



5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

“I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing.” - Jn 15:5

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI



April 28, 2024

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



PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Robert Regan
PASTOR

Rev. Kevin Gregus
ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Rev. Norman Trela
RETIRED PRIEST

PASTORS EMERITUS

Rev. Ted Bojczuk
PASTOR EMERITUS

Rev. Peter Paurazas
PASTOR EMERITUS

Rev. Idzi Stacherczak
PASTOR EMERITUS

PARISH STAFF

Ken Hilliard
OPERATIONS DIRECTOR
EXT. 222

Magdalan Koziar
OFFICE & TUITION COORDINATOR
EXT. 248

Irene Perconti
ADMINISTRATIVE
ASSISTANT EXT. 241

Peg Siebenaler
FAITH FORMATION
COORDINATOR EXT. 226

David Boyle
MUSIC DIRECTOR EXT. 225

Dcn. Raul Duque
PARISH ORGANIST

Mark Schusteric
MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR

Jacqueline Guerrero
BULLETIN & GENERAL
OFFICE ADMIN EXT. 221

SCHOOL STAFF

Kathy Berry
SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Chris Garza
ASSISTANT SCHOOL PRINCIPAL



Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Chicago
Building a Better Tomorrow for
Those in Need

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

WELCOME TO TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH MASS SCHEDULES

ST. SYMPHOROSA

6135 S. Austin Avenue
Chicago, IL 60638

SUNDAY MASS

9 AM | 12 PM

MONDAY — SATURDAY MASS

8 AM mass is held during:

February | April | June
August | October | December

RECONCILIATION

TUESDAYS | 6 PM—7 PM

ST. RENE GOUPIL

6949 W. 63rd Place
Chicago, IL 60638

SUNDAY MASS

7:30 AM | 10:30 AM

MONDAY — SATURDAY MASS

8 AM mass is held during:

January | March | May
July | September | November

SATURDAY VIGIL

4 PM

RECONCILIATION

SATURDAYS | 3 PM—3:45 PM

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

PARISH OFFICE

6135 S. Austin Avenue
Chicago, IL 60638

*Located on Austin between
the school and church buildings*

📞 773.767.1523

🌐 www.twoholymartyrs.org

✉ info@twoholymartyrs.org

MONDAY—FRIDAY

9 AM—4 PM

SATURDAY

9 AM — 12 PM

SCHOOL OFFICE

6125 S. Austin Avenue
Chicago, IL 60638

📞 773.585.6888

🌐 www.stsymssschool.org

✉ office@stsymphorosaschool.org

MONDAY—FRIDAY

9 AM—3 PM

PARKING AND SAFETY REMINDER

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

PLEASE REFRAIN FROM PARKING IN THE FIRE LANES

FR. BOB'S WEEKLY BLOG



Our Gospel this Sunday emphasizes the importance of being connected to the vine.

The Vine is Jesus. We are the branches. To think we can live spiritually healthy lives without being connected to the Vine is foolish.

A couple of weeks ago at our Friday parish school Mass, the children understood quite well the need for medicine, a doctor, and healthy eating when the body gets sick. We then talked about how we as human beings can also get spiritually sick or soul sick.

Many in our culture today dismiss the reality of the soul, but the soul is real.

As human beings we are body and soul; embodied souls. Just as we need to take care of our physical body, we also need to take care of our soul. And in the realm of spiritual physics, what we do with our body affects the soul.

Thankfully, the Lord gives us everything we need for our spiritual well-being.

But just like a doctor writing a prescription for medication, the patient must go to the pharmacy, get the medicine, and then take it. Medicine does not take itself.

We, too, as aspiring disciples, must "take the medicine." We need to have an authentic prayer life (not just rattling off words, but sincerely speaking heart to heart with God). We must live a

sacramental life (these are avenues of grace), especially Confession and the Holy Eucharist. We participate in Mass every Sunday.

We also make intentional time just to get still and quiet (much needed in our noisy, restless culture). We perform works of mercy in service to others.

We spend time reading and pondering sacred scripture. We get outside in God's nature and enjoy fresh air and the beauty of the world.

