



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



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

2 773.767.1523

oxtimes 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



God's love and God's law are one in the same.

This is personified in Jesus, who is the Christ; the long-awaited Messiah. What does God's love and God's law look like? Look to Jesus. Learn from Him in sacred scripture. Learn from Him in prayer. As disciples, which means students, we learn "The Way" from Him.

Much of society does its best to find some other way. We often go looking for love in all the wrong places when Love is Who came to us as a baby in a manger and a Savior on a cross.

We are meant to see Jesus as the One who sets us free. Free from what? Free from sin, evil, and death. Jesus saves us FROM sin and FOR love. Sometimes we focus too much on the former at the expense of the latter.

Yes, Jesus is our Savior from sin, evil, and death, but he now invites us to new life in Him. We surrender our egos (what we want) and desire to live God's will in everyday life. We become instruments of God's love in the here and now.

Today! We don't stand around waiting for heaven. Heaven starts now. What we DO flows from WHOSE we are.

FR. BOB'S WEEKLY BLOG

Of course, Jesus is the One who will bring it all to fulfillment when He comes again in glory. He will be the One who separates the sheep from the goats; the wheat from the weeds.

Christ did not do away with the Ten Commandments, which we hear in this Sunday's first reading. If anything, Jesus desires to make God's law less an external thing and more an internal thing. God's law should no longer be written on stone but written in our hearts.

We can think of God's love and God's law this way: Rules without relationship leads to rebellion. Relationship without rules leads to chaos. Jesus puts love and law together.

By establishing covenants in time and space, God enters relationship with us and we with God. He first loved us. Even in the wake of The Fall, God extends the hand of mercy again and again. Sadly, humanity again and again turns away from God. This persistent Lover, however, finally speaks to us through His Son, and says, "Listen to Him."

The Temple of old had a purpose, and the Church of today has her purpose to connect divinity and humanity. The word religion is related to the Latin word religare, which means "to bind together; to connect." In the Person of Jesus, the Christ, heaven and earth come together, and Christ is the Mediator between God and us.

Religion, of course, can be used and abused by human beings who seek to do less than holy things in the name of God; up to an including intentional murder.

This is not of God. The Church given to us by Christ is our means of sanctification. The salvation of souls is still the primary purpose. Can Mother Church be used and abused? History teaches us that the answer is, sadly, yes.

This is, however, the same Church that gives us St. Augustine, St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Francis of Assisi, St. Joan of Arc, St. Theresa of Avila, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, St. Ignatius of Loyola, St. Therese of Lisieux, St. Padre Pio, St. Thomas More, St. Monica, St. Symphorosa and Her Seven Sons, St. Rene Goupil and the North American Martyrs, St. Matthew, St. Mark, St. Luke, and St. John, along with the communion of saints who were never formally canonized but lived holy lives in and through Mother Church.

Who and what we see in the Church often has a lot to do with where we're looking. You want to find sin? You'll find it. You want to find holiness? You'll find it.

Lastly, Jesus has given us His Mother, Mary, she who once carried Love and Law in her womb; she who stays up late interceding for the children, bringing us Home not just safely, but saintly.

Mary, refuge of sinners, pray for us.





The end of each Preface invites the communal singing of the Sanctus, which is Latin for "holy". For example, one of the four options of Prefaces for Lent ends like this: "And so, with Angels and Archangels, with Thrones and Dominions, and with all the hosts and Powers of heaven, we sing the hymn of your glory, as without end we acclaim..." The chanting of the *Sanctus* has been a part of our liturgy since at least 400 AD.

We recognize that our singing is not on our own, but in harmony with the eternal song that constantly rings out in heaven. Often, the priest will name some of the ranks of angels that we join with. The word "angel" simply means "a messenger", which we use to describe a purely spiritual being created by God that cannot be seen by man unless God allows it.

There are nine ranks of angels in heaven, each with a different role in praising God and interacting with men. From the lowest to the highest, they are: Angels, Archangels, Virtues, Powers, Principalities, Dominations, Throne, Cherubim and Seraphim.

