

December 8, 2024



TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH
ST. SYMPHOROSA + ST. RENE GOUPIL



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PASTOR

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ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Rev. Norman Trela
RETIRED PRIEST

PASTORS EMERITUS

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Rev. Peter Paurazas
PASTOR EMERITUS

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PASTOR EMERITUS

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Chris Garza
ASSISTANT SCHOOL PRINCIPAL



Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Chicago
Building a Better Tomorrow for
Those in Need

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

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

RECONCILIATION

SATURDAYS | 3 PM—3:45 PM

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*

☎ 773.767.1523

🌐 www.twoholymartyrs.org

✉ info@twoholymartyrs.org

MONDAY—FRIDAY

9 AM—4 PM

SATURDAY

9 AM — 12 PM

SCHOOL OFFICE

6125 S. Austin Avenue
Chicago, IL 60638

☎ 773.585.6888

🌐 www.stsymsschool.org

✉ office@stsymphorosaschool.org

MONDAY—FRIDAY

9 AM—3 PM

FAITH FORMATION

☎ 773.767.1523 Ext: 226

✉ msiebenaler@archchicago.org

How do I register for **FORMED**

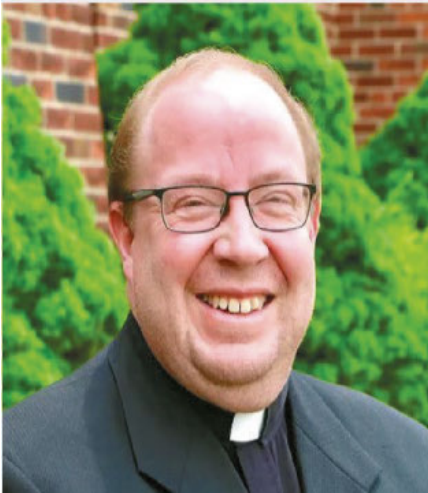
FORMED FOR OUR PARISH

LOG IN TO OUR PARISH ACCOUNT AND
ACCESS FORMED FOR FREE

- 1 Go to signup.formed.org.
- 2 Type in our parish name.
- 3 Enter your name and email.



TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH | December 8, 2024



FR. BOB'S WEEKLY BLOG

C.S. Lewis wrote many books about the Christian faith. The most popular book would be *Mere Christianity*, which I recommend to anyone who needs help thinking through the truth claims made by Christianity.

However, he took an interesting turn when he wrote *Screwtape Letters*. C.S. Lewis tells a story from the perspective of the Enemy and one of the demons in training. It's basically like reading the playbook of the demonic so we can learn what tricks they are up to in their quest to pull us away from God and from one another.

Along that line of thinking, during the season of Advent, it helps to recognize how the Enemy operates. For starters, the Enemy wants us to forget about Advent and jump right into the busy-ness and consumerism of the "holiday" season.

We see this with one of our Chicago area radio stations that starts playing Christmas music in early November. Then we are inundated with commercials on TV, radio, and the internet that lure us into a consumer mindset. We also see an increase in holiday parties. All of this combines to cause stress in what should be a sacred season. How often do we hear someone say, "The holidays stress me out?"

We also notice more and more "holiday" movies that have nothing to do with Christ or the story of salvation. These films tend to be more "feel good" movies about the "magic of the season." Christmas is "de-Christified" by powers that want to completely secularize Christmas so that people have no idea who Jesus is and why God took on human flesh.

The season of Advent invites us to be more prayerful and reflective. We use these four weeks for spiritual renewal. We try to be more intentional about finding time for quiet and stillness as we ponder how God is present in salvation history. It's not magic but it is mystery.

The season of Advent reminds that we're not just looking back in time to Christ's first coming but also looking forward to when Christ comes again in power and glory. In the meantime, Christ presently comes to us in and through His Church, especially in Sacred Scripture and the sacraments. At every Mass, Christ comes to us in the gift of the Eucharist.

We will need discipline during Advent. The distractions and temptations will be many. This is why daily prayer is a must. Spend sacred time with the Lord. It also helps to slowly pray through one or more of the four gospels. Select one Gospel for Advent and pray your way through it so that when we celebrate the Nativity of our Lord on December 25, you will have the greatest story ever told on your mind and in your heart.

The world needs hope today and this hope we need has a name. His name is Jesus, the Christ; the one John the Baptist points to as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.



FR. KEVIN'S GREGORIAN RANTS

After establishing our belief in God and the reality of the first person of the Trinity, we move to the largest section of the creed. We remember from the context of its creation that the biggest questions being raised in the Christian world were about the Son of God. The council fathers needed to clarify who he was and how he related to the Father.

