

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | AUGUST 14, 2022



I HAVE COME
TO SET THE EARTH ON FIRE,
AND HOW I WISH

*it were already blazing!*¹

Luke 12:39



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 BOJCUK
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

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 GOUPIL

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@stsymphoraschool.org



@TwoHolyMartyrsParish



twoholymartyrs

FR. BOB'S WEEKLY BLOG



speaking from experience, we must agree with Mr. Peck's assessment. News flash – LIFE IS DIFFICULT. At some point in everyone's life, the cross of suffering emerges.

A casual glance at the daily news – or a look inside our own families – gives us ample proof: Cancer, addiction, violence, corruption, depression, betrayal, character assassination, war, disease. The list goes on. This world we live in is NOT heaven. Another example of suffering is persecution because of one's faith. In our case, being persecuted because of the name of Jesus.

A portion of the Beatitudes reminds us:

"Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who came before you."

The prophet Jeremiah can attest, and we hear part of his suffering ordeal in our first reading this Sunday. God and the things of God are viewed as an inconvenience, or worse, a threat by some people all through history. Truth is not welcome in some circles.

As Christian disciples, we are reminded to live the truth IN LOVE. Truth and love go together. Trouble lurks when we try to detach them from each other. We cooperate with

M. Scott Peck begins his best-selling book *The Road Less Traveled* with a three-word sentence: "Life is difficult."

Could we disagree? We could, but if we are being honest and

the Holy Spirit to keep truth and love together.

Although life has its difficulties, there is still so much joy and beauty along the way. And the joy and beauty along the way point to a Reality (God) that transcends this world. We are called to place Jesus first in our lives. He is the center. This might cause friction along the way, but Christ tells us as much in our Gospel.

Lord, may we never let go of your hand as you guide us Home.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

As part of the Archdiocese of Chicago's Renew My Church initiative, every parish needs to have an advisory body that works directly with the pastor as we undertake the mission of making disciples, inspiring witness, and building communities.

Two Holy Martyrs Parish is no exception.

The following parishioners have accepted the responsibility of serving on the Parish Pastoral Council: Nancy Gunnell, Tom De Rose, Mike West, Taura Basulito, Matt Capparelli, Janet Funk, and Erica Arellano.

Please pray for these fellow parishioners who are entrusted with this important task. These seven people will keep front and center the mantra of "Honor the past. Live in the present. Prepare for the future." Please trust that this group will regularly pray for our parishioners and our community.

The core mission is to make disciples; to bring others to Jesus. From this core mission flows everything else we do as a parish. We worship, and we serve our neighbors in need. We will be fine if we keep Christ at the center of all we do.

Thank you, Lord, for your servants.

MUSIC DIRECTOR SEARCH

We continue to look for the right person to serve as our parish music director. It is important that this hiring process is not rushed, nor do we make a hasty hire. We need to find the right person for this position.

Please add this intention to your daily prayers; that we find a quality music director who can help us worship with a joy-filled spirit. We are looking for someone who can play the piano and the organ. It is also important that the person be able to conduct a choir and recruit cantors to guide us in song as Mass.

Allow me in this space to thank Deacon Raul Duque for shouldering much of the music load over these past few weeks. Deacon Raul plays and sings at most of our Masses. He also plays a bulk of our weddings and funerals. He is a competent organist and vocalist, and we are fortunate to have him in our house.

St. Cecilia, pray for us.

GENEROSITY APPRECIATED

Money is tight these days. We have all seen an escalation in many costs as we go about our daily life.

Considering this reality, we once again want to thank so many of you for your continued fiscal generosity. The parish cannot, I repeat, cannot function without the weekly contributions from our parishioners. Just like in your home, our parish costs have increased, too.

In my idealism, I wish economics were not a reality in parish life. What pastor enjoys reminding "the people" we have an obligation in stewardship to give of our time, talent, and/or treasure? And yet, stewardship is part of our discipleship.

Thank you for supporting the parish. Every bit helps. Thank YOU !!!

"We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give."