Our culture obsesses about the body, but far too often neglects soul care. The two truly go together. We should not see them in competition or opposed to one another.

Many years ago, I went to confession at St. Peter's in the Loop. After hearing my confession and offering the words of absolution, he said to me, "Be good to yourself."

Those words have stuck with me, and I pass them along to you, too. Be good to yourself. We may as well add a couple more words of wisdom. Be good to others. Sadly, we are seeing increased evidence of general disregard for others and a growing selfishness.

This should not surprise us when folks think they have no need to be connected to the Vine. So much of our malaise today is because we are disconnected from the Vine, and as soon as we are disconnected from the Vine, we disconnect from one another, and disconnected from our own self.

See how it is all connected?

Woe to us as human beings when we attempt to break away from the Vine.

As a priest of Jesus Christ, my primary responsibility is to help connect people

with God and with one another.

This is done by way of the sacraments, but also with preaching that is Christ-centered. Sure, a priest might toss a joke in on occasion, or share a personal story, but a homily needs to help us get on the Vine and stay on the Vine.

Allow me to say thank you for making this parish your spiritual home. This is where we gather as a Christian family to worship God; to get connected with our Lord and with one another. There is a beauty in calling the Eucharist by the name Holy Communion.

The Sacrament of Love (Eucharist), received faithfully and with a healthy disposition, fosters communion with God and with our brothers and sisters.

May we never take the Holy Sacrament for granted or receive the Lord with indifference or irreverence. The white host placed on our tongue is Jesus, the Vine.

God knows our physical needs and our spiritual needs, and God provides. May we be wise enough to take the prescribed "medicine."

Quote -- "Give me the grace to long for Your holy sacraments, and especially to rejoice in the presence of Your body, sweet Savior Christ, in the holy sacrament of the altar." - **St. Thomas More**





FR. KEVIN'S GREGORIAN RANTS

for a singular purpose, to offer our gifts to the Father through the merits and actions of the Son. We do this for the Church, the pope, our bishop, and ourselves. Why do we make the offer?

“For the redemption of their [the people gathered for Mass] souls, in hope of health and well-being, and paying their homage to you, the eternal God living and true.”

The first list of saints includes Mary, the Mother of God, St. Joseph, all the Apostles, including St. Paul, and the early popes, bishops, and layman of the Church.

With the exception of Mary, Joseph, and St. John, all of those named were martyrs. These were the saints the Church has longed looked at as models of holiness and witness to the faith. The inclusion of all the vocational states shows that holiness is not reserved for only specific groups within the Church.

The second list comes after the institution narrative and all the saints named are martyrs. This list contains both male and female saints.

Combined, there are 41 names mentioned. Why these and not others? Why haven't more been added? It speaks to the ancient nature of the Canon. These martyrs were among the first honored as saints in the Church, well before the formal canonization process we have today. We are asking God to “graciously grant some share and fellowship” with these holy men and women.

The Roman Canon also unites the sacrifice of Jesus with the offerings made in Old Testament covenants: the sheep offered by Abel, the offering of Isaac by Abraham, and the offering of bread and wine by the priest and king Melchizedek.

We also acknowledge that the Mass is being done in concert with the heavenly liturgy: “Command that these gifts be borne by the hands of your holy Angel to your altar on high in the sight of your divine majesty.”

It's the language of sacrifice that gives the Roman Canon its power and beauty, and it's not just because we use the word. Christ's sacrifice on the cross is the most perfect one that has ever been made and it is what we return to every Mass. We aren't performing some magical prayer where we make Jesus present, but rather by which Christ makes present once again the saving effects of his Passion and Resurrection. The Church as the Body of Christ is most herself at the Mass. We find ourselves among the great Christians who have gone before us as witnesses to Christ's love; we are transformed as the body, not merely as individuals. EPI provides the template of what the Church is called to be.

Finally, let's discuss the Eucharistic Prayer I, which is also called the Roman Canon. This was the only eucharistic prayer that was used from the time the Missal was standardized at the Council of Trent in 1563 up through the Second Vatican Council in 1965. In usage, it dates back to the sixth century and St. Gregory the Great, so we are truly dealing with one of the ancient prayers of the Church.

