

TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH

6135 S. AUSTIN AVE. CHICAGO, IL 60638 773.767.1523 INFO@TWOHOLYMARTYRS.ORG

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10, 2025



NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

LIGHT
YOUR LAMPS.

— LUKE 12:35 —

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

Magdalan Koziar
OFFICE & TUITION COORDINATOR

Irene Perconti
ADMINISTRATIVE
ASSISTANT

Peg Siebenaler
FAITH FORMATION
COORDINATOR

David Boyle
MUSIC DIRECTOR

Dcn. Raul Duque
PARISH ORGANIST

Matt Capparelli
MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR

Jacqueline Guerrero
BULLETIN & GENERAL
OFFICE ADMIN

SCHOOL STAFF

Kathy Berry
SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Chris Garza
ASSISTANT SCHOOL PRINCIPAL



Contact 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!

PLEASE REFRAIN FROM PARKING IN THE FIRE LANES

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.stsymsschool.org

✉ office@stsymphorosaschool.org

MONDAY—FRIDAY

9 AM—3 PM

FAITH FORMATION

☎ 773.767.1523 Ext: 226

✉ msiebenaler@archchicago.org

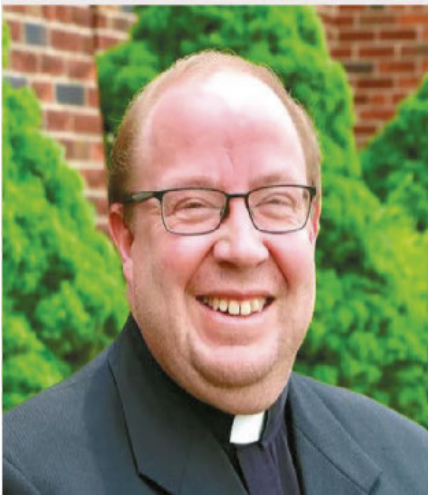


ONLINE/ELECTRONIC DONATIONS

\$7,781.00

June 1, 2025 to June 30, 2025

Total number of transactions:
249



FR. BOB'S WEEKLY BLOG

Within the word discouragement we see the word courage. Who had courage? The saints of the Church throughout the centuries. Amid trials and tribulations, the saints allowed the Holy Spirit to give them strength and courage as they carried their respective crosses in this life all the while preparing for passing into eternal life.

When we read the stories of the saints, we find inspiration to keep on living for the greater glory of God. We're able to put our discouragements into proper perspective. We recognize the diabolical work of the slithering serpent for what it is; anti-love and anti-Christ.

The saints had courage because the saints primarily kept their gaze on Jesus. They may have glanced away on occasion amidst the tumult of the world, but they would return to prayer, scripture, sacraments and the works of mercy to regain focus and be reminded of our reason for hope. Our reason for hope is the crucified and risen Lord.

Here's a sports analogy to help paint the picture. A tactic used by a sports team is to dis-spirit the opposing team; to get the other team to lose confidence and hope. A discouraged team is easier to defeat. This is true whether it's football, basketball, baseball, soccer, or volleyball. We must realize the Enemy and its cooperating minions are trying to discourage us every single day so that soon we, too, will just throw up our hands in defeat.

Look at our culture today. Look at our news media. We are feasting on deceit, division, diversion and, yes, discouragement. Heck, maybe it's more profitable from a dollars and cents perspective, but our souls are suffering. Human beings are hurting.

Relationships are suffering. People are discouraged and losing hope amidst increasing violence, institutional corruption, soaring greed, and perverse debauchery.

What are we to do? Look to the saints who teach us to look to Christ. We make use of what the saints made use of: prayer, Holy Mass, scripture, sacraments, devotions, and works of mercy. We don't need to reinvent the wheel. Maybe our wheel just needs air; the "air" of the Holy Spirit at work in our lives so that we are given the strength and courage to love God and to love our neighbor.

Jesus was a carpenter; someone who builds, and He's building a kingdom on earth one "yes" at a time until He comes again in glory and declares, "Behold, I make all things new."

It's true. Evil may have its hour, but God will have His Day.

Quote -- "In the world you will have trouble, but take courage, I have conquered the world." -- **Jesus (John 16:33)**



Many of you have heard me mention the four "D's" of the diabolic.