WINSTON CHURCHILL

CALLING ALL 2022 FAMILY FEST VOLUNTEERS!

Two Holy Martyrs Parish is inviting EVERYONE, who assisted in this year's Family Fest, to join us for a special Family Fest Volunteer Mass.

Friday, August 19th / St. Symphorosa Church | 6:00 PM

This Mass will provide an opportunity to thank everyone for their tireless efforts as we share in the celebration of the Eucharist! Light snacks and beverages will immediately follow the Mass!



LET US PRAY



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 13 - AUGUST 19

Saturday, August 13th

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

Lector(s): Frank Zalewski

† Aurora Lopez & Lupe Hernandez (Almendarez Family)
† Edward Robertson (Wife & Daughter)
† Frank Wurtz (Toni Ptak)

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

Lector(s): Janine Brzezicki

† Joseph & LaVerne Slowinski (Daughters & Families)
† Leo Karpinski (Doherty Family)

Sunday, August 14th | Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Lector(s): Pat O'Brien Kenney

† Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)
† Stephanie M. Adam (Barbara Stoyak)

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

Lector(s): Lety Reyes, Griselda Hernandez

The deceased members of the Wanstrath Family (Family)

† Mary E. Thorpe (Joanne Tishka)
† Ellen & John O'Leary (Beth & Mike Byrne)
† Alice Marciniec (Family)

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

Lector(s): Barb Wilschke

† Zeneida & Victor Narea (Vincent Narea)
† Patrick Goebig (Leahy Family)

Health & intentions for Ramiro Garza (John Garza)

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

Lector(s): Lori Noceda

† Rosaria Maria & John Dragosetti (Family)
† Robert T. Soltis (Pat & Family)
† Ethel Normoyle (Normoyle Family)



Monday, August 15th (PARISH OFFICE CLOSED)
Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
8 AM | St. Symphorosa Church

Praise and daily thanksgiving to the Holy Trinity for all families to grow in love, unity, peace, joy, kindness, & forgiveness all in Jesus Christ (Joann Pelegrino)

† Nancy Ortman (Chuck Palka)
† Eugen Zozienicki (Sister)
† Devino Cordova & all souls in Purgatory (Rosario Battung)
† George Simon (Family)

7 PM | St. René Goupil Church

Pro Populo (for the People of the Parish)

Tuesday, August 16th | 8 AM | St. Symphorosa Church

For all members, living & deceased, of the John & Mary Kolimas Family (Mary Kolimas)

Wednesday, August 17th | 8 AM | St. Symphorosa Church

† Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)
† Raymond Sarlitto (Mary Sarlitto)

For all members, living & deceased, of the Janina & John Karlowich Family (Mary Kolimas)

Thursday, August 18th | 8 AM | St. Symphorosa Church

For any mass intention that has never been fulfilled.

Friday, August 19th | 8 AM | St. Symphorosa Church

† Felipe de Jesus Cornejo (Luis & Cornejo Family)

MASS INTENTIONS FOR SATURDAY & SUNDAY

Saturday, August 20th

8:00 AM | St. Symphorosa Church

Memorial of Saint Bernard, Abbot & Doctor of the Church

For the needs and good of the Parish.

4:00 PM | St. René Church | Presider: Fr. Matt

Lector(s): Nancy Gunnell

† George Nowak (Wes & Debbie Szumowski)
† Walter Szumowski (Wes & Debbie Szumowski)
† Jeffrey Gerlick (Chiaramonte Family)
† Mike Breheny (Chiaramonte Family)

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

Lector(s): Tom DeRose

For a successful academic year at our Parish School.

Sunday, August 21st | Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Lector(s): Melissa Link

† Frankie John Wurtz

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

Lector(s): Lety Reyes; Mary Shilney

† Geri Norbut (Family)

† Lynda Sullivan (Patti & Kelli)

† Nick Bouzios (Janina)

† Gary Grisko (Christine Keys)

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

Lector(s): Ben Shafer

† Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy))

† Rita Tomczak (Corbett Family)

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

Lector(s): Barb Rendak

Pro Populo (for the People of the Parish)

Weekend presider subject to change without notice.

