

Saint Rene Goupil Catholic Church

64th Street & New England Avenue - Chicago, Illinois 60638—773-229-8523

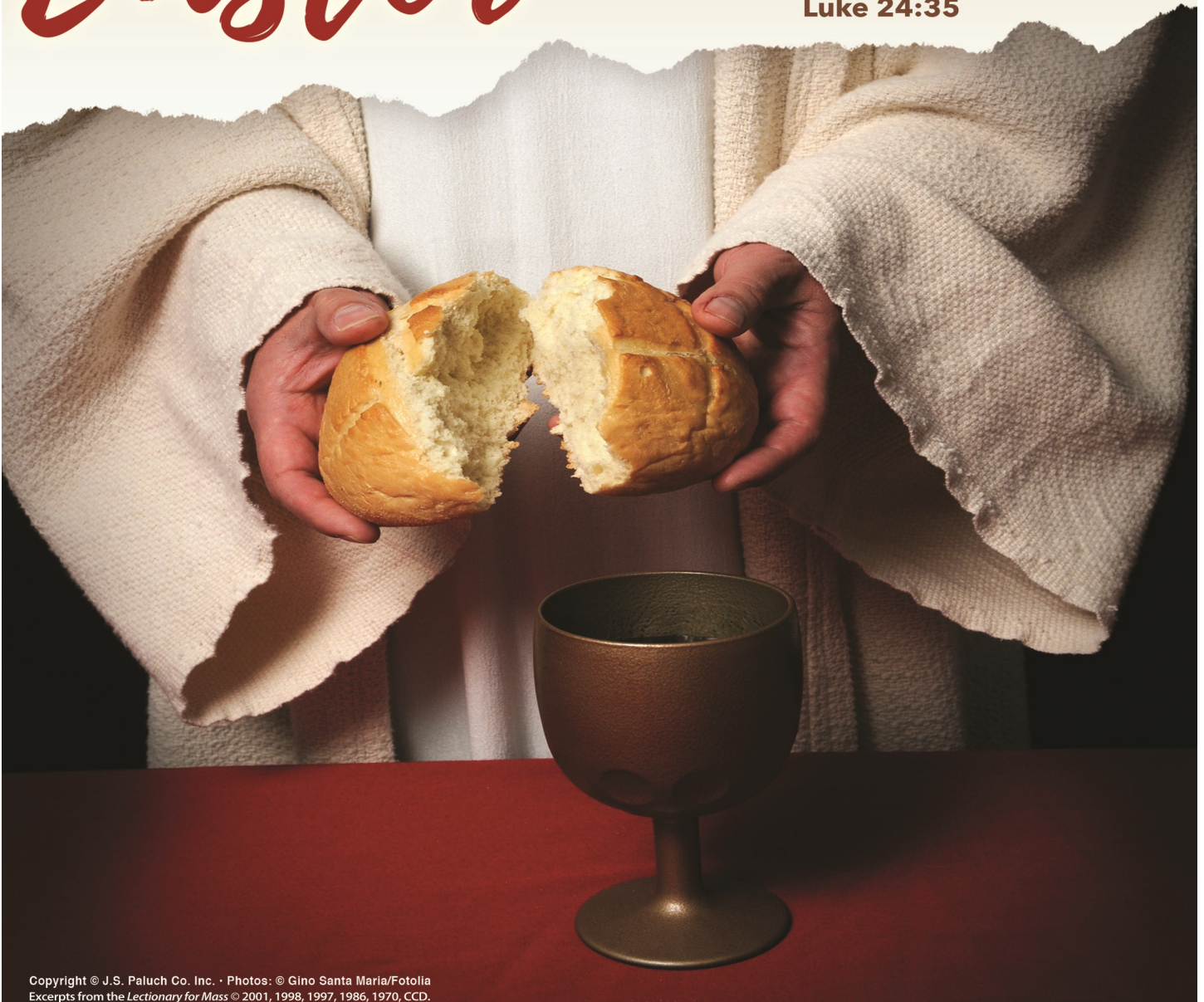
April 26
2020

THIRD SUNDAY OF

Easter

THE TWO DISCIPLES RECOUNTED
WHAT HAD TAKEN PLACE ON THE WAY
AND HOW JESUS WAS MADE KNOWN
TO THEM IN THE BREAKING OF BREAD.

Luke 24:35





Fr. Bob's Weekly Blog



The readings that follow in the days and weeks after Easter offer us powerful witness to the truth of the Resurrection.

