

THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

APRIL 9, 2023



TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH

ST. SYMPHOROSA + ST. RENE GOUPIL

PARISH OFFICE: 6135 S. AUSTIN AVE. | CHICAGO, IL 60638 | (773) 767-1523

www.twoholymartyrs.org



WELCOME TO OUR PARISH

PASTORAL STAFF

REV. ROBERT REGAN
Pastor

REV. MATTHEW COMPTON
Associate Pastor

REV. NORMAN TRELA
Retired Priest in Residence

PASTORS EMERITUS

REV. TED BOJCZUK
Pastor Emeritus

REV. MARCEL PASCIAK
Pastor Emeritus

REV. PETER PAURAZAS
Pastor Emeritus

REV. IDZI STACHERCZAK
Pastor Emeritus

PARISH STAFF

KEN HILLIARD | EXT. 222
Operations Director

MAGDALAN KOZIAR | EXT. 248
Office/Tuition Coordinator

HUGO LOPEZ | EXT. 210
Communications Coordinator

IRENE PERCONTI | EXT. 241
Administrative Assistant

PEG SIEBENALER | EXT. 226
Faith Formation Coordinator

DAVID BOYLE | EXT. 225
Director of Music

DCN. RAUL DUQUE
Parish Organist

MARK SCHUSTERIC
Maintenance Supervisor

SCHOOL STAFF

KATHY BERRY
School Principal

CHRIS GARZA
Assistant School Principal



MASS TIMES

ST. SYMPHOROSA

6135 S. Austin Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60638

WEEKEND MASS

Saturday Vigil

5:30 PM

Sunday

9 AM

12 PM

WEEKDAY MASS

Monday - Saturday | 8 AM at
alternating church sites in the
following months:

Feb. | Apr. | June | Aug.

Oct. | Dec.

RECONCILIATION

Tuesdays | 6 PM to 7 PM

ST. RENE GOUPILE

6949 West 63rd Place
Chicago, Illinois 60638

WEEKEND MASS

Saturday Vigil

4 PM

Sunday

7:30 AM

10:30 AM

WEEKDAY MASS

Monday - Saturday | 8 AM at
alternating church sites in the
following months:

Jan. | Mar. | May | July

Sept. | Nov.

RECONCILIATION

Saturdays | 3 PM to 3:45 PM

*Join us after every daily mass (Mon. - Sat.) in praying the Rosary.
Everyone is welcome! Come meditate on Christ with us!*

Two Holy Martyrs Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday | 9 AM to 4 PM

Saturday | 9 AM to 12 PM

773.767.1523 | info@twoholymartyrs.org

St. Symphorosa School Office Hours

Monday - Friday | 9 AM to 3 PM

6125 S. Austin Avenue | Chicago, Illinois 60638

773.585.6888 | office@stsymphorosaschool.org



@TwoHolyMartyrsParish

FR. BOB'S WEEKLY BLOG



The Son of God came into this world in the Person of Jesus not to live but to die, and then TO RISE FROM THE DEAD.

Christmas celebrates the Word of

God being made flesh. Good Friday commemorates Jesus' death on the cross. Easter celebrates that Love is stronger than death. Christ is risen! Light triumphs over darkness.

In light of this Christian truth, HAPPY EASTER to you and your loved ones.

May our Easter liturgies be reverent and joyful, and may our hearts be filled with God's grace. The Easter season is always a reminder of the HOPE we have in Christ the Lord. Yes, the world needs hope today amidst so much despair and angst. We need hope. We need faith. We need love.

Scripture scholar N.T. Wright said, "Jesus' resurrection is the beginning of God's new project not to snatch people away from earth but to colonize earth with the life of heaven. That, after all, is what the Lord's Prayer is about."

What is God's gift to us through the Son? Life. This life is more than biological life. The life Jesus gives us is grace; supernatural life. Sadly, far too many folks settle for merely biological life, as if we human beings were only a squirrel, a rabbit, or a donkey.

