



**TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME**

October 18, 2020

I have called you  
by your name,  
giving you a title,  
though you knew me not.

**I am**

*the Lord*

**and there  
is no other,**

**there is no God besides me.**

Isaiah 45:4-5

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Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970, CCD.

**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!!

Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's.

We as citizens of the United States of America have certain civil duties expected of us. However, our primary duty as a human being is in service to God. Some folks might take exception with this statement, especially those who do not believe in God and have made an earthly governing body their god.

This juxtaposition of God/no god will inevitably lead to conflict. St. Augustine highlights this in his book City of God. The often unspoken dilemma of our own day is the rift between those whose morality is derived from God, and those whose morality is formed by the state (or self).

For example: Is murder wrong because the government says it's wrong, or is murder wrong in light of God's command to not murder? You can see where this will lead if we say murder is wrong because the government says it is wrong, and its wrongness has nothing to do with God. Mere humans could then decide rightness and wrongness, and woe to those without power or influence. The poor and powerless far too frequently bear the burden of the rich and powerful (at least in this world).

Using an absurd example: a governing body could determine all people under six-foot tall are not considered human and therefore have no rights. I, being a rather short man, would then have to accept the ruling from my civil authorities. Of course, this is absurd, but why is it absurd? Only because we appeal to a much higher authority than temporal leaders. We appeal to God.

Human life belongs to God. Bottom line. Judging by our news headlines today (and all through history) we seem to not respect the inherent dignity of every single human person (from womb to tomb). In the Chicago area alone, we are witnessing troubling violence. Our politicians like to limit this issue to guns, but the larger overarching issue is the human heart. A gun in the hands of St. Francis of Assisi is

no threat. A gun in the hand of someone filled with resentment and disregard for human life is another matter.

By the very fact you are a human being, you are God's creation. You are not a mistake or an accident. You have within you the spark of the divine, even if you don't FEEL it. Feelings are not always in line with reality. We as people of faith keep our eyes on the fact that we are made in the image and likeness of God. We risk terrible things when we lose sight of the truth of the value of human life.

This respect for human life is not limited to the abortion issue. We as Christian disciples see this respect for human life in all stages. In this light, we can hear the hymn "Whatsoever you do to the least of my people, that you do unto me."

However, every human being has a right to defend his or her life. We are not called to be doormats for the world's thugs and warmongers. We can protect our family and our own self from external harm.

So, the challenging question in light of this weekend's Gospel is, does our life belong to God?

Those who seek to conform to the world will shout at us to "Get with the times." Our call is to conform our lives, not the world, to Christ; the One who is the Way, and the Truth, and the Life.

### More About The Name

As we continue to accept submissions for the newly-united parish name, we want to make sure that our parishioners understand that the actual church names will remain as they are today. Yes, we will have a new parish name that satisfies the canon law requirements and obligations, but the two worship sites will still be called St. Rene Goupil and St. Symphorosa.

There will be no need to remove statues or stained glass that depicts one of the saints. So, for example, you might call the parish office and the receptionist answers "St. Waldo Parish, how may I help you?" You say you would like to have a funeral Mass in the parish. The receptionist asks at which worship site do you want the funeral, and you say "The St. Symphorosa

church building, please."

So, using this example, we'd be St. Waldo Parish with two churches on two separate campuses (St. Symphorosa church and St. Rene Goupil church). But you would soon be writing your checks out to "St. Waldo Parish."

I do hope this lends some clarity to the name issue. The goal of this process is not to say good-bye to our history, but to unite as best we can within the realities we face today as a Church and as a parish. May we trust that the Holy Spirit is at work.

### New Confession Times

Beginning in November 2020, our parish will offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation on two days of the week.

Every Tuesday, Confessions will be heard from 6 PM until 7 PM in the St. Symphorosa church building. Every Saturday, Confessions will be heard from 3 PM until 3:45 PM in the St. Rene church building.

As always, an appointment can be made with one of our priests by calling the parish office.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is one of the sacraments of healing. Sin harms us more than perhaps we realize. Serious sin even more so. The Lord has given us an avenue of grace to extend His mercy. We need not hold onto our sins. We can approach the sacrament with sorrow and contrition, and leave in a much better place spiritually. Sadly, pride keeps us from availing ourselves to so great a gift.

Jesus never tires of forgiving us. We tire of asking for forgiveness. God Bless!



### NEW CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Beginning November 3, 2020 confessions will be held within our parish on Tuesdays from 6-7pm at St. Symphorosa and on Saturday's from 3-3:45pm at St. Rene Goupil. Confessions are still available by appointment.