Stewardship

AUGUST 7, 2022

Split the Pot Collection:

\$360.00

Winning Envelope:

#60127

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

**TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH
OFFERING**

For the weekend of Sunday, August 7, 2022

\$10,092.40

Thank you for your generosity!

FR. MATT'S REFLECTION



"Help me to understand this." "What I hear you saying is" Sometimes, when we are caught off-guard by conversations, even with people whom we know well, either of these two statements might allow the other

person to express the message again but perhaps in a different way so that we may better understand what is being said. That pause and the decision to respond to someone, "Help me to understand this." "What I hear you saying is," can reduce misunderstanding and miscommunication based on assumptions or rash interpretations. Our Lord's declaration in the Gospel Reading might initially sound shocking: "Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division." (Luke 12:51) Hearing these words or reading them requires a pause for us to ask God, "Help me to understand this." "What I hear you saying is"

The entire Gospel Reading for this Sunday sounds aggressive and confrontational: "Jesus said to his disciples: 'I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing!'" (Luke 12:49) Does Jesus mean that He literally will ignite fires across the world as though He is an arsonist? Thankfully, the answer is "No." After this opening declaration, Jesus announces, "Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. From now on a household of five will be divided, three against two and two against three; a father will be divided against his son and a son against his father, a mother against her daughter and a daughter against her mother, a mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and a daughter-in-law

against her mother-in-law." (Luke 12:51-53) Will Jesus undermine marriages and promote mass chaos? Again, the answer is, "No." Earlier in St. Luke's Gospel, Jesus alludes to Himself as a "bridegroom" as well as to his eventual Death, Resurrection, and Ascension: "Can you make the wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them? But the days will come, and when the bridegroom is taken away from them, then they will fast in those days." (Luke 5:34-35) In St. Mark's Gospel, when the rich young man approaches Jesus and asks what he must "do to inherit eternal life," our Savior lists some of the Ten Commandments, including, "honor your father and mother." (Mark 10:17, 19) So, why might the Son of God speak with such ominous words?

This particular Gospel Reading is one that shocks by exaggeration and hence elicits questions about its meaning, in particular, because Jesus does not literally enact it as He does with other proclamations. Thus, moving from the text itself to a potential spiritual meaning, analogically, the faith, which Jesus seems to be imparting, is that of how believing and following Him potentially will be divisive, even among family members. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) summarizes, "Jesus' proclamation of the kingdom is a refining and purifying fire. His message that meets with acceptance or rejection will be a source of conflict and dissension even within families." (Accessed on 8 August 2022, <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/luke/12>, commentary section.)

The verse, which illuminates that a spiritual meaning is present, that Jesus is revealing as part of the saving faith, is when He prophesies about His imminent Passion: "There is a baptism with which I must be baptized, and how great is my anguish until it is accomplished!" (Luke 12:50) Jesus' baptism from death to life, Cross and tomb to Resurrection, will be incendiary at the societal level. Among groups of Jews and Gentiles, some will

believe in who Jesus is, what He endures, and what He accomplishes, while others will treat Jesus as a rival and dismiss Him.

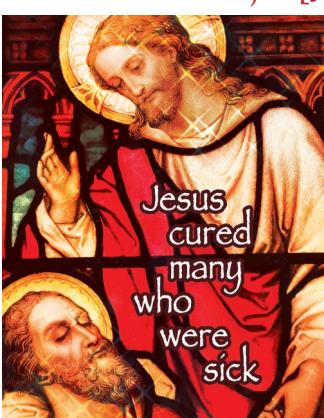
Morally, how we act, and anagogically, the way the passage pertains to our salvation, Jesus is not advocating for insurrection but rather cautioning His disciples about what lies ahead for them and Himself as He will accomplish the work of redeeming humanity. The Son of God wants to do the Father's will, renewing and deifying the Father's children. St. Josemaría Escrivá describes the fire of Jesus as "apostolic zeal." (Accessed on 9 August 2022, Christ is Passing By, para. 120, https://www.escrivaworks.org/book/christ_is_passing_by-point-120.htm) In the Book of Revelation, God will issue another heat-related metaphor to St. John the Evangelist: "'I know your works; I know that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either cold or hot.'" (Revelation 3:15) Here too, the zealous person will be hot, one's actions will be marked by the fire of apostolic zeal, also seeking for God's will to be done and cooperating with the Holy Spirit (who appears as tongues of flame at Pentecost).

