# TREE DOES NOT BEAR ROTTEN FRUIT.



## **TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH**

6135 S. AUSTIN AVE., CHICAGO, IL 60638 | 773.767.1523 | INFO@TWOHOLYMARTYRS.ORG

SUNDAY, MARCH 2, 2025

#### **PASTORAL STAFF**

Rev. Robert Regan PASTOR

Rev. Kevin Gregus ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Rev. Norman Trela **RETIRED PRIEST** 

#### PASTORS EMERITUS

Rev. Ted Bojczuk PASTOR EMERITUS

Rev. Peter Paurazas PASTOR EMERITUS

Rev. Idzi Stacherczak PASTOR EMERITUS

#### **PARISH STAFF**

Ken Hilliard OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

Magdalan Koziar OFFICE & TUITION COORDINATOR

Irene Perconti ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Peg Siebenaler FAITH FORMATION COORDINATOR

David Boyle MUSIC DIRECTOR

Dcn. Raul Duque PARISH ORGANIST

Mark Schusteric MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR

Jacqueline Guerrero BUILETIN & GENERAL OFFICE ADMIN

#### SCHOOL STAFF

Kathy Berry SCHOÓL PRINĆIPAL

Chris Garza ASSISTANT SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

### WELCOME TO TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH

### MASS SCHEDULES

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

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#### RECONCILIATION

SATURDAYS | 3 PM-3:45 PM

SCHOOL OFFICE

6125 S. Austin Avenue

Chicago, IL 60638

MONDAY-FRIDAY

9 AM-3 PM

FAITH FORMATION

msiebenaler@archchicago.org

773.767.1523 Ext: 226

FORME

773.585.6888

www.stsymsschool.org

office@stsymphorosaschool.org

All are welcome to join in praying the Rosary after 8 AM mass Monday through Saturday! Come meditate on Christ with us! PLEASE REFRAIN FROM PARKING IN THE FIRE LANES

### PARISH OFFICE

6135 S. Austin Avenue Chicago, IL 60638

Located on Austin between the school and church buildings

> R 773.767.1523

- A www.twoholymartyrs.org
- $\bowtie$ info@twoholymartyrs.org

MONDAY-FRIDAY 9 AM-4 PM

SATURDAY

9 AM - 12 PM

#### How do I register for

FORMED FOR OUR PARISH

Go to signup.formed.org.

Type in our parish name.

3 Enter your name and email.

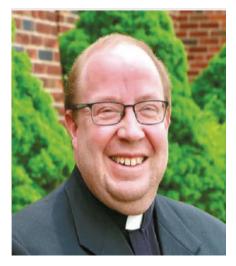
Contact the Two Holy Martyrs St. Vincent de Paul at (312) 316.3725



Society of St. Vincent de Paul Chicago uilding a Better Tomorrow for

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The theme for this year's Annual Catholic Appeal is "Together We Bring Hope."

We need hope. Everyone needs something or someone to hope in, and Mother Church presents us with the Someone who is the reason for our hope. His name is Jesus. He is the way, and the truth, and the life.

The Church touches the four corners of Earth. Her mission is to share the good news of salvation and make disciples. The universal Church is made up of 653 archdioceses and 2,249 dioceses throughout the world; this includes the Archdiocese of Chicago.

Two Holy Martyrs Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Chicago. A Catholic parish is not a lone ranger. No one parish is an island unto itself. We can't "go it alone." There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism. Christ unites us in truth and love.

If you have not done so already, please make a financial contribution to this year's Annual Catholic Appeal. The revenue from the ACA breaks down as follows: low-income parishes and school (26%), parish-based incentives (24%), archdiocesan ministries (16%), spiritual renewal efforts (9%), priest formation (7%), scholarships (5%), CRS (4%), and cost of the appeal (9%).

During these divisive and polarizing times, we find hope and blessed assurance in the Lord. We anchor our lives in the truth of the Paschal

## FR. BOB'S WEEKLY BLOG

Mystery, which is Christ's suffering, death, resurrection, and ascension, and the Eucharist becomes the spiritual glue that keeps us together as brothers and sisters in Christ. In Christ, we are one.

On behalf of our archbishop, thank you for your continued support for the Archdiocese of Chicago. Also, thank you for your continued support of our parish (Two Holy Martyrs). Yes, the spiritual life is the most important aspect of diocesan and parish life, but in this world, economics are a reality. Our fiscal support drives the larger mission of the Church. Thank you for your generosity yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

#### Wait, what? Lent already?

The penitential season of Lent begins this week. Ash Wednesday is March 5.