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal states that EPI may always be used and is especially suited for Sunday Masses and solemnities. It is the longest of the four prayers and is typically remembered due to the listings of several canonized saints from the early Church, nearly all of them martyrs. It is clear in its language of offering and sacrifice. Because it has been in continuous use for 1500 years, it has a more refined theological richness.

It begins, “To you, therefore, most merciful Father, we make humble prayer and petition through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord...” Right from the start, we clearly know the direction and object of the offering.

We are gathered before the altar





For the week of:

April 27th - May 5th

Saturday April 27th

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

PRO POPULO

✠ Martin Sangpeal (Family)

✠ Michael Trendle (Ben & Judy Shafer)

✠ Jack Ruggiero (Maxine)

✠ John Labiak (Maxine)

God's Blessings for Juanita Puente on her 70th Birthday (Family)

Sunday April 28th

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

✠ Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)

God's Blessings for Lois Beyer (Grateful Parishioner)

✠ Mini Esposito (Three Sons Restaurant)

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

✠ Patrick Carmody 3 yr. Anniv. (Kathleen Ross & Carmody Family)

✠ Nick Bouzios (Janina)

✠ Virginia Pieczynski (Pat & Dennis Leahy)

✠ Theresa Rovella (Art & Katie Carpenter)

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

✠ Jack Orsi (Family)

God's Blessings and Thank You to

All St Vincent DePaul Members

✠ Lorenzo & Anna Maria Duran (Daughter)

✠ Janis Marie (Irene Perconti)

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

✠ Kevin Wilson (David Montes)

✠ Darlene DeYoung (Sue Gasior)

Monday April 29th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa

✠ Victor & Zeneida Narea (Vincent Narea)

Tuesday April 30th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa

Health & God's Blessings for Fr. Norm

Wednesday May 1st

08:00 AM | St. Rene Goupil

✠ Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)

✠ Christine Staszal (Barbara Rendak)

✠ Jan Turek (Janina)

✠ Jan Szkodon (Ilona Szkodon)

Thursday May 2nd

08:00 AM | St. Rene Goupil

✠ Jan Szkodon (Ilona Szkodon)

✠ Kathy Arvetis (Husband)

✠ Richard Jovanovich (Wife)

✠ Rosemary Gordon O'Brien Family)

Friday May 3rd

08:00 AM | St. Rene Goupil

✠ Sam Sarlitto (Mary Sarlitto)

Birthday Blessing for Jose Battung (Rosario Battung)

Saturday May 4th

08:00 AM | St. Rene Goupil

✠ Salome, Israel & Esther Garcia (John Garcia)

✠ Jean Rayas (Friend)

✠ Richard Jovanovich (Wife)

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

✠ Thomas Murray (Family)

✠ Cruz Almendarez (Almendarez Family)

✠ Dorothy Oczkowski & Deceased Members of Sokolowski

Family (Family)

✠ Marie Greco (Friend)

Sunday May 5th

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

PRO POPULO

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

✠ Elizabeth Schramm (Mary Shilney)

✠ Bernadette Simpson (Arlene Scaletta)

✠ Virginia Pieczynski (Pat & Dennis Leahy)

✠ Rosemary Labno (Altar & Rosary Society)

All Members Living & Deceased from the Altar & Rosary Society

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

✠ Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)

✠ Christian Furczon

✠ Ronald & Geraldine Wasik (Julie Tomalis)

✠ Barbara Cortez (Julie Tomalis)

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

✠ Joseph Corbett (Wife Ela)

✠ Rose Gurgone (Cathy & Pat Carone)

✠ Nancy Janda (Douglas Janda)



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

APRIL

VINCE PORCELLI & MARIA PORCELLI

For the repose of their souls, given by Family.

GREG GASIOR

For the repose of his soul, given by Susan Gasior.

RICH & MILLIE NEWTOFF

For the repose of their souls, given by Family.

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



Please Join Us in Praying for the Sick

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

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

Eleanor Svihula

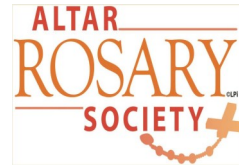


Thank you for your generosity!

