

Saint Rene Goupil Catholic Church

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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF

Easter

MAY 10, 2020

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Jesus said,
“I am the way and the truth and the life.
No one comes to the Father except through me.”

John 14:6



Fr. Bob's Weekly Blog



Today's Gospels contains, for me, one of the most clarifying lines spoken by Jesus.

The Lord says, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life." He says this because the Apostle Thomas told Him that he and his peers did not know the way.

Back in 2008 a group of guys discerning the priesthood sat around a large table listening to the wise words of Fr. John Canary. At some point, he asked us if we had a particular scripture verse that resonated with us. I shared the aforementioned line but included, "No one comes to the Father except through me."

Life can get away from us if we are not being more intentional about what we are doing. We risk following any old way. Truth becomes irrelevant or we become indifferent to truth. We wake up and realizing we're simply existing, not living; or we embrace the culture of death instead of nurturing life.

Remember those famous words spoken by Pontius Pilate as he questioned Jesus who was "on trial." Pilate said, "What is truth?" Sounds like one of our modern-day politicians who believe truth is whatever we say it is. Fact is, the more we distance ourselves from God, the more truth becomes what we say it is and not the objective truth that is reality.

George Orwell, author of the books 1984 and Animal Farm, is credited with saying, "During times of universal deceit, telling the truth becomes a revolutionary act."

We can never go wrong when we pursue truth, but we must be committed to the actual truth. This leads us to ask "Is Jesus God?" He either is or He isn't, and our answer determines the direction of our life; our way. It also helps us clarify what we believe about life and death.

We must not forget what Jesus called the Enemy of God and the Enemy of human nature. The Lord called Satan ... a murderer, a liar. The Devil and his demons seek to lead people AWAY from God, AWAY from truth, and AWAY from life. Where do you see that taking place in the world today? Hmm!

Doubt will occasionally creep into our minds and hearts, but when it does, pull out your Holy Bible and turn to John's Gospel, chapter 14, and read those clarifying words, "I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life."

Happy Mothers Day

Allow me to wish all mothers, expectant mothers and those who serve in the role of mother, a very happy and joyful Mother's Day.

Thank you for all you do and for the sacrifices you've made and continue to make. A mother is love in action. From the 9 months she carried you, to the day of delivery, to all the feedings, teachings, play times, and admonitions, being a mother is sacrificial love.

Today we return that love in a formal special way, and we say thank you.

I'm reminded today of an expression my mom loved to share during especially difficult times. Rita Regan used to say, "This too shall pass."

Perfect words for tough times. We are in tough times; not only the Coronavirus itself, but all the ramifications we are experiencing as a result of how best to deal with this pandemic.

Mary is a wonderful intercessor at all times, but especially during the month of May when we venerate in a special way Mary's role in salvation history. She knows the joy of childbirth. She knows the pain of losing a son. She knows the joy of new life in light of the Resurrection.

Share your joys and sorrows with Mary. Jesus gave His mother to us as our spiritual mother and she longs to celebrate our joys with us, and longs to comfort us in our times of sorrow.

Keep in mind Mary's last recorded words in scripture. She is at the wedding in Cana, and they've run out of wine. She looks at her Son and lets him know they need a miracle. Water becomes wine. Her last words in scripture as she points to Jesus are, "Do whatever He tells you."

That's good motherly advice for all of us.

Favorite Quote of the Week:

"Let us run to Mary, and, as her little children, cast ourselves into her arms with a perfect confidence." - Saint Francis de Sales





Embrace the Grace

Did you have the opportunity to watch the new video series featuring a reflection from Fr. Bob with music accompaniment by Steve Kittler, our music director? You can access these weekly reflections by visiting St. Rene Goupil Church YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/channel/UCJm6IOYVzFmLnENc-rj7jMQ) or by going to our website strenegoupil.org and clicking on the available link. His messages are timely, sincere and include his good sense of humor. At times like this, we can all use some inspiration and words of encouragement! Check it out!

To all the Mothers,
Grandmothers,
Aunts, Sisters
and other women
in our lives that care for
us and love us
unconditionally,
Happy Mother's Day!