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  
Mark Schusteric  
Maintenance Supervisor

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



**September Winners:**

Bernie Judeikis ..... \$25  
Barb Pudelek ..... \$25  
Ralph Adas ..... \$50  
Lou Norbut ..... \$100

**November Winners:**

Kevin Sears ..... \$25  
Ted Curran, Sr. .... \$25  
Lorraine Siepka ..... \$50  
Dolores Rooney ..... \$100

**October Winners:**

Mary Shilney ..... \$25  
Debbie Doherty ..... \$25  
Teddy Curran, Jr. .... \$50  
Kevin O'Brien ..... \$100

**December Winners:**

Bill Wojtysiak ..... \$25  
Peg Fonte ..... \$25  
Maria Montes ..... \$50  
Nancy Alvarez ..... \$100

During the ongoing pandemic, the St. Symphorosa Super Club has not held any meetings for the safety of all members. However, it was recently decided to pull the Super Club Raffle Winners for the rest of the year. Our hope is that our Senior Club will have the ability to meet once again in the near future. Congratulations to all of the listed winners. Please contact the parish office at 773.767.1523 with any questions. Thank you!



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

Offerings for the weekend of: Sunday, October 11, 2020

Contribution: \$8,303.25

Thank you for your generosity!



Split the Pot

October 11, 2020

Received this week: \$130.00

Winning envelope: #1894

Reminder: A minimum of \$5.00 is required to participate.

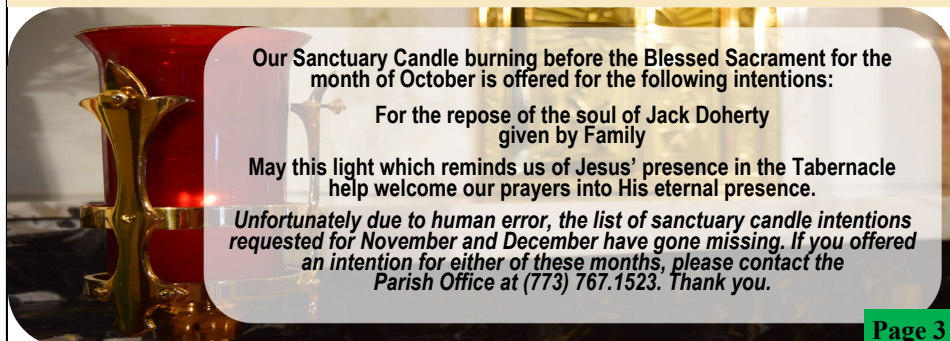


## All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day Mass Schedule

**All Saints' Day, Sunday, November 1, 2020**, Mass will be celebrated with the regular Sunday Mass Schedule. There will be no evening Mass on this day.

**All Souls' Day, Monday, November 2, 2020**, Mass will be celebrated at 8am at the St. Rene Worship Site. There will be a 7pm Mass offered at both worships sites. Our parish community will be honoring all those who have entered into eternal life before us. The parish office is currently collecting photos of deceased loved ones from

family members so that we can display our remembrance board in our churches throughout the month of November. If you would like your photo displayed, please bring it to the parish office at any time during regular business hours. We ask that you clearly state which worship site you would like the photo displayed at. You may also place your photos in the collection basket at Mass or email them to symphorosa@comcast.net. If you would like your photo returned to you please print your name, number and address on the back of the photo(s) so that we may return them.



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.





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



**Faith Formation Office**  
Phone: (773) 767-1523 x226  
Email: [msiebenaler@archchicago.org](mailto:msiebenaler@archchicago.org)  
Coordinator: Peg Siebenaler

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- 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



## 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.



## PARENT/ STUDENT CONFIRMATION MEETING

We will welcome our Confirmandi, and their parents to the Confirmation Preparation meetings on Wednesday, October 21st at 6pm and Saturday, October 24th at 11am. Our own Pastor, Fr. Robert Regan will be the Presenter. We happily anticipate his time with us because we know he will encourage our Confirmation candidates to share the good news of Jesus by their witness to Gospel values and their care for those in need. Please remember to include the Confirmation Candidates and their parent in your prayers.

## Faith Formation Scholarship Fund

A heart-felt Thank You, to those generous Parishioners who donated to the St. Sym's & St. Rene Faith Formation Scholarship Fund. This year we have helped a number of families with tuition assistance. We are truly fortunate to have the

support of so many who understand the importance of assisting those in need. May God abundantly Bless You!!



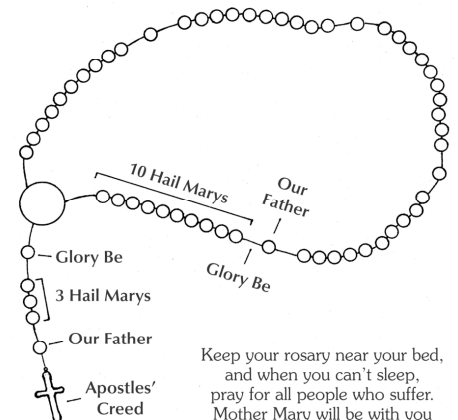
## THE HOLY ROSARY

The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary, a special Marian prayer. If you have a rosary, place it on a table and refer to it as you read the description of how to say this prayer.

1. Begin by making the Sign of the Cross and praying the Apostles' Creed on the cross.
2. On the first bead pray the Our Father.
3. On the next three beads pray one Hail Mary on each.
4. On the next bead pray a Glory Be to the Father. This is the introduction to the five decades. A decade is a group of ten beads.
5. On the next bead begin the first decade with the Our Father and the first mystery of the rosary. You can also pray the rosary without the mysteries if you choose.
6. On each bead of the decade pray a Hail Mary.
7. On the space pray a Glory Be. This ends the decade.
8. Begin the next decade on the single bead with an Our Father.