The author of the Letter to the Hebrews detects this "fire," both in the proclamation of the Gospel and in the "apostolic zeal" inherently linked with the practice of it: "[Let us] persevere in running the race that lies before us while keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus, the leader and perfecter of faith. For the sake of the joy that lay before him he endured the cross, despising its shame, and has taken his seat at the right of the throne of God. Consider how he endured such opposition from sinners, in order that you may not grow weary and lose heart." (Hebrews 12:1-3)

Have you ever asked God or someone else, "Help me to understand this," about a difficult message?

Fr. Matt Compton

- MATTHEW 28:20

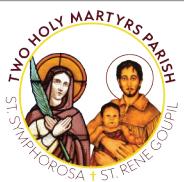


PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYING FOR THE SICK

| | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Arnold Adaska | Margaret Dalton | Claudia Kwirosz | Bob Pac | Brian Styka |
| Guadalupe Almendarez | Debbie Flint | Robert Kroll | Eleanor Pastorek | Sr. Christine Styka |
| Raeann Arends | Maria Flores | Sharon Labiak | Juan Perez | Terry Styka |
| Ignatius Battiatto | Ramiro Garza | James Lapsansky | Maria Paz Perez | Joanne Tishka |
| Jean Bell | Geri Gestaut | Maryann Larson | Stanley Polit | Shirley Tloczek |
| Mary Bieser | Heather Hradek | Domenico Lepore | Jean Rayas | Buddy Valela |
| Fr. Ted Bojczuk | Shawn Hughes | Rose Ann Lindsay | Letticia Reyes | Judith Webber |
| Kathy Calcagno | Denise M. Jandura | Maria Lopez | Ann Robertson | Becky Williams |
| Maxine Carey | Rich S. Jandura | Diane Malarick | Fr. John Rudnik | JoAnn Wolniak |
| Giovanni Carrigan | Rick Jutton | Cathy Mazieka | Joseph Rudnik | Virginia Wolniak |
| Michael Clifford | Joan Juris | John Martini | Jack Ruggiero | Beverly Zummerling |
| Larry Cretes, Sr. | John Kappel, Jr. | Lori McCarthy | John Shipper | Michelle |
| Marilyn Cretes | Lee Kapinski | Maria Perez Montiel | Mary Shortall | |

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 ANNOUNCEMENT



WELCOME TO OUR PARISH!

New Parishioners and Updating Information:

We are so happy to have you join our parish community as we celebrate our faith. Please visit 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 reaching out after business hours (M-F 9 AM to 4 PM & Sat 9 AM to 12 PM) please call our emergency line at (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) in the parish office 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 parish bulletin. Mass intentions are limited per mass and are entered on a first come, first served bases. For more information, please contact the parish office at (773) 767-1523.



OUR SANCTUARY CANDLE, BURNING BEFORE THE
BLESSED SACRAMENT, IS OFFERED FOR THE
FOLLOWING INTENTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF
AUGUST

For the repose of the soul of John Jack Gaca given by his wife, Eleanor Gaca.

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.



Your donations make all the difference, thank you!

In need of help? Call St. Vincent de Paul at (773) 682-3342.

ETERNAL REST FOR....

JEANNETTE ANDERSON
BENJAMIN WEYFORTH, III

For 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.

HOLY HOUR IS COMING!

Every Tuesday at our
St. Symphorosa church
from 5:45 PM - 7 PM.

BEGINNING SEPT. 6

Spend time with Christ!



Wedding Banns - III

Samantha Foltz & Andres Cavazos, Jr.

