FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

INTO THE DESERT.

LUKE 4:1





TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH

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

SUNDAY, MARCH 9, 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

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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 BULLETIN & GENERAL OFFICE ADMIN

SCHOOL STAFF

Kathy Berry SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Chris Garza
ASSISTANT SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

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

FORME

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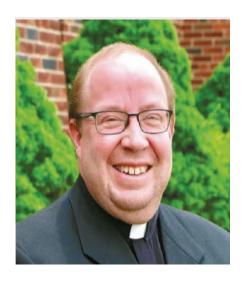
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Enter your name and email.

- Go to signup.formed.org.
- Type in our parish name.

The Cetholic Faith on demand.



An interesting word popped up on the scene sometime between the years 2018 and 2020. The word is doomscrolling. What is doomscrolling?

Doomscrolling describes the compulsive act of reading negative news online. Doomscrolling's counterpart is doomsurfing, which is overconsuming negative news via television or radio.

Whether we scroll or surf, the effects are spiritually, emotionally, socially, and psychologically concerning. An endless stream of how bad things are in the world chips away at the human spirit. We risk losing hope as we fall into despair. We begin to sound like Glum from Gulliver's Travels who use to say, "It's hopeless. We'll never make it. Never! We're done for."

Safe to say we wouldn't want Glum on our football team with the game on the line.

We've entered into the season of Lent. This is our penitential season. Lent is a time to get back to spiritual basics and regain perspective. Maybe we've grown a little slack in our prayer life. There's a chance we've excused ourselves from participating every week in Sunday

FR. BOB'S WEEKLY BLOG

Mass. We might even have grown a tad too selfish and impatient over the course of time.

During Lent, we're encouraged to pray, to fast, and to give alms.

Doing these Lenten practices gets us out of ourselves and more focused on God and others. We want to rediscover the importance of the spiritual life and be reminded that despair has no place in the life of an intentional disciple of Christ.

Although the Alleluia disappears for Lent, we keep the Alleluia alive in our hearts because we are people of hope, and our hope is not in the wounded ways of the world, but in the Person of Jesus, the Christ. We are invited to lean more faithfully on the Paschal Mystery, which is Christ's suffering, death, resurrection, and ascension.

A wonderful recommendation for us all during Lent is to read the four gospels of the New Testament. Which one you start with doesn't matter. Pick one. When you are done with one, start another until you've read them. Don't just read them to get it over with. Slow down. Read reflectively. Pray along the way. If you doze off, that's ok. It means you needed some rest. Pick back up where you left off. Time with scripture is time with the Lord.

Health experts recommend an annual physical exam. We agree. Once a year we should see our doctor, and our doctor should see us. We have blood drawn and await the results. Our body temperature is checked as is our blood pressure. Vitals matter.

Well, Lent is time for a spiritual

check-up. How are we doing? Are we spiritually healthy? Are we listening to the Divine Physician (Jesus) or have we allowed too many discouraging, despairing voices to drown out the voice of the Good Shepherd; he who knows us by name and summons us to follow him.

We should also consider taking a deep breath during Lent. A tendency during Lent is to add on more and more things to do; more things to get done. Lent becomes another "To Do" list on many "To Do" lists. Pause! Slow down! It's not about what we are doing but about what God is doing in us and through us, provided we let Him.

Pray. Reflect. Rest. Serve others in love. Participate faithfully in Holy Mass. Examine your conscience. Confess serious sin. Receive forgiveness. Live in grace. The fruit of all this is joy and peace of soul. We need not live in constant fear and fury. There's a better way; the Way of the Lord. Yes, there's a cross involved, but there's also the promise of resurrection. Thank God!

Quote -- "Lord, save us from gloomy saints." **-- St. Teresa of Avila**





After clearly stating our faith in God the Father and God the Son, as well as defining their relationship and work in the world, we arrive at God the Holy Spirit. As the third person of the Trinity, he is usually the most overlooked and the most misunderstood. We know that it is through his work that the world continues to be sanctified.

Similar to the council fathers fighting against attacks on the person and natures of Jesus Christ, the Son, they needed to counter attacks on the reality of the Holy Spirit. Their main antagonists were a group called the Pneumatomachians, which means "fighters against the spirit" in Greek. They believed the Holy Spirit was a created being, not divine, which again sounds much like the beliefs of the Arians that the Son was created and not equal to the Father.

Why was this so important to the council fathers? The Holy Spirit had been revealed multiple times in the scriptures as equal to the Father and the Son, and it had been part of the Church's teaching since the day of Pentecost. While the person of the Holy Spirit was not as under attack as the person of Christ, they still needed to provide an understanding of who the Holy Spirit is and what he does in and for the Church.

FR. KEVIN'S GREGORIAN RANTS

You may have heard various complicated terms for the Holy Spirit's relation to the Father and the Son, such as active and passive spiration, procession, and mutual indwelling. The terms themselves aren't as important as the reality the describe. The Father and the Son are perfectly united and a fruit of this union is the Holy Spirit, much like a child being the fruit of the union of man and woman. The Holy Spirit is the shared gift, both given and received, by the Father and Son.

