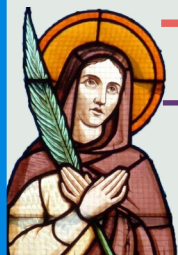


SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | JANUARY 15, 2023



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



by Glenn Miller.

Some of my personal musical tastes trickle down to me from my parents. Dad was a big bands guy, and I'd wake up on Saturday mornings to my father loudly playing "In the Mood"

Mom, on the other hand, tended toward easy-listening stuff and the crooners of the day (Al Martino was her favorite). She put on her favorite music, and she tended to the house and us kids. This is how I first encountered Roger Whittaker, the British whistler who lends his voice to just about any popular song. One of his most well-known songs is "The Last Farewell." WGN-TV used to use the song as their station ID back in the day.

In my perusing of Whittaker songs, I came across "New World in the Morning." The gist of the song is that so many people wait for tomorrow to begin something: lose weight, get more organized, participate in Mass, take a desired vacation, be a more loving person, etc. We shouldn't, however, wait until tomorrow because all we are guaranteed is today.

Here's some of the lyrics:

"I met a man who had a dream he had since he was twenty. I met that man when he was eighty-one. He said too many people just stand and wait up til the morning. Don't they know tomorrow never comes?"

Recovery group folks use a similar mantra. They say, "One day at a time."

During my brief time covering sports, a coach would often be asked to make a comment about an upcoming game three weeks away, and the coach would say, "Right now we're focused this game. We take 'em one at a time."

And so should we. We take life one day at a time. Prepare for the future?

Yes. But take care of what needs takin' care of today. Reach out to family and friends. Let go of grudges. Share a meal with a special person. Spend time with Jesus in prayer. Go to confession. Receive the Eucharist. Send a hand-written note to somebody. Rediscover an old hobby. You get the idea. Don't wait until tomorrow.

Tomorrow is guaranteed to no one. Far too often we get caught up in busyness, complaining, discouragement, and other things that sap our energy and steal our joy. There are days I need to ask myself, "Am I working for God or for "The Man?" Some days I am not sure. Too many people are in a hurry. To where? It's like the saying, "Got everything done. Died anyways."

St. Francis de Sales has sound spiritual advice for you and for me. He wrote, "Never be in a hurry; do everything quietly and in a calm spirit. Do not lose your inner peace for anything whatsoever, even if your whole world seems upset. What is anything in life compared to peace of soul."

Amen, brother! One day at a time.

CHURCH, CHURCH, CHURCH

The Church on earth is the New Israel. She is Christ's concrete, visible presence on earth. The Church is the Sacrament of Salvation. The Church is our mother. We need Her. She feeds us in both Word and Sacrament.

That's the good news. This is the divine aspect of Mother Church.

Now the tough part. The Church as a human institution, is filled with imperfect human beings. This includes popes, cardinals, bishops, priests, deacons, religious brothers and sisters, and the faithful in the pews. This includes you and I.

Throughout her two-thousand-year history, there have been some less-than-holy events committed by her members. In our own day, we've experienced the continued fall-out from the sexual abuse of minors. Most of the extreme cases took place within the late 1960s through the mid-1980s. People's lives suffered immensely. The

behavior of certain priests and the negligence of certain bishops wounded the Body of Christ, and wounded people's hearts. We pray for healing.

The sexual abuse crisis is an extreme example. Imperfection abounds every single day throughout the universal church in smaller ways. We find all kinds of reasons to lose trust. There are days I struggle. We struggle together because this is the Church Jesus has given to us; a Church that is both DIVINE and institutional.

We're reminded that Jesus will be the one who separates the weeds and the wheat at the end of time. There will be justice. There will be mercy. We can leave the judgment of our eternal souls to God. In the meantime, we can each do our part to help purify Mother Church.

American evangelist Billy Graham said, "If you find a perfect church, don't join it. You'd spoil it."

We are all imperfect people in need of God's perfecting grace. This does not mean that we throw up our hands and give in to sin. It does, however, mean we intentionally do our best to live a life of Christian discipleship in the here and now.

The late archbishop Fulton J. Sheen said that there isn't anything wrong with the Church that cannot be fixed by what is right with the Church.

And yet, how easy it is to point the accusatory finger at Judas the betrayer, and use him as our excuse to entirely walk away from Jesus. We use what Judas did (theft, betrayal) as an excuse to toss out what Jesus did (suffering, death, resurrection and ascension).