We are made in the image and likeness of God. We contain a divine spark. The human person is an embodied soul. We take care of our physical bodies, yes, but we also must nurture our soul. Jesus gives us everything we need to nurture our soul. We must avail ourselves of these spiritual gifts, and the primary gift of nourishment is the Eucharist.

The Resurrection of Jesus is the hinge of our faith. No resurrection. No Christianity. The truth of the resurrection invites us

to see there is life beyond bodily death. This should wake us up so that we live for a love that transcends this world. We live for the greater glory of God. The things of this world are passing away, but the LIFE Jesus gives is eternal. This is GOOD NEWS!

EASTER GIFTS

No question, Christmas was the holiday I looked forward to as a young boy. The Christmas tree couldn't be erected and decorated fast enough. Our home in Berwyn took on a special charm. My mom would be playing her favorite Christmas songs. To this day, every time I hear "The Little Drummer Boy," I can't help but remember my mom.

And, of course, my siblings and I would anticipate the gifts we'd be getting.

Something, however, changes over time if we are spiritually maturing. Christmas is great, but the Easter story takes on more and more prominence as we age. In reality, Christmas and Easter are directly connected. The wood of the manger prepares the way for the wood of the cross. The baby king is one day crowned with thorns and crucified. Jesus' death paves the way for resurrection.

Jesus has given us the gift of His life. "This is my Body given up for you." He dies so we might have life, and have life in abundance. If we share in His cross, we are promised to share in His resurrection. The gift of faith helps us to see through the cross to new life. We need no longer fear bodily death.

Death is not an end but a door. Death is not something to be avoided, but something to be prepared for in the here and now.

St. John Vianney wrote, "Let us not put off till the end of our life the care that we ought daily to take of our soul. Let us labor while there is yet time."

Everything we need for our salvation is present to us in and through the Church. She is the sacrament of salvation. People who say, "I don't need religion. I'm spiritual," have lost sight of the concrete, intimate way Jesus makes

Himself present in this world. It dismisses the reality of Jesus' Paschal Mystery (His suffering, death, resurrection, and ascension).

The English word religion comes from a Latin word that means "to bind; to connect." This should make us go, "Hmmm!" The purpose of authentic religion is to bind or to connect divinity and humanity; heaven and earth. God the Father does this in the Person of Jesus, the Christ, who is the Mediator.

The horizontal dimension of earth intersects with the vertical dimension of heaven in the CROSS of Jesus. The Son of God and Son of man dies so that we might have life. And the life he gives is available to us now. All of the sacraments of the Church are avenues of God's life-giving grace.

This is why we are baptized. This is why we are confirmed. This is why we receive the Eucharist. This is why we make use of the sacrament of reconciliation and anointing of the sick. It's why we have the sacraments of Holy Orders and Matrimony.

The sacraments are not magic but mystery. God doesn't need them. We need them.

All this comes into play because of the resurrection of Jesus. We sing Alleluia from a place of deep faith. The Lord summons us out of any lukewarmness into the fire of His love. If we live in cooperation with the Holy Spirit, then we find ourselves filled with joy. Joy is a fruit of life in the Spirit.

We do not celebrate a lie on Easter. We celebrate the truth of the resurrection; the resurrection of the One Who is the way, and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Him.

Thank you for celebrating Easter with us. Thank you for your generosity on this special day. May the good Lord be with you always, and may you never stray too far from the Good Shepherd. He leads us to green pastures. He refreshes our souls. Amen!

"The very first Easter taught us that life never ends, and love never dies."

