



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD



They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. - Mt 2:10-11

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

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January 5, 2025

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



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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

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9 AM—3 PM

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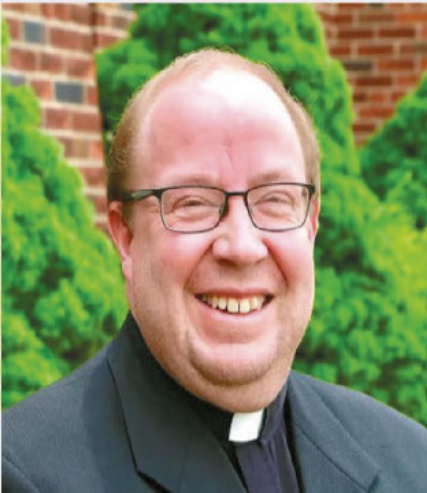
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FR. BOB'S WEEKLY BLOG

Over the course of the past ten years, leaders in the Archdiocese of Chicago have continually talked about renewal. Some of the renewal is structural -- pertaining to property, personnel, and buildings. However, the renewal is also, as it should be, spiritual.

In many gatherings, discussion turns to corporate sounding terminology such as mission statements and vision statements. During one session, a person offered a very blunt response when asked what a good mission statement would sound like. He said, "To be saints; that's our mission statement."

I wanted to cheer out loud when he said this. Sure, he was being a tad sarcastic, but he was doing so to make a point. Sometimes, amidst all the fancy language, we make things sound more complicated than they need to be.

Leon Bloy expressed it well when he wrote, "The only real sadness, the only real failure, the only great tragedy in life, is not to become a saint."

We keep all this in mind this Sunday as we celebrate the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. The word epiphany basically means "revealing." Pertaining to our faith, it means the manifestation of Christ to the gentiles by the Magi.

A light has shone in the darkness and

this light is the Light of Christ. The good news of salvation now extends beyond the people of Israel to all the world. A life of grace is made possible thanks to the Paschal Mystery of Christ; which is His suffering, death, resurrection and ascension. We can be partakers of divine life, thanks be to Jesus, the Christ; and this means sharing in eternal life.

When we allow ourselves to be guided in this life by the star of Love that transcends this world, it follows that we be saints. We're not talking about becoming an official canonized saint of the Church, but a saint; someone who lives in a state of sanctifying grace. This requires humility (God first), which is the opposite of pride (me first). Humility recognizes our dependence on God and our surrender to God's love and God's law.

Closer to home at Two Holy Martyrs Parish, the mission is the same: to be saints. We approach all this not as some form of personal accomplishment but as a desire to live a virtuous, holy life because we love Jesus. Are we still sinners? You betcha! But keep in mind the words of St. Josemaria Escriva who wrote, "A saint is a sinner who keeps trying."

We must keep trying. The worst thing we could possibly do in life is to give up on God; to give up the faith and backslide into sin, despair, and darkness. We do know this, God never, never, never gives up on us. Do we get discouraged at times? Yes. Do we doubt at times? Yes. Do we slip and sin? Yes. But we should never stop putting one foot in front of the other foot as we make our pilgrim way Home. When we fall, we get back up and ask for God's

forgiveness. If the sin is serious (mortal sin), we should make use of the sacrament of reconciliation. This is a sacrament of healing, and it restores sanctifying grace, which was lost because of serious sin.

If we need a New Year's resolution, allow it to be a renewed commitment to the faith; to Christ. The good Lord always meets us where we are at, but He loves us too much to leave us there. He desires to lead us closer and closer to His Sacred Heart; so much so that we begin to love as He loves. After all, Love is our destiny.

Sanctification (making holy) is the work of the Holy Spirit. Yes, the same Holy Spirit you received the day of your baptism; the same Holy Spirit that strengthened you for mission the day you were confirmed. Call upon the Spirit and make use of the gifts of the Holy Spirit as we recommit ourselves to being intentional disciples of our Lord, Jesus Christ. There are only two directions in life: toward God or away from God. Let's walk together TOWARD GOD!

Quote -- "The gate of heaven is very low; only the humble can enter it." -- **St. Elizabeth Ann Seton**





OUR SANCTUARY CANDLES

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

JANUARY

VINCE PORCELLI & MARIA PORCELLI
For the repose of their souls, given by Family.

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 | Ron Kelly | Ann Robertson |
| Guadalupe Almendarez | Sharon Labiak | Michael Roman |
| Marlene Annerino | Elena LeCompte | Adan Sanchez |
| Walter Annerino | Natalie LeCompte | William Serpico |
| Sharon Arends | Debbie Lipien | Katrina Sigafoose |
| Fr. Ted Bojczuk | Mary Liszka | Karen Singer |
| Glenn Boyle | Rosemary Litwin | Manuel Soto |
| Maxine Carey | Joelee MacMaster | Shirley Tloczek |
| Rita Cernick | 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 | |

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



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

JANUARY

MARY FERRITER
For the repose of her soul, given by Family.