This weekend we hear the Road to Emmaus story in which two of Jesus' disciples are walking away from Jerusalem toward a town seven miles away called Emmaus. Along the way Jesus joins them but at first they did not recognize the Lord.

Jesus covertly shares with them how all of scripture and the prophets of old pointed to Christ. Jesus is the long-awaited Messiah and the fulfillment of all prophecy.

The powerful moment of the passage, however, occurs when the disciples invite Jesus to "Stay with us." It was late in the day. While He was at table with them, He took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to them.

That's when it hit them. "It's Jesus!" He vanished from their sight; leaving only Himself in the Eucharist. He was present to them now in the Sacrament (a visible sign of an invisible grace).

Then they realized how when they were walking with Him and listening to Jesus explain the scriptures their hearts were burning. His Word touches their souls and piqued their desire for more.

Here is a key motion from this passage; once the disciples realized it was the Risen Lord, they set out at

once and returned to Jerusalem. They changed direction. An encounter with the Lord does just that it changes our life direction.

We may be heading in the wrong direction even though we "go to church" every week. Mere attendance inside a church building does not necessarily mean we're heading toward Jerusalem. Our hearts must be set on Christ: His way, His truth, His life. We want to immerse ourselves in Sacred Scripture, trusting the Holy Spirit to inspire us.

We also gather around the Lord's table and witness at Holy Mass the same four movements: took, blessed, broke and gave. Those four verbs happen at every Mass. The priest takes the gifts, he blesses them, breaks them and then gives them. This echoes the movements of Jesus when he fed the thousands on the grass, fed the Apostles at the Last Supper, and also the disciples at Emmaus.

Took – Blessed – Broke – Gave.

Some of us experience heart burn after consuming a certain kind of food. That's the kind of heart burn we want to avoid. However, we want the kind of heart burn the two disciples in the Emmaus story experienced -- our hearts on fire when Sacred Scripture moves us in a way that helps us see truth; specifically the truth of the Resurrection. Also, our hearts on fire for the Gift of Finest Wheat (the Eucharist).

When, Father, When?

When will the Eucharist be available? As of this writing (04/18/20) the honest

answer is "I do not know." The public suspension of Holy Mass across the Archdiocese of Chicago (and other dioceses) comes to the parishes from the bishop, who in cooperation with civil authorities deemed it necessary to suspend the public gathering we call Holy Mass.

The "not knowing" can be frustrating. I feel your hunger. Right now, our church properties are officially closed and not accessible to the public. For this I apologize. Yes, these decisions are for safety, but one also senses that these decisions are also made to prevent lawsuits. Sadly, we live in a very litigious society where some folks can't wait to sue someone or some institution.

As soon as we hear anything, we will communicate to the people of St. Rene through our website (www.strenegoupil.org), the sign by the school building, postings on the front doors of the church, and, of course, word of mouth.

This has been a very difficult time. The concern about the virus is one thing, but one senses something else going on. We can't quite put our finger on it, but some of us sense there's more taking place than what is being portrayed by our media (who are ratings driven) and our elected leaders.

We are human beings, not hamsters. It is not healthy to stay inside all the time. I am very concerned about our sanity, our psychological health, and our spiritual life. We need

social interaction. We need fresh air. We need a sense of freedom. These are all being challenged as we balance healthy/safety concerns with our basic human needs.

Mary. Mother of God, pray for us.

Weekly Collections

Thank you to those who continue to donate toward the weekly collection for St. Rene Parish. We still must pay our bills even though we've been mandated by the government to cease public gatherings (in our case, Holy Mass).

So many of you continue to drop off your envelopes in the parish office mail box, or have them mailed in, or have used online giving (GiveCentral).