St. Symphorosa / St. Rene Parish News
Pastor Announcement



"May the Lord Smile on You and be Gracious to You"

Greetings to all parishioners of St. Symphorosa and St. Rene! As we all work to traverse and maneuver through this difficult and strange time, we, Fr. Bob Regan and Fr. Idzi Stacherczak, wanted to share some wonderful news in regards to the unification of our parishes happening as of July 1, 2020.

This news comes a little later than expected due to all that is ailing our world at this time, but a new pastor has been announced in the last few weeks and will begin his Pastorate as of July 1st. Fr. Bob, the current pastor of St. Rene, was offered and has accepted the call to continue serving our faith community as its pastor.

As we move forward through this time, hoping we can see each other and pray together again within the walls of our churches, we excitedly await this unification for a stronger and more vibrant parish community. But, as with any joy in life, there can always be some sadness, and with that we also inform both parishes that Fr. Idzi will continue with his plans to retire as of June 30, 2020. To Fr. Idzi, we wish much rest and relaxation after his 45 years of service to our churches.

The Parish Offices of St. Symphorosa and St. Rene.





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

Here’s a good question.

Why is Mary called “Mother of God?”

When early Christians read biblical passages about the Incarnation, such as Isaiah’s words about the child who would be called God, they wondered: How exactly was Christ both human and divine? Was he simply God, only appearing to be human? Was he a human to whom God attached himself in a special way, dwelling inside him? Was he partly human and partly divine?

Ultimately, in light of Sacred Scripture and Tradition, the Church concluded that none of the above answers is correct. An ecumenical Church council that helped to resolve the issue was provoked by a controversy over one particular question: Can we call Mary the “Mother of God”?

One prominent bishop, Nestorius, rejected the title. He claimed that Christ was two persons – one human and one divine, joined together in Christ. Though Mary as the mother of the human person in Christ, she was not the mother of the divine Person (God the Son). So she could not rightly be called Mother of God.

After examining this teaching, however, the Church concluded that Nestorius was mistaken. Christ was not a

combination of two persons, one human and one divine. That would be close to saying that he was simply a man to whom God was joined in a uniquely intimate way – a man specially indwelt by God, like one of the biblical prophets.

Instead, the Church declared, Christ is only one divine person – the Second Person of the Trinity. This single Person took human nature and joined it to his own divine nature, so that he possesses two natures. But these natures do not constitute two different persons. They belong to one and the same Person, the divine Son of God. And these two natures, though not to be confused, cannot be separated.

In this light, the Church concluded that not only is it correct to call Mary the Mother of God, but it is important to do so. Mary is the mother of the one Person, Jesus Christ, who is the Son of God in the flesh. If we deny that she is the Mother of God, then we are denying that Christ himself is God, come down from heaven.

Truly, as St. Paul declared, “God sent his Son, born of a woman.” (Galatians 4:4).

Mary, Mother of God, pray for us!

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






Faith Formation Office
(773) 229-8523

Coordinator:
Peg Siebenaler

Email: strenfaithformation@gmail.com



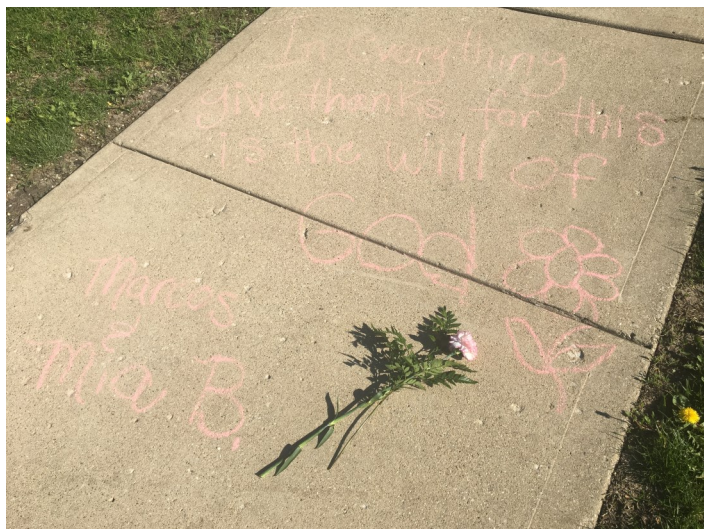
Tina S. repainting participating in her family project of repainting their statue of Mary.