RUSS GONSOWSKI, MILLIE & RICH NEWTOFF
For the repose of their souls, given by Family.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF MARISOL GUERRERO
given by Guerrero-Arteaga 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.



WEDDING BANNES:

January 4, 2025 - Jacqueline Janeteas & Richard Mossman



ONLINE/ELECTRONIC DONATIONS

\$16,453.00

October 1, 2024 to November 30, 2024

Total number of transactions:
515



Thank you for your generosity!

PARISH OFFERTORY 12/15: \$8,823.20
12/22: \$9,070.94

Split the Pot Winning Envelope #: 63590: \$519.00
63649: \$425.00

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

For the week of:

January 4th - January 12th



Saturday January 4th

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

Sunday January 5th

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

✠ Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)

✠ Joseph & Josephine Dyniakoski (Family)

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

✠ Bernard Murphy (Margaret Scanlon)

✠ Michael Lynch (Kolasinski Family)

✠ Jeanette Prati (McNamara Family)

All Members Living & Deceased of the Altar & Rosary Society
(Altar & Rosary Society)

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

✠ Joanne Bukowiecki (Dan & Patti)

✠ Ramon Perez on his 10th Anniversary (Family)

✠ Elisa Aranda (Almendarez Family)

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

Blessings for Patsy & Michael Geraghty (Normoyle Family)

Blessings for Maire & T.J. Talty & Family (Normoyle Family)

✠ Nancy Janda (Linda & Greg Kujawa)

Monday January 6th

08:00 AM | St. Rene Goupil

Priest Vocations

✠ Anita Maska (Rich, Marge & Richie)

Tuesday January 7th

08:00 AM | St. Rene Goupil

Birthday & the Lord's Blessings for Griffin Tulik (Marge Tulik)

✠ Remedios Ramirez & All Poor Souls in Purgatory

(Rosario Battung)

Wednesday January 8th

08:00 AM | St. Rene Goupil

✠ Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)

✠ Jeanette Prati (McNamara Family)

Thursday January 9th

08:00 AM | St. Rene Goupil

✠ Maria Staszal (Barbara Rendak)

Birthday Blessings for Celsa Alvarez (Rosario Battung)

Friday January 10th

08:00 AM | St. Rene Goupil

✠ Rosemary Polites (Mercado Family)

Peace for Daniel Sarlitto

Saturday January 11th

08:00 AM | St. Rene Goupil

✠ Michael Normoyle (Monica & Family)

✠ John Talty (Monica Normoyle & Family)

Lord's Blessing for Mary & Michael Connellan & Family
(Normoyle Family)

Lord's Blessings for Monica Normoyle & Family (Family)

Lord's Blessings for Frances Normoyle & Family (Family)

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

✠ Jeanette Prati (McNamara Family)

✠ Helen Beyer (Wes & Debbie Szumowski)

✠ Bob Compton & Kim Boll (Wife & Mother)

✠ Thomas Murray (Family)

✠ Judy Gregory (Kolasinski Family)

Sunday January 12th

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

PRO POPULO

9:00 AM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Bob | **Choir**

✠ Claude Wiatrak (Wife Clara)

✠ Helen Kut (Arlene Scaletta)

✠ Chuck & Mary Thiese (Children)

✠ Joanne Thiese (Sisters & Brother)

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

✠ Joseph & Josephine Dyniakoski (Family)

✠ Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)

✠ Joseph & Mary Negoski (Ben & Judy Shafer)

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

Lord's Blessings for Geraldine & Michael Cummins & Family
(Normoyle Family)

✠ Judy Volkman (Ron & Joan Kelly)



Presiders are subject to change without notice.

TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH | January 5, 2025

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Drawing # 2

Is almost here Jan. 14th

**Tickets will be sold
next week after all Masses
and a 7th Prize has been added!**

Home Mass

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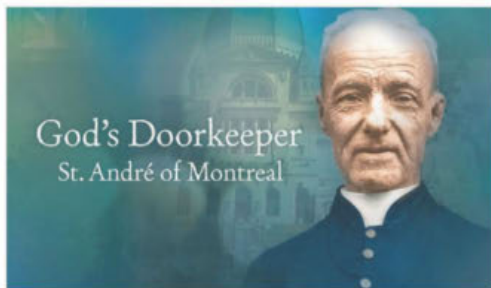
\$100 Lottery Basket

BONUS - 7TH Prize added

STILL TIME TO BUY MORE TICKETS!

THIS WEEK ON **FORMED**

Week of January 05, 2025



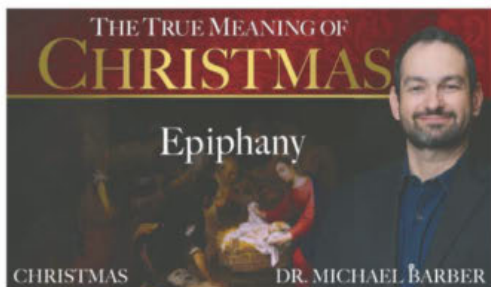
God's Doorkeeper

This week, we celebrate the memorial of a humble doorkeeper, St. André of Montreal. Learn how this man became a great saint through his small acts of love!



