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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

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The Third Sunday of Advent is also known as Gaudete Sunday.

Gaudete is Latin for "Rejoice!" On this day, we light the rose candle of our Advent wreath as we anticipate the joy of our Christmas celebration.

During the season of Advent, we are mindful of the "three comings" of Christ. His first coming 2,000 years ago in human flesh, His coming to us today in and through His Church, and His Second Coming in power and glory at the end of time.

The spiritual danger for us is when we only look back in time and forget that the Lord is present to us today, especially in the seven sacraments of the Church; most intimately in the gift of the Eucharist, which is the Body and Blood of Jesus.

We also look forward during Advent to the promise of the Christ coming again in glory. This spiritual truth wakes us up and keeps us alert, lest we slip into spiritual forgetfulness. It's easy, at times, to live only for today or only for this world. As followers of Christ, however, we believe in a

FR. BOB'S WEEKLY BLOG

reality that transcends this life and a Love that transcends this world.

The manger of baby Jesus is connected to the cross of suffering and crucified Jesus. He came not to live but to die, so that we might have life in Him. This life is more than mere biological life. Jesus wants to share divine life with us. He wants us to have eternal life in and through Him.

We use these weeks of Advent to ponder a great mystery; the mystery of God, the mystery of the Incarnation, the mystery of love.

In our second reading this Sunday, St. Paul writes, "The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all."

So much of the anxiety we sense in our culture today comes from lack of trust in God's promise. The late Trappist monk Thomas Merton wrote, "Anxiety is a mark of spiritual insecurity."

Far too many folks don't know what to believe is true today. There is much confusion, and a lot of angst because plenty of folks simply do not believe the story of salvation to be true. People lose hope. We risk succumbing to despair.

Advent is a time to wake up; to wake up to the truth of God's love for us, and to live each day mindful of God. There should be no days off from loving God and loving neighbor. We live with joy-filled hearts even during tough times and sorrowful times because Love is stronger than

death. Jesus shows us this by way of his death and resurrection.

So, even when it might seem like all hell is breaking loose in this world, we still rejoice because Christ has overcome the world.

Maranatha Monday

Please consider joining us December 16 at 7 PM at our St. Symphorosa worship site for Maranatha Monday.

This will be an Advent evening of reflection in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

The evening will consist of adoration, scripture, reflections, and Advent hymns. The evening should last about one hour; maybe just over an hour.

Maranatha Monday is a great way to step out of the hustle and bustle of the secular holiday stress and into the presence of the One whose coming we celebrate at Christmas.

You don't need to bring anything except a receptive and prayerful heart. Peace!

Quote -- "Trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be." -- **St. Teresa of Avila**





The first aspect we claim about the one Lord Jesus Christ is that he is the only-begotten Son of God. The fathers of the Nicene Creed, as we've heard, were primarily concerned with clarifying the relationship of the Father and the Son in order to refute the heretical claims of Arius. Remember that it was Arius who believed that the Son was less than the Father, created by the Father as his most powerful creature, but still not divine. Arius also stated that since God is one, he cannot be divided and thus could not share divinity with the Son. Jesus, then, was the adopted Son of the

We know this to be false, considering all the instances that "the Son" is referenced in the Gospels. At the baptism of the Lord and again at the Transfiguration, God calls Jesus "My beloved Son". This of course doesn't mean that those who are adopted aren't sons or aren't beloved. So how was Jesus different?

Father.

The key scriptures here are in the Gospel of John. We read in John 1: "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only-begotten of the Father." Then, in John 3, we see, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten son, so that everyone who

FR. KEVIN'S GREGORIAN RANTS

believes in him might not perish, but might have eternal life."

This word, "only-begotten", was carefully selected by both John the Evangelist and the council fathers. It comes from the Greek term monogenes and implies that there is a total giving over on behalf of the one who begets. It is not the same as birthing or creating, though there is some relation to those terms.

Begetting implies that both the begetter and the begotten are of the same type and substance. One cannot beget something that is a different species.

In this sense, a human father begets a human son, but wouldn't beget a baby shark or a viral song. The former is impossible; the latter is, while good and catchy, a creation and thus lesser than the creator.

