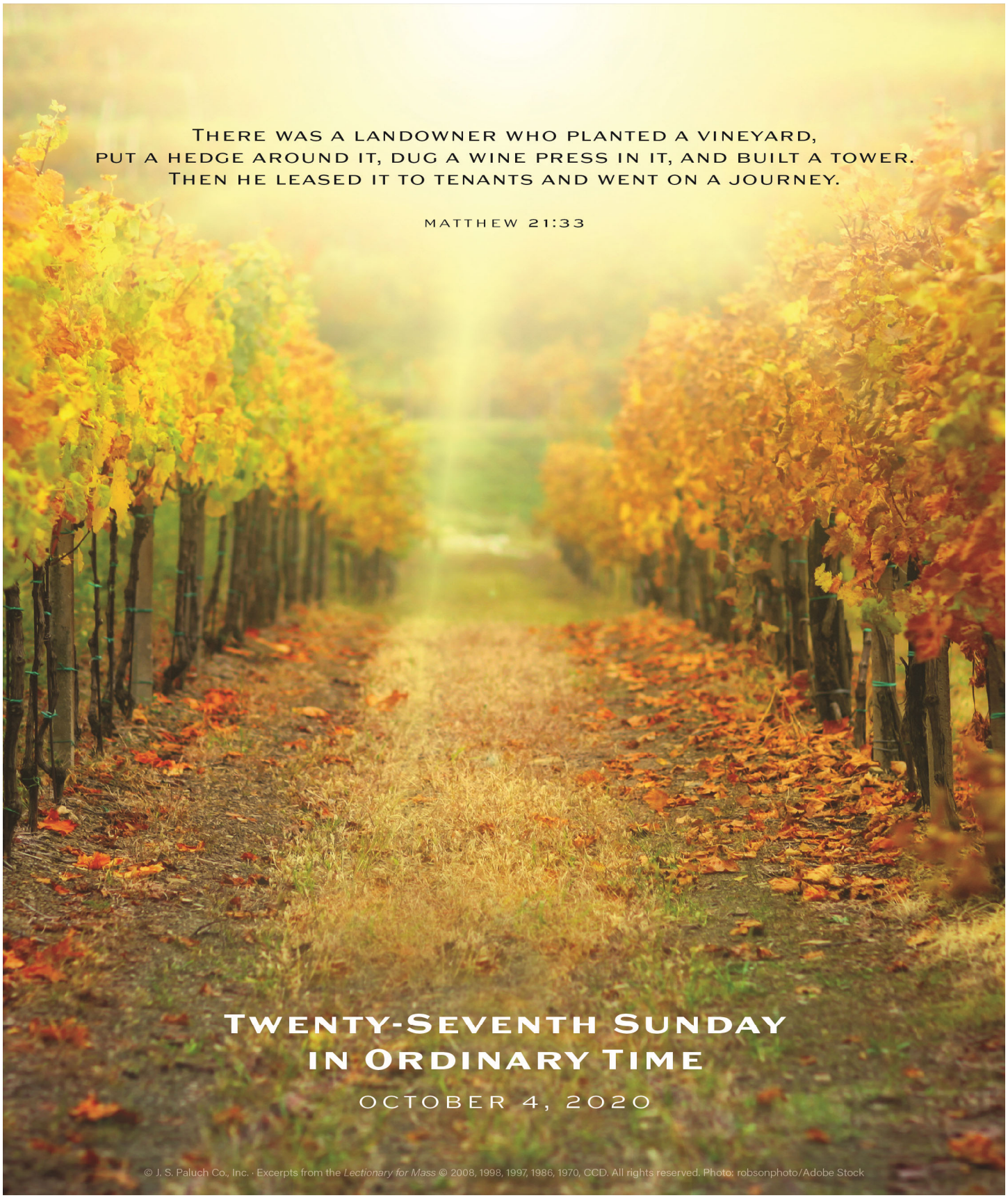

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St. Symphorosa & St. Rene Parish

St. Symphorosa & St. Rene Parish Office
6135 S. Austin Ave Chicago, IL 60638
(773) 767-1523

Fr. Bob's Weekly Blog

Welcome to the Parish of St. Symphorosa & St. Rene!!

October is Respect Life month in the Church.