This section on the Son starts out very strong. By repeating the phrase, "I believe in", the creed is already putting the Son at the same level of the Father. As we learned with the "one" God and the great Hebrew prayer of the Shema ("The Lord, your God, is one"), to suggest that someone or something was on his same level was a very serious statement. St. Paul does the same thing in his epistles. Many of his greetings include both, showing that the early Church knew of their equality: "Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."

Our statement, "I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ," tells us a lot of who we will be affirming in the statements to come. First, that he is one and he is the Lord. There is only one Son of God. The title of Lord was one that was attributed to God time and again in the Old Testament. The Hebrew term for Lord, "Adonai", was the placeholder

for God's revealed name YHWH ("I am who am"), which was never spoken out loud except by the high priest once per year. Using Lord in this way ("kyrios" in Greek) points to a divine origin. To call someone Lord means that you are giving them authority over your life.

The name of Jesus was given to Mary and Joseph by the angel Gabriel at the Annunciation and some subsequent dreams – "You shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins" (Matt 1:21). The name Jesus, or Yeshua in Hebrew, is rooted in the revealed name of God. It means "God saves". The name itself was already revealing to his people what he was sent to do.

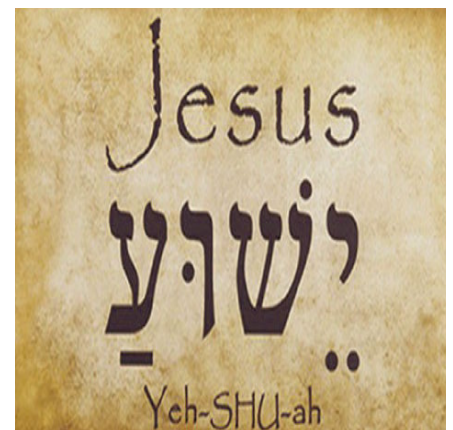
The power in the name of Jesus is well attested to, and is itself a prayer. It's also why Christians should strive to never use his name flippantly or in vain. As we hear in Philippians, "At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord." There is no other name that receives that kind of reverence or holds that kind of authority over evil.

Finally, we call Jesus "the Christ". I'm asked often by our school kids if Christ is Jesus' last name. It's not a name per se, but a title. It comes from the Greek word "christos", which means anointed one. It was how the Greeks translated the Hebrew word "mashiach", or as we hear it, "messiah". To be anointed was to be chosen and set apart for a specific purpose and role.

For the Israelites, the mashiach

referred to the one of David's lineage who would fulfill the prophecies of their scriptures. The angels speak of "Christ the Lord" to the shepherds in the fields of Bethlehem. It was no throwaway title, but one dripping with promise and hope for the nation in their hopes for freedom. Peter's confession of Jesus' true identity was that of "the Christ," the chosen and anointed one who was sent by God to empower his people. It is Peter who then cures a crippled man simply by the name of Jesus: "I have no silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk" (Acts 3:6).

Do not underestimate the power of the name Jesus Christ. A prayer that has grown in popularity is one borrowed from Eastern and Orthodox Christians: "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner." It recognizes Jesus for who he is and asks for what only he can give. I encourage everyone to use the name of our Lord Jesus Christ in times of suffering, confusion, oppression, and thanksgiving. Its importance cannot be understated, especially for us who reside in the Archdiocese of Chicago and see the seat of our bishop in Holy Name Cathedral.





OUR SANCTUARY CANDLES

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

DECEMBER

VINCE PORCELLI & MARIA PORCELLI

For the repose of their souls, given by Family.

PHIL SCALETTA

For the repose of his soul, given by wife, Arlene Scaletta.

SULLIVAN, PRENDERGAST, ALVAREZ FAMILIES

For the repose of their souls, given by Family.

MICHAEL NOWAKOWSKI

For the repose of his soul, given by parents Joe & Josie Pulido.