KATE MCGAHAN

LET US PRAY



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 9 - APRIL 14

Sunday, April 9th

THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD | THE MASS OF EASTER DAY

7:30 AM | St. René Goupil Church | Presider: Fr. Norm

Pro Populo (for the People of the Parish)

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

Pro Populo (for the People of the Parish)

10:30 AM | St. René Goupil Church | Presider: Fr. Bob

Pro Populo (for the People of the Parish)

12:00 PM | St. Symphorosa Church | Presider: Fr. Matt

Pro Populo (for the People of the Parish)

Monday, April 10th | 8 AM | St. Symphorosa Church

Health & all the Lord's Blessings for David Sarlitto - Birthday (Mary Sarlitto)

Health & all the Lord's Blessings for the Tomassini Family

† Lori O'Connor (Sister)

† Vince Porcelli (Judy, wife)

Tuesday, April 11th | 8 AM | St. Symphorosa Church

† Paula Kirsten (Ann Robertson)

† Nick Biozios (Janina)

Wednesday, April 12th | 8 AM | St. Symphorosa Church

For the Souls in Purgatory

For vocations to the Priesthood

† Kathy Calcagno (Family)

Thursday, April 13th | 8 AM | St. Symphorosa Church

Health & all the Lord's Blessings for Marie Peceniak (Ann Robertson)

† Avise Tomlin (Barbara Rendak)

Friday, April 14th | 8 AM | St. Symphorosa Church

For the living and deceased members of the Sokolowski Family (Fox Family)

† James O'Brien (O'Brien Family)

† Charles DeLauriea (Lorraine, wife)

Weekend presider subject to change without notice.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR SATURDAY & SUNDAY

Saturday, April 15th

8:00 AM | St. Symphorosa Church

† Patricia Binewicz (Isabel Savage)

4:00 PM | St. René Goupil Church | Presider: Fr. Bob

† Ceferino & Fidel Parra (Almendarez Family)

† Irene Parra (Almendarez Family)

† Vince Porcelli (Judy, wife)

† Louise Leahy (Family)

5:30 PM | St. Symphorosa Church | Presider: Fr. Norm

† Marianna Buss (Daughter)

† Edward Buss (Daughter)

† John Buz (Sister)

† Andre Valles (Valles Family)

Sunday, April 16th

SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY

7:30 AM | St. René Goupil Church | Presider: Fr. Bob

Pro Populo (for the People of the Parish)

9:00 AM | St. Symphorosa Church | Presider: Fr. Norm

Deceased members of the Schramm Family (Family)

† Claude Wiatrak (Clara, wife)

† Elaine Hilliard (Family & Friends)

† Rafael Alvarez (Family)

† Richard Gordon Wojcik

10:30 AM | St. René Goupil Church | Presider: Fr. Bob

† Thomas Murray (Family)

† Vince Porcelli (Judy, wife)

† Ben P. & Estelle Shafer (Ben & Judy Shafer)

† Dawn Bodoki (Mom & Dad)

† Andres Valles (Valles)

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

† Frank Scalamonti (Patricia Vereecke)

† Marianna Buss (Daughter)

† Edward Buss (Daughter)

† John Buz (Sister)

easter
SUNDAY



PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYING FOR THE SICK

Arnold Adaska

Guadalupe Almendarez

Raeann Arends

Ignatius Battiatto

Domingo Battung III

Hichelle Battung

Dominic Battung

Hannah Battung

Jean Bell

Mary Bieser

Fr. Ted Bojczuk

Maxine Carey

Judy Carranza

Giovanni Carrigan

Rita Cernick

Michael Clifford

Marilyn Crites

Margaret Dalton

Leon Detlaf

Debbie Flint

Maria Flores

Ken Fonte

Mia Forbes

Nia Forbes

Sue G.

Geri Gestaut

George Groszek

Karen Holmes

Heather Hradek

Shawn Hughes

Denise M. Jandura

Rich S. Jandura

Rick Jutton

Joan Juris

John Kappel, Jr.