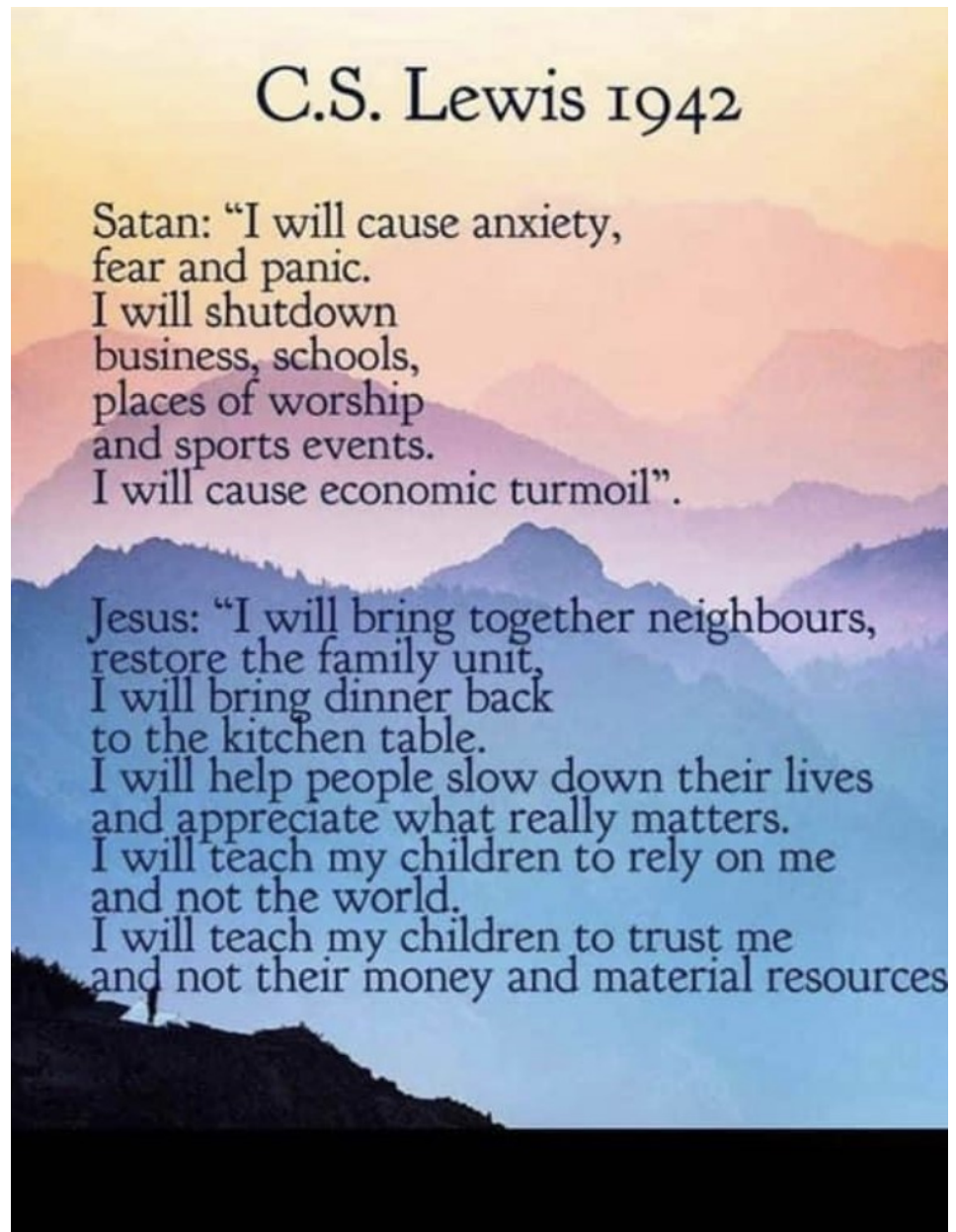
If you haven't contributed lately because you haven't been able to attend Mass, please know we do need your help. We fully understand some of us are financially challenged at this time. However, if you are able to assist financially, please do so.

This money is for the fiscal health of St. Rene, not Rome. Thank you for your generosity during a tough time.

Favorite Quote of the Week:

"We are not some casual and meaningless product of evolution. Each of us is the result of a thought of God."

– Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI



Spiritual Communion



My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

-St. Alphonsus Liguori



Our Catholic Faith

By Fr. Bob Regan

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and behold, I am with you always, to the close of the age.” Matthew 28:19-20

The late spiritual guru Wayne Dyer used to say “Don’t believe everything you think.”

He’s right. Not all our thoughts are true, nor are all our thoughts healthy. And yet, our thoughts are powerful. What’s going on inside our head plays a major role in what become our words and our actions.

Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote, “Sow a thought and you reap an action; sow an act and you reap a habit; sow a habit and you reap a character; sow a character and you reap a destiny.”

Throughout the course of a day, numerous thoughts go in and out of our minds. Think of all the things you think about during a 24-hour period. You wake up and the thoughts begin all the way until evening when you set your head upon your pillow. Then we dream. “I haven’t thought about that person in years. Why were they in my dream?”

We, as human beings, need to be aware of our thoughts. We do our best to understand our thoughts. If they are of God and the things of God, we accept and nurture those thoughts. If they are of the Evil One (the enemy of God and of human beings), then we reject and discard those.