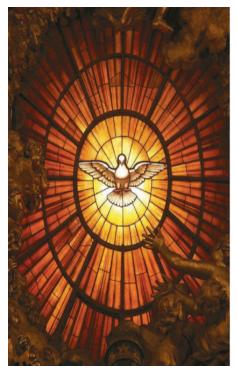
The visible mission of the Holy Spirit comes from this nature of shared gift is that of continual sanctification. This is way we symbolize the Holy Spirit by the dove, tongues of fire, breath, wind, and a cloud. This does not mean that the Father and the Son aren't also sanctifying, but their visible mission is something else. In fact, the visible mission of the Son in redeeming humanity culminates in mission of Spirit, which then returns us to the Father through the Son.

The relations and missions of the Trinity are revealed to us; we wouldn't be able to deduce them on our own. The missions show us the inner workings of the relations in the Trinity as best they can. These eternal relations break into salvation history as God acts in a Trinitarian manner. In their missions, the persons of the Trinity work through some created effect that make the relations present in a new way in the time and space created by God.

Salvation history thus brings about a new creation and gives the Christian life of grace a Trinitarian structure. The missions, in which one Trinitarian person is sent from another, mirror the real

relations within the Trinity, which communicates and reveals them. While God is truly omnipresent and does not change, in these missions he manifests himself in a new manner; the Son is sent and the Holy Spirit descends to make themselves known to man in history.

We call the Holy Spirit "the Lord" and "the giver of life". The title Lord is used to show his equal status with the other persons of the Trinity. As the giver of life both spiritual and physical, the Holy Spirit does many things for man. He is there to create the soul in a child at the moment of conception. He is there in the sacraments to bestow and restore divine life within men. He was there at the beginning of time, hovering over the waters to bring life and order out of chaos, breathing existence into Adam after he was formed from the clay. It's this same Spirit who continues to proclaim the Gospel in the world, bringing new life to those trapped by the snares of sin and death.





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

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



SUPER SENIOR CLUB NEWS

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: 03/02/25: \$11,520.00

Split the Pot Winning Envelope #: 63656: \$435.00

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.



Saturday March 8th

04:00 PM | St. Rene Goupil | Presider: Fr. Kevin

骨Charles & Conception Volanti (Family)

引im Kwak (Mary Trendle)

骨Josephine Nych (Cieslewski Family)

Sunday March 9th

7:30 AM | St. Rene Goupil | Presider: Fr. Kevin

骨Joseph & Josephine Dyniakoski (Family)

∜Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)

Heavenly Birthday Blessings for Tomas Saucedo

(Maria Gonzalez)

9:00 AM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Ziomek | Choir

⊕Sandomierski Family (Ela & Family)

骨Loretta Pozniak (Pozniak Family)

☆Mary Guilfoyle (Margaret Scanlon)

骨Frank Bailey (Rita Lane)

10:30 AM | St. Rene Goupil | Presider: Fr. Kevin

♣Lucille Salamendo (Terri & Dan Domarsky)

⊕Mercedes Valentin & All Deceased Family (Family)

骨Flora Sferrino (Karen Walsh)

12:00 PM | St. Symphorosa| Presider: Fr. Bob

PRO POPULO

Monday March 10th

08:00 AM | St. Rene Goupil

(Rosario Battung)

骨Herman & Verna (Rudar Family)

骨Bernadette Wodke (Larry & Sue)

Health & God's Blessings for Frances Osty on her 104th

Birthday (Judy Porcelli)

Tuesday March 11th

08:00 AM | St. Rene Goupil

Birthday Blessings for Domingo Battung the 3rd

(Rosario Battung)

☆Rosemary Labno (Family & Friends)

Health & God's Blessings for Frances Osty on her 104th

Birthday (Judy Porcelli)

Wednesday March 12th

08:00 AM | St. Rene Goupil

⊕Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)

∜William Bojarski (Barbara Rendak)

Birthday Blessings for Domingo Battung the 2nd

(Rosario Battung)

Health & God's Blessings for Frances Osty on her 104th

Birthday (Judy Porcelli)

For the week of:

March 8th - March 16th

Thursday March 13th

08:00 AM | St. Rene Goupil

⊕Judith Siwek (Family)

Health & God's Blessings for Frances Osty on her 104th

Birthday (Judy Porcelli)

Friday March 14th

08:00 AM | St. Rene Goupil

Peace for Daniel Sarlitto

Health & God's Blessings for Frances Osty on her 104th

Birthday (Judy Porcelli)

☆Bernadette Wodke (Parish)

Saturday March 15th

08:00 AM | St. Rene Goupil

Health & God's Blessings for Elmar Bongiorno

(Woulfe Family)

04:00 PM | St. Rene Goupil | Presider: Fr. Bob

PRO POPULO

Sunday March 16th

7:30 AM | St. Rene Goupil| Presider: Fr. Bob

♣Joseph & Josephine Dyniakoski (Family)