Ron Kelly

Stella Kostynowicz

Robert Kroll

Claudia Kwilosz

Sharon Labiak

Flavia Langan

James Lapsansky

Maryann Larson

Natalie LeCompte

Domenico Lepore

Rose Ann Lindsay

Diane Malarick

Cathy Mazieka

Lori McCarthy

Maria Montiel

Edward Moriarty

Bob Pac

Eleanor Pastorek

Jesus Perez

Juan B. Perez

Maria P. Perez

Juan Perez

Maria Paz Perez

Stanley Polit

Leticia Reyes

Graciela Rivas

Ann Robertson

Fr. John Rudnik

Joseph Rudnik

Jack Ruggiero

Mary Shortall

Pat Soltis

Brian Styka

Sr. Christine Styka

Terry Styka

Michael Sutkowski

Joanne Tishka

Shirley Tloczek

Adele Vacchiano

Buddy Valela

Stephanie Walsh

Judith Webber

Becky Williams

JoAnn Wolniak

Beverly Zimmerling

Michelle

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

FR. MATT'S REFLECTION



"Things are not always what they seem." Although this statement might sound a bit clichéd, it is a healthy reminder not to be hasty in judging circumstances, favorably or

unfavorably. In a number of encounters with Jesus, be it His Apostles, individuals whom He meets during His evangelization, or various leaders, some are quick to judge Jesus or His actions only later to learn that there is more to Him and His public ministry than what first appears, that "things are not always what they seem." Other people, such as the Nicodemus, who meets Jesus privately near the beginning of His public ministry and later returns to assist with His burial, (John 3; 9); the Samaritan Woman, the Man Born Blind; and Sts. Martha and Mary, about whom we heard on the Sundays before Palm Sunday, will converse with Christ and demonstrate openness and honesty toward Him. "Things are not always what they seem," characterizes our Savior's Passion, Death, and Resurrection. What appears to be the victory of evil and the heights of disappointment through Jesus' trial, unjust conviction, and Crucifixion, are reversed, transformed into a transcendent occasion of victory for God and humanity in Jesus' rising from the dead, newly alive.

At the beginning of St. Matthew's account of Jesus' Resurrection, the scene of a tomb appears ordinary with the exception of the guards who are present. Suddenly, the scene changes drastically: "And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven,

approached, rolled back the stone, and sat upon it. His appearance was like lightning and his clothing was white as snow. The guards were shaken with fear of him and became like dead men. Then the angel said to the women in reply, 'Do not be afraid! I know that you are seeking Jesus the crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has been raised from the dead, and he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him."'" (Matthew 28:2-7) There is something happening, something different about Jesus' Death. What appears tragic, His humiliating Crucifixion, yet ordinary, the burial of the Son's Body in a tomb on Good Friday is now beginning to include extraordinary events, chief among them the appearance and message of the Angel of the Lord. This is the first inkling that Jesus' death is not what it seems to be.

A second example of "things not always being what they seem to be" occurs as St. Mary Magdalene, "the other Mary," and the faithful women with them, collectively called, "the Myrrh-Bearing Women," among Eastern Christians, depart from Jesus' tomb and follow the Angel's instructions. St. Matthew portrays these early apostles of the Resurrection as moving earnestly until they encounter the risen Lord: "Then they went away quickly from the tomb, fearful yet overjoyed, and ran to announce this to his disciples. And behold, Jesus met them on their way and greeted them. They approached, embraced his feet, and did him homage. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid. Go tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see me.'" (Matthew 28:8-10)

Several crucial details characterize this utterly stunning and unexpected

meeting. The Myrrh-Bearing Women recognize Jesus and are not frightened of Him; He is not hideous or disfigured, despite the scourging and crucifixion, which He has undergone. The first signs of the resurrected life, which Jesus foretells during His preaching, are now being revealed. The Savior's resurrected Body is the pattern of what ours will be: human in appearance, not that of another creature, yet healed and renewed. Jesus is approachable, not repulsive. Additionally, unlike the typical portrayal of mummies or zombies in horror films and shows, Jesus is fully cognizant and conversant with those who approach Him. Neither is the Savior some kind of ghost. Notice, the holy women "embraced his feet." These are just the first indications after the Resurrection that what appears to be the end of Jesus, when He dies in His human nature and His Body is buried, are not Jesus' obliteration from existence or His passing into oblivion. No, Jesus is alive!