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

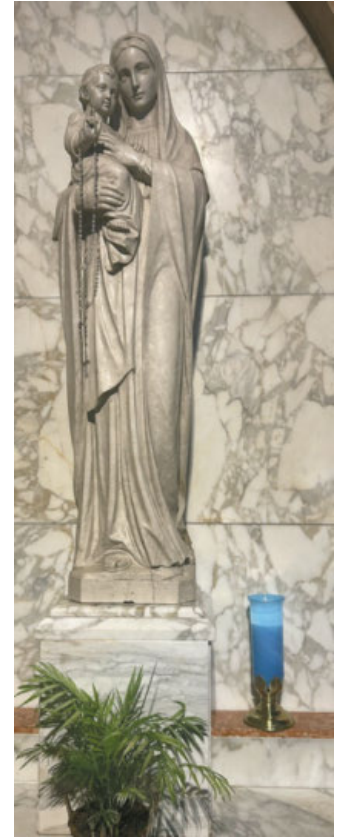
Arnold Adaska	Sharon Labiak	Michael Roman
Guadalupe Almendarez	Elena LeCompte	Adan Sanchez
Marlene Annerino	Natalie LeCompte	William Serpico
Walter Annerino	Debbie Lipien	Katrina Sigafoose
Sharon Arends	Mary Liszka	Karen Singer
Fr. Ted Bojczuk	Rosemary Litwin	Manuel Soto
Glenn Boyle	Joelee MacMaster	Shirley Tloczek
Maxine Carey	Rich Marcello	Fr. Norm Trela
John Clementi	Cathy Mazeika	Beverly Zummerling
MaryEllen Compton	Clarence Oleszkiewicz	
Margaret Dalton	Eleanor Pastorek	
Karen Holmes	Ramon Perez	
Joan Juris	Christine Petry	
Ron Kelly	Ann Robertson	

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



SUPER SENIOR CLUB NEWS

Join us for our next meetings on **Wednesday December 11th.**
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

DECEMBER

ALL LIVING & DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE SPECK & PULIDO FAMILIES

For the repose of their souls, given by Joe & Josie Pulido.

VICTOR & ZENEIDA NAREA

For the repose of their souls, given by Vincent Narea.

ALL LIVING & DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE LECOMPTE, GLAUBKE, BYCZEK, & HIGGINS FAMILIES

given with Love.

PAT, DAN, KELLI & TONY

For the repose of their souls, 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 11/24: \$10,135.50
12/01: \$9,154.00

Split the Pot Winning Envelope #: 65481: \$400.00
60421: \$440.00

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

For the week of:

December 7th - December 15th



Saturday December 7th

04:00 PM | St. Rene Goupil | Presider: Fr. Bob
✠Larry Piotrowski (Jeanie)
✠John Murphy (Murphy Family)
✠Bob Compton (Wife Mary Ellen)
✠Ted & Helen Hermanowicz (Nancy & George Groszek)

Sunday December 8th

7:30 AM | St. Rene Goupil | Presider: Fr. Kevin
✠Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)
✠Joseph & Josephine Dyniakoski (Family)
67th Wedding Anniversary for Gene & Charlotte Gray (Charlotte Gasca)
9:00 AM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Bob
PRO POPULO
10:30 AM | St. Rene Goupil | Presider: Fr. Kevin
✠Mary Moore (Leahy Family)
✠Jeanette Prati (McNamara Family)
✠David Valles (Family)
✠Alexandria "Sandra" Pawlak (Tom & Julianna Wroblewski)
12:00 PM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Bob
✠LaVerne Slowinski (Daughters & Families)
26th Anniversary for Slawomir Michalek (Family)
Good Health & God's Blessings for Joanna Blaszyńska (Family)
✠Alexandria "Sandra" Pawlak (Joe & Sara Kurina)

Monday December 9th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa
✠Jean Lasick (Family)
✠John DeLauriea (Lorraine DeLauriea)

Tuesday December 10th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa
✠Steffini Ann Hommes (Teachers of St. Symphorosa)
✠Fe Battung (Rosario Battung)

Wednesday December 11th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa
✠Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)

Thursday December 12th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa
✠Joann Kukulka (Momma)
Heavenly Birthday Blessings for Dolores Grisko (Family)
7:00 PM | St. Rene Goupil
Victoria Guadalupe Guerrero – Happy Saint Day (Guerrero-Arteaga Family)

Friday December 13th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa
Peace for Daniel Sarlitto
Priest Vocations
✠Edward Cieslewski (Family)

Saturday December 14th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa
All Poor Souls in Purgatory
Health & God's Blessings for Denise Gilda (Family)
✠Susanna Schroeder (Marge Tulik)
✠Robert McLaughlin (Marge Tulik)
04:00 PM | St. Rene Goupil | Presider: Fr. Kevin
✠Ruth & Mico Toribio (Almendarez Family)
✠Donna Gorecki (Diane Biondo)
✠Geraldine Finlay (Eileen Quirke)
✠Tony Sandrick (Payne Family)
✠Edward Cieslewski (Family)