The Three Wise Men

Ms. Kim explains the Solemnity of the Epiphany and the importance of the wise men's gifts by teaching students how to draw the three magi. She challenges kids to do an act of kindness for someone, offering it as a gift to Jesus.



Epiphany

What is Epiphany? Join Dr. Michael Barber to find out.

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Visit [signup.formed.org](https://www.formed.org) and select our parish name.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



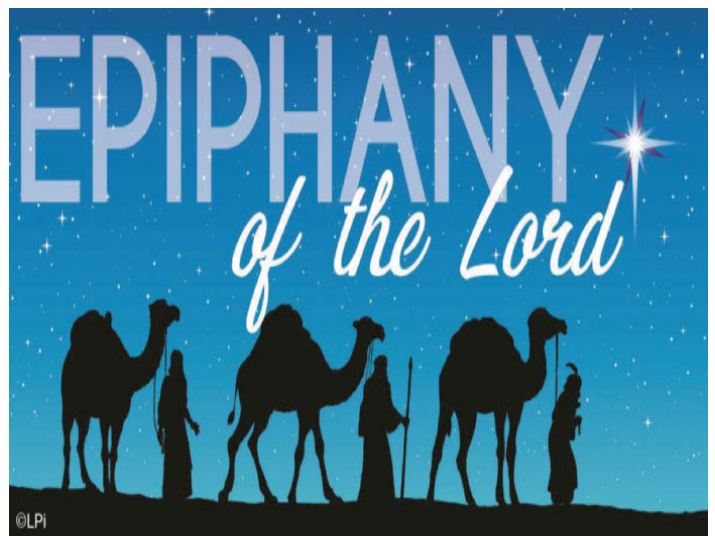
SUPER BINGO

Refreshments & food are available for purchase
FREE COFFEE

ADMISSION \$20 AT THE DOOR

SUNDAY JANUARY 19th, 2025
Doors Open at 11:30am
Games Begin at 1:00pm

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





We have Epiphany Kits available at the parish office. Suggested donation is \$5.00

"What was the favorite dessert of the king who brought gold?"



"Karat cake!"

FUN FACT!
The Magi brought gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh to Baby Jesus. We remember them on Epiphany!

Thank you to:
Angela Zubrzycki
David Burke
Lucas Gazdziak
Bryan Sierzega
Harvey Fogle
Giovanny Gomez
for the help at our St. Symohorosa Church...

PARISH FAITH FORMATION



Upcoming Events:

- 1/7:** Faith Formation
Tuesday Class
@ St. Syms Campus.
- 1/11:** Faith Formation
Saturday Class
@ St. Syms Campus.
- 1/18:** First Communion
Bread Meeting.
- 1/19:** Belonging Mass for First
Communion Students.
- 1/21:** Faith Formation
Tuesday Class
@ St. Syms Campus.
- 1/25:** Faith Formation
Saturday Class
@ St. Syms Campus.
&
First Communion
Bread Meeting.



BELONGING SERVICE

On Sunday, January 19, at both the 9:00am. Mass, and the 10:30am Mass, our Faith Formation Students and Second Graders from St. Symphorosa School preparing for Holy Communion will be received as candidates for First Eucharist.

The candidates are invited to bring a loaf of sandwich bread to Mass. The bread symbolizes Jesus, The Bread of Life. All the bread will be donated to our local food pantry.



On January 18 and January 25, our First Communion Candidates along with their parents are invited to a Special Communion Bread Meeting/Retreat. As part of this celebration, we will pray together, tell stories about our Holy Communion Masses from the past and partake in the sharing of bread with one another. Important information regarding the actual Communion Ceremony will be discussed. Parents are welcome to ask any questions they may have concerning this momentous occasion. In addition, at the very end of our retreat everyone will have the opportunity to view the film "Grandma's Bread". (The movie, "Grandma's Bread" deals with the very sensitive issue of the death of a grandparent. Therefore, if you decide you and your child need to skip this movie, you have that option.) We are looking forward to seeing all our First Communion families at the Bread Meeting Celebration! Thank You God for the Eucharist, and the joy it brings into our lives. Happy are we who have been called to the Lord's Table!

Christmas Pageant



PARISH SCHOOL NEWS

Seas the Day at St. Symphorosa School



ALL SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Christmas cheer filled the air at St. Syms! Each grade sang a song during our all-school Christmas concert, spreading the spirit of the season to everyone present. With families filling the church, it was a beautiful celebration of the school community, music and holiday joy.



Amazing Teachers



Mr. Provitt



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Kindergarten



2nd Grade



3rd Grade



4th Grade



5th Grade



3rd Grade



6th Grade



7th Grade



PreK



8th Grade



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Eucharistic Adoration



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

Every Tuesday

○ Exposition
5:45pm

○ Confession
6-7:00pm

○ Benediction
7:00pm



at Two Holy Martyrs Parish - St. Symphorosa Church



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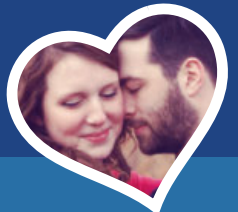
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