Blessed Mother, please guide us along the way. Help us grow closer to your Son. Help us, Holy Spirit, stay centered on Christ; He Who feeds us His Body and Blood in the Eucharist; and may we be Your hands and feet in our parish, in our families and in our community.

St. Symphorosa, pray for us. St. René Goupil, pray for us.

"The great surprise to me in life is the brevity of life." **BILLY GRAHAM**

LET US PRAY



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 14 - JANUARY 20

Saturday, December 14th

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

- † Patricia Biniewicz (Irene Perconti)
- † Frances Szumowski
- † Mary Ann Hildebrand (Barbrann)

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

- † Heather Marie McGuire (Tim & Pat Sage)
- † Frances Szumowski (Patricia Perepechko)
- † George Kouba (Barbrann)

Sunday, January 15th

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. Bob

- Deceased members of the O'Donnell Family (Family)
- † Millie Newtoff - 40th Annv. of Death (Family)
- † Richard Newtoff (Family)
- † Patricia Biniewicz (Arlene Scaletta)

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

- † Robert Peters (Karen Walsh)
- † Patrick Myers (Terry & Wanda Dybas)
- † Raul Esparza, Sr. (Son Raul Esparza, Jr. & Family)
- † Jaime Esparza (Family)

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

- † Catherine M. Ollry (Mary Pacius)
- † Ramon Perez - 3rd Annv. of Death (Family)

Monday, January 16th | 8 AM | St. René Goupil Church

- † Joseph Staszal (Barbara Rendak)
- † Jesse Parra & Fidel Martinez (Almendarez Family)

Tuesday, January 17th | 8 AM | St. René Goupil Church

- † James O'Brien (O'Brien Family)

Wednesday, January 18th | 8 AM | St. René Goupil Church

- † Joseph Dobias (Linda)

Thursday, January 19th | 8 AM | St. René Goupil Church

- Health & intentions of Hugo Lopez - Birthday (Parish Office)
- † Joseph Slowinski (Daughters & Family)
- † Alfredo Martinez - Anniv. of Death (Family)

Friday, January 20th | 8 AM | St. René Goupil Church

- Health & intentions of Maggie Koziar - Birthday (Parish Office)
- † Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)

Make a resolution this year to visit Him at Holy Hour!

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every Tuesday at 5:45 PM at our St. Symphorosa Church.

Confessions from 6 PM - 7 PM.



MASS INTENTIONS FOR SATURDAY & SUNDAY

Saturday, January 21st

8:00 AM | St. René Goupil Church

- Vocations to the priesthood.
- All Souls in Purgatory.

† Virginia Blazeniak (Marie Zilka)

† Alfredo Silva & Leonon Silva (Zamudio Family)

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

- † Patricia Biniewicz (Dina Gnat)
- † Donna Evans (Rose Roberts)

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

- † Frances Szumowski (Kolasinski Family)
- † Bud & Doris Carpenter (Art & Katie Carpenter)

Sunday, January 22nd

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

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

† Al Beyer (Toni P.)

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

Pro Populo (for the People of the Parish)

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

- † Patricia Biniewicz (Karen Walsh)
- † Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)
- † Vincent Salamendo (Terri & Dan Domarsky)
- † Virginia Blazeniak (Jean Piotrowski)

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

- † Krysna Dana (Daughter & Family)
- † Frances Szumowski (Patricia Perepechko)
- † Desaree Noceda (Barbara Rendak)

Weekend presider subject to change without notice.

PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYING FOR THE SICK

Arnold Adaska	Denise M. Jandura	Maria Paz Perez
Guadalupe Almendarez	Rich S. Jandura	Stanley Polit
Raeann Arends	Rick Jutton	Leticia Reyes
Ignatius Battiato	Joan Juris	Graciela Rivas
Domingo Battung III	John Kappel, Jr.	Ann Robertson
Hichelle Battung	Ron Kelly	Fr. John Rudnik
Dominic Battung	Robert Kroll	Joseph Rudnik
Hannah Battung	Claudia Kwilosz	Jack Ruggiero
Jean Bell	Sharon Labiak	John Shipper
Mary Bieser	Flavia Langan	Mary Shortall
Fr. Ted Bojczuk	James Lapsansky	Elizabeth Sivek
Maxine Carey	Maryann Larson	Pat Soltis
Judy Carranza	Natalie LeCompte	Brian Styka
Giovanni Carrigan	Domenico Lepore	Sr. Christine Styka
Rita Cernick	Rose Ann Lindsay	Terry Styka
Michael Clifford	Maria Lopez	Michael Sutkowski
Marilyn Crites	Diane Malarick	Pat Szczepanski
Margaret Dalton	Cathy Mazieka	Joanne Tishka
Leon Detlaf	Lori McCarthy	Shirley Tloczek
Debbie Flint	Maria Montiel	Buddy Valela
Maria Flores	Bob Pac	Judith Webber
Mia Forbes	Eleanor Pastorek	Becky Williams
Nia Forbes	Jesus Perez	JoAnn Wolniak
Geri Gestaut	Juan B. Perez	Beverly Zimmerling
Heather Hradek	Maria P. Perez	Chester
Shawn Hughes	Juan Perez	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