It may still sound like there was a time that the Son didn't exist when we use this language of begetting. After all, begetting can happen in time. It's important to note here who is doing the begetting – the Father, who is eternal because he is God. This eternal person begets a person who is the same substance but is distinct in existence. So, the Son is also eternal because he is divine. The begetting of the Son, then, is not a moment in history, nor a physical birth, but a process out of which the second person of the Trinity emanates from the Father.

An example the Church Fathers gave drew on the philosophy of the "Logos", which for the Greeks meant word, logic, and order of existence. They recognized that a word exists as a thought in the mind before it is given form. The thought is generated and exists prior to it being expressed

by words using the mouth. The words remain the thought of the thinker, but they have taken a different form when they are spoken. While no analogy is perfect, we can see how the Father can beget the Son without saying there was a time in which the Son did not exist.

If this seems confusing, you are not alone. When speaking of the relationship of the Father and Son, we are delving into the heart of the Trinity, which is the central mystery of our faith. No theologian, philosopher, or believer has ever been able to fully comprehend the nature of our Triune God. Rather, we seek to explain what we can and show that it is reasonable to believe in this revealed truth about God.

When it comes to the Father and the Son, one is not subordinate to the other. It's not a temporal, causal sequence, but rather a source and a sharing. The Son fully receives the divinity of the Father and possesses it as the gift it is. This allows him to share a part of that sonship with us as God's creatures.





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 Guadalupe Almendarez Flena LeCompte Marlene Annerino Natalie LeCompte Walter Annerino Debbie Lipien Sharon Arends Mary Liszka Fr. Ted Bojczuk Rosemary Litwin Glenn Boyle Joelee MacMaster Maxine Carey Rich Marcello John Clementi Cathy Mazeika Clarence Oleszkiewicz MaryEllen Compton Margaret Dalton Eleanor Pastorek Karen Holmes Ramon Perez Joan Juris Christine Petry Ron Kelly Ann Robertson

Adan Sanchez William Serpico Katrina Sigafoose Karen Singer Manuel Soto Shirley Tloczek Fr. Norm Trela Beverly Zummerling

Michael Roman

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

DECEMBER

ALL LIVING & DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE SPECK & PULIDO FAMILES

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 FAMILES

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 12/08: \$8,860.00

Split the Pot Winning Envelope #: 63071: \$415.00

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

For the week of:

December 7th - December 15th

Saturday December 14th

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

⊕Ruth & Mico Toribio (Almendarez Family)

骨Donna Gorecki (Diane Biondo)

⊕Tony Sandrick (Payne Family)

中Edward Cieslewski (Family)

Sunday December 15th

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

骨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

骨Claude Wiatrak (Wife Clara)

中Bill & Marie Pratt (Cheryl Pratt)

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

PRO POPULO

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

骨Jeanette Prati (McNamara Family)

♣Joseph & Celeste Carone (Pat & Cathy Carone)

令Alexandria "Sandra" Pawlak (Ramazinski)

骨Mr. Pat Heston (Hugh & Marian Ryan)

Monday December 16th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa

₱Michael Nowakowski (Parents Joe & Josie Pulido)

骨Eugene Uram (Barbara Rendak)

骨Mel Keiffer (Janina)

骨Janina Stygar (Janina)

Tuesday December 17th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa

骨Carol Wiatrak (Daughter-in-law Clara Wiatrak)

⊕Joann Kukulka (Momma)

☆Mary Rapacz (Peg Siebenaler)

Wednesday December 18th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa

Charles DeLauriea (Ron & Sharon Tallant)

骨Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)

Thursday December 19th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa

₱Angie Mateja (Ives Family)

Detective Allan Reddins (Arlene Scaletta)



Friday December 20th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa

⊕Anna & Joseph Kapanowski (Kathy Calcagno)

\$\Prices\$ Josephine Pelegrino & Family (Family)

Saturday December 21st

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa

9th Birthday Blessings for Joshua

骨Florence Scanlon (Garcia Family)

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

⊕Exiquio Almendarez & Antonia Martinez

(Almendarez Family)

令Victoria Lesker (Diane Biondo)

骨Frances Szumowski (Wes & Debbie Szumowski)

₱Jeanette Prati (McNamara Family)

Sunday December 22nd

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

骨Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)

骨Joseph & Josephine Dyniakoski (Family)

骨LeVerne & William Kenney (Kenney Family)

骨John Zientko (Casey Wisniowicz)

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

骨Virginia Rich (Barbara Rendak)

骨Honky & Sharon Falck (Art & Katie Carpenter)

All Deceased Members of the Sullivan & Alvarez Families (Family)

All Deceased Members of the O'Leary & Byrne Families (Mike & Bea)

10:30 AM | St. Rene Goupil | Presider: Fr. Kevin ☆Ronnie Giron (Giron Family)

☆Ann Mandarino (Leahy Family)

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

PRO POPULO



Presiders are subject to change without notice.

TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH | December 15, 2024

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



DRAWING # 1

Dec. 17th

But WAIT, There's more...

DRAWING # 2

Jan. 14th

Thousands of Dollars
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DON'T MISS OUT!



PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOLIDAY MASS TIMES



Two Holy Martyrs Parish
St. Symphorosa † St. Rene Goupil



December 24

4:00 PM @ St. Symphorosa Church 6:00 PM @ St. Rene Goupil Church 10:00 PM@ St. Symphorosa Church Midnight @ St. Rene Goupil Church

December 25

7:30 AM @ St. Rene Goupil Church 9:00 AM @ St. Symphorosa Church 10:30 AM@ St. Rene Goupil Church 12PM Noon@ St. Symphorosa Church

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

December 31 (Vigil Mass) 4:00 PM @ St. Symphorosa Church

January 1, 2025 9:00 AM @ St. Rene Goupil Church





ONLINE/ELECTRONIC DONATIONS

\$16,453.00

October 1, 2024 to November 30, 2024

Total number of transactions: **515**



PARISH FAITH FORMATION



Upcoming Events:

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!



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

On Christmas Eve at the 4:00pm Mass at St. Symphorosa and at the 6:00pm Mass at St. Rene we will present a Christmas Pageant for our community here at

Two Holy Martyrs Parish.

This performance gives our children the opportunity to celebrate Jesus' Birthday. As part of the celebration, we have the students re-enact the

Christmas Story......
(in a simple way)
Allowing them to experience
firsthand the true meaning of
Christmas.

Please email Miss Peg if you would like to participate. Thank You! msiebenaler@archchicago.org



JESUS IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

At Baptism, we are all given a lighted candle. This reminds us to live as followers of Jesus,

The Light of the World.

Our Faith Formation students are invited to construct their own lighthouses with their families.

Look for their beautiful creations which will be on display in the narthex at both our worship sites in December.

May these lighthouses serve as a reminder, for us to be

Shining Lights, In Today's World.





CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR SOLDIERS

In the true spirit of Advent and Christmas,
Two Holy Martyrs Parish will again be
remembering our U.S. Veterans and
Soldiers this holiday season. Please
participate in this out-reach project by
making cards for our Veterans at Hines
Hospital in Maywood and our Soldiers
stationed overseas, thanking them for
their sacrifice and service.

If you have a few moments, help us in this endeavor by spreading some Christmas Joy this holiday season. All cards can be turned-in at class or at our Main Parish office....by, Dec. 15th. Thank you for your efforts in making this holiday a little Brighter for our American Soldiers.

Any Questions? Contact Ms. Peg msiebenaler@archchicago.org



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.



The Fifth-Grade Family Mass will be held on, Sunday, December 15th 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 Fifth-Grade Families on December 15th.

PARISH SCHOOL NEWS



Seas the Day at St. Syms School is



Join us for a festive Open House filled with holiday cheer! 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!



Students had a wondeful time shopping for Christmas gifts for their loved ones at the Holiday Gift Shop that was set up at school. From happy shoppers picking out presents to the amazing parent volunteers wrapping them up, the holiday spirit is in full swing!





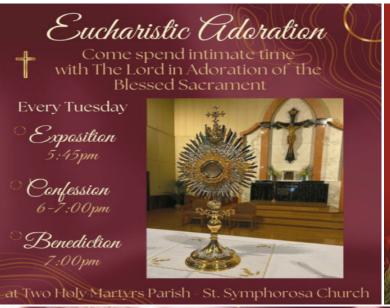




For more information or to schedule a tour, email marketing@stsymsschool.org Stay connected with St. Symphorosa Catholic School! Visit our website at www.stsymsschool.org and follow us on Facebook & Instagram for the latest updates on school news, events and more!







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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