PARISH OFFERTORY 4/21: \$10,013.92

Split the Pot Winning Envelope #: 63012: \$425.00

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



We would like to invite you for Sunday Mass on May 5th at 9am at St. Symphorosa worship site.

You are also welcome to join us at our next meeting that will take place on Tuesday May 7th, 2024 at St. Rene narthex at 12pm. We will have the May Crowning, and Plastic, Paper Social.

SEE YOU THERE!!



SUPER SENIOR CLUB NEWS

Our next meetings will be on Wednesday May 15th and May 29th. **Doors open at 11:30am**, meeting convenes at 12pm(noon) in the St. Rene Narthex.

SEE YOU THERE!!



ONLINE/ELECTRONIC DONATIONS

\$10,280.00

March 1, 2024 to March 31, 2024

Total number of transactions:
294



If you would like to make your donation online, please visit our website at www.twoholymartyrs.org click on the **DONATE** tab, it will direct you to make your donation.

Thank you.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

TWO HOLY MARTYRS

GRAND RAFFLE

ARE YOU FEELING LUCKY?

- **LOTTERY BASKET DRAWINGS
BEGIN IN MAY**
- **GRAND PRIZE OF \$10,000
PLUS**

**MORE THAN \$8,500 IN
ADDITIONAL CASH PRIZES
ON JUNE 23RD**

**Buy 6 Tickets for \$100
and support our
TWO HOLY MARTYRS
PARISH FUNDRAISER!**

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



**Knights of
Columbus®**

ATTENTION MEN OF TWO HOLY MARTYRS

IT'S TIME TO JOIN THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS!

WE ARE A CATHOLIC MEN'S ORGANIZATION THAT
BENEFITS:

- HANDICAPPED CHILDREN AND ADULTS
- DEPLOYED SOLDIERS ACROSS THE GLOBE
(AND LOCAL VETS)
- YOUR CHURCH AND SCHOOL
- LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES

OUR GROUP MEETS THE FIRST TUESDAY NIGHT OF
EACH MONTH - USUALLY DOING SOMETHING
WORTHWHILE.

WE'VE BEEN KNOWN TO GO OUT FOR
"REFRESHMENTS" POST MEETING.

CHECK US OUT....

CONTACT: JERRY 773.485.0146
DARRIN 773.418.3060

IMPORTANT REMINDER

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

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

Thank you!



Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Chicago

*Building a Better Tomorrow for
Those in Need*

SVDP Bundle Weekend is approaching
Saturday, May 18th at 1pm-5pm &
Sunday, May 19th, 2024 at 7am-12pm.

If you have a donation or just want to drop off,
the SVDP **Blue Drop Box** is located next to the
St. Rene Rectory on 63rd Place. If you are
clearing out a house or apartment, it's best to
call the SVDP Store for a pick-up @
708-263-0834 to schedule the appointment.



Misericordia Candy Days

Volunteers will be collecting for Misericordia Candy Days
at St. Symphorosa & St. Rene Goupil worship sites the
weekend of April 27-28.

Your support is appreciated.

PARISH FAITH FORMATION

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES FOR 2023/24



Alan **(Joseph)** Alvarez
Allie **(Rose)** Amato
Abigail **(Rose)** Arroyo Castaneda
David **(Alexius)** Asencio*
Gianna **(Nicole)** Blessing
Sofia **(Guadalupe)** Buzo
Gabriel **(Peter)** Cano
Isaiah **(Michael)** Carreon
Alfonso **(Juan Diego)** Castillo
Hiliana **(Hiliana)** Castro
Alejandro **(Alejandro)** Chavez
Arturo **(Arturo)** Chavez
Gerardo **(Sebastian)** Chavez III
Osmar **(Osmar)** Chavez
Paul **(Luke)** Cornejo
Janeli **(Rose)** Cortez
Oscar **(Albert)** Cuevas
Christian **(Christian)** DeLeon
Christopher **(Christopher)** DeLeon
Jonathan **(Jonathan)** DeLeon-Arevalo
Guadalupe **(Mary)** Diaz
Omar **(Jude)** Diaz
Abigail **(Rose)** Dominguez
Aliyah **(Hubert)** Doran*
Ally **(Balbina)** Doran*
Arianna **(Sophia)** Doran*
Lillian **(Frances)** Engelhardt
Evolet **(Ephrem)** Espinoza*
Carmelo **(Jude)** Franco
Francesca **(Kiara)** Gallichio
Reymond **(Reymond)** Galvez*
Roberto **(Roberto)** Galvez
Denise **(Joan)** Garcia*
Elyssa **(Elyssa)** Garcia
Emily **(Emily)** Gonzalez*
Camila **(Camila)** Gutierrez