While praying the decades we can reflect on the life of Jesus and Mary through the events of the mysteries of the rosary. We call these reflections mysteries not because we don't know what they are, but because no matter how often we think about them, there is always something deeper to learn and understand. There are four sets of mysteries: Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious, and Luminous. You can find lists of their events on the Internet.

Choose a time when your family can pray the rosary together. Your family might want to pray just one decade a day before dinner or bed. Each time we pray the rosary we honor Mary and give praise to God.



Keep your rosary near your bed, and when you can't sleep, pray for all people who suffer. Mother Mary will be with you when you go to sleep again.

## Mass Intentions for the Week

**Saturday, October 17, 2020**

4:00pm *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

5:30pm *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Norm

**Saint Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop**

†Geraldine Finlay (*McAllister & Neligan Families*)

†Anthony & Lupe Mendez & Louie Valenciano (*Almendarez Family*)

†William Berglund (*Family*)

†Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)

†Dorothy Bogumil (*Claire Moran*)

†Ernest Konie (*Dawn Gasior & Family*)

**Sunday, October 18, 2020**

7:30am *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Matt

9:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

†Dawn Bodoki-Denis (*Mom & Dad*)

Health & all the Lord's blessings for Matthew & Karen Smoter  
(*Mom-Anna Smoter*)

Good health & all the Lord's blessings for Pat Carmody (*Ross Family*)

†Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)

†Leo & Ann Kopyaska (*Soltis Family*)

†Durack - Gubista Families (*Family*)

†Jack Orsi (*Daughter Flori*)

†Tom Biondo (*John & Gloria Bodoki*)

†Betty Benbow (*Ives Family*)

†John Dragosetti (*Rosario Dragosetti*)

†Terry Daukus Fogell (*Edward Fogell*)

10:30am *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Matt

12:00pm *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

**Monday, October 19, 2020**

8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

**Saint John de Brebeuf; Saint Isaac Jogues**

†Rosa Cicchino (*Rosa Rodriguez*)

†Gregg Gasior (*Lorraine DeLauriea*)

†Dolores A. Grisko (*Keys Family*)

†Edward Kmak (*Kmak Family*)

†Joseph Lascola (*Family*)

†Andrew Rodriguez (*John & Dolores Sanchez*)

**Saint Paul of the Cross**

†Frances J. "Red" Jamen (*Nancy Markham*)

**Tuesday, October 20, 2020**

8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

**Wednesday, October 21, 2020**

8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

†Claude Wiatrak (*Wife Clara*)

†Loretta Pozniak (*Pozniak Family*)

†Dan Tarsa (*Soltis Family*)

**Saint John Paul II, Pope**

†Elizabeth Bojarski (*Barbara Rendak*)

†Joseph Stoch (*Mother Janina*)

†Angela Stopka & Michael Stopka (*Daughter Janina*)

**Saint John of Capistrano**

†Walter & Harriet Hrbacek (*Family*)

†Rosa & Manuel Sanchez (*John & Dolores Sanchez*)

†Margaret & Maria Stoch (*Mother Janina*)

†John Stoch (*Wife Janina*)

**Thursday, October 22, 2020**

8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

**Friday, October 23, 2020**

8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

**Saturday, October 24, 2020**

8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

4:00pm *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Norm

5:30pm *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

**Saint Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop**

†James Shaughnessy (*Hederman Family*)

†Tom Biondo (*Ptak Family*)

†Margaret Murphy (*Fr. Bob*)

†Greg Golab (*Mom & Dad*)

†William Flood (*Art & Katie Carpenter*)

†Tome Masecar (*Art & Katie Carpenter*)

†Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)

**Sunday, October 25, 2020**

7:30am *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

9:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Matt

†Adele Sarlitto (*Mary Sarlitto*)

Health & all the Lord's blessings for Anna Smoter (*Family*)

†Tony Antonaitis (*Arlene Scaletta*)

†Anthony Barone (*The Capparelli's*)

†Mel Keiffer (*Janina*)

†Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)

†Raymond Sutkowski (*Sutkowski Family*)

†Jack Orsi (*Gloria & John Bodoki*)

†Stanley Mateja (*Ives Family*)

10:30am *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

12:00pm *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Matt

*\*Weekend Presider subject to change without notice\**



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

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

Due to privacy laws, names may only be added to our prayer list by immediate

**HELP  
WANTED**

**Parish  
Maintenance  
Help Wanted!**

The Parish is actively seeking the hiring of a Part-time Maintenance employee who can handle general maintenance/janitorial duties within the parish for 25 hours per week. Please submit a resume to the Parish Office for further information and consideration.

*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.*

**Maria Benitez**  
**Joanne Bukowiecki**  
**Estelle Rabbitt**



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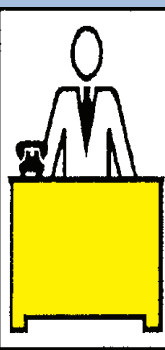
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