When to put away the Christmas decorations, people respond to that seasonal transition at different times. For some people, the Solemnity of Mary, the

Most Holy Mother of God, 1 January, is the day. For some families, a day or two before children return to school is the customary time. In some cultures, for example, Catholics from eastern European countries, the Christmas decorations remain displayed through the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas), on 2 February, to commemorate the fortieth day after Jesus' birth. Whatever your own personal choice, eventually, the Advent and Christmas displays are set aside until the next Advent and Christmas. This Second Sunday in Ordinary Time is one of the last vestiges of Christmas for us, a transition from our Lord's youthful years and hidden early adulthood into Ordinary time as we follow Him at the beginning of His public ministry. Prominent in this transition is St. John the Baptist.

The Baptist, the Forerunner of our Lord, is pivotal in preparing the People of Israel for Jesus' arrival. After this Sunday, we will not hear much more about the son of Sts. Zechariah and Elizabeth. Today, though, St. John bridges the Seasons of Advent and Christmas with the Ordinary Time of the Redeemer's public life. The bulk of the Gospels consists of what Jesus teaches and accomplishes in the presence of others: the Apostles, individuals who approach Him, larger groups of disciples, and even throngs of people, such as during the

multiplication of the loaves and fish or on the Road to Calvary. Before Jesus evangelizes, heals, and forgives, St. John the Baptist will announce Him to his, that is, St. John's own disciples and by extension to us.

The Gospel reading for this Sunday is a rare example of a selection in which we do not hear Jesus speak; instead, St. John the Baptist is the primary evangelist. Let us return to what the last of the Prophets says about the One who has come into the world: "John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and said, 'Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. He is the one of whom I said, "A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me because he existed before me." I did not know him, but the reason why I came baptizing with water was that he might be made known to Israel. . . . Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God.'" (John 1:29-31, 34) St. John the Baptist is humble before Christ and demonstrates that virtue amid those who had begun to follow him. St. John avoids the sin of jealousy, not trying to possess people or keep them from the Son of God but faithfully to usher people toward the Christ.

Confessing that Jesus is indeed the One "On whomever you see the Spirit come down and remain, he is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit," (John 1:33) is an act of obedience as well. Although that word, "obedience," is dismissed by some as outdated or contradictory to one's freedom and preferences, the Baptist's obedience is an act of charity, seeking the good of the people entrusted to him by "the one who sent me [St. John] to baptize." (John 1:33) Unlike St. Isaiah the Prophet who foretells the eventual coming of God's "servant" who will "raise up the tribes of Jacob, and restore the survivors of Israel;

I will make you a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth," (Isaiah 49:6) the Forerunner can actually point to the one prophesied by St. Isaiah and say, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.'" (John 1:29) There is no indication of rivalry or jealousy on the part of St. John the Baptist toward Jesus. Envy that he does not rank first does not taint the Baptist's relationship with Jesus or the Father. All the more, this man who is a distant relation of Jesus (St. Mary and St. Elizabeth being cousins) shows himself to be a model disciple makes his earlier testimony credible.

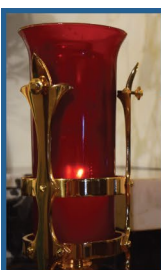
Across so much news and information today, whether sensationalized, self-aggrandized, or spurious, how often do we hear of or detect someone imitating St. John the Baptist, fulfilling some activity "that he [Jesus] might be made known"? That is one way, following St. John's model, in which we might adjust our own actions and motivations, so that we might make Jesus better known to the world.

What we believe and pray: If someone asks you who Jesus is, what would you say?

What to stop doing, sins to avoid: Jealousy (being possessive of what we have or desire to have; keeping others from it) and envy (resentment, even sadness, at what someone else possesses to the point of forsaking charity) (paraphrasing Dr. Jared Staudt's distinction (Accessed on 9 January 2023, <https://thosecatholicmen.com/articles/jealousy-and-envy/>.)