Sunday December 15th

7:30 AM | St. Rene Goupil | Presider: Fr. Bob
✠Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)
✠Joseph & Josephine Dyniakoski (Family)
Blessings & Good Health for Sylvia Grisius (Nancy Shotas)
Birthday & the Lord's Blessing for Jacqueline Lawless (Marge Tulik)
9:00 AM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Kevin
Health & the Lord's Blessings for Nick Estrada
✠Claude Wiatrak (Wife Clara)
✠Bill & Marie Pratt (Cheryl Pratt)
10:30 AM | St. Rene Goupil | Presider: Fr. Bob
PRO POPULO
12:00 PM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Kevin
✠Jeanette Prati (McNamara Family)
✠Joseph & Celeste Carone (Pat & Cathy Carone)
✠Alexandria "Sandra" Pawlak (Ramazinski)
✠Mr. Pat Heston (Hugh & Marian Ryan)



Presiders are subject to change without notice.

TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH | December 8, 2024

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



Holiday Riches Double Draw Raffle Tickets Only \$10 each and 3 for \$25...Bonus 15 for \$100

**One Chance can win both Drawings
Dec. 17th
and Jan. 14th**

Cash, Gift Card Baskets, Lottery Baskets, Special Experiences...more

THE BEST PART....

**Winners choose the prize they want from the remaining Drawing Prizes!!
Tickets may be purchased in the Parish Office or after Mass on
Dec. 7,8,14 and 15**


**Drawing # 1 is ALMOST HERE - Dec. 17th
6 Unbelievable Prizes**

- Dinner Out w/ Fr. Bob & Fr. Kevin
- \$1,000 Cash (in time for Christmas)
- \$500 Cash (Last Minute Shopping)
 - Large Gift Card Basket
 - Mega \$400 Lottery Basket
 - New HP Chromebook

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS




 The Faith Community of
 Two Holy Martyrs Parish
 invites you to join us as we celebrate the
**Feast Day of
 Our Lady of Guadalupe**
 on Thursday, December 12th.
 Celebration of the
 Mass of Roses
 will begin at 7pm
 at St. Rene Goupil church,
 located on
 64th Street and
 South New England Ave.
 Please join us after Mass for some
 food and refreshments



SUPPORT OUR TROOPS!!
Knights of Columbus
MILITARY BOX DRIVE 2024
 Packages will be mailed to soldiers deployed overseas
 containing:
 Toiletries (Soap, dental, bodywash, deodorant etc.)
 Playing cards, dice and small games
 Crossword, Soduko and Jumble books
 Snacks, gum and non-chocolate candy
 Most items available at Dollar or drug stores!
 Donations for postage accepted in
 Sunday collection or Parish Office
 (Checks to Knights of Columbus)
COLLECTION BOXES IN BOTH CHURCHES
NOV. 30th TILL DEC 15th - THANK YOU!!!

Two Holy Martyrs Parish
St. Rene Goupil Campus
6340 S. New England Ave






Super Bingo

Sunday December 8, 2024
Doors Open 11:30AM - Games Begin 1:00PM
Refreshments & Food are Available for Purchase
FREE COFFEE
Admission \$20 at the Door
For More Information Call 773-767-1523

Two Holy Martyrs Parish
ANNUAL GIVING TREE



Shop for the gift(s) requested on the ornaments, attached the ornaments to the wrapped gift, and return to either church the weekend of December 14th/15th.
 Some ornaments have a request for a gift card. Gift cards will be sold at all Masses the weekend of December 7th/8th or you can purchase them at the Parish Office during business hours.
 Each ornament has a gift request for those in need and the color ornament corresponds to a charitable organization:
YELLOW: Catholic Charities
GREEN: Southwest Chicago Homeless Services Center (PADS)
LILAC: Chicago Veterans Home
WHITE: Hines VA Hospital
PINK: Manteno Veterans' Home
BLUE: Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Reminder: Please shop for the gift requested on the ornament you've selected. Securely tape the ornament to your wrapped gift. **Return all gifts by Dec. 15th**

PARISH FAITH FORMATION



Upcoming Events:

- 12/07:** Faith Formation Saturday Class @ St. Syms Campus.
- 12/07:** First Reconciliation @ St. Syms.
- 12/15:** Fifth Grade Family Mass @ 9am.
- 12/17:** Faith Formation Tuesday Class @ St. Syms Campus.
- 12/21:** Faith Formation Saturday Class @ St. Syms Campus.
- 12/24:** Christmas Pageants.
- 12/25:** *MERRY CHRISTMAS!*



Faith Formation Program Emergency Closing Information

IMPORTANT REMINDER....
in the event of a heavy snowfall, or inclement weather you can access Emergency Closing information for our program by going to the: **Two Holy Martyrs Website** at twoholymartyrs.org (St. Symphorosa & St. Rene)
In the event of an emergency closing, this announcement would be the First Message to appear on the Website at the top of your screen.