Wedding Banns - II

Maureen Barajas & Michael Kaufman



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 **SMALL BUSINESSES** in the month of August:

We pray for small and medium sized businesses; in the midst of economic and social crisis, may they find ways to continue operating, and serving their communities.



Let us pray for our brothers and sisters as they go forth with courage and determination to face the forces of violence, weapons of destruction and hearts filled with hate.

Sgt. Jaime A. Acosta, USMC

Sgt. Ted Bartelme

CS-1 Joel Battung

1st Sgt. Chas. Berglund, USMC

Sgt. Naveen Bobba, USMC

Sgt. Arthur A. Boruch, National Guard

Hospitalman Blythe A. Cisneros, USN

Airman Carlos Cisneros, USAF

Sgt. Frank Cisneros, USMC

Corpsman Nicholas J. Cundari-USN

Captain Kevin Dobbyn, US Army

Sgt. John Flores, IL National Guard

Pvt 1st Class Jake Fus, US Army

Staff Sgt. Andrew Gaca, USAF

Sgt. Michael Hough, US Army

Anthony Johaniewicz, US Navy

Sergeant Noah M. Konie, USMC

Lance Corp. Tim Lisenko, USMC

Trevor Lutz, US Army

Private Joseph M. Mikutis, USMC

Pvt 1st Class Daniel Morales, US Army

SPC Alex Ramos

Staff Sgt. Abel Sandoval, USMC

CW2 Richard Sobeske, US Army

Sgt. 1st Class Kristina Stuhlmacher

LCpl. Justin R. Thorpe, USMC

Cpt. Zachary White, IL Army NG

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENT

Family Fest 2022 Grand Raffle Prize Winners

| Place | Prize | Ticket # |
|-------|-------------|----------|
| 1st | \$10,000.00 | 04856 |
| 2nd | \$5,000.00 | 01601 |
| 3rd | \$2,000.00 | 01905 |
| 4th | \$1,000.00 | 02712 |
| 5th | \$500.00 | 00224 |
| 6th | \$250.00 | 00566 |
| 7th | \$200.00 | 00635 |
| 8th | \$150.00 | 01827 |
| 9th | \$100.00 | 00119 |
| 10th | \$100.00 | 03638 |
| 11th | \$100.00 | 01104 |
| 12th | \$100.00 | 00829 |
| 13th | \$100.00 | 00866 |
| 14th | \$100.00 | 02282 |
| 15th | \$50.00 | 02828 |
| 16th | \$50.00 | 00025 |
| 17th | \$50.00 | 02699 |
| 18th | \$50.00 | 02546 |
| 19th | \$50.00 | 02762 |
| 20th | \$50.00 | 04472 |

All Family Fest 2022 Grand Raffle Prize winners have been notified by phone or letter. All winners have accepted their winnings. For privacy, we have only printed the winning numbers.

EMBRACE THE GRACE

The Weekly E-Newsletter of Two Holy Martyrs Parish



SIGN UP FOR OUR NEW PARISH EMAIL NEWSLETTER!

It's easy! Scan the QR code with your smart phone, enter your name and email address and start receiving our weekly newsletter in your inbox.



HOW TO SCAN A QR CODE WITH THE CAMERA APP

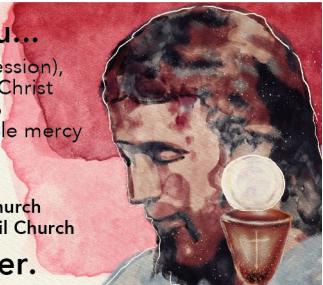
1. Open the Camera app from your phone's Home Screen, Control Center, or Lock Screen.
2. Select the rear facing camera.
3. Hold your device so that the QR code appears in the viewfinder in the Camera app. (Your device recognizes the QR code and shows a notification.)
4. Tap the notification to open the link associated with the QR code.

He's waiting to forgive you...