The four D's of the diabolic are: division, deceit, diversion, and discouragement. Fr. Lou Cameli, a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago, wrote a book about these four D's. Knowing these can help us become better discerners in the spiritual life between what is of God and what is not of God.

The word diabolic comes from the Greek word diabolos, which basically means "to throw things apart or divide." This is the modus operandi of the Enemy (Satan). The Adversary foments these four D's to try to separate us from God, from one another, and from our own self. The Enemy cannot create so it seeks to destroy what is good, true, and beautiful.

Allow me this week to highlight just one of the four D's; discouragement.

There's a good chance you've been discouraged before. To be discouraged means to have lost confidence or enthusiasm; disheartened. How easy it can be in daily life in this world to become discouraged. This is exactly what the Enemy wants; people losing confidence in God and in our fellow man; losing our enthusiasm as we throw up our hands and say, "What's the point?"



FR. KEVIN'S GREGORIAN RANTS

The meaning of “active participation” has been one of the more misunderstood teachings from the Second Vatican Council. In the years following the council, it was interpreted as giving people more jobs to do during the Mass – ushers, lectors, Eucharistic ministers, etc. While these ministries do exist and are ways of serving the Lord in the liturgy, it's not what the Liturgical Movement nor the Council Fathers had in mind when they included this term.

Active participation was an essential aspect of *Sacrosanctum Concilium*. After establishing the centrality of Christ in the liturgy, the fathers dove right into this concept: “Mother Church earnestly desires that all the faithful should be led to that fully conscious, and active participation in liturgical celebrations which is demanded by the very nature of the liturgy. Such participation by the Christian people as a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a redeemed people, is their right and duty by reason of their baptism” (SC14). The concern was that liturgy had turned into a spectacle, with the priest and servers performing and the rest of the congregation watching until it was time to receive communion.

It's natural to hear “active” and not think about doing something, especially in our American context of performance and efficiency. In this sense, the action is external and

visible; people should be able to see that something is being done. This has led to unnecessary actions and roles being added to the liturgy in the name of participation, while others feel they remain on the sidelines because they aren't performing one of these observable roles.

Joseph Ratzinger, who would become Pope Benedict XVI, wrote about this in his book “The Spirit of the Liturgy”. As an expert theological advisor at Vatican II, he envisioned that participation referred to a principal action in which everyone has a part. This central action is the Eucharistic prayer and offering. These are more than just words, but the action of God that takes place through human speech.

It is the action of God inaugurating the new creation and restoring the ability for each person to communicate with God. We pray that the sacrifice of Jesus Christ becomes our sacrifice, transforming us into the Body of Christ. As Ratzinger states, “The uniqueness of the Eucharistic liturgy lies precisely in the fact that God himself is acting and that we are drawn into that action of God.”

So how is this done? The simplest way is that each takes up their liturgical role. The priest, sacramentally empowered to offer the prayer and sacrifice, leads the liturgy, but his participation is equal to the worshipping faithful. For the laity, this means listening attentively to the word of God, responding in the dialogue with the priest, and presenting a personal offering alongside the bread and wine.

Sacrosanctum Concilium states it beautifully: “The Church earnestly

desires that Christ's faithful, when present at this mystery of faith, should not be there as strangers or silent spectators; on the contrary, through a good understanding of the rites and prayers they should take part in the sacred action conscious of what they are doing, with devotion and full collaboration. They should be instructed by God's word and be nourished at the table of the Lord's body; they should give thanks to God; by offering the Immaculate Victim, not only through the hands of the priest, but also with him, they should learn also to offer themselves; through Christ the Mediator, they should be drawn day by day into ever more perfect union with God and with each other, so that finally God may be all in all” (SC48).

At Mass, we become engaged at all levels of our being. This is the “active” or “actual” nature of our participation. We sing, stand, kneel, and process with our bodies, we open our minds and hearts in reception to God's word and grace, and we offer our whole selves in worship of God. Ratzinger refers to it as training the body for its eventual resurrection where God is fully accepted and conformed to. The theme of full and active/actual participation will continually return as we dissect *Sacrosanctum Concilium*.





