

20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him. Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me."

- Jn 6:56-57

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

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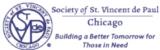
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Chris Garza
ASSISTANT SCHOOL PRINCIPAL



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!

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

info@twoholymart

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

PARKING AND SAFETY REMINDER

The safety of our parish community is important and must be taken into consideration at each gathering. Should serious medical or facility issues arise unexpectedly we must be prepared. We ask that you observe parking regulations on both campus locations, churches, loading zones, etc.

PLEASE REFRAIN FROM PARKING IN THE FIRE LANES



What do we mean by "world" when we discuss the spiritual life?

Biblically, it has two distinct meanings: the "world" may mean the earth or cosmos or creation as the theater of redemption, or the "world" may mean a "spirit" that organizes human beings, movements, social and political order without God. (Fulton Sheen)

Let's face it, something is not right. Something has gone wrong. Things are not as they should be. Even a self-professed atheist senses it and often cites the reality of evil in this world as evidence for his unbelief. He'll begin, "How could a loving God allow ...?"

And yet, where does the atheist's sense of good and evil come from? He is right in being disgusted by airplanes being turned into weapons to crash into buildings. He is right in being repulsed by children being sexually abused. He is right in his disdain for the everyday senseless violence in our streets or the corruption in governments and churches.

Far too many folks today either make fun of or openly discard the Judeo-Christian notion of The Fall and Original Sin. Because of this, far too many folks have no context for why things are as they are. The doubters and challengers get stuck on the specifics of the story (Adam and Eve, the Garden of Eden, the serpent) and miss the truth of what the story is trying to convey; things were created

FR. BOB'S WEEKLY BLOG

good, and something terrible happened. We lost grace.

And all of humanity has since been affected by Original Sin, the sin of our first parents. This stain of Original Sin fractured our relationship with the Creator (God). Sin, evil, and death are real, and we -- the human race -- are in need of a Savior.

Okay, Fr. Bob, thanks for the reminder, but why does this matter now?

Why? Because we are being torn apart. That's what the Greek word diabolos means; to tear apart. The goal of the diabolic is to tear us apart; to tear us away from God, and to tear us away from one another, to tear us away from our core identity. And without proper context, we end up playing blame games with our fellow human beings.

Whites blame blacks, and blacks blame whites. The Chinese are the problem. People from the "south" are the problem. The rich are the problem. The poor are the problem. North Koreans are the problem. South Koreans are the problem. Europe is the problem. People who vote for Democrats are the problem. People who vote for Republicans are the problem. Religious people are the problem. Non-religious people are the problem. Heck, Cubs fans are the problem. Wait, no, White Sox fans are the problem. Oh well, just blame Packer fans.

If only we could get rid of "them," the world would be a better place, all the while someone views you as a "them," to be gotten rid of. The Serpent cackles in perverse delight.

Do you get the picture? Original Sin has messed us up. If we don't accurately see the problem, then we

can't accurately see the solution. The problem is the reality, in this world, of sin, evil, and death, which are the fallout from Original Sin. This problem affects all of humanity. No exceptions. Every race. Every tongue.

So, what's the solution? Better yet, make that Who is the solution? This is a one-word answer – Christ.

His suffering, death, resurrection, and ascension (Paschal Mystery) is for ALL of the human race. Grace is now available to us in and through Him, and we NEED grace. The Lord now feeds us in many ways, but most intimately he feeds us His very own Body and Blood in the gift of the Eucharist. He feeds us because our souls need nourishment (grace).

Jesus says in today's gospel, "I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world."

He died for us. Will we live for Him?

Quote - "Sin is the second most powerful force in the universe, for it sent Jesus to the cross. Only one force is greater – the love of God." --**Billy Graham**





FR. KEVIN'S GREGORIAN RANTS

On the opposite end of the spectrum from music at Mass is silence. Often, the small moments of quiet we can get at Mass are among the few we get during the week. We may want to fill those silences with instrumental music or something else to distract us, but silence is an integral part of the liturgy. When the priest is silent, it is not accidental,

but an encouragement for all to

guiet our restless hearts and minds.

The missal even spells this out for us and differentiates between particular times for silence. It states, "Sacred silence, as part of the celebration, is to be observed at the designated times. Its nature, however, depends on the moment when it occurs in the different parts of the celebration." The silence during the Penitential Act allows us to recall the things we are sorry for. Following the priest's invitation, "Let us pray," we recollect ourselves and recall our intentions for this particular Mass. After the homily, we mediate on the readings and the priest's or deacon's words. After Communion, we praise God in our hearts and thank him for the great gift we have received in the Eucharist.

We can even enter into silence before or after the celebration of Mass. At THM, we try to keep the church quiet in order to facilitate this silent communion in preparation for liturgy. This is easier said than done of course, as children or other concerns can prevent us from remaining silent. It doesn't mean that the needs of our kids are to be looked down upon, but we just need to look for other ways to restore our interior calm.