Our parish will offer three Masses that day along with four services. Ash Wednesday services consist of a liturgy of the word, homily, intercessions, and the distribution of ashes. Holy Communion is not offered during one of these services. Please check the page in this bulletin that lists our Mass and service times and places.

Believe it or not, Ash Wednesday is NOT a Holy Day of Obligation, and yet, it continues to be one of the most wellattended liturgies of the year. The Christian people remain mindful of our need for God's grace, and we're reminded at this time of year of our mortality. Our bodies will die. We return to dust. This should humble us as we place our hope in the risen Lord.

#### **Mission Mondays**

This year during Lent, we will offer Mission Mondays.

Every Monday evening during the penitential season, there will be something taking place in one of our two churches. We will begin with a Lent Holy Hour on Monday, March 10. The Holy Hour will get us into a more prayerful spirit. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed on the altar. We will proclaim the Word of God. A reflection will be offered. We will pray the Rosary before concluding with Benediction.

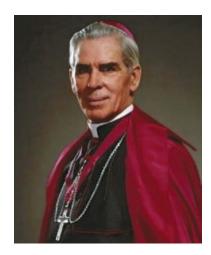
The following three Mondays (3/10, 3/17, and 3/24) will feature a guest speaker.

On Monday, April 7, our parish choir will be present for our second Lent Holy Hour featuring Taize music.

We will conclude our Mission Mondays on April 14 with Mercy Monday. Priests will be available for the sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) from 6 PM – 9 PM. This will NOT be a penance service. The church will be open for private prayer before and after your confession.

Please see the advertisement on another page in this bulletin for times and location.

Quote -- "If I were not a Catholic and were looking for the true Church in the world today, I would look for the one Church which did not get along well with the world; in other words, I would look for the Church which the world hated." -- Fulton J. Sheen





The Nicene Creed's section on Jesus Christ ends with a pronouncement that he will come again. While he currently presides in equal power at the right hand of the Father, there will be a time that he will return to earth "in glory to judge the living and the dead" and that "his kingdom will have no end".

The Second Coming of Christ is one of the lesser discussed things in our churches, primarily because so little is known about it. All we have to go on are the promises made by Jesus while he spoke with his disciples: "As to the exact day or hour, no one knows it, neither the angels in heaven nor even the Son, but only the Father. Be constantly on the watch! Stay awake! You do not know when the appointed time will come" (Mk 13:32-33).

As he neared his Paschal Mystery, Christ spoke more and more of judgment and the end times. Matthew 25 contains three parables about this theme, including the one about the separation of the sheep and the goats. St. Paul followed up on this in a number of his epistles, entreating the people to remain vigilant and prepared. We'll speak more about the judgment of the living and the dead when it comes up at the end of the creed.

## FR. KEVIN'S GREGORIAN RANTS

What is the reason Jesus said he would come again? We know all about his first coming in the Incarnation. His arrival fulfilled the promises of the prophets, but in a way completely unexpected by the people of God. Upon his Resurrection and Ascension, his incarnational presence passed into the Church, where it has remained in the teaching and sacramental life to the present day. Every year, we celebrate Advent where we focus on the three comings of Christ: Christmas, the Eucharist, and the end of days.

So, at his First Coming, Jesus came as the Suffering Servant who redeemed mankind and made salvation possible. Those who believed in this good news and participate in his divine life can have a share of that salvific victory. For us, he comes to us every Mass and communes with us in the reception of his Body and Blood. Through this and through the work of the Church, the Kingdom of God is built up on earth.

At his Second, or Final, Coming, Christ will arrive as Conquering King who will make a new heavens and a new earth. He will come in a way that many expected him to at his first coming as the Messiah. This isn't some rapture that has been depicted in popular media, where the elect, good souls are taken suddenly into heaven while the remainder are left to fend for themselves as the world crumbles around them. Instead, we all remain embodied while heaven and earth are united, something God intended from the beginning. These bodies will be like that of the resurrected Jesus, redeemed and free from captivity to sin or earthly pleasures.

We can look around and see that although Christ died for the redemption of all mankind, not all human beings have chosen to participate with that redemption. The Kingdom of God is being continually established, but has not arrived in its fullness. Jesus spoke of many signs that would accompany his second coming, such as the gospel being truly preached to the whole world, revolt and apostasy, and natural disturbances. We find ourselves in the "already, but not yet" of God's Kingdom.

Scripture assures us that the Second Coming is, while something to be prepared for, not something we should fear. He says in his Last Supper discourse in John, "I will come again and will take you to myself." He takes us to the place specially prepared for us, one that he is already preparing us to receive. Meanwhile, the Lord is continuing to seek after and heal his flock and will do so primarily through his Church. While we do not know the day nor the hour, we can find ourselves doing the work of the Lord, the same goodness we will be doing after he comes again.