First Reconciliation 2024

Manny Abarca
Evelyn Aguilar Leon
Esteban Alcantara
Nicolas Alcantara
Camila Arias
Emma Arias
Ryan Balcita Alvarez
Alex Banden
Aaliyah Barcenas
Bradley Berg
Ruben Buzo
Michael Byrnes
Santiago Carbajal Jaime
Sebastian Carbajal Jaime
Oscar Cardenas
Sophia Cardenas
Giovanni Castillo
Ella Rose Chiquito
Ixtlali Cornejo
Jacob Cornejo
Isabella Debias
Meli DeLaTorre
Soni DeLaTorre
Emma Delgado
Daniel Dominguez
Emanuel Dominguez
David Elizondo
Ruth Engelhardt
Serena Escobedo
Aubrey Espitia
Lorenzo Espitia
Brian Fandl
Collin Fandl
Pearl Fogle
Jonah Francisco

Ethan Gallegos
Julian Gallegos
Leilanny Gallegos
Gael Garcia
Kamila Garcia
Aldo Gonzalez
Eiza Gonzalez
Emma Gonzalez
Leah Rose Gonzalez
Marissa Gonzalez
Santiago Gonzalez
Jaelyn Guzman
Daniel Hernandez
Julian Hernandez
Valeria Hernandez
Benjamin Herrera
Harlie Ibarra
Dahlia Jones-Ferrell
Camryn Koos
Liam Ledezma
Alianna Leon
Princeton Lockhart
Benicio Lopez
Victoria Lopez
Zoey Lopez
Joaquin Mariano
Mateo Mariano
Justin Medina
Adrian Mena
Jocelyn Mena
Daniel Munoz
Eleanor Munoz
Moses Napoles
Amaya Nunez
Camila Nunez
Julian Nunez
Nery Ocegueda
Vanessa Ocegueda
Daniela Palafox
Diego Pedroza
Gwendolyn Phillips

Aiden Picazo
Elliana Pinedo
Anthony Rebecca
Bella Reyes
Liam Rivas
Julian Roldan
Mia Romo
Susie Salazar
Myabella Salgado
Felipe Sanchez
Julian Sanchez
Grace Taylor Schwandt
Alessandra Sierra
Brisa Solis
Atziri Solis
Elitza Solis
Sofia Tiscareno
Matthew Troncoso
Isla Valdivia
Anthony Valerio
Julian Valerio
Itzel Vega
Natalia Vega
Barbara Villafuerte
Alehi Villarreal
Alondra Villarreal
Emma Zacarias



PARISH SCHOOL NEWS

Seas the Day at St. Syms School

DISCOVER THE SPIRIT OF OUR SCHOOL WITH SANTA
Join us for a festive Open House filled with holiday cheer! Visit with Santa, snap photos, meet our incredible teachers, tour the school & enjoy cookies with your family. Experience the warmth, joy and community spirit that make St. Syms such a special place to learn and grow. We can't wait to welcome you!



Discover the Spirit of
St. Symphorosa School
with Santa

OPEN HOUSE
December 15, 2024
10:00am-1:00pm

Pictures with Santa
Visit the School, Meet the Teachers
Christmas Crafts, Christmas Cheer

St. Symphorosa School
6125 S. AUSTIN | Chicago | IL | 60638
773.585.6888



For more information or to schedule a tour, email marketing@stsymsschool.org
Stay connected with St. Symphorosa Catholic School!
Visit our website at www.stsymsschool.org and follow us on Facebook & Instagram
for the latest updates on school news, events and more!

FOLLOW US



Eucharistic Adoration

Come spend intimate time with Our Lord in Adoration of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament

Every Tuesday

Exposition

5:45pm

Confession

6-7:00pm

Benediction

6:45pm



at Two Holy Martyrs Parish - St. Symphorosa Church

Oplatki Christmas Wafers

Oplatki are available for purchase in the Parish Office or after all Masses in the narthex of our churches. Each package of oplatki contains 3 white wafers and 1 pink wafer.

A \$4.00 donation per package is requested. Limited quantity available



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 Chicago, IL 60638
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 Fax 773 735 9835
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Jeffrey Anderzunas, Owner/Director
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