Boy, do we need to be reminded of this in light of the recent events. Human life is sacred. We are CREATED in the image and likeness of God; which means we are capable of knowing and loving. We have within us the spark of the divine life. This divine spark is known as the Imago Dei.

Sadly, when we lose sight of this great gift of life, we risk treating each other as "less than human." And when we see the other as less than human, we begin to think it is okay to purposely extinguish human life by deliberate choice. It is NEVER okay to deliberately take human life. God is the Author of life.

John Paul II warned us about a Culture of Death. Many folks disregarded his observation, but these days are visible proof he was correct. Far too many people have consciously or unconsciously bought into the Culture of Death.

This darkness can only happen by our turning away from God. Respect for life begins when we see the human being in light of our Creator, and it begins even more intimately when YOU realize you have been created in the image and likeness of God. You have eternal value. You are loved, and you are called to accept this truth, and to share this truth.

Wouldn't it be nice if our elected officials spoke like this when they discussed the problems of the day? Instead, they remain on the surface and refuse to acknowledge our issues are much deeper and much more spiritual. We keep looking only to ourselves for solutions, instead of appealing to a Higher Love. We need more than mere human power. We need the Gospel of Life. We need Christ!

We might claim we have the "freedom" to take human life, but we never have the RIGHT to consciously take human life … EVER. Not if God is in our hearts. Always remember, evil has to present itself as a good in order for us to choose it. We'd never choose evil as evil, so the Enemy of God and of human life baits our hook by presenting the taking of human life as a good. May we no longer fall for those serpentine tricks.

New Name Process

This week begins the process for choosing a name for our newly-united parish.

Inside this bulletin, on our website, and in our parish office, are forms for you to submit a name for the parish. Please take time to participate. I'd ask that we all take this seriously and realize what a holy undertaking we are engaging in.

Set aside some time to pray about this process before completing and submitting the form. Ask specifically for the Holy Spirit to inspire you and guide you. If our hearts are truly united to Christ throughout this process, good things will come forth, including an official canonical name.

Once you've prayed and asked the Spirit for assistance, fill out the form. Write down the name suggestion and PLEASE provide some commentary explaining why you've offered a specific name for the parish.

After filling out the form, please turn the sheet in at the parish office, in the narthex of the church, via email, or hand it to a priest, deacon, or staff member. The submissions will be read and sorted out by the Parish Unification Team.

The P.U.T will narrow down the list to 3-5 name options and submit the final names to those in the Archdiocese entrusted with this process. Ultimately, the name is decided by the Archbishop of Chicago after advisement from those around him.

Thank you for your participation.

St. Vincent De Paul News

Please consider contributing directly to our parish's St. Vincent De Paul Society.

Funds from this group go to help those in our immediate community in need. At times, someone simply needs financial assistance for bills, rent, food, etc. This group does more than just hand out cash. They meet with the needy to see what's going on in their lives.

But SVDP needs your help to help others. There are "Poor Boxes" by the main doors of both worship sites (Syms & Rene). Or you can write a check made out to St. Vincent De Paul and send it to the parish office. It will get where it needs to go.

Pray about it. We all need an avenue to be charitable. This may be the organization you decide to serve your neighbor in need. God Bless!

FAVORITE

Quote of the Week

"A person's a person, no matter how small."
~Dr. Seuss

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Robert Regan
Pastor

Rev. Matthew Compton
Associate Pastor

Rev. Ted Bojczuk
Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Peter Paurazas
Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Idzi Stacherczak
Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Norman Trela
Retired Priest

Parish Staff

Ken Hilliard
Operations Director

Karen Hoogland
Business Manager

Steve Kittler
Music Director

Deacon Raul Duque
Parish Organist

Magdalan Barry
Irene Perconti
Administrative Assistants

Nancy Markham
Office Coordinator

Peg Siebenaler
Faith Formation

Kathy Berry
Principal

Chris Garza
Assistant Principal

Stanley Silacz
Mark Schusteric
Maintenance Supervisors

St. Symphorosa & St. Rene Parish Office
6135 S. Austin Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60638
773-767-1523 (phone)
773-767-6135 (fax)
symphorosa@comcast.net (email)

Monday - Friday
9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Saturday
9:00 am - 12:00 pm

St. Rene Worship Site
6949 W 63rd Place
Chicago, Illinois 60638

St. Symphorosa School
6125 S. Austin Ave
Chicago, Illinois 60638
(773) 585-6888

Sacrament of Penance
3:15-3:45pm every Saturday (St. Rene Site)
Offered by Appointment During the Week
Please call the Parish Office

Reopening Team In-Person Training

Our Reopening Team is offering the opportunity to complete the online training live, in-person, at St. Symphorosa on October 12, 2020. The training session will be held at 7pm in the Sharp Center (5940 W 62nd St.). This is a great opportunity to meet the team leaders, ask questions and share any concerns you may have.