What to do: Rejoice for someone else's success or blessings. Tell, or at least be ready to tell, of the good that someone else has accomplished, not in a disingenuous manner but in a way that conveys good news and reveals a little of God's work among us.

"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 JANUARY

For the repose of the soul of Michael Nowakowski given by Parents Joe & Josie Pulido.

For the living & deceased members of the Battung Family given by Rosario Battung.

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

For the repose of the soul of Joan Brown given by her daughter Cathy Kordelewski.

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



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

MONTHLY BINGO!

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH
ST. RENE GOUPIL CAMPUS
(FLANNERY HALL)
6340 SOUTH NEW ENGLAND AVE.

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

ADMISSION TO PLAY: \$20 AT THE DOOR



Your donations make all the difference, thank you!

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



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 **FOR EDUCATORS** in the month of January:

We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

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 2023 Mass Intention Book is open.**

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 to Hugo Lopez by 10 AM on the Monday before the proceeding weekend liturgy. **No exception!**



JANUARY 8, 2022

Split the Pot Collection:

\$400.00

Winning Envelope:

60022



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

TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH OFFERING

For the weekend of Sunday, January 8, 2022

\$10,672.25

Thank you for your generosity!

SAVE THE DATE!

CASINO Night



MARCH 18, 2023

Sponsored by the St. Symphorosa School Advisory Board



Mid-life Singles (mid-30s to 50s):

Are you looking for a renewed sense of purpose and belonging? Register today for a life-changing REFLECT weekend retreat at the Joseph and Mary Retreat House (formerly Cardinal Stritch Retreat House) in Mundelein, IL (in the northern suburbs), on March 3rd - 5th, 2023.

Take a chance and get involved... you won't regret it!

Cost is \$285 for meals and a single room.

Visit www.ReflectRetreat.com, e-mail

reflect.chicagoland@gmail.com, or call (630) 222-8303 for details.

ETERNAL REST FOR....

**STEVE DEPKE
JOHN SHIPPER**

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.

Romans 14:8

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENT



The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, January 16th in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. We will reopen on Tuesday, January 17th at 9 AM.



(Karen Callaway/Chicago Catholic)

Archdiocesan Overnight Vigil for Life

12 hours of Adoration and Closing Mass Celebrated by Bishop Grob at 6:15 a.m.

In-person or livestream

Thursday, January 19 to Friday, January 20
7 p.m. to 7 a.m. CST

St. John Paul II Newman Center Chapel at UIC
700 South Morgan Street
Chicago, IL 60607



SCAN TO JOIN LIVESTREAM

In conjunction with the USCCB Pro-life Secretariat, Bishop Bartosic, along with other bishops and priests from around the Archdiocese of Chicago, will lead a holy hour for life for 12 hours from the UIC Newman Center Chapel, and they need your help! Can you come and join them in prayer for an hour onsite? Participation is especially needed throughout the night and into the wee hours of the morning. If you can't come in person, you can join virtually through the QR code provided above. This national prayer event will join the nation in solidarity for the hope of changing hearts and minds to build a culture of life and leads up to the morning of the National March for Life.

To commit to a holy hour time, contact Julie Saunders-Franklin at 773.388.8670.

2022 Parish Tax Letters Available!

Parishioners who are in need of a 2022 charitable donation letter for tax purposes can call the office at (773) 767-1523 during business hours or visit our website at twoholymartyrs.org.



We will hold all requested tax letters for pick-up or send it via email.

What to do at a Holy Hour?

AN EASY TO USE GUIDE ON HOW TO PRAY

Ever try to pray only to soon find out you don't know what to do? Ever visit a Holy Hour in front of the Monstrance and become frustrated because you didn't know what to do?

Here are a few suggestions as to how to make a good holy hour.

MINUTES 0-5: Meditate on the following quote from the Catechism of the Catholic Church: "God calls man first. Man may forget his Creator or hide far from his face; he may run after idols or accuse the deity of having abandoned him; yet the living and true God tirelessly calls each person to that mysterious encounter known as prayer. In prayer, God's initiative of love always comes first; our own first step is always a response." (no. 2567)

MINUTES 5-10: Look in your heart; look at your life. What do you want? What do you really want from God? Tell God right now what you need from Him during this time of prayer.

MINUTES 10-15: Find a passage from the Bible. Maybe it's a Psalm; maybe it's the readings from daily Mass; maybe it's the readings at the upcoming Sunday Mass. Find a passage from Scripture. Read the passage slowly. Get familiar with the text. Read the passage a second time, this time read it even slower. Very, very slowly read the passage a third time. Pay attention to which word, words, or phrases "tug" at your heart or get your attention.