OUR SANCTUARY CANDLES Burning before the Blessed Sacrament are offered for the following intentions for the month of

#### MARCH

VINCE PORCELLI & MARIA PORCELLI

For the repose of their souls, given by Family.

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS FOR ALL LIVING & DECEASED OF THE BATTUNG FAMILY

given by Rosario Battung.

#### **RICHARD MERDA & PHIL SCALETTA**

For the repose of their souls, given by Arlene Scaletta.

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

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Arnold Adaska Guadalupe Almendarez Marlene Annerino Walter Annerino Sharon Arends Fr. Ted Bojczuk Glenn Boyle Maxine Carey Rita Cernick John Clementi MaryEllen Compton Margaret Dalton Karen Holmes

Ron Kelly Sharon Labiak Elena LeCompte Natalie LeCompte Debbie Lipien Mary Liszka Rosemary Litwin Joelee MacMaster Rich Marcello Cathy Mazeika Clarence Oleszkiewicz Eleanor Pastorek



Due to privacy laws, names may only be added by immediate family members. Please call the parish office to add or remove a name.





You are welcome to join us for our first meeting of the year on Wednesday, March 12th 2025. The following meeting will be on March 26th 2025. Doors open at 11:30am, meeting convenes at 12pm(noon) in the St. Rene Narthex.



#### **OUR MARIAN CANDLES**

Lord God, with the lighting of this candle, through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His mother, please hear our intentions for the month of

#### MARCH

ALL LIVING & DECEASED OF THE HILLIARD FAMILY: given by Family

In the lighting of the Marian candles we ask for the Blessed Mother's intercession as we honor a loved one, living or deceased.



#### Thank you for your generosity!

PARISH OFFERTORY: 02/23/25: \$8,827.00

Split the Pot Winning Envelope #: 66387: \$465.00

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



If you would like to make your donation online, please visit our website at www.twoholymartyrs.org click on the DONATE tab, it will direct you to make your donation.

Thank you.

## For the week of:

#### March 1st - March 9th

#### Saturday March 1st

#### Sunday March 2nd

#### 

- 10:30 AM | St. Rene Goupil| Presider: Fr. Bob| Choir PRO POPULO

#### Monday March 3rd

**08:00 AM** | St. Rene Goupil <sup>⊕</sup>Thomas Murray (Family) <sup>⊕</sup>Al Beyer (With Love) <sup>⊕</sup>Mary Szlembarski (Barbara Rendak) <sup>⊕</sup>Herman & Verna (Rudar Family)

#### Tuesday March 4th

**08:00 AM** | St. Rene Goupil Birthday Blessings for Christina Closson (Mary Sarlitto) ⊕Tony Bojarski (Barbara Rendak)

#### Wednesday March 5th - Ash Wednesday

**08:00 AM** |St. Rene Goupil ⊕Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)

#### Thursday March 6th

**08:00 AM** | St. Rene Goupil ☆Kathy Arvetis (Husband) Heavenly Birthday Blessings for Tom Czuprynski (Pat Soltis & Family)



#### Friday March 7th

#### Saturday March 8th

**08:00 AM** | St. Rene Goupil Birthday & the Lord's Blessings for Mary Sue Tulik-Zurlis (Marge Tulik)

#### Sunday March 9th

- 7:30 AM | St. Rene Goupil | Presider: Fr. Kevin ☆Joseph & Josephine Dyniakoski (Family) ☆Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy) Heavenly Birthday Blessings for Tomas Saucedo (Maria Gonzalez)

- 12:00 PM | St. Symphorosa| Presider: Fr. Bob PRO POPULO



Join us Sunday March 2, 2025 for Mass at 9am at our St. Symphorosa worship site.

You are welcome to join us on **Tuesday March 4, 2025** for our first meeting of the year. You can also join us for pie and ice cream social and BINGO at the **St. Rene narthex at 12pm (noon).** 

#### SEE YOU THERE!!

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



#### **Two Holy Martyrs Parish is Hiring**

#### Part-Time Employment

The Parish is currently searching for an individual to work PT maintenance, Summer, Weekend Projects, etc. If interested please send a resume to the Parish Office or call the office and ask for Ken Hilliard, Operations Director.