All attendees must register by calling the parish office at (773) 767.1523. Social distancing guidelines will be followed during this meeting and masks are required in the building. Please contact Maggie (773.767.1523 ext. 221) in the parish office with any questions.

Split the Pot
September 27, 2020 Received this week: $130.00
Winning envelope: #2287
Reminder: A minimum of $5.00 is required to participate.

St. Symphorosa & St. Rene Altar and Rosary Society News

The Altar and Rosary meeting will be held on **Tuesday, October 6, 2020** from **12:30-2pm in the Sharp Center**, located at 5940 W 62nd St. The month of October Honors the Blessed Mother with the title of our Lady of the Rosary and we will honor her at our meeting.

Our stewardship is a combined total from the St. Rene and St. Symphorosa Worship Sites.

Offerings for the weekend of:
Sunday, September 27, 2020
Contribution: $7,291.50

Thank you for your generosity!

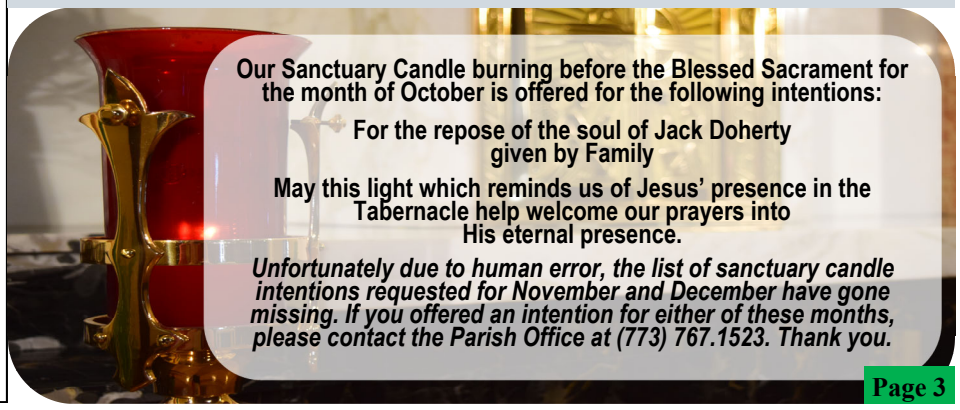
Do You Play a Musical Instrument, and Would You Like to Play Your Music in Church?

If you are a student at St. Symphorosa School, or are an RE Student at St. Symphorosa & St. Rene Parish, and play any instrument, I would like to teach you the music of our faith, and then use this music in the worship of our God at Mass. The experience of worshiping through music is a lasting gift that will stay with you into adulthood. As you enhance your musical skills and learn our music traditions, you will build courage to present your talents to the entire church.

Parents, whatever your children learn through music will have a significant impact on their beliefs, values, and perceptions for life. Think about what your children are hearing on a daily basis. What are they hearing about the world they live in, and the God who created it? By the time your children are 18, they have an estimated 10,000 songs in their heads. You can ensure that a good portion of those tunes honor Jesus and change hearts and lives.

Music is celebrated as one of the gifts that God gives to us. Playing an instrument at Mass is an expression our of praise to God. Encourage your child to take advantage of this opportunity. If you are interested, talk to your teacher, contact me at Church, or talk to me after any Mass. I will be happy to answer any questions that you may have.

Steve Kittler
Director of Music



Our Sanctuary Candle burning before the Blessed Sacrament for the month of October is offered for the following intentions:

For the repose of the soul of Jack Doherty given by Family

May this light which reminds us of Jesus' presence in the Tabernacle help welcome our prayers into His eternal presence.

Unfortunately due to human error, the list of sanctuary candle intentions requested for November and December have gone missing. If you offered an intention for either of these months, please contact the Parish Office at (773) 767.1523. Thank you.

