

LENT 2025

AS FOR ME AND MY HOUSE, WE WILL SERVE THE LORD

JOSHUA 24:15

PASTORAL LETTER

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Pastoral Letter to the People of Two Holy Martyrs Parish and Beyond

Lent 2025

Introduction

The local parish is vital to the life of the Church. The parish is primarily the tangible place of encounter with Christ and the people of God. It is in our local parishes throughout the world that disciples and seekers "