

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

BE MADE
CLEAN.

MARK 1:41

©LPi



February 11, 2024

TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH

ST. SYMPHOROSA + ST. RENE GOUPIL



WELCOME TO TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH CHURCH SCHEDULES

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Robert Regan
PASTOR

Rev. Kevin Gregus
ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Rev. Norman Trela
RETIRED PRIEST IN RESIDENCE

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



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

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

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

SCHOOL OFFICE

6125 S. Austin Avenue
Chicago, IL 60638

☎ 773.585.6888

📍 www.stsymssschool.org

✉ office@stsymphorosaschool.org

MONDAY—FRIDAY

9 AM—3 PM

FR. BOB'S WEEKLY BLOG



Wait, what? Ash Wednesday is next week?

That is correct. We are just days away from entering the Church's penitential season. This year, Ash Wednesday happens to fall on February 14th. Some priest friends playfully joke about making the ashes in the shape of a heart, but in all seriousness, when our forehead is marked with the cross, we are being reminded of God's love for us.

Let's recall John 3-16: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him."

Sometimes we forget the significance of the cross of Christ. Crucifixion was the Roman Empire's method of execution, which was done publicly to serve as a deterrent to would-be criminals or insurrectionists. God, however, uses this evil for a much greater good – our salvation. Jesus says, "This is My Body given for you ... this is My Blood."

Why? Because love does such things. We are being shown what AGAPE looks like. This is self-sacrificing love that directs us to the Love that transcends this world.

During Lent we remember we are not God. This might be news to some folks today who embrace the cultural trend of selfishness and pride. Keeping a God-first approach to life keeps us humble and attentive to what truly matters in life. As we hear on Ash Wednesday, "Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return."

With this reality in mind, we find the HOPE we need in the Person of Jesus. His desire is to transform minds and hearts in this life. The Lord is looking for intentional disciples; those who truly answer his call to "Follow me!"

Here's the tough part of being a true disciple of the Lord. It involves the cross. This means our lives will, at times, involve hardship and sacrifice. Our natural human instinct is to shy away from this or ignore it altogether.

Jesus says, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." (MT 16: 24).

The Lord gives us courage and strength so that in sharing his cross we are mindful we shall also share in his resurrection. The cross becomes the portal to new life in Christ.

Here's a question to ponder as we enter Lent: what must die for new life to grow? We can use the image of gardening. What needs to be pruned and cleared out so that something new can grow? We can ask this question both individually as disciples and communally as brothers and sisters in Christ.

Lent is the time of year to root out what keeps us from growing deeper in love with Jesus and closer together as Christians. The seven deadly sins serve as a checklist of what needs weeding out. They are pride, lust, gluttony, greed, sloth, anger, envy.

The compensating seven lively virtues are: humility, charity, kindness, forgiveness, chastity, temperance, and fortitude.

Sin shrinks the heart. Grace enlarges the heart. That's why we refer to a self-centered person as having a cold heart, and we refer to a generous, forgiving person as having a warm heart. This is spiritual physics 101. Hatred shrinks the heart. Love enlarges the heart.

May your Lent be blessed. May God's grace wash over you. May you grow closer to our crucified and risen Lord. Please pray for your priests, and know we pray for you.

Quote -- "As salt is needed for all kinds of food, so humility is needed for all kinds of virtue." -- **St. Isaac the Syrian**





FR. KEVIN'S GREGORIAN RANTS

by those present. It reminds us that we are going to be directly affected by the gifts that are placed on the altar.

For example, let's look at the prayer for this Sunday, the Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time: "May this oblation, O Lord, we pray, cleanse and renew us and may it become for those who do your will the source of eternal reward. Through Christ our Lord."

First, the prayer speaks of "this" oblation. It's not the offering made last week, nor the one that will be made a year from now. Each Mass has its particular set of offerings and as Christians, we are asked to be present to what is happening in the here and now.

Second, we ask that the sacrifice we offer do something for us through the power of God. Here, we ask for renewal and restoration in our current state of life, and also look forward to what we are promised: eternal life. You will find that many of these prayers have an eschatological aspect, which is a word we've discussed before.

Every liturgy we celebrate is a participation in heavenly liturgy and a foretaste of heaven. The gifts we offer and receive back now profit us for eternal life to come.

Finally, we always bring it back to Jesus Christ. Everything done at Mass is done towards the Father through the Christ the Incarnate Word and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

It's almost as if we are reminding both God the Father and ourselves that all of this is possible because of the Incarnation, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. We also recognize that man alone is not capable of receiving these gifts without the grace given by Jesus.