MINUTES 15-25: Think about your life; think about the reality of your life. What are the word, words, or phrases from the Bible speaking to in your life? How does the Bible passage connect to your life? Look deep within.

MINUTES 25-35: Talk to God. Talk to God as if He were a real person. Talk to God like Moses did: "The Lord used to speak to Moses face to face, as one man speaks to another." (Exodus 33:11)

MINUTES 35-45: Listen. God will speak to you. Maybe God will speak to you through a thought in your head ... or a song in your heart or a memory ... or a feeling in your body. Listen with all your senses.

MINUTES 45-50: Return to the Scripture passage again. Read it slowly one more time. Is there any word, words, or phrases that speak to you again?

MINUTES 50-55: What can you do today, this week, to act on what God has revealed to you? Practically speaking, in your real life, what can you do?

MINUTES 55-60: Thank the Lord. Blessings are specific and so should our gratitude. Tell God specifically what you're thankful for.

PARISH SCHOOL NEWS



ST. SYMPHOROSA
CATHOLIC SCHOOL
OF TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH

OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, January 29, 2023

10:30am-1:30pm



**GET IN THE GAME AT ST. SYMS!
MEET CHICAGO BEARS RUNNING BACK DAVID
MONTGOMERY AND CHICAGO WHITE SOX MASCOT
SOUTHPAW!**

HERE WE...

- Know and Love our students
- Put faith first
- Believe all things are possible with God
- Offer a rigorous curriculum, including our new STEM studio
- Work with families to make the investment affordable
- Provide supportive before and after school care

773.585.6888 6125 S. Austin Ave Chicago, IL 60638 www.stsymsschool.org



FAITH FORMATION

UPCOMING EVENTS

1/17: Faith Formation Classes - St. René Goupil Campus (Tues.)

1/22: Second Grade Family Mass

1/28: Faith Formation Classes - St. Symphorosa Campus (Sat.)

1/29: Catechetical Resource Day

1/31: Faith Formation Classes - St. René Goupil Campus (Tues.)



Faith Formation Program Emergency Closing Information

Important Reminder: In the event of a heavy snowfall, or inclement weather, you can access Emergency Closing Information for our program by going to our website: TwoHolyMartyrs.org.

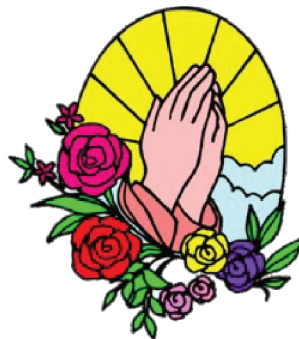
In the event of an emergency closing, the announcement will be the first message displayed on the website homepage.

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE

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

Our Eighth-Grade students from our St. Symphorosa School, along with all our level eight students in our Faith Formation Program, will celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation on April 23.

St. Symphorosa School Second-Grade students and all our level two Faith Formation Students will receive Jesus in the Sacrament of the Eucharist, for the first time on May 6. We invite you to please prayerfully remember all of these young people that they will remain faithful disciples of Jesus.

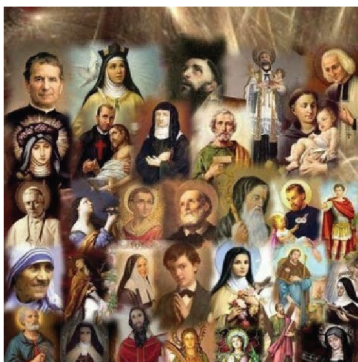


HOLY COMMUNION



BELONGING SERVICE

On Sunday, January 22, at the 9 AM Mass at our St. Symphorosa Church, our Faith Formation Students and Second Graders from our St. Symphorosa School preparing for Holy Communion will be received as candidates for First Eucharist. The candidates are invited to bring a loaf of sandwich bread to Mass. The bread symbolizes Jesus, The Bread of Life. All the bread will be donated to our local food pantry.



Our level eight students, preparing for Confirmation, have been assigned their "Saint Projects" (a requirement for Confirmation.) The students will select their saints to research, and they will present their findings to their class in the coming months. Many times, our Confirmandi choose the Saint whose name they take as their Confirmation Name.

Catechetical Resource Day 2023 is a special event sponsored by the Southwest Suburban Cluster. This year we will gather at St. Terrence in Alsip, on Sunday afternoon, January 29. This formation day is an inspirational day for catechists from all the parishes in the Southwest Area.