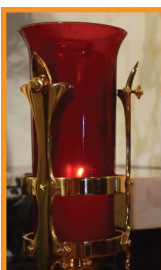
One last element of St. Matthew's account of Jesus' Resurrection, a feature, which also pertains to "things not always being what they seem to be," is the calming direction first by the Angel of the Lord and then from the risen Christ: "Do not be afraid." (Matthew 28:5, 10) These are the first recorded words spoken after Jesus' Resurrection and they are His first words as well; thus, they are worthy of our attention.

What we believe and pray: How do I respond to God when believing in Him and following Him seems hopeless or pointless?

What to stop doing, sins to avoid: Resisting the Holy Spirit and not following God because of fear.

What to do: With God's grace, stop being rash and anxious and realize that "Things are not always what they seem."

"And behold, I [Jesus] am with you always, until the end of the age." - MATTHEW 28:20



OUR SANCTUARY CANDLES, BURNING BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT, ARE OFFERED FOR THE FOLLOWING INTENTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL

For the repose of the souls of Vince Porcelli & his daughter Maria Porcelli given by Family.

May this light which reminds us of Jesus' presence in the Tabernacle help welcome our prayers into His eternal presence.

EMBRACE THE GRACE

The Weekly E-Newsletter of Two Holy Martyrs Parish



Are you signed up to receive Father Bob's Embrace the Grace Weekly Reflection?

Register your email by scanning the QR Code, calling the office, or visiting our website!

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENT

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

In observance of the Easter Holiday, the Parish Office will be closed from **Thursday, April 6th thru Monday, April 10th.**

The Parish Office will re-open on Tuesday, April 11th at 9 AM.



Each year, the Holy Father asks for our prayers for a specific intention each month. You are invited to answer the Holy Father's request in praying **FOR A CULTURE OF PEACE AND NON-VIOLENCE** in the month of April:

We pray for the spread of peace and non-violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens.



The next meeting of the Super Senior Club is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 12th at 11:30 AM** at the St. René Goupil Narthex.

Want to receive our Sunday Bulletin before everyone else? Sign up for our Embrace the Grace Email Newsletter and receive our Sunday Bulletin up to two days early!



TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH OFFERING
For the weekend of Sunday, April 2, 2023

\$13,567.00

Thank you for your generosity!

APRIL 2, 2023
Split the Pot Collection:
\$475.00



Winning Envelope:
#60346

Reminder: A minimum of \$5.00 is required to participate.

ONLINE/ELECTRONIC DONATIONS
\$7,652.00

February 1 - February 28, 2023

Total number of transactions:
279

Thank you for your generosity!



WANT TO REACH UP TO 20,000+ POTENTIAL CUSTOMERS THIS SUMMER?

Consider becoming a 2023 Family Fest Sponsor and maximize your business' exposure.

Ask for our Sponsorship Packets by calling the Parish Office at (773) 767-1523!



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.

Sanctuary candle intentions are available for \$40. Each sanctuary candle intention is for one month. We limit 4 intentions per month for both church locations.

Scouting For Food: A Scout is Helpful, A Scout is Kind

The Cub Scouts of Pack 4439 and the Scouts of Troops 1439 will again be collecting food as part of the annual Scouting for Food community service project. Cub Scouts will be collecting nonperishable packaged food at the St. Symphorosa parking lot between 9:00 and 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 22. All donations go to benefit Chicago area food pantries. Please consider supporting our scouts in their efforts. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.



Project Linus: Make A Blanket Day

May 20, 2023 | 9:30 am - 12:30 pm
St. René Goupil's Flannery Hall

Help us help others! Please bring 1½ - 2 yards of printed fleece fabric. We will teach you how to make a no-sew blanket for a child in need.

Coffee and sweets will be served. Raffle tickets will be sold to raise funds for our organization.

B **MONTHLY BINGO!**

SUNDAY, APRIL 16TH
ST. RENE GOUPIL CAMPUS (FLANNERY HALL)
6340 SOUTH NEW ENGLAND AVE.