This is easier said than done. It takes some effort on our part while cooperating with God’s grace, to nurture life-giving thoughts and reject dark, death-embracing thoughts.

Just because you have a thought doesn’t mean it’s yours. You could be walking along the sidewalk minding your own business when you see someone you don’t really like. All of a sudden you have a really awful thought about that person, and wish them ill-will.

You say to yourself “Oh my! Where did that come from?” Well, it’s not of God, that’s for sure. And it is likely not you. Our faith tradition teaches that the angels of darkness

can affect our thoughts. They cannot control your behavior or your freewill, and so want to introduce thoughts into your mind, and hope that instead of rejecting and discarding the thought, you begin to spend too much time on the thought, which soon becomes a spoken word or action.

Elder Thaddeus wrote a book called “Our Thoughts Determine Our Lives.” In it he says “Everything, both good and evil, comes from our thoughts. Our thoughts become reality.”

Although a thought may not have originally been ours, we “sign-on” to the thought by feeding it; spending more time on it, etc. We use our freewill (the ability to choose) to foster the thought; to nurture it, and now it becomes ours. This is why it is so important to be aware of our thoughts during the day and to not believe everything we think.

We must discern our thoughts. 1. Be aware. 2. Seek to understand. 3. Accept or reject.

Having a daily disciplined prayer life goes a long way toward being able to discern the things of God and the things that are not of God. Making time for silence and stillness helps counter the noise and hyperactivity of the culture. There is a reason the Enemy fosters a noisy busy society. It distances us from God and disturbs our mind and soul.

Elder Thaddeus gives us a challenge. He writes, “Our starting point is always wrong. Instead of beginning with ourselves, we always want to change others first and ourselves last. If everyone were to begin first with themselves, then there would be peace all around.”

Plenty to think about right? No pun intended.

Wayne Dyer was right. Don’t believe everything you think. Instead, test it. Discern its origin. Of God? Nurture it. Of the Enemy? Reject it.



Faith Formation Office
(773) 229-8523

Coordinator:
Peg Siebenaler

Email: strenfaithfor-

All Faith Formation Classes
have been suspended
until further notice.
Please keep up with your prayers
and know that Fr. Bob and I
are here if you need anything.

Peg Siebenaler

I posed a Question to our Faith Formation Families this week..... “Parents, please ask your kids....What do they miss most about coming to Faith Formation classes on Wednesday Evenings?

Here are their answers:

I miss.....

- Learning about God.
- Learning about Jesus.
- Talking about Jesus.
- Learning about Mary.
- Learning about the Saints.
- Learning My Prayers.
- Being with my Friends.
- My awesome Teacher.
- Watching the Movies.
- The coloring sheets.
- The Art Projects.
- Holy Hang-Man.
- Learning about Kindness.
- Preparing for Holy Communion.
- The snacks.

Visiting the Church and hearing the stories about the Stained Glass Windows.
I miss my St. Rene Classes...because I LOVE learning about God!

ST. RENE MISSES YOU TOO!

Pictured Below - *The Nativity Story*
By *Diego E*
Another example of a Beautifully Created Jesus Project



I picked the Nativity Story because I like to celebrate Jesus’ birthday. He was born on December 25 in a manger. His parents are Mary and Joseph. When Jesus was born the three wise kings saw the star and knew a new king was born. They followed the star with their camels to find baby Jesus. They brought these presents for baby Jesus, Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh. After they gave them the presents, they sat there with joy to admire the new king’s birth.



Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



Saturday, April 25, 2020

4:00pm—Irene, Ceferino & Fidel Parra (Almendarez Family)

Sunday, April 26, 2020

7:30am—Michael Sarlitto (Mary Sarlitto)

7:30am—Pat & Jack Kenney - Happy Anniversary (Family)

9:30am—Raymond Sutkowski (Sutkowski Family)

9:30am—Good Health for Judy Carranza (Family)

9:30am—Ramon Perez (Socorro Perez)

11:30am—Beatrice Lucio (Family)

11:30am—Martin Sangpeal (Linda Dobias)

11:30am—Jack Orsi (Altar & Rosary Society)

Monday, April 27, 2020

8:00am—Louise Gomez (Family)

Tuesday, April 28, 2020

8:00am—Fred Borowski (Geri Tomaselli)

Wednesday, April 29, 2020

8:00am—Daniel Sarlitto - Safety (Mary Sarlitto)

Thursday, April 30, 2020

8:00am—Stanley Tloczek (Family)