FR. KEVIN'S GREGORIAN RANTS

The names of these ranks come from Scripture. St. Paul in his letters refers to a number of ranks, and the Old Testament adds in some others. A few angels are also named in Scripture, such as Gabriel, Michael, and Raphael. It was St. Gregory the Great who put them into one list and ordered them, and St. Thomas Aquinas wrote more about them in the medieval period.

Primarily, the angels' purpose is to directly behold God and adore him with great comprehension and clarity. They are also tasked to guide God's plan for creation and to deal with human affairs. The lowest rank, which is still superior to humans in the order of creation, includes all of our guardian angels.

We get the opening words of the *Sanctus* from the calling of the prophet Isaiah. He recounts this in Isaiah 6: "I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up ... above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one called to another and said:

'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!'" In Hebrew, there are no superlatives, like "greatest" or "best". Instead, they would repeat the word two or three times to signify the same thing. That's why we say "holy" three times. The Book of Revelation has a similar scene in chapter 4 as angels and creatures around the throne of heaven sing out, "Holy,

holy, holy is the Lord God almighty, who was, and who is, and who is to come."

The second part of the Sanctus has its origin in the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, which we'll celebrate on Palm Sunday. The crowds cried out as Jesus rode on a donkey, "Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest." The term "hosanna" is a call made to the messiah begging him for salvation. In the Psalms, it is a cry for deliverance from destruction and that the nation would flourish instead.

We see the humble entrance of Jesus in the same song of praise of God on the throne of heaven. In this way, the *Sanctus* is not just us joining in the song of heaven, but a recognition of the fullness of who Jesus is – true God and true man. In the person of Jesus, true praise returns as God's presence re-enters the Temple. It also is a lead into the consecration of the Eucharist, which is a return to Calvary. It's fitting that we recall his entry in Jerusalem with the same song of praise that resounded 2,000 years ago.



For the week of:

March 3rd—March 10th

Saturday March 2nd

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

†Robert Compton (Wife Mary Ellen)

引oseph & Mary Ptak (Family)

⊕Joseph Loduca (Nancy & Rebecca)

⊕Josephine Nych (Family)

Sunday March 3rd

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

骨Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)

⊕Al Beyer (Love You)

Health and Birthday Blessings for Frances Osty (Judi Porcelli)

⊕Al Beyer (Toni P)

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

†Mary Szlembarski (Barbara Rendak)

∜Virginia Pieczynski (Super Senior Club)

₱Rose Marie Polites (Altar & Rosary Society)

⊕Ethel Stiggers (St. Symphorosa School Board)

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

骨Thomas Murray (Family)

骨Christian Furczon (Family)

令Lucille Salamendo (Terri & Dan Domarski)

∜Sara Bragiel (Barb Grzenia)

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

Health & God's Blessings for Vanessa Gutierrez (Frank Vaickus)

Prayers & God's Blessings for Soto Family (St. Vincent de Paul Friends)

♣Rose Gurgone (Camryn & Ryan Graal)

Monday March 4th

08:00 AM | St. Rene Goupil| Presider: Fr. Bob

Birthday Blessings for Christina Closson (Mary Sarlitto)

骨Tony Bojarski (Barbara Rendak)

Health & 103rd Birthday Blessings for Frances Osty (Judy Porcelli)

Tuesday March 5th

08:00 AM | St. Rene Goupil| Presider: Fr. Kevin

中Richard Jovanovich (Pat Soltis)

Health & 103rd Birthday Blessings for Frances Osty (Judy Porcelli)

Wednesday March 6th

08:00 AM | St. Rene Goupil | Presider: Fr. Kevin

∜Kathy Arvetis (Husband John)

Health & 103rd Birthday Blessings for Frances Osty (Judy Porcelli)

骨Michael Trendle (Mary, Joe & Patti Bieser)



Thursday March 7th

08:00 AM | St. Rene Goupil | Presider: Fr. Bob

⊕Richard Jovanovich (Lois)

†Domingo Battung Sr (Rosario Battung)

 $\prescript{PRemedios Ramirez \& All Poor Souls in Purgatory (Rosario Battung)}$

Health & 103rd Birthday Blessings for Frances Osty (Judy Porcelli)

Friday March 8th

08:00 AM | St. Rene Goupil | Presider: Fr. Bob

∜Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)