Submission Form for Newly-Formed Parish Name

Thank you for taking the time to complete and submit this form as we undertake the process of discerning a name for our newly unified parish. This is a challenging yet exciting process. Please take time to pray before officially offering a parish name. The Holy Spirit must play a part, and we want to be attentive to the stirring in our minds and hearts.

Once you have written down a potential name, we ask that you write a few paragraphs on why you think the name you submitted would be the right fit for the newly unified parish of Sts. Symphorosa & Rene Goupil.

The Renew My Church committee for the Archdiocese of Chicago has asked that we begin to steer clear of Marian names. There has been an overload of newly-formed parishes selecting a name that relates to the Blessed Mother. However, if the Spirit so moves you and you feel strongly about the name choice, then please go ahead and submit the Marian-themed name.

Our parish Unification Team will sift through the submissions and carefully/prayerfully choose 3-5 names which we will send to the archdiocese. In conjunction with the Presbyteral Council, the Archbishop of Chicago (Cardinal Cupich) will make the final decision.

The parish name submission forms can be dropped off in church or at the parish office. They can also be emailed or sent via US Postal Service. Thank you!

May God bless you and your families.

Fr. Bob

Name (optional): _____ **Submission Date:** _____

Suggested Parish Name:

_____

Brief explanation why you think this name would be a good fit for our newly unified parish:

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WELCOME FAMILIES TO ST. SYMPHOROSA AND ST. RENE PARISH FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation Office

Phone: (773) 767-1523 x226

Email: msiebenaler@archchicago.org

Coordinator: Peg Siebenaler

On Tuesday, October 6th, the Seventh and Eighth grade students from St. Symphorosa School, along with their parents, will 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.

FIRST RECONCILIATION PARENT MEETING

On October 20th & 24th our Second Grade parents from the Faith Formation Program and St. Symphorosa Catholic School will gather for a special meeting in preparation for their child's celebration of First Reconciliation which takes place in December.

We initially prepare our children for this sacrament as we teach them about right and wrong. And way before they understand what sin is, we teach them to say "I'm sorry" when they have done wrong or have hurt someone. Once again, we emphasize that parents are the first and primary catechists of their children, using "teachable moments" to help their children grow in faith.

The focus of the Parent Gathering will be to honor your role as parents and assist you in that role.

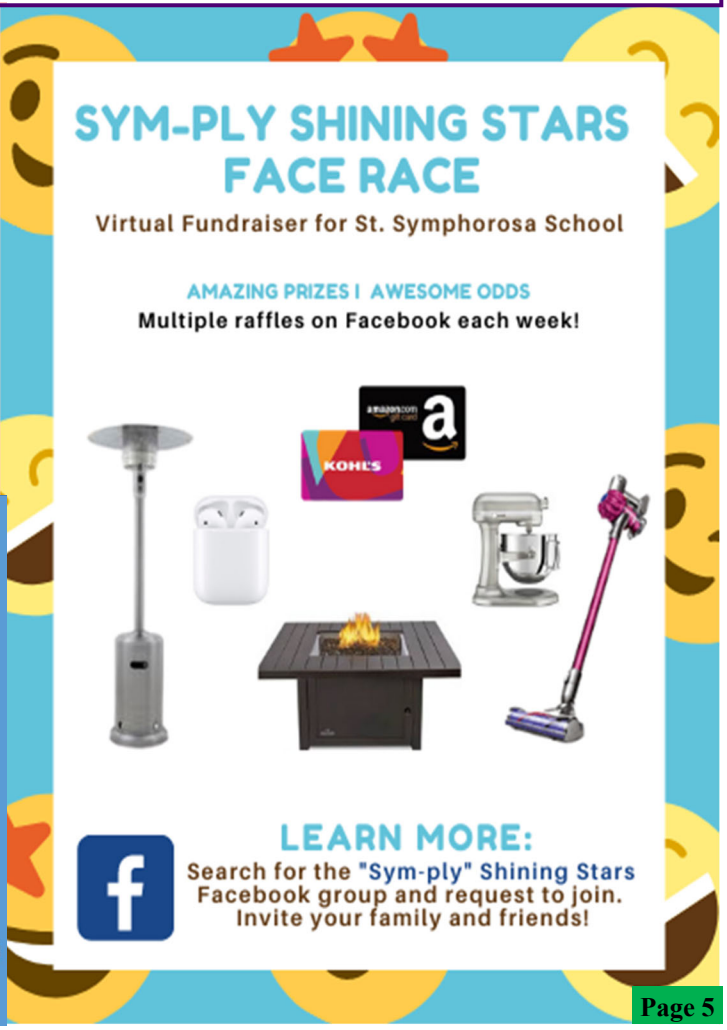
UPCOMING EVENTS

10/6: Commitment Service St. Sym's Campus - 7pm

10/20: Faith Formation Classes (Tues.) & Reconcil. Parent Meeting - St. Rene Campus