Friday, May 1, 2020

8:00am—James L. Koffend (Family)

Saturday, May 2, 2020

8:00am—Ronald J. Mroz (Family)

4:00pm—Oczkowski Family, both Living and Deceased (Keith & Maryann Fox)

4:00pm—Cruz Almendarez (Almendarez Family)

4:00pm—Jack Orsi (Family)

Sunday, May 3, 2020

7:30am—Samuel Sarlitto (Mary Sarlitto)

9:30am—Good Health for Judy Carranza (Family)

11:30am—Norbert Koziol (Family)

11:30am—Jack Orsi (Friends)



PRAY
FOR THE SICK

Martin Adelsbach
Judy Adelsbach
Larry Adkins
Guadalupe Almendarez
Elizabeth Bedran
Carl Bell
Joanne Bukowiecki
Gina Camp
Dominic Ciampaglia
Margaret Ciampaglia
Mitchell Gallas
Geri Gestaut

Robert Hilbruner
Rose Ann Lindsay
Marge Masunas
Lori McCarthy
Kenneth Milewski
William Nita
Rochelle Piegari
Joseph Rice
Edward Robertson
Judith Siwek
Jeanne Schmitz
Michael Tallon
Sandra Tallon
Scott Tloczek
Shirley Tloczek
Joan Wilhelmy
Richard Zaleski

Let us pray...

-  May the virus now stop spreading.
-  May people who are staying home feel happy, safe, & calm.
-  May the people who have lost their jobs find even better jobs very soon.
-  May the ones who are feeling restless at home find beautiful things to do that make their lives more joyful.
-  May people who are feeling isolated find creative ways to get in touch with the ones they are missing.



Parish Staff

Rev. Bob Regan
Pastor

Rev. Peter Paurazas
Pastor Emeritus

Karen Hoogland
Businesss Manager

Peg Siebenaler
Faith Formation

Irene Perconti
Administrative Assistant

Steve Kittler
Director of Music

Joanne Tishka
Bulletin Coordinator

Stanley Silacz
Maintenance Supervisor

Daily Masses

Monday - Saturday at 8:00am

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday at 4:00pm
(Confessions from 3:15 - 3:45pm)

Sunday
7:30am, 9:30am, 11:30am

Parish Office Hours

Monday - Saturday
9:00am - 3:00pm

Parish Office

6949 West 63rd Place
Phone (773) 229-8523

Email

office@strenegoupil.org

Website

www.strenegoupil.org

Baptism

First Sunday of the month or during weekend Mass. Parent preparation class required. Contact the Parish Office at (773) 229-8523 to register.

Marriage

Saturday afternoons at 12:30pm or 2:00pm. Please call Fr. Bob at least 6 months in advance to make arrangements.

Reconciliation/Confession

Saturdays from 3:15—3:45pm or in the Parish Office by appointment.

Anointing of the Sick

Please call the Parish Office at (773) 229-8523 for a family member who is seriously ill.

Communion for the Sick and Homebound

Ministers of Care are available to bring Communion to the homebound. Please call the Parish Office to make arrangements.

Due to privacy regulations, hospitals can no longer contact the parish without family consent. Please contact the Parish Office when you or a loved one would like a visit or to be added to the prayer list.

Faith Formation Classes

Classes for Grades 1-8 are offered on Wednesday evenings from 6:00-7:30pm. They will meet during the school year. Please call Peg Siebenaler in the Parish Office with any questions.

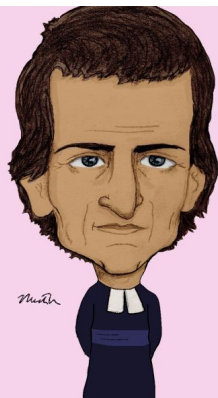
RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

This program is designed for adults who are not baptized, those who were baptized into a Christian tradition other than Roman Catholic and those Catholics who have not yet celebrated the Sacraments of First Eucharist or Confirmation. Classes begin in September with the Sacraments being received at the Easter Vigil. Please contact Fr. Bob for more information.

**New Parishioners are always welcome at St. Rene.
Our doors and hearts are open to you.
Please stop in the office to join our Parish family.**



saint snippets



If you put all the love of all the mothers into one heart, it still would not equal the love of the Heart of Mary for her children.

St. Louis de Montfort

18th-century French priest and preacher known for his devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary and the rosary.

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April 28

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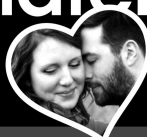
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