DOORS OPEN AT 11:30 AM
GAMES BEGIN AT 1 PM

ADMISSION TO PLAY: \$20 AT THE DOOR

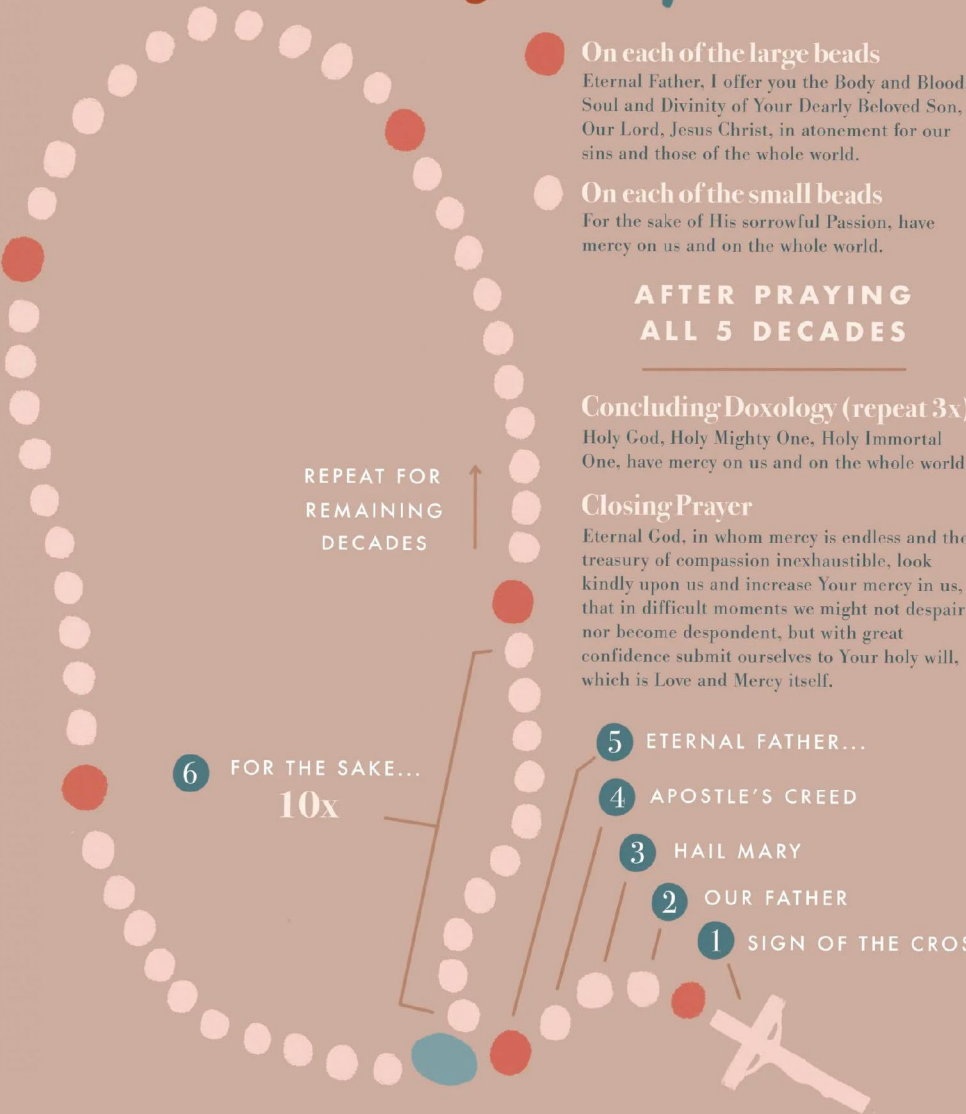
ST. SYMPHOROSA SCHOOL IS HIRING A STEM STUDIO FACILITATOR

If you believe a community of kindness, love, and support equals success, we need you! We are currently accepting resumes for a Part-Time Facilitator for our STEM Studio beginning in the 23-24 school year. The right candidate will have an interest in STEM, experience working with children, be organized and self-motivated. Interested candidates should send a resume and cover letter, highlighting experience and interest in the role, to kberry@stsymsschool.org no later than April 28th. This is a part-time, stipend-based, grant funded position.