In the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession), we encounter Jesus Christ. The Heart of Christ burns with love for us and He wants us to experience his immense and unfathomable mercy by confessing our sins and receiving his forgiveness. [Come to confess on:](#)

Tuesdays | 6 PM to 7 PM | St. Symphorosa Church
Saturdays | 3 PM to 3:45 PM | St. René Goupil Church

...His mercy endures forever.



YOUTH MINISTRY

We want to thank the members of our parish who bought items and/or generously donated money at our first Youth Ministry Fundraiser last week!

Your support has given our ministry enough funding to purchase supplies for our Bingo with Fr. Bob event on August 18th, items for our new Youth Ministry meeting space in the Sharp Center, and other much needed supplies. We thank God for your grace and support.

We're just getting started! We're inviting anyone in grades 6th thru 12th to sign up on our parish website and join our youth group. Be a part of a group that wants to do good and make a positive change in our parish.

Not sure if you're ready to join? Come check out our Bingo with Fr. Bob on Thursday, August 18th at 6 PM. Enjoy a free hot dog, bag of chips and a bottle of water. Other items available for purchase.

God's calling you to be His disciple. Answer the call!



PARISH SCHOOL NEWS



HEARTFELT THANKS



On Monday, August 8th, 27 volunteers from Ernst & Young gave their time and talents to help us get ready to welcome our students on the first day of school, August 23rd. The volunteers, organized by Big Shoulders Fund, spent the morning spreading mulch, washing walls, organizing our library, and delivering books to classrooms. We are very grateful for their support.



ST. SYMPHOROSA
CATHOLIC SCHOOL
OF TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH

JOIN OUR THRIVING SCHOOL COMMUNITY!

- Driven by our Catholic virtues.
- Students are known and loved.
- Full and half-day Pre-K options (ages 3-4).
- Affordable tuition with financial aid.
- Before and Aftercare services.
- Small class sizes.

NOW ENROLLING GRADES PK - 8TH FOR 2022-2023!

For more information or to schedule a tour, please call (773) 585-6888 or email StSymphorosa1@gmail.com.

****Parishioners can earn \$250 in gift cards by referring a family to St. Symphorosa School.**
Make sure they write your name on the referral form at time of enrollment.**

6125 South Austin Ave. | Chicago, IL 60638

www.stsymsschool.org

"Grow with Us" Scholarship

This scholarship is available for public school families ready to make the change to an amazing catholic education!

Qualifications:

- Student is currently enrolled in a public school.
- Student is entering 2nd thru 8th grade for the 2022 - 2023 year.

For more information, email Richard Banden at rbanden@stsymphoraschool.org or call 773.585.6888.

8 This Scholarship will be awarded to those who qualify on a first come, first served basis.

"Transferring my son to St. Symphorosa from CPS was one of the best decisions I've ever made. His confidence and grades have skyrocketed as he was instantly welcomed into the St. Syms family."
- Liz Trench
8th Grade Parent



ST. SYMPHOROSA
CATHOLIC SCHOOL
OF TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH

FAITH FORMATION



REGISTRATION FOR THE UPCOMING 2022 - 2023 FAITH FORMATION YEAR IS NOW OPEN!

New and returning families are invited to register. Registration materials are available on our Parish Website. You may also register at the Parish Office. We will continue to offer Faith Formation sessions for grades 1- 8. Classes will be held on Tuesday evenings, from 6 – 7:30 pm at our St. René Campus. Classes will also be offered on Saturday mornings at our St. Symphorosa Campus.

We are grateful for your support.

Fall Classes begin on Sept. 10th!

**Summer Confirmation Class have started
and continue through August 18th.**



PREPARING FOR CONFIRMATION

Our level seven and level eight students, along with their parents, will soon participate in a Commitment Service, in preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation. During the upcoming year these 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.

Coming Soon!

Holy Fire is a wonderful event designed around bringing young people together to witness their Catholic faith.

It is also a great opportunity for teens, particularly those preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation, to reflect more deeply on the gifts of the Holy Spirit which they will receive when they are confirmed.



Please keep our upcoming 8th grade students in your prayers as they experience Holy Fire this October.