773.767.1523

info@twoholymartyrs.org 6135 S. Austin Ave., Chicago, IL



## **Mission Mondays** Lent 2025

March 10 - Holy Hour w/ Reflection & Rosary (@ St. Syms) March 17 - Speaker: Becca Sair (@ St. Rene) March 24 - Speaker: Fr. Dan Korenchan (@ St. Syms) March 31 - Speaker: Fr. Kevin Feeney (@ St. Rene) April 7 — Holy Hour w/ Reflection & Taize (@St. Syms)

April 14 — Mercy Monday: Confession available (@ St. Rene)

**Come Join us - No Admission Fee** 

Each event begins at 7 PM at the respective location



Ash Wednesday

HOLY MASS & SERVICES

**MARCH 5, 2025** 

8am Mass - St. Rene Goupil 11am School Mass - St. Symphorosa

Noon Service - St. Rene Goupil 3:30pm Service - St. Symphorosa 4:30pm Service - St. Rene Goupil 5:30pm Service - St. Symphorosa

7pm Mass - St. Symphorosa



Every Friday during Lent at 7 p.m. March 7 | March 14 | March 21 | March 28 April 4 | April 11 | April 18 at our St. Symphorosa Church

> Two Holy Martyrs Parish 6135 S. Austin Ave., Chicago, IL 773.767.1523 - info@twoholymartyrs.org

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



Sponsored by the

THM Transformation Committee

ONE COIN PER PERSON PLEASE COMPLMENTS OF THE THM TRANSFORMATION COMMITTEE

## PARISH FAITH FORMATION

### **Upcoming Events:**

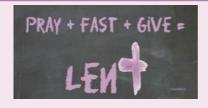
**3/04:** Faith Formation Tuesday Class @ St. Syms Campus. Reconciliation for Confirmation students.

3/05: Ash Wednesday.

**3/08:** Faith Formation Saturday Class @ St. Syms Campus. Reconciliation for Confirmation students.

March 12 & 13: Confirmation Practices, 6pm at St. Rene Church.

March 16: CONFIRMATION DAY!



#### Tips for getting in the Spirit of Lent

\* Turn the radio off in the car today and simply pay attention.

\* Write a letter, especially to the sick or elderly.

\* Learn something new today.

\* Turn off the TV and listen to music or read.

\* Count your blessings. (You'll need a good deal of time for this one).

\* Recall a favorite prayer and pray it slowly.

\* Perform a random act of kindness.

- \* Imagine God saying to you, "May I have your attention, please?" How will you answer?
- \* Fast from something for a day.

\* Read and reflect on a scripture passage.

#### **RECONCILIATION BEFORE CONFIRMATION**

As the Confirmation Candidates prepare to receive the sacrament of Confirmation they will first participate in the sacrament of Reconciliation with their classmates **on Tuesday, March 4th and Saturday, March 8th,** during their regularly scheduled classes. These students continue to work hard on their journey toward the celebration of the sacrament of Confirmation, which is scheduled to take place on **March 16<sup>th</sup>.** 

We ask that you remember them, their sponsors, and parents in your prayers.



On **Sunday, March 16<sup>th</sup>** we will Celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. Rene Church. There will be a **Mass at 12:00pm and a Mass at 4:00pm**. Eighty students from our Faith Formation Program and from St. Symphorosa School will be Confirmed by the Most Reverend, Bishop Bartosic, Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago. The students have worked very hard at preparing for this special day and we ask that you remember them, their sponsors, and parents in your prayers.

Practice for this sacrament will take place at St. Rene Church on Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. And another practice will take place on Thursday, March 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. The Confirmation Candidate and Sponsor need to attend the practice in which they were assigned. If, for some important reason, the Sponsor is unable to attend, the student must be accompanied by a parent.



#### **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 2025 Confirmandi are invited to take part in assembling the Easter Baskets and earn service hours for their upcoming Confirmation.

## PARISH SCHOOL NEWS



A PEEK INTO THE PRE-K CLASSES Our Pre-K classrooms are filled with learning and laughter every day! In STEM class, students worked together to build a playground using LEGO, fostering teamwork and creativity. They also love reading, which helps build vocabulary, improve listening skills and nurture a lifelong love of books.





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### Daylight Saving Time Starts March 9, 2025

Remember to set your clocks ahead one hour Saturday night or Sunday morning the weekend of March 9.

#### ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

## Together we bring hope

2025 Annual Catholic Appeal

Please consider supporting this year's Appeal.

Your generous contribution will be a source of blessing for many people, for yourself and for your loved ones. To make a gift by phone: 312.534.7959

To mail: 835 North Rush Street Chicago, IL 60611

To give online:



annualcatholicappeal.com



For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com

Two Holy Martyrs, Chicago, IL B 4C 01-4065 TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH | March 2, 2025



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Two Holy Martyrs, Chicago, IL

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