PARISH ANNOUNCEMENT

How to pray the *Divine Mercy* Chaplet



On each of the large beads
Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

On each of the small beads
For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

AFTER PRAYING ALL 5 DECADES

Concluding Doxology (repeat 3x)
Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

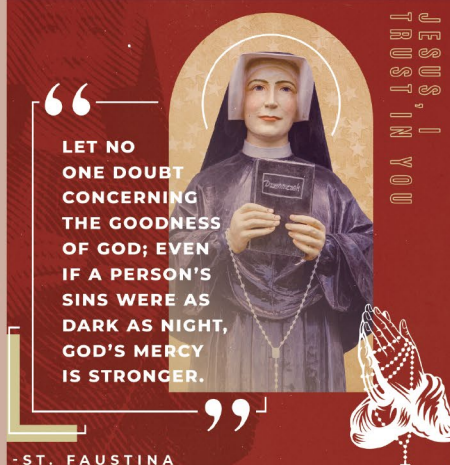
Closing Prayer
Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself.

- 6 FOR THE SAKE... 10x
- 5 ETERNAL FATHER...
- 4 APOSTLE'S CREED
- 3 HAIL MARY
- 2 OUR FATHER
- 1 SIGN OF THE CROSS

Make the Sign of the Cross.
On the first big bead, you have the option to pray:
You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us. Then, repeat on the same bead:
O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fountain of mercy for us, I trust in You! x3
On the next three beads, pray one Our Father, one Hail Mary, and the Apostles Creed.
Next, on the large bead, pray: *Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.*

On the 10 small beads, pray:
For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.
Repeat steps 4 and 5 for all five decades of the Chaplet.
Then, after, repeat three times:
Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.
Finish with the optional closing prayer:
Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion - inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself. Amen.
Returning to the Crucifix, make the Sign of the Cross. 7

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH!
New Parishioners and Updating Information:
Please visit the parish office or our website (www.twoholymartyrs.org) to register. If you have changed your phone number, email address, or have moved, please visit our website to update your information or call the parish office.
Sacrament of the Sick and Communion Calls:
Please contact our parish office to make arrangements. If calling after business hours please call (773) 242-7525.
Sacrament of Baptism:
Celebrated the second and fourth Sunday of the month at 1:30 PM in Church. A Parent Preparation Session is required. Please contact Maggie (ext. 248) for more information.
Marriages:
Arrangements must be made at least 6 months prior to the proposed date of the wedding. Please do not schedule a wedding date until you have contacted the parish office. Please contact Maggie (ext. 248) for assistance.
Mass Intentions:
A stipend of \$10 is suggested for any mass intention. Advance notice is required to ensure publication in the bulletin. Mass intentions are limited to 4 per mass & are entered on a first come, first served bases. **The 2024 Mass Intention Book opens in the fall.**
Bulletin Deadlines:
Any parish organization, community group, or ministry that would like to have their group's information published in the bulletin must have it submitted by 10 AM on the Monday before the preceding weekend liturgy. **No exception!**



SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADERS PERFORM STATIONS OF THE CROSS



OUR SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADE STUDENTS LED THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS LAST WEEK IN PREPARATION FOR THE CELEBRATION OF EASTER.

STUDENTS LED THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING THE DAY FOR THE ST. SYMPHOROSA STUDENT BODY AND IN THE EVENING FOR FAMILIES AND PARISHIONERS.

ENROLLMENT IS OPEN FOR 2023-2024!