As Christians, we find that God often speaks in the silence and quiet. Elijah encountered God in the small whispering sound and Jesus would retreat to a mountain to pray. However, silence can be confusing, distracting, empty, or frustrating as we are forced to face our thoughts head on without distraction. We want God to tell us what to do and when to do it.

God isn't withholding himself in the silence, and one of the best spiritual lessons we can learn is that just sitting and existing in the presence of the Lord is very good. God is real and when you are in relationship with him, it is a real relationship. In real relationships, sometimes it's pleasant and sometimes we want to run away. In many ways, God wants to show us that he is not just another voice; he doesn't just want to cut through the noise, but with his help eliminate it to be with him alone. Think of all the times Jesus silenced demons and evil spirits. It wasn't in competition with the devil, but in removing the noise altogether.

Silence keeps us close to the loving, providential presence of God and fits us to meet and respond to it without hesitation in total and loving generosity to God's will. It also exposes and points to our reliance on God. St. Augustine said that God sometimes delays in giving us what we want because he wants our hearts to expand. The more ardently we desire something, the more ready we are when it comes and the

more we treasure it. Through silence we become more deeply aware of the beauty, unity, goodness and truth all around us and within us. We are reminded of all the things of God that cannot be put into words.

The silence we experience on Sundays during Mass help us to foster times of engaging with silence throughout the week. Even though the Lord may seem silent, it doesn't mean he isn't involved. He's personally interested in the details and is actively working out every situation according to His good purposes. Remind yourself what you know to be eternally true about God: He is good, he loves me, he is with me, he knows what I'm going through, he cares, and he has a good plan for my life. We live in an increasingly noisy world that makes demands our attention. Silence is a gift through which God is reaching out to us, relating to us, and teaching us.





OUR SANCTUARY CANDLES

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

AUGUST

LYNDA SULLIVAN

For the repose of her soul, given by Family.

MARY & PETER SZLEMBARSKI, THERESA & MICHAEL GENOVESE

For the repose of their souls, given by Bas Rendak.

VINCE PORCELLI & MARIA PORCELLI

For the repose of their souls, given by Family.

RICHARD MERDA

For the repose of his soul, given by wife 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

Arnold Adaska Natalie LeCompte Katrina Sigafoose Karen Singer Guadalupe Almendarez Debbie Lipien Sharon Arends Manuel Soto Rosemary Litwin Fr. Ted Bojczuk Joelee MacMaster Shirley Tloczek John Clementi Rich Marcello Fr. Norm Trela Maxine Carey Judith Webber Cathy Mazeika Margaret Dalton Clarence Oleszkiewicz Beverly Zummerling

Karen Holmes Ramon Perez
Joan Juris Ann Robertson
Ron Kelly Michael Roman
Sharon Labiak Adan Sanchez
Elena LeCompte William Serpico

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



If we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. - Romans 14:8

Eternal Rest

Frank Slivka Maria Valdez Myra Urbanowicz





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

AUGUST

SPECIAL INTENTION

given by Arlene Scaletta.

ALL LIVING & DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE SOLTIS & KRZAN FAMILIES

given by Pat Soltis.

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



ONLINE/ELECTRONIC DONATIONS

\$8,053.00

July 1, 2024 to July 31, 2024

Total number of transactions: **244**



For the week of:

August 17th - August 25th

Saturday August 17th

O4:00 PM | St. Rene Goupil | Presider: Fr. Bob
All Living and Deceased Members of Bartusiak Family (Jeanie)

⊕Providenza Chiaramonte (Chiaramonte Family)
God's Blessings for Two Holy Martyrs SPRED Group
(Grateful Parishioner)
Health & God's Blessings for Rich & Diana Shatkus

Sunday August 18th

(Mary Trendle)

9:00 AM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Kevin & Lynda Sullivan 15 yr. Anniversary (Family) & Mary Ann Larson (Mary Ann & Tom Milice) & James Ellison (Wife Linda) & Vern & Tony Petraitis (Theresa Feddor)

12:00 PM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Kevin **PRO POPULO**

Monday August 19th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa
Birthday Blessings for Rich Willus (Mary Kolimas)

Tuesday August 20th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa
Birthday Blessings for Robert Mikulecky (Mary Kolimas)

Wednesday August 21st

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa

⊕Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)

Health & the Lord's Blessings for Ociel Perez

⊕Geri Norbut (Family)

⊕Maxine Johnson (Mary Trendle)





Thursday August 22nd

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa

⊕George Mitrofski (Barbara Rendak) God's blessings for Alejandro Giron (Mom & Dad)

Friday August 23rd

Saturday August 24th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa

⊕Walter & Rosemary Labno (Family & Friends)

⊕Joann Thiese (Marie Zilka) ⊕Jeanette Prati (Marie Zilka)

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

Sunday August 25th

9:00 AM | St. Symphorosa | Presider: Fr. Kevin ⊕Anna Marie Griffin (Marcello Family)

⊕David Feddor (Mom Theresa) ⊕Denise Bolman (Martha Mendoza) ⊕Russell Raydek (Ramazinski Family)

Birth Blessings for Marcelo Guadalupe Gutierrez (Frank Vajckus)



PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Saturday, October 5, 10AM - 4PM





An Invitation

Maybe you're someone who sang in a choir when you were in grade school or high school. You should consider joining the parish choir. Or maybe you're someone who sang on stage in the theater or a garage band. You'd probably love to sing in the choir. Or you might just be that person who's always among the first to sign up for karaoke or belting it out with the oldies station as you drive down Archer Avenue. Choir is waiting for you!