10/21: Faith Formation Classes (Wed.) & Confirmation Parent Mtg. - St. Rene Campus

10/24: Faith Formation Classes (Sat.), Reconcil. Parent Mtg., Confirmation Parent Mtg. - St. Sym's Campus



Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, October 3, 2020
4:00pm *St. Rene Church* †Phyllis Traynor *(Family)*
Presider: Fr. Bob
5:30pm *St. Symphorosa Church* Health & all the Lord's blessings for Mike and Peggy Murphy on their 50th Wedding Anniversary *(Family)*
Presider: Fr. Matt †Janet & Steve Molnar *(Hohm Family)*

Sunday, October 4, 2020
7:30am *St. Rene Church* †Jill Szkapiak *(Micaela Zamudio)*
Presider: Fr. Bob †Nancy Halper *(Maryann Werr)*
9:00am *St. Symphorosa Church* †Dorothy Madej *(Husband Ray)*
Presider: Fr. Norm †Agnes Shilney *(Mary Shilney)*
†Janet & Steve Molnar *(Hohm Family)*
†Charles Parillo *(Rose Gurgone)*
10:30am *St. Rene Church* Health & all the Lord's blessings for Raymond Fendler
Presider: Fr. Matt *(Mary Wassink & Julie Kowal)*
†Vincent Salamendo *(Terri & Dan Domarsky)*
†Raymond Sutkowski *(Sutkowski Family)*
12:00pm *St. Symphorosa Church* †Joseph Pavlik, Jr. *(Barbara Rendak)*
Presider: Fr. Bob

Monday, October 5, 2020 ***Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, Priest***
8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church* Health & the Lord's safety for Daniel Sarlitto *(Mary Sarlitto)*
†Jack Orsi *(Daughter Flori)*
†Loretta Pozniak *(Pozniak Family)*
†Augustine Rodriguez *(John & Dolores Sanchez)*
†Mary Rose Torres *(Gerald & Family)*

Tuesday, October 6, 2020 ***Saint Bruno. Priest; Blessed Marie Rose Durocher***
8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church* Health & all the Lord's blessings for Rose Wyrostek *(Son & Family)*
†Altar & Rosary Members *(Altar & Rosary Society)*

Wednesday, October 7, 2020 ***Our Lady of the Rosary***
8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church* Emotional health & all the Lord's blessings for Luann O'Donnell *(Family)*
†Raymond Sutkowski *(John Sutkowski Family)*

Thursday, October 8, 2020
8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church* †Ann Calcagno *(Kathy Calcagno)*
†Marie & Kevin O'Brien *(Family)*

Friday, October 9, 2020 ***Saint Denis, Bishop; Saint John Leonardi***
8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church* Mass of thanksgiving for favors granted *(Rose Mazzone)*
†Charles Shilney *(Mary Shilney)*
†Lauren Vitrano *(Dawn & Amanda Vitrano)*

Saturday, October 10, 2020
8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church* †Elizabeth Sarlitto *(Mary Sarlitto)*
4:00pm *St. Rene Church* †Tom Biondo *(Karen DeRango & Joe Izzo)*
Presider: Fr. Matt †Margaret Murphy *(Fr. Bob)*
5:30pm *St. Symphorosa Church* †Walter Labno *(Wife and Family)*
Presider: Fr. Bob †Janet & Steve Molnar *(Hohm Family)*
†Michael E. Abbott *(Nancy Markham & Barb Payne)*
†Claude Wiatrak *(Wife Clara)*
†Walter Szumowski *(Wes & Debbie Szumowski)*