HOLY FIRE

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE

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

WHY PRAYER MATTERS

Do you pray?

Do you ever find yourself hoping and praying for a miracle: God, please let me get this job. Lord, please let them get through this operation. Jesus, I need you now more than ever. Father, I promise I'll do what you want if you let me have what I need.

We've all been there. In our hour of need, we pick up the metaphorical phone, clear our throats, and try to let God know we haven't forgotten about Him by asking Him for what we need in our despair.

It doesn't have to be that way, you know?

That's where faith comes in. As a catechist at another parish last year, I wanted to do things differently from what I learned growing up: teaching my young disciples to pray, have faith, and be in constant contact with God when things were good.

I made it a point to show them that praying in thanksgiving, in gratitude, in humility, and in good health was just as important and meaningful to God as praying in our hour of need. Praying, like a muscle, gets better with practice. Our relationship with God becomes more substantial and more consistent.

Praying when we wake up in the morning and thanking God takes three seconds. Praying before taking the first bite of breakfast takes five seconds. Praying before getting in the car to go to work takes seven seconds.

See what I'm getting at? Don't get me wrong, I love praying the Rosary, but in order to develop our encounter with Christ, we need to begin with simple prayer every day. If you had told me that in order to start talking to God, I needed to pray a rosary daily to have His full attention, I would have thrown in the towel. I would have given up because it would have been overwhelming.

That's the beauty of our faith. God doesn't ask us for much, only our hearts. The more we pray in the good times, the easier it will be for us to give Him our heart in prayer in the bad times, and in prayer is where our real conversion happens. Let's teach our children to pray, but most importantly, let's lead them by example.

So I'll ask again, do you pray?

Hugo Lopez



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

SEEKING FULL-TIME DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

THE DIRECTOR OF MUSIC WILL PROVIDE LEADERSHIP AT TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH - A RECENTLY UNIFIED PARISH.

The individual will exhibit proficiency in voice quality and both piano & organ.

The Director of Music will develop cantors, instrumentalists, and choirs for the sacred liturgy and work closely with St. Symphorosa School. The Director of Music will work directly with Pastor, Associate Pastor, Principal, and Parish Staff.

Interested candidates are welcome to send a short bio to Ken Hilliard, Operations Director at khilliard@archchicago.org



MONTHLY BINGO!

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21ST
ST. RENE GOUPIL CAMPUS
(FLANNERY HALL)
6340 SOUTH NEW ENGLAND AVE.

DOORS OPEN AT 12:30 PM | GAMES BEGIN AT 1:30 PM

FOOD & DRINKS FOR PURCHASE
ADMISSION TO PLAY: \$20 AT THE DOOR

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



Married in 1972?

Have you registered
for the annual
Golden Wedding
Anniversary Mass?



Couples celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary from across the Archdiocese of Chicago are invited to gather together for the Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass that will be celebrated by Cardinal Cupich on **Sunday, September 18, 2022 at 2:30 p.m.** The Mass will be held at Holy Name Cathedral in Chicago, Illinois.

Please email GoldenWedding@archchicago.org or contact your parish office with any questions. To register online, please visit pvm.archchicago.org/events/golden-wedding.

PARISH CLOSED FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY OFFICE

OUR PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON
MONDAY, AUGUST 15TH. WE WILL REOPEN ON
TUESDAY, AUGUST 16TH AT 9 AM.



Youth Ministry

Are you in 6th thru 12th Grade?

Join us on Thursday, August 18th at 6 PM in the I-Building of St. Symphorosa Campus for

BINGO WITH FR. BOB!

Have fun and be a part of our new Two Holy Martyrs Parish Youth Ministry! All Bingo participants will receive a free hot dog, chips, and a water bottle donated by a parishioner.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

**WEEKLY GOSPEL
REFLECTIONS RETURNS
NEXT MONTH!**

Join us for our first meeting on Thursday, September 8th at 6:30 PM at the St. René Goupil Chapel.

Join us and let's explore God's Word together!