Each prayer over the offerings will have similar elements. If the Mass is in honor of a particular saint, often the prayer will mention that saint to ask for his or her intercession. Sometimes it will mention a specific gift or virtue the Church desires her people to have.

Think of the prayer over the offerings said aloud by the priest as our "last chance" to place our offering on the altar. God is about to perform a great miracle through the priest, and so great an action calls for attentive and active preparation.

Now that the gifts and the altar are prepared, the priest can begin, along with the congregation, the eucharistic prayer. By the end of this prayer, the bread and wine will have been consecrated by the hands of the priest into the Body and Blood of Christ.

Much like the Collect, or opening prayer, which is prayed before the readings from scripture, the priest offers a prayer at this point, which is appropriately called the Prayer over the Offerings. This prayer is "proper" to the day, meaning that, like the Collect, it changes depending on which Mass is being said.

This prayer, also like the Collect, is directed toward God the Father, and each one typically ends, "Through Christ our Lord." The people respond "Amen" in their agreement. While the Collect directs the general direction for each Mass, the prayer over the offerings is directly applied to the gifts that are about to be consecrated.

Often, the language speaks of what we hope to gain by the offering of the bread and wine, along with all the intentions and sacrifices that have been placed on the altar



For the week of:

February 10th—February 18th



Saturday February 10th

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

✠ Robert Compton (Wife Mary Ellen)

✠ Valentina & Felix Almendarez (Almendarez Family)

05:30 PM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Kevin

✠ Gerald Sears (Gregory Jackson & Family)

Sunday February 11th

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

✠ Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)

✠ Kazimiera & ✠ Jan Karbacz (Family)

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

PRO POPULO

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

✠ Ken Jaros (John & Gloria Bodoki)

✠ Rita Tomczak (Katie Sigafoose)

Prayers for Recovery of Joanne Gulino (Florence & Steve Wilton)

✠ Judith Siwek

✠ John Chavez (Maria Chavez)

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

✠ Bob, John & Bobby Soltis (Pat Soltis)

✠ Nick, Mickey & Miriam (Pat Soltis)

✠ Sophie Budz (Barbara Rendak)

✠ Stanley Judeikis (Family)

Monday February 12th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Bob

✠ Vince Porcelli - Heavenly Birthday (Wife Judy)

✠ Marie Pratt (Cheryl Pratt)

✠ John Soltis (Mom)

✠ Mary Suchy (Family)

Tuesday February 13th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Kevin

✠ Joann Kukulka (Momma)

✠ Robert Saffel (Pat Soltis)

✠ Alice Chanover (Tom & Dawn Gasior)

Praying for God's Blessings for Julian and Fernando Velenzuela (Mom)

Wednesday February 14th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Bob

✠ Claude Wiatrak (Wife Clara)

✠ Elizabeth Garcia (John Garcia)

✠ Walter McGuire (Margaret Scanlon)

✠ Charles DeLauriea (Lorraine DeLauriea)

07:00 PM | St. Rene Goupil | Presider: Fr. Kevin

PRO POPULO

Thursday February 15th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Bob

✠ Kevin Meng (Meng Family)

✠ Bill Rich (Barbara Rendak)

Birthday Blessings for Elizabeth Sarlitto (Mary Sarlitto)

Friday February 16th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Kevin

✠ Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)

✠ Ann Calcagno (Kathy Calcagno)

Saturday February 17th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Bob

Priest Vocations

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

✠ Robert Hilliard (Ken & Michelle)

✠ Elaine Hilliard (Ken & Michelle)

✠ Darlene Gudim (Ken & Michelle)

Sunday February 18th

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

✠ Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)

✠ Bobby Soltis (Pat Soltis)

✠ Bernie E. Myszkowski

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

✠ Ronald Cempel (Karen Walsh)

✠ Nick Bouzios (Janina)

✠ Rich Newtoff (Family)

✠ Donald Brann (Arlene Scaletta)

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

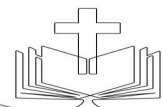
PRO POPULO

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

✠ Chester Mateja (John & Cathey Filetti)

✠ Tadeusz Dana (Daughter)

✠ Paulino Villarreal Sr. (Paulino Villarreal Jr.)



Presiders are subject to change without notice.

TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH | February 11, 2024



OUR SANCTUARY CANDLES

BURNING BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT ARE OFFERED FOR THE FOLLOWING INTENTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF

FEBRUARY

VINCE PORCELLI & MARIA PORCELLI
For the repose of their souls, given by Family.