Sunday, October 11, 2020
7:30am *St. Rene Church* †Mildred Denwood *(The Capparelli's)*
Presider: Fr. Norm †Omar Saucedo *(Maria Gonzalez)*
†Januario Gonzalez *(Maria Gonzalez)*
9:00am *St. Symphorosa Church* Health & all the Lord's blessings for Sharon Crowley *(Diana Schmidt)*
Presider: Fr. Matt †Gary Nagle *(Nagle Family)*
†Janet & Steve Molnar *(Hohm Family)*
†Raymond Saunders *(Sister - Mary Thorpe & Family)*
10:30am *St. Rene Church* †Raymond Sutkowski *(Edna Bazik)*
Presider: Fr. Bob †Jack Orsi *(Daughter Flori)*
†George Ruiz *(Rubin Lopez)*
†Marco Antonio Alcocer *(Sutkowski Family)*
12:00pm *St. Symphorosa Church* Health & 80th birthday blessings for Pat Carmody *(Ross Family)*
Presider: Fr. Matt †Terry Daukus Fogell *(Edward Fogell)*
†Dorothy Broenneke *(Gary & Bonnie Broenekke)*

Weekend Presider subject to change without notice

Prayer Tree

There are in the end three things that last: Faith, Hope, and Love, and the greatest of these is

Martin Adelsbach
Judy Adelsbach
Larry Adkins
Guadalupe Almendarez
Kim Argires
Ignatius Battiato
Elizabeth Bedran
Carl Bell
Mary Bieser
Fr. Ted Bojczuk
Lydia Brown
Joanne Bukowiecki
Gina Camp
Pat Carmody
Judy Carranza
Dominic Ciampaglia
Margaret Ciampaglia
Michael Clifford
Marilyn Crites
Norma De Stefano
Chris Doherty
Juan Figueroa
Mitchell Gallas
Geri Gestaut
Carol Gress
Suzann Gunter
Kathy Haars
Catherine Hier
Megan High
Robert Hilbruner
Heather Hradek
Denise M. Jandura
Rich S. Jandura
Joan Juris
Pete Kats
Lee Karpinski
Dennis Kline
Walter Kokoszka, Sr.
Claudia Kwilosz
Norman Kwilosz
James Lapsansky
Maryann Larson
Donna Lauritzen
Domenico Lepore
Rose Ann Lindsay
Debbie Lipien
Maria & Martinez Family
John Martini
Marge Masunas
Lori McCarthy
Ed McGriff
Thomas Minnich
Christine Mosqueda
Genevieve Nagle
William Nita
Carol Oles
Florence Panzarella
Eleanor Pastorek
Baby Alexander J Pentz
Gi Gi Picciolini
Rochelle Piegari
Marie Pratt
Ann Robertson
Edward Robertson
Fr. John Rudnik
Joseph Rudnik
Coltyn Schmidt
Kristyn Schmidt
Marge Schmidt
Judith Siwek
Elliana Sterk
Brian Styka
Sr. Christine Styka
Terry Styka
Michael Tallon
Sandra Tallon
Mary Thorpe
Scott Tloczek
Shirley Tloczek
George Trendle
Judith Webber
Joan Wilhelmy
Richard Zaleski
Barb Ziegler
Michelle

Due to privacy laws, names may only be added to our prayer list by immediate family. Please let us know when to remove a name.

SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

Sgt. Jaime A. Acosta, USMC
Sgt. Ted Bartelmey
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
Staff Sgt. Andrew Gaca, USAF
Sgt. Michael Hough, US Army
Anthony Johaniewicz, US Navy
Corporal Noah M Konie, USMC
Lance Corp. Tim Lisenko, USMC
Trevor Lutz, US Army
Corporal Zachary Maderak, USMC
Private Joseph M. Mikutis, USMC
Pvt1st Class Daniel Morales, US Army
SPC Alex Ramos
Staff Sgt. Abel Sandoval, USMC
WO-1 Richard Sobeske, US Army
Sgt. 1st Class Kristina Stuhlmacher
LCpl. Justin R. Thorpe, USMC
1LT Zachary White, IL Army NG

Let us pray...
Eternal Rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Thomas Biondo

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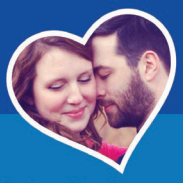
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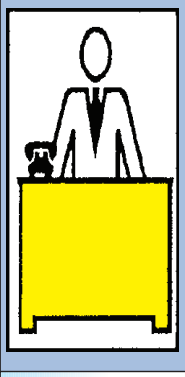

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