†Bud & Dolores Smagor (Pat Soltis)

骨Patrick Heston (O'Brien Family)

ᡥPatrick Kenney (O'Brien Family)

9:00 AM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Kevin

骨Claude Wiatrak (Wife Clara)

⊕Raymond Madej (Family)

⊕Kieram Normoyle (Monica & Family)

骨Carol Jacques (Arlene Scaletta)

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

骨Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)

All Living & Deceased Members of the Sutkowski Family

(Joseph Sutkowski)

Health & God's Blessing for Jerry Hughes

(St Vincent DePaul Family)

12:00 PM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Idzi

⊕Bernadette Wodke (Barbara Rendak)

Birthday Blessings for Gloria Valenzuela (Family)



Presiders are subject to change without notice.

TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH | March 9, 2025

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



at Two Holy Martyrs Parish - St. Symphorosa Church





<u>Part-Time Employment</u>

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

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



LENT 2025

THIS POCKET COIN IS A WAY TO HOLD ONTO YOUR FAITH DURING LENT. KEEP IT IN YOUR POCKET AND REACH FOR IT WHENEVER YOU NEED TO LEAN ON GOD'S GUIDANCE OR USE IT AS A PRAYER REMINDER SO YOU REMEMBER TO TAKE SOME TIME TO SPEAK WITH GOD ONCE A DAY.

"THE LORD IS GOOD TO THOSE WHOSE HOPE IS IN HIM, TO THE ONE WHO SEEKS HIM." —LAMENTATIONS 3:25



ONE COIN PER PERSON PLEASE COMPLMENTS OF THE THM TRANSFORMATION COMMITTEE





St. Rene Goupil Campus 6340 S. New England Ave. Chicago, IL 60638



Refreshments & Food are available for purchase FREE COFFEE

ADMISSION \$20 at the door

Sunday March 9th, 2025 doors open at 11:30am Games Begin at 1:00pm

Two Holy Martyrs Parish Lenten Fish Fry

DINE IN / CARRY OUT MARCH 7, 21 & APRIL 4 5PM-7PM THE SHARP CENTER SOCIAL HALL ON THE ST. SYMPHOROSA CAMPUS

Fish Specials

Fish Plate
(2 pieces of fish, fries, Cole slaw, bread)

Additional piece of fish \$3.0 Plate of fries \$2.0

Pierogi (4 per order)

94.0 94.0 94.0 sut 94.0

Additional Items

Homenade Potato Pancakes \$8.00
Cheese Quesadilla \$3.00
Homenade Potato Soup \$5.00
Kids Meal (quesadilla, chips, juice box & cockies on a frisbee)
Assorted Bakery \$2.00

Thirst Quenchers

Water
Coke
Diet Coke
Sprite
Juice Box
SCAN



Sponsored by the
THM Transformation Committee







PARISH FAITH FORMATION

Upcoming Events:

March 12 & 13: Confirmation

Practices, 6pm at St. Rene Church.

March 16:

CONFIRMATION DAY!

March 18: Faith Formation

Tuesday Class.

March 22: Faith Formation

Saturday Class.

March 23: Third Grade

Family Mass.



On Sunday, March 16th 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 12th at 6:00pm. And another practice will take place on Thursday,

March 13th 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.



The Third-Grade Family Mass will be held on, Sunday, March 23rd at 9:00am at St. Symphorosa Church.

Families are asked to bring non-perishable food items to be donated to our local food pantry. (a donation box will be available in the Narthex.)

We look forward to welcoming all our **Third Grade Families on March 23rd.**



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.

On Sunday, February 23rd about 65
Confirmation Candidates from our Faith formation Program gathered for their
Confirmation Day retreat. This special day was filled with activities that were prayerful, reflective, and at the same time fun! Thank you to the parents and families for helping to make this year's retreat an awesome experience by providing wonderful letters of support to the students. A Big Thank you to Ms. Lilia Izguerra, Ms. Sonja Darmstaedter, Ms. Diana Ramirez-Cortes and Ms. Paula Escamilla, our dedicated Catechists for volunteering their time and talents!



PARISH SCHOOL NEWS

Seas the Day at St. Symphorosa School

"HOW GOD IS PRESENT IN MY LIFE" ART & ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS

A student from each classroom was selected for their heartfelt reflections and creative expressions, showcasing the deep faith that fills our school. Their work is a beautiful testament to how God's presence is felt and lived every day at St. Syms School. Congratulations to all our winners! Your faith and creativity inspire us all.



Part Time Position, Flexible
Hours, Stipend Based
Email kberry@stsymsschool.org
for more information

ST. SYMPHOROSA SCHOOL
OPEN HOUSE
MARCH 25, 2025
6PM-8PM
FAMILY READING NIGHT
Save the Date!

An incredible opportunity for our Faith Formation families!



For more information or to schedule a tour, email marketing@stsymsschool.org Stay connected with St. Symphorosa Catholic School!

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