Angel **(Angel)** Guzman
Ivan **(Roch)** Hernandez
Amya **(Amya)** Johnson
Jason **(Michael)** Jones II
Jaxon **(Jaxon)** Kirner*
Victoria **(Faustina)** Krzysiak
Alejandro **(Alejandro)** Leon
Alexa **(Teresa)** Leon*
Martin **(Martin)** Leon
Violet **(Teresa)** Leon
Mason James **(Joseph)** Lipka
Da-Xia **(Da-Xia)** Marquez
Diego **(Sebastian)** Melgoza
Angel **(Angel)** Meza Jr.*
Emily **(Emily)** Monarrez Fernandez
Jesus **(Jesus)** Nieto*
Reyna **(Reyna)** Nieto
Mackenzie **(Marie)** Norbut
Julian **(Carlo)** Padilla
Alexis **(Grace)** Petraitis
Nayeli **(Francis)** Ramirez
Angelina **(Sebastian)** Rosario
Sean **(Sebastian)** Ruckman
Cristian **(Cristian)** Saucedo
Stephanie **(Stephanie)** Schaefers
Ava **(Cecilia)** Smith
Mireya **(Cecilia)** Torres
Camila **(Elizabeth)** Valdovinos
Sarah **(Sarah)** Vega
Victoria **(Victoria)** Vega
Angelina **(Elizabeth Ann)** Velastegui-Araujo*
Anaid **(Elizabeth)** Villanueva

**Receiving First Holy Communion Today.*

PARISH SCHOOL NEWS

MARCH HIGHLIGHTS

(GRADES 3RD-8TH)



Third graders are feeling blessed for all the knowledge Father Kevin shared with us



Fourth Grade enjoyed the warmer weather with a neighborhood walk.



Fifth Grade smiles!



Sixth Graders love Father Kevin visits.



Seventh and Eighth Grade take us through the Living Stations of the Cross

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



School Advisory Board - Apply Today!

We are currently accepting applications for positions on our St. Symphorosa School Advisory Board. This is a voluntary position open to all members

of the St. Symphorosa school and Two Holy Martyrs parish community, who are interested in supporting our school in reaching our Grand Vision:

To be the school of choice in the Midway area, delivering academic excellence and forming disciples of Christ that love and serve. If you have time and a desire to support our amazing parish school, please complete an application by filling out this form

<https://forms.gle/YHcGFBRMaZmrWNBd8>

Please reach out to our principal, Dr. Berry at kberry@stsymsschool.org if you have any questions.

Applications are due no later than May 3rd.

ST. SYMPHOROSA CATHOLIC SCHOOL OF TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH

SCIENCE FAMILY NIGHT AND OPEN HOUSE

May 14, 2024
6:30pm-8:00pm

- Fun science activities for the whole family in each classroom!
- School tours available for prospective families
- Register for the 2024-2025 school year

6125 S. AUSTIN AVE CHICAGO, IL 60638
773.585.6888
WWW.STSYMSSCHOOL.ORG

St. Symphorosa School Parent Association presents

Plant Sale Days at Soukal's Greenhouses

Throughout the entire month of May, St. Sym's will receive **10%** of your (pre-tax) total purchase when you present this flyer at your next visit to

Soukal's Greenhouses
5336 South Mason Avenue

(Just north of Archer Avenue on Mason)

Greenhouse Hours: **Mon – Fri: 8 – 7**
Saturday: 8 – 5
Sunday: 9 – 2

All proceeds support technology for St. Symphorosa School.