Health & 103rd Birthday Blessings for Frances Osty (Judy Porcelli)

Peace for Daniel Sarlitto

⊕Jesus Ortiz (Ms. Gasior Kindergarten Teacher)

Saturday March 9th

08:00 AM | St. Rene Goupil | Presider: Fr. Kevin

骨Marian Jarosz (Jim Platt & Diane Dudek)

⊕Jose Cordova & All Souls in Purgatory (Rosario Battung)

Health & God's Blessings for Margaret Estrada

Birthday Blessings for Mary Sue Tulik-Zurlis (Marge Tulik)

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

Sunday March 10th

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

骨Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)

令Victor Narea (Vincent Narea)

God's Blessings for Lois Beyer (Grateful Parishioner)

⊕Tomas Saucedo (Saucedo-Gonzalez Family)

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

⊕Ernest Meng (Meng Family)

令Virginia Lewandowski (Ramazinski Family)

⊕Rose Marie Polites (Super Seniors Club)

骨Tom Cooney (Arlene Scaletta)

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

♣Rita Tomczak (Katie Sigafoose)

骨Paco Calderon (Nancy Calderon)

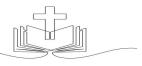
骨Thomas Comiso (Mike & Mary Trendle)

Patrick Murphy (Knights of Columbus)

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

⊕Sandomierski Family (Granddaughter)

⊕Michael Trendle (Karen & Tim Healy)



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

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

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 Debbie Lipien Guadalupe Almendarez Rosemary Litwin Maxine Carey Joelee MacMaster Margaret Dalton Cathy Mazeika Joanne Gallas Clarence Oleszkiewicz Mitch Gallas Ramon Perez Karen Holmes Ann Robertson Joan Juris Adan Sanchez Ron Kelly Katrina Sigafoose Sharon Labiak Karen Singer Natalie Lecompte Manuel Soto

Shirley Tloczek Fr. Norm Trela Judith Webber 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.



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

Michael Trendle Raymond Madei Fr. John Rudnik



Thank you for your generosity!

PARISH OFFERTORY 2/25: \$11,048.25

Split the Pot Winning Envelope #: 63180: \$490.00

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



Get Ready...The Two Holy Martyrs 2024 Grand Raffle is coming....with some exciting changes!

Also, please contact the Parish Office if you would like to play a leadership role on the Parish Fundraising Committee!

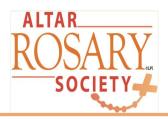


ONLINE/ELECTRONIC **DONATIONS**

\$8,334.00

January 1, 2024 to January 31, 2024

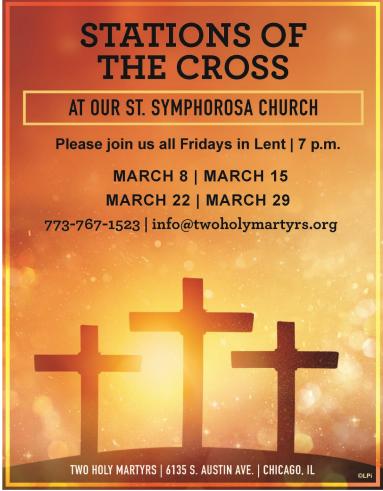
Total number of transactions: 252



Altar and Rosary would like to invite you to join them for an Ice Cream Social. It will take place on Tuesday March 5th at the St. Rene narthex at 12pm

See you there!!

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS





BETHLEHEM ARTS

THE WEEKEND OF MARCH 2ND & 3RD

Our worship sites will be hosting representatives of the Catholic Christian Community from Jerusalem and Bethlehem in the Holy Land this weekend, March 2nd and 3rd after all Masses. They will be displaying handcrafted olive wood religious figurines and articles.

Due to political conflict and the COVID-19 pandemic, tourism has been reduced in the Holy Land and the Catholic Community has come to depend more on the sale of these articles abroad to survive. The woodcarvings are beautiful and reflect faith and love for the Lord.

Please consider purchasing a gift that will be remembered and cherished for yourself or someone dear to you.