Catechists gather to exchange information and provide mutual support in our efforts to share our Catholic faith. The afternoon will begin with a prayer, followed by various informative and spiritual presentations. It is our hope that many of our own catechists here at Two Holy Martyrs will set aside time to participate in this afternoon of formation and camaraderie. Call the Faith Formation Office with questions.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



INSTITUTE FOR
DIACONAL STUDIES

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



Pastor Al™



EXPLORING THE DIACONATE 2023

The Institute for Diaconal Studies (IDS) invites all men who feel the gentle nudge of the Holy Spirit to attend an Exploring the Diaconate session. It is a time to pray, discuss, and learn more about the discernment process and the formation program that aspirants and candidates pursue. Please join us, with your wives, if married, as we explore the potential of a vocation, engage in dialogue and pray in search of the next step. All are welcome to attend any of the sessions.

RSVP REQUIRED

Contact Sr. Caroline Onuoha, DMMM at 847.837.4563 or conuoha@usml.edu

7:30–8:30 P.M.

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Monday, February 6, 2023 | Zoom |
| Tuesday, March 7, 2023 | Zoom |
| Monday, April 24, 2023 | Our Lady of Ransom, Niles |
| Tuesday, May 9, 2023 | Our Lady of Ransom, Niles |

For more information contact Deacon Bob Puhala, bpuhala@usml.edu or 847.837.4564 or visit us at usml.edu.

Application deadline for the 2023–2024 Aspirancy Path is July 15, 2023.

Pregnant Volunteers Needed for Ultrasound Training

The Women's Centers is looking for pregnant women to volunteer for free ultrasounds for our upcoming Limited Obstetrical Ultrasound Training for nurses.

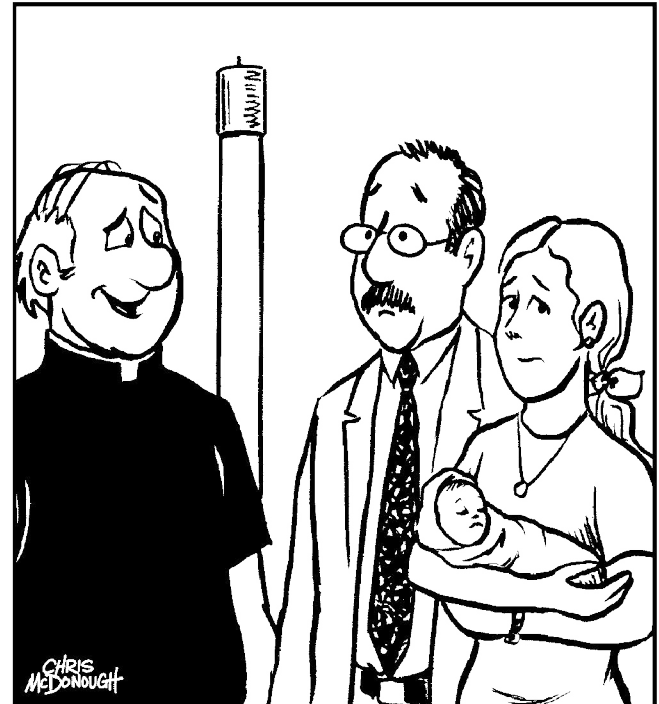
If interested, please call us at 773.283.1400 to see if you qualify & book your appointment today!



JANUARY 9TH - 19TH 2023

773.283.1400

FIRST, SECOND, AND THIRD TRIMESTERS WELCOME



"Sorry, but even if you *do* own a car wash, it just wouldn't be proper to hold a drive-through baptism."

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OPPOSING ASSISTED SUICIDE

A training on talking to lawmakers

Legislation that seeks to legalize assisted-suicide is coming to Illinois.

Training sessions will be provided by:

Bob Gilligan

Executive Director, Catholic Conference of Illinois

Dawn Fitzpatrick

Senior Coordinator, Human Dignity/Solidarity, Archdiocese of Chicago



Several dates for this training are offered (via Zoom)

January 26 - 7:00 p.m.

January 30 - 7:00 p.m.

February 2 - 7:00 p.m.

This webinar will help you understand why such a law should be opposed.

It will teach you how to communicate effective messages in regards to assisted-suicide.

We will demonstrate how to communicate with your legislator.



RSVP to: info@ilcatholic.org by January 25

When submitting your RSVP, please include name, email and session you will be attending