For the week of:

August 9th - August 17th

Saturday August 9th

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

PRO POPULO

Sunday August 10th

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

✠Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)

✠Joseph & Josephine Dyniakoski (Family)

✠Rodlynn Gajda (Ramazinski Family)

✠David Smagor (Arlene Scaletta)

9:00 AM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Bishop Fedek

✠Vern & Tony Petraitis (Feddor Family)

✠Jim Radomski (Pat Soltis)

✠Tom Joe Scanlon (Margaret Scanlon)

✠Anthony Scavone Jr. (The Billa Family)

Praying for health and God's blessings for Mary Shilney (Karen Trezek)

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

✠Mercedes Valentin & deceased family (Family)

✠Joanne Bukowiecki (Robert Kroll)

✠Christian Furczon

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

✠Nancy Janda (Husband Douglas)

Monday August 11th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa

✠Josephine Pelegrino (Family)

✠Gary Grisko (Family)

✠C. David Smagor (Aunt Pat)

Tuesday August 12th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa

Birthday Blessings for Alexander Petrosky (Rosario Battung)

Wednesday August 13th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa

✠Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)

✠Joseph & LaVerne Slowinski (Daughters & Families)

✠Ida Marie Renaud (Roxane & Frank Lozich)

In Loving Memory of Bob Soltis on his birthday (Wife Pat)

Thursday August 14th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa

✠Zeneida Narea (Vincent Narea)

In Loving Memory of Stephanie Adam on her birthday (Barb Stoyak)

✠Bruna & Luigi Tomassini (Family)

✠Gavin Cordova & all poor souls in Purgatory (Rosario Battung)

Friday August 15th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa

✠Richard Merda (Wife Arlene)

Birthday Blessings for Juanita Battung (Rosario Battung)

✠Jacob, Nellie, & Emily Bara (Daughter & Aunt Dolores)

✠Eugene Zdziennicki (Sister & Family)

Giving thanks to our blessed mother for all her blessings to the Valenzuela Family

Saturday August 16th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa

In Loving Memory of George Simon (Wife)

✠Menzie Pusateri (Pat Soltis)

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

✠Beverly Zaleski (Jean Piotrowski)

✠Bob Zuber (Jean Piotrowski)

Health & God's Blessings for Nancy Alvarez (Toni Ptak)

✠Eleanor Pastorek (Markham Family)

Sunday August 17th

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

PRO POPULO

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

✠James Sullivan (Family)

✠Maria Alvarez (Family)

✠Rafael Alvarez Sr. (Family)

In Loving Memory of Lynda Sullivan on her 16th Anniversary (Family)

Health & God's Blessings for Mary Shilney (Karen Trezek)

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

✠Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)

✠Joseph & Josephine Dyniakoski (Family)

✠Raymond Sarlitto (Mary Sarlitto)

✠Thomas Murray (Family)

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

✠Angelica Canchola (Valdez Family)

✠Patricia Danaher (Scott & Pam Kurtovich)

✠Ramiro Garza (Garcia Family)

✠Kathleen McSweeney (Lou Phillips, Jr.)



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

Carlos Castillo

Lorraine Grunert

Andrea Altieri

Presiders are subject to change without notice.

TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH | August 10, 2025



OUR SANCTUARY CANDLES

Burning before the Blessed Sacrament are offered for the following intentions for the month of

AUGUST

IN LOVING MEMORY OF VINCE & MARIA PORCELLI

For the repose of their souls, given by Family.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF BOB, JOHN, BOBBY SOLTIS & NICK ALDERFER

For the repose of their souls, given by Pat Soltis.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF RICHARD MERDA

For the repose of his soul, given by wife Arlene.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF LYNDA SULLIVAN

For the repose of her soul on her 16th anniversary, 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.



OUR MARIAN CANDLES

Lord God, with the lighting of this candle, through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His mother, please hear our intentions for the month of

AUGUST

PRAYING FOR ALL LIVING & DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE BATTUNG FAMILY

given by Rosario Battung.

PRAYING FOR ALL LIVING & DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE KOUNTIS, BARA, KUDWA FAMILIES

given by Dee.

HEALTH & GOD'S BLESSING FOR MARCIA BUFKA, ELENA & NATALIE LECOMPTÉ

given by Family.

HEALTH & GOD'S BLESSING FOR JERRY HUGHES

given by St. Vincent de Paul Family and Friends.

In the lighting of the Marian candles we ask for the Blessed Mother's intercession as we honor a loved one, living or deceased.