Traditionally, the month of May is devoted to honoring Mary, the Mother of God. Throughout this entire month, all our St. Rene Families are invited to come venerate Mary by bringing flowers, saying prayers, or praying the rosary.

Come visit the beautiful statue of Mary in front of the rectory or come check out the statue of Mary that has been placed inside the main doors of our church. Although the church remains locked, the statue of our Blessed Lady is in full view for all to see. Please practice social distancing when visiting either site on St. Rene Grounds.

Together let us lift up our prayers to Our Mother Mary asking for her intercession during this our time of need.



A message to Mary from Marcos & Mia B. that says, "In Everything give Thanks, for this is the Will of God."



On May 3rd we were supposed to celebrate the Sacrament of First Eucharist, and May 8th should have been our Confirmation Celebration.

Sadly, as of now, no new dates have been set to re-schedule these celebrations. We are hopeful that we will be able to announce new dates for both of these Sacraments as quickly as possible. Please continue to pray for all of our St. Rene students who are anxiously awaiting the reception of these two most holy sacraments.



Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, May 9, 2020

4:00pm—Alice Tomczak (Family)

Sunday, May 10, 2020

7:30am—Pedro J. Medina (Family)

9:30am—Raymond Sutkowski (Edna Bazik)

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

11:30am—Frances A. Potocki (Family)

Monday, May 11, 2020

8:00am—Jack Orsi (Family)

Tuesday, May 12, 2020

8:00am—Richard Kurek (Family)

Wednesday, May 13, 2020

8:00am—Vivian Boardman (Linda Dobias)

Thursday, May 14, 2020

8:00am—For All Mothers and Caregivers throughout the World (Pelegrino Family)

Friday, May 15, 2020

8:00am—Michael Rizzo (Family)

Saturday, May 16, 2020

8:00am—Richard Kurek(Family)

4:00pm—Geraldine Finlay (McAllister & Neligan Families)

4:00pm—Edward Gerlick (Family)

Sunday, May 17, 2020

7:30am—Jack Orsi (Family)

9:30am—Durack-Gubista Families (Family)

9:30am—Catherine Bartuch Morrell (Family)

11:30am—Joseph & Mary Negoski (Ben & Judy Shafer)

11:30am—Edward Gerlick (Family)



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



Our Beloved & Recently Deceased

Helen Shearier

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen

Our world is hurting , but we are being protected by a loving, able God. No matter where we go, we are faced with uncertainty. Please never forget that our God is so much bigger than anything we will ever face. He is so much stronger than any force and He will protect you through every trial. Never let go of your faith during these trying times. Step away and look at what God is doing for you at this moment. You're alive, healthy and safe. Your family is protected, you have food, shelter, you are loved, and you are blessed. We can't be everywhere, but our God is. Keep your trust in Him and He will bring you and your loved ones through.

Amen

-Shelby Condo
 Kelly's Treehouse

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.

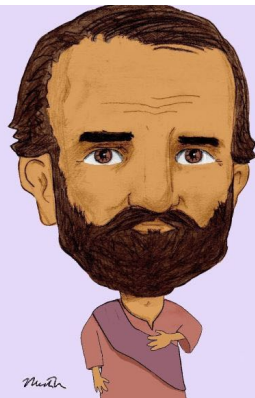
Faith Formation Classes

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.**



“You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen.”

-The Apostles' prayer before choosing Matthias (Acts 1:24)

St. Matthias

One of the seventy-two disciples who followed Christ from the beginning. He was chosen by the apostles to replace Judas who betrayed Jesus.

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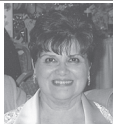
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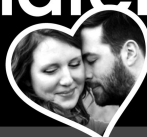
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