FAITH FORMATION

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 4/9: EASTER SUNDAY!
- 4/11: Faith Formation Classes @ René Campus (Tues.)
- 4/15: Faith Formation Classes @ St. Sym Campus (Sat.)
- 4/18: Communion Pictures
- 4/19: Confirmation Practice
- 4/23: CONFIRMATION DAY!
- 4/25: Tuesday Classes Canceled
- 4/29: Faith Formation Classes @ St. Sym Campus (Sat.)
- 4/30: Communion Practice
- 5/6: COMMUNION DAY!

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE

Peg Siebenaler, Faith Formation Coordinator
 (773) 767-1523 Ext. 226 | msiebenaler@archchicago.org

FIRST EUCHARIST



On Saturday, May 6, the Level Two students in our Faith Formation Program and the Second Graders from our St. Symphorosa School will receive Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time. These young children have worked very hard preparing for this special day and we invite you to please remember them in your prayers.

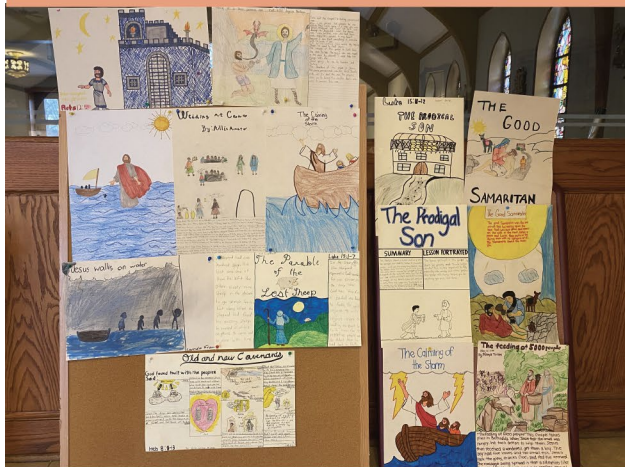
All our First Communicants are invited to wear their Communion attire to whatever Mass they attend the weekend of May 7th and May 14th.

CONFIRMATION

On Sunday, April 23rd our level Eight students in our Faith Formation Program and the Eighth Grade Students from our St. Symphorosa School will be Confirmed by the Most Reverend Jeffrey Grob, Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago. The students have worked very hard at preparing for this special day and we ask that you remember them, their sponsors, and parents in your prayers.



Practice for the Sacrament of Confirmation will take place at St. René Church on Wednesday, April 19th at 6:00 pm. The Confirmation Candidate and Sponsor need to attend. If, for some important reason, the Sponsor is unable to attend, the student must be accompanied by a parent.



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



We congratulate all our students on their beautiful Jesus Projects.
 Please visit the display in the Narthex.



Thank You

Thank-you to all of our Seventh-Grade students from St. Symphorosa School and our Level Seven Faith Formation Students who participated in some way for the Family Mass on March 26th.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Project ♥ Linus

Dear Fellow Parishioner:

Project Linus is a national organization that provides handmade blankets to children in crisis situations.

Inspired by the character, Linus, in Charles Schultz' "Charlie Brown" comic strip, the organization strives to ensure that children in local hospitals, shelters and in need of social service agencies are provided with a physical reminder that they are important and cared for when they receive a blanket.

I am the Chapter Coordinator of the Southwest Chicagoland Chapter and we will be hosting a " Make A Blanket Day" on Saturday, May 20, 2023 at St. René Goupil's Flannery Hall. We hope to create and collect over 500 blankets at this event to be distributed to local children.

This is a huge task and in order to accomplish it, we need your help!

We are in need of monetary donations so we can supply fabric for our volunteers who wish to help, but are unable to supply their own and to help defray the costs of shipping blankets when national tragedies occur (hurricanes, tornadoes, and unfortunately, even school shootings).

Gift cards for our raffle, which helps raise money to run our chapter and to help us provide refreshments for our volunteers, are also greatly needed.

Please consider how you or your company can partner with our Chapter in order to help children have a sense of security when they are most vulnerable. Donations can be dropped off at the Parish Office.

With deepest appreciation,

Mary Mercado