Please join us in Praying for the Sick

Arnold Adaska	Patricia Cuchetto	Clarence Oleszkiewicz
Guadalupe Almandarez	Margaret Dalton	Fay Pac
Nancy Alvarez	Theresa Feddor	Nancy Pekala
Marlene Annerino	Karen Holmes	Ramon Perez
Walter Annerino	Larry Holmes	Christine Petry
Sharon Arends	Joan Juris	Fred Ritchie
Mary Bieser	Irene Koziol	Ann Robertson
Fr. Ted Bojczuk	Sharon Labiak	Michael Roman
Glenn Boyle	Elena LeCompte	Adan Sanchez
Marcia Bufka	Natalie LeCompte	Katrina Sigafosse
Steven Campos	Debbie Lipien	Karen Singer
Maria Candelas	Mary Liszka	Pat Soltis
Maxine Carey	Rosemary Litwin	Manuel Soto
Pat Carone	Joelee MacMaster	Keith Spencer
John Clementi	Rich Marcello	Fr. Norm Trela
MaryEllen Compton	Cathy Mazeika	Salvador Villagron
		Christine

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



Thank you for your generosity!

PARISH OFFERTORY:
08/03/25: \$9,401.25

Split the Pot Winning Envelope #:
63874: \$500.00

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

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION



Vigil Mass on Thursday, August 14th
at 7pm at St. Rene Goupil
or
Daily Mass on Friday, August 15th
at 8am at St. Syms

Parish Office
will be closed on Friday,
August 15th

Office will be back for
business on Saturday,
August 16th at 9am

**Super
Bingo**

St. Rene Goupil
6340 S. New England Ave.
Chicago, IL 60638

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17, 2025

Doors Open at 11:30am
Games Begin at 1:00pm

Refreshments & Food
are available for purchase
FREE COFFEE

ADMISSION \$20 AT THE DOOR

Choir Notes By David Boyle

Every year as our new choir season begins I put out a plea for new members. This year I thought I'd ask the choir members themselves to help with the recruitment effort by sharing their own thoughts about choir membership. This week Marge Garbacz shares some of her experience as a choir member.

"After having been a cantor for many years at our St. Symphorosa worship site, I decided to join the choir after my retirement from professional ministry. I felt that I needed to do something that would both nourish my soul and would contribute to the larger community. I have discovered that the choir fulfills both those needs in a beautiful and inspiring way!

I love both the individual people who make up the choir and the community spirit that is present amongst them. Together we strive to make beautiful music to enhance the liturgical celebration and to help raise hearts and minds in worship of our God. It is joy-filled, humbling, and spiritually healing. I believe that the Spirit truly moves amongst us.

I find that I look forward to our weekly practices and to singing together on Sunday mornings. We may work hard at what we do, but we have fun doing it. If people would give choir a try, I think they would discover a vehicle that is not only of service to the worshipping community, but also is a pathway to a closer personal relationship with God."

For more information about joining please email 2HMChoir@gmail.com or phone the parish office.

Two Holy Martyrs Parish
**YOU'RE INVITED TO BE A
VENDOR AT OUR**

**Holiday
Extravaganza
Craft & Vendor Fair**

**SUNDAY,
NOV 23RD**

5940 W. 62ND STREET
CHICAGO IL 60638

10:00AM TIL
2:30PM

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PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Order of Christian Initiation **O.C.I.A.**



Join Us for a Time of Fellowship, Discernment and Conversation.

This event is open to all those who recently received their sacraments at the Easter Vigil and those who are looking to enter into the Church or complete their sacraments. Those who are fully initiated Catholics looking to be sponsors and volunteers with our O.C.I.A. Ministry are welcome as well.



Saturday
August 16, 2025



10:00 AM



Social Hall in the
Sharp Center
5940 W 62nd St.



What to Expect:

- ✓ Opportunity for open dialogue about the O.C.I.A. experience and process
- ✓ Reflection & Sharing
- ✓ Prayer & Fellowship
- ✓ Warm and Welcoming Atmosphere



MORE INFORMATION

📞 773.767.1523 ext. 248 🌐 mkoziar@archchicago.org



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Questions: Please contact
Teresa Stack* @ 773-779-6700
ext. 108
or by email at
teresa@svdpchicago.org

PARISH SCHOOL NEWS



REGISTERED NURSE

NURSE VOLUNTEER WANTED

Are you or do you know of a registered nurse, practicing or retired, that would be willing to volunteer some time at our school for service hours? We are currently seeking registered nurse to be with us a few days a week to support our students. Interested candidates should email kberry@stsymsschool.org ASAP