LYNDA SULLIVAN
For the repose of her soul, given by Family.

MICHAEL NOWAKOWSKI
For the repose of his soul, given by Joe & Josie Pulido (Parents).

ALL MEMBERS OF THE SOLTIS, KRZAN & PICHLER FAMILIES
given by Pat Soltis.

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 | Debbie Lipien | Manuel Soto |
| Guadalupe Almendarez | Rosemary Litwin | Shirley Tloczek |
| Maxine Carey | Joelee MacMaster | Fr. Norm Trela |
| Margaret Dalton | Cathy Mazeika | Judith Webber |
| Joanne Gallas | Clarence Oleszkiewicz | Beverly Zimmerling |
| Mitch Gallas | Ramon Perez | |
| Karen Holmes | Ann Robertson | |
| Ron Kelly | Fr. John Rudnik | |
| Sharon Labiak | Adan Sanchez | |
| Maryann Larson | Katrina Sigafoose | |
| Natalie Lecompte | Karen Singer | |



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 you would like a statement of your contributions for 2023, please call the parish office at 773.767.1523 to request your letter during our business hours or visit our website at twoholymartyrs.org
The statement can be picked up in person with a photo ID or it can be emailed to you. Thank you.



Thank you for your generosity!

PARISH OFFERTORY 2/04: \$9,840.00

Split the Pot Winning Envelope #: 60494: \$450.00

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

**Two Holy Martyrs Parish
St. Rene Goupil Campus
6340 S. New England Ave**



Super Bingo
Sunday February 18, 2024

Doors Open 11:30AM - Games Begin 1:00PM

Refreshments & Food are Available for Purchase

FREE COFFEE

Admission \$20 at the Door

For More Information Call 773-767-1523



This past Sunday the Cub Scouts joined us at the 9am Mass.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

LITURGY NOTICE

REVISED PARISH MASS SCHEDULE effective
February 17-18, 2024:

Saturday

4 PM Mass (Vigil Mass) at St. Rene church

Sunday

7:30 AM Mass at St. Rene church

9 AM Mass at St. Sym's church

10:30 AM Mass at St. Rene church

Noon (12PM) Mass at St. Sym's church

Note: The 5:30 PM Saturday Vigil Mass will no longer be an option starting Saturday, Feb. 17.

All 5:30pm Mass intentions have been moved to the 4pm Mass time as of this date.



FEBRUARY 14, 2024

8AM Mass - St. Symphorosa

11 AM School Mass - St. Symphorosa

Noon Service - St. Rene Goupil

3:30 PM Service - St. Symphorosa

4:30 PM Service - St. Rene Goupil

5:30 PM Service - St. Symphorosa

7PM Mass - St. Rene Goupil

Your Lenten alms change lives globally
and in your own community.



Your donations help provide lifesaving support
to more than **250 million people** in more than
120 countries.

75%

of your CRS Rice Bowl
donation supports our work
around the world.

25%

of gifts stay in each U.S. diocese
for hunger and poverty
alleviation efforts.



Rooted in the history of the Eucharistic Congress,
CRS Rice Bowl began in 1975 as a way for families
in the United States to share their blessings with
communities experiencing hunger around the world.



What
does your
donation
provide?

\$40

for chickens
that provide
protein-rich eggs.

\$80

for a baby goat
to provide milk
and income.

\$150

for a household
garden for
nutrition.

Parish Office will be
closed on Monday,
February 19th for
**PRESIDENTS
DAY**

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lenten Fish Fry Menu

FEBRUARY 16, MARCH 1,
MARCH 15
5PM-7PM
THE SHARP CENTER SOCIAL HALL
ON THE ST. SYMPHOROSA CAMPUS

Fish Specials

Fish Plate (2 pieces of fish, fries, Cole slaw, bread)	\$12.00
Additional piece of fish	\$3.00
Plate of fries	\$2.00

Pierogi (4 per order)

Cheese	\$4.00
Potato	\$4.00
Kraut	\$4.00
Fruit	\$4.00

Additional Items

Potato Pancakes	\$5.00
Cheese Quesadilla	\$3.00
Soup	\$5.00
Kids Meal (quesadilla, chips, juice box & cookies on a frisbee)	\$5.00
Pound Cake Slice	\$2.00

Thirst Quenchers

Water	\$2.00
Coke	\$2.00
Diet Coke	\$2.00
Sprite	\$2.00
Juice Box	\$1.00



Two Holy Martyrs Lenten

FISH FRY

at our St. Symphorosa Sharp Center Social Hall
5940 W. 62nd St.



