for our church needs.

Bring baked items to:

St. Syms (Narthex) on Saturday October 14th between 9am-12pm.

St. Rene (Narthex) on Saturday October 14th starting at 2:30pm

Baked items will be accepted before Masses on Sunday.



PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rosary Rescue Mission

The Visitation Rosary Makers Ministry will be available after all Masses to repair your rosary for free, and to sell their handmade rosaries the weekend of:

> October 14th-15th at St. Rene Goupil, and October 21st-22nd at St. Symphorosa.

They gave away over 1,000 rosaries in September alone, and raise funds by selling ladder rosaries, which symbolize souls climbing their way to heaven on a ladder by praying the rosary daily. Visit their table after Mass to find your perfect rosary, get a free blessed Miraculous Medal, and the 15 Promises of Mary, also available in Spanish.

Please contact Lorene at (331) 642-0603 for any rosary needs.



St. Francis Pet Blessing Sunday, October 1st

St. Francis must have been smiling down on all the pets who attended our annual Pet Blessing on October 1st. Dogs once again outnumbered the cats, but we did have some guinea pigs make an appearance! Special thanks to Fr. Bob & Fr. Kevin for presiding and for their generous portions of Holy water. Our pets should be on their best behavior now! Please see our Facebook page for more photos of our parish pets.





Two Holy Martyrs Parish invites you to attend our 9th annual

Holiday Extravaganza luncheon, craft & vendor fair Hosted by the THM Parish Transformation Team

Sunday, November 12, 2023 10:30am-2:30pm Sharp Center 5940 W. 62nd Street, Chgo. IL, 60638

erishable food items for sgiving food drive to be Blase food pantry in Sun No entry fee for patrons



Are you looking for ways to experience God? Members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul invite you to share in their ministry of experiencing God in serving people living in poverty. We see Christ in our friends in need and, when we see Christ, we experience God. Please contact the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Conference @ Two Holy Martyr's Parish client cell #312-316-3725.



SUPER SENIOR CLUB NEWS

The next meeting for October will be Wednesday October 25th. Doors open at 11:30am meeting convenes at 12pm (noon) in the St. Rene Narthex. SEE YOU THERE!!

FAITH FORMATION



Important!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

10/15: Seventh Grade Family Mass.

<u>10/21:</u> Faith Formation Classes Saturday, St. Sym's Campus. Confirmation Parent/Student/Sponsor Meeting.

<u>10/24:</u> Faith Formation Classes Tuesday, St. Sym's Campus. Confirmation Parent/Student/Sponsor Meeting.



FAMILY MASS

The Seventh-Grade Family Mass will be held today, October 15th, at 9:00 am at St. Symphorosa Church.
Seventh-Grade Students and

seventh-Grade Students and their families are invited to attend this Mass.

Families are asked to bring a nonperishable food item to be donated to our local food pantry.

We look forward to Welcoming All our Seventh-Grade Families!



October is the month of the Holy Rosary.



Confirmation Parent/Student/Sponsor Meeting

We will welcome our Confirmandi, their parents and sponsors to a Confirmation Preparation meeting.

Our own Pastor, Fr. Robert Regan will be the Presenter. We happily anticipate his time with us because we know he will encourage our Confirmation candidates to share the good news of Jesus by their witness to Gospel values and their care for those in need.

Please remember to include the Confirmation Candidates, their parents and sponsors in your prayers.

(The meetings are scheduled for Oct. 21st and Oct. 24th both meetings will be held at our St. Symphorosa Campus.)



On Wednesday, September 27th, Deacon Raul lead some of our Confirmation Candidates along with their parents in a Commitment Service. We celebrate the students intention to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. During the upcoming year/years, the students will seek service opportunities to help them grow in discipleship as they serve those in need. We invite you to please remember them in your prayers during this time of preparation.

PARISH SCHOOL NEWS

SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

(GRADES 3RD-8TH)



Congratulations to our very first Third grader to earn secret student of the 2023-2024 school year!



Fifth grade votes in their first student council election



Seventh grade working on a STEM challenge during science class.



Fourth graders enjoyed the warm weather with a picnic snack



Sixth grade looks forward to a great year!



Father Kevin visits with the Eighth grade

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







Please support our 2023 Viking Walk a Thon. This fundraiser is sponsored by the St. Symphorosa Athletic Association. All donations will help us continue to grow and develop our programs to offer more athletics opportunities for our students.