The parish choir rehearses Wednesdays at 6:30pm at St. Symphorosa and alternates singing for the 9am and 10:30am masses on Sundays beginning in mid-September until early June. We also serve on Christmas Eve & Day and during the Holy Week services.

New and returning members are asked to call or email by September 8 so that the correct number of choir binders and chairs can be prepared in time for the first rehearsal.

If you're interested in joining or have questions please contact David Boyle 773.767.1523 ext. 225 or email 2HMChoir@gmail.com



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Thursday, September 12, 2024

Bus leaves 6:30 AM Returning 5:30 PM \$ 100.00 per person

For Reservations: 708-458-0208

Reserve by August 30, 2024– Seating Limited Let's sail to new adventures!

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



ATTENTION MEN OF TWO HOLY MARTYRS IT'S TIME TO JOIN THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS!

WE ARE A CATHOLIC MEN'S ORGANIZATION THAT BENEFITS:

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- YOUR CHURCH AND SCHOOL
- LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES

OUR GROUP MEETS THE FIRST TUESDAY NIGHT OF EACH MONTH - USUALLY DOING SOMETHING WORTHWHILE. WE'VE BEEN KNOWN TO GO OUT FOR "REFRESHMENTS" POST MEETING.

CHECK US OUT....

CONTACT: JERRY 773.485.0146

DARRIN 773.418.3060



Thank you for your generosity!

PARISH OFFERTORY 08/11: \$8,355.94

Split the Pot Winning Envelope #: 60532: \$365.00

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

click on the **DONATE** tab, it will direct you to make your donation.

Thank you.



WEDDING BANNS:

August 31, 2024 - Marcy Garcia & Adrian Alonso (II) September 6, 2024 - Katie Serrano & Esteban Perez (I)









Join Cub Scout Pack 4439 of Two Holy Martyrs!

All boys and girls entering kindergarten through 5th grade and their families are welcome! Join us this fall.

When: Parent meeting on Thursday, August 29 @ 6:30 p.m.

Weekly Scout meetings on Thursdays, starting

September 5 @ 6:45 p.m.

Where: St. Symphorosa Parish Sharp Center

5940 W 62nd Street Two Holy Martyrs Parish

Why: Through the Cub Scouts your child will engage in fun, hands-on activities that promote character

fun, hands-on activities that promote character development, service, and leadership through

outdoor activities, STEM, and more!

Questions: For more information contact us at: cubscoutpack4439@gmail.com You can learn more about what Cub Scouts has to offer at:

https://pathwaytoadventure.org/programs/cub-scouts/









Come spend some intimate time with the Lord

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Every Tuesday at
5:45 PM - 6:45 PM
Where:
St. Symphorosa Worship Site

PARISH FAITH FORMATION



CLASSES BEGIN SOON!

There's still time to register for the 2024-2025
Faith Formation Classes.

We are now in the process of organizing classes and recruiting catechists, so it is important for you to send in your registration as soon as possible.

Registration materials are available on our website. You may also stop into the Parish Office to register. Both new and returning families need to register for next year.

For 2024-25, we will continue to offer Faith Formation Classes for grades 1 – 8 every other Tuesday evening, from 6:00pm – 7:30pm

and every other Saturday, from 9am until 10:30am.

Classes begin after Labor Day.

Please call Peggy, in the Parish Office with any questions at 773-767-1523 ext. 226.

For your convenience a Faith Formation Table will be on site in the **Narthex on:**

Sunday, August 25th at St. Symphorosa Church, from 10am until 1pm.

A representative will be present to answer any questions you may have about our program and registration forms will be available.



PREPARING FOR CONFIRMATION

Our Confirmation students, along with their parents, will soon participate in a Commitment Service, in preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation.

During the upcoming year these students will seek service opportunities to help them grow in discipleship as they serve those in need.

We invite you to please remember them in your prayers during this time of preparation. The dates for our Commitment Services are: Aug. 21st, Sept. 23rd, and Sept. 30th.

A Commitment Service is a requirement for Confirmation.



Pictured Below..... Our Summer-time students

Preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation

enjoying craft-time and outside prayer at the statue of our Blessed Lady.







PARISH SCHOOL NEWS

We are excited to welcome 27 new families to the St. Symphorosa School community. Teachers & staff personally visited each home to extend a warm greeting.







For more information or to schedule a tour, email marketing@stsymsschool.org
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