CASINO Fundraising hight

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 ANNOUNCEMENTS



Our Lenten Friday Night Fish Fry Dinners are back! Join us in the St. Symphorosa Social Hall for a fish dinner and lots of socializing! Don't like fish? We have several other dishes as well as a special plate for the kiddos! Come hungry and spend an evening with your parish family! Carry out is also available. After dinner, walk over to church for our weekly Stations of the Cross, starting at 7PM.



Our Two Holy Martyrs Transformation Committee is having their annual Lenten Fish Fry fundraiser. They are looking for student volunteers in need of service hours in Grammar School or High School. Students should come prepared to move items, serve meals to tables and clean up. Students can work a 2 hour shift and receive their service hours at the end of their shift. Please follow the link below to sign up your student.

THM Lenten Supper Volunteer Sign Up 2024

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4EAFAE2EA1FDC70-47849237-thmlenten

Also, family members can plan to have dinner with us and enjoy a meal served by your student!



SUPER SENIOR CLUB NEWS

Welcome back, meeting will be on Wednesday March 13th. **Doors open at 11:30am,** meeting convenes at 12pm(noon) in the St. Rene Narthex.

SEE YOU THERE!!

FAITH FORMATION

Importantl

Upcoming Events:

3/02: Faith Formation Classes St. Syms Campus. (Sat.)

3/12: Faith Formation Classes St. Syms Campus. (Tues.)

3/16: Faith Formation Classes St. Syms Campus. (Sat.) and

Reconciliation Service for Confirmation Students.

3/19: Faith Formation Classes St. Syms Campus. (Tues.)

and
Reconciliation Service for
Confirmation Students.

3/24: First Grade Family Masses. Palm Sunday Processions,

9am & 10:30am.



LENTEN OUTREACH

Our Faith Formation students invite all of our parishioners to participate in our Lenten Outreach project. All levels will be donating Children's Easter Basket items for the local shelters and agencies we service. Donations can be brought to our Faith Formation classes, to the Main Parish Office on Austin Ave. or dropped off in the narthex when attending Mass.

Please note, we can always use empty Easter Baskets and the cellophane bags to wrap the baskets, after we fill them. For more information, feel free to call the Faith Formation Office.

the Faith Formation Office. God be with you and your dear families as we journey through this holy season of Lent.

Our 2024 Confirmandi are invited to take part in assembling the Easter Baskets and earn service hours for their upcoming Confirmation.

CONFIRMATION RETREAT

On Sunday, February 25th about 50 Confirmation Candidates from our Faith Formation Program and St. Symphorosa Catholic School gathered for their Confirmation Day Retreat. This special day was filled with activities that were prayerful, reflective, and, at the same time, fun! During the retreat we focused on the Transfiguration of Jesus and the Corporal Works of Mercy. We started our day with morning Mass followed by a witness talk presentation given by Father Kevin. Our students then moved on into different classrooms where they explored the treasure of Jesus, through the Gospels and through the Matthew Kelly, Confirmation Series.... Decision Point. Some of our students created their own "Stained Glass Candles" others created a "Footprints in the Sand" art project. Their beautiful creations will always remind them of this very special sacrament. Thank-you parents for helping to make this year's Retreat an awesome experience by providing the wonderful letters of support! Thank you, Ms. Lilia Izguerra, Ms. Barb Grzenia and Father Kevin for leading those present through this Inspiring and Up-Lifting Retreat Day!











RECONCILIATION BEFORE CONFIRMATION

As our Confirmation Candidates prepare to receive the sacrament of Confirmation they will first participate in the sacrament of Reconciliation with their classmates on Saturday, March 16th, and on Tuesday, March 19th during their regularly scheduled classes. These students continue to work hard on their journey toward the celebration of the sacrament of Confirmation which will be celebrated on April 28th. We ask that you remember them, their sponsors, and parents in your prayers.

PARISH SCHOOL NEWS

JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS

(GRADES 3RD-8TH)



Third grade gets ready for Iready diagnostic #2 with some Kahoot! Fun.



Indoor recess with Uno and Ping Pong Football (a Grade 5 invention)



Seventh grade worked as volunteers for the Special Olympics



Fourth graders made reindeer barns in Science class as part of a STEM unit.



Sixth Grade volunteers at the Special Olympics



Eighth grade picking their own stocks

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