**We're
Hiring**



**GYM
TEACHER**

GYM TEACHER JOB DESCRIPTION

St. Symphorosa School is looking for a part-time gym teacher to work with our PK-8th grade students, two days per week on Tuesdays and Thursdays during the school year from 8am-3pm. Applicants must have a college degree & share our beliefs-all things are possible with God, a community of kindness, love and support equals success, and our children are stewards of God's gifts. Experience working with children is preferred. This position also has the potential to be full-time as a contractor through the Fran Center, working in the same capacity at one or two other schools in the neighborhood. Candidates interested in the part-time position should email their resume and cover letter to kberry@stsymsschool.org and candidates interested in full-time work should email Al at a.marciante@francenter.com

FALL SPORTS COACHES

ST. SYMPHOROSA
CATHOLIC SCHOOL
OF TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH



Coaches Needed

St. Symphorosa Athletics is looking for volunteer coaches to help lead our fall sports programs.

Fall Season
**Begins September
& ends November**

Times vary based on schedule

Benefits of coaching at St. Syms...

- ✓ Volunteer Hours (15)
- ✓ Flexible scheduling available
- ✓ Positive Community and Culture
- ✓ Make a Lasting Impact

Fall 2025 Tentative Sports

- Pee wee Soccer (PreK-K)
- Sports Camp (1st - 4th)
- Boys Flag Football (5th - 8th)
- Girls Basketball (5th - 8th)
- Pickleball (4th - 8th)
- Yoga (4th - 8th)

*League play is included for this sport

To apply or request more information about coaching opportunities, please contact our Athletics Director, Sergio Gutierrez.

athletics@stsymsschool.org

TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH

ST. SYMPHOROSA SCHOOL ALL SCHOOL FAMILY MASS AND PICNIC

HOSTED BY THE SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD

Let's gather for 12:00pm Mass at St. Rene Goupil Church for a special blessing of the students blasting off to a new school year. Following the Mass, we invite you to a Back To School Celebration, a picnic lunch for all students & families. Bring your tents, blankets & lawn chairs for a fun, faith-filled afternoon. We look forward to kicking off the school year in a spirit of community, bringing the Syms School family together.

Sunday, September 7, 2025
St. Rene Goupil Church
6949 W. 63rd Place
12:00pm Mass
picnic immediately following

Family	Friends	Faith	Food	Fun
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SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

"JOIN US" - An incredible opportunity for our Faith Formation families.

"1ST GRADE" - Looking to welcome new 1st grade students.

Contact us to learn more!



For more information or to schedule a tour, email marketing@stsymsschool.org
Stay connected with St. Symphorosa Catholic School!

Visit our website at www.stsymsschool.org and follow us on Facebook & Instagram for the latest updates on school news, events and more!



PARISH FAITH FORMATION

Upcoming Events:

**FALL CLASSES BEGIN AFTER
LABOR DAY!!**

9/09: Faith Formation Classes
Syms Campus. (Tues.)

9/13: Faith Formation Classes
Syms Campus. (Sat.)



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. The dates for our Commitment Services are forthcoming. A Commitment Service is a requirement for Confirmation.

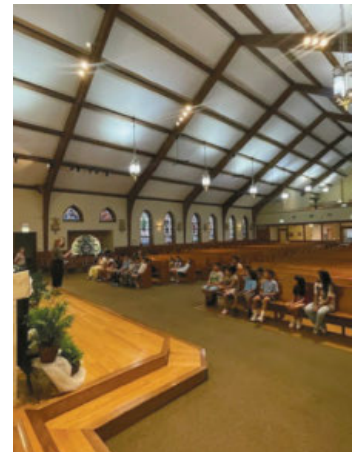


FAITH FORMATION CLASSES BEGIN SOON!

We are now in the process of organizing classes and recruiting Catechists, so it is important for you to send in your registration as soon as possible.

**Please call Peggy in the Faith
Formation Office with any questions.
(773) 767-1523 ext. 226.**

Our Faith Formation Program offers classes
for students in **grades 1 – 8**.
Classes are held every other **Tuesday evening**, from
6:00pm – 7:30pm and
every other **Saturday morning** from
9:00am – 10:30am.



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Two Holy Martyrs, Chicago, IL B 4C 01-4065
TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH | August 10, 2025

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