February 16, March 1, March 15
5PM-7PM

Dine in & carryout available

twoholymartyrs.org

(773) 767-1523

Our Lenten Friday Night Fish Fry Dinners are back! Join us in the St. Symphorosa Social Hall for a fish dinner and lots of socializing! Don't like fish? We have several other dishes as well as a special plate for the kiddos! Come hungry and spend an evening with your parish family! Carry out is also available. After dinner, walk over to church for our weekly Stations of the Cross, starting at 7PM.

Lenten Bracelets

The color purple symbolizes suffering, mourning, & penitence. Purple reminds us that we are called to repent and ask forgiveness.

The Cross signifies God's greatest act of love; bringing forgiveness, healing & hope to the world.

The Cross is a symbol that reminds us to have faith. Wear your bracelet to let faith fill your heart more each day this lent.

To ensure that all our faithful receive a bracelet, please, only one per person.

Sponsored by the THM Transformation Committee



As we prepare for the upcoming Lenten Season, Lenten bracelets will be available in the narthex of each THM worship site starting Ash Wednesday. Please take a bracelet to help remind you of the sacrifice, suffering and hope that Lent imparts on us as we enter the most Holy season of the year. Please be respectful by only taking one bracelet per person so that all parishioners may receive one.

FAITH FORMATION

Important!



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 the: **Two Holy Martyrs Website** at twoholymartyrs.org (St. Symphorosa & St. Rene)

In the event of an emergency closing, this announcement would be the First Message to appear on the Website at the top of your screen.



Upcoming Events:

- 2/10: Faith Formation Classes
St. Syms Campus. (Sat.)
- 2/13: Faith Formation Classes
St. Syms Campus. (Tues.)
- 2/14: Ash Wednesday
- 2/24: Faith Formation Classes
St. Syms Campus. (Sat.)
- 2/25: Eighth Grade Family Mass.
and
Confirmation Retreat.
- 2/27: Faith Formation Classes
St. Syms Campus. (Tues.)



LENTEN OUTREACH

Our Faith Formation students invite all of our parishioners to participate in our Lenten Outreach project. All levels will be donating Children's Easter Basket items for the local shelters and agencies we service. Donations can be brought to our Faith Formation classes, to the Main Parish Office on Austin Ave. or dropped off in the narthex when attending Mass. Please note, we can always use empty Easter Baskets and the cellophane bags to wrap the baskets, after we fill them. For more information, feel free to call the Faith Formation Office. God be with you and your dear families as we journey through this holy season of Lent.

Our 2024 Confirmandi will take part in assembling the Easter Baskets and earn service hours for their upcoming Confirmation.



The Eighth-Grade Family Mass will be held on Sunday, February 25th at 9:00am at St. Symphorosa Church. All students who will be making their Confirmation this Spring, their Sponsors and their families are invited to attend this Mass. We will feature the Eighth-Grade Saint Projects in the Narthex. The Saint Project is a requirement for the reception of the Sacrament. We look forward to welcoming all our Confirmation families on February 25th at 9:00am at St. Symphorosa Church.
(The Confirmation Retreat follows this Mass.)



SPIRIT DAY RETREAT

On February 25th, our Confirmation Candidates from our Faith Formation Program and the Eighth Grade students from St. Symphorosa Catholic School will gather for their Pre-Confirmation Spirit Day Retreat. This special day will begin at the 9:00am Mass and then continue into the I-Building. This spiritual day will be filled with activities that are prayerful, reflective, and, at the same time, fun. We invite all our parishioners to pray for our Confirmation Candidates as they continue their journey toward the Sacrament of Confirmation.

PARISH SCHOOL NEWS



ST. SYMPHOROSA
CATHOLIC SCHOOL
OF TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH

ST. SYMPHOROSA SCHOOL NEWS



CELEBRATING CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK AND ONE HUNDRED DAYS OF SCHOOL!

LAST WEEK WE CELEBRATED CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK AT ST. SYMPHOROSA SCHOOL! SPECIAL ACTIVITIES WERE PLANNED EACH DAY TO CELEBRATE A VARIETY OF TOPICS. WE CELEBRATED OUR STUDENTS, OUR STAFF, OUR NATION, OUR COMMUNITY, AND VOCATIONS.

WE ALSO CELEBRATED 100 DAYS OF SCHOOL WITH FUN STEM PROJECTS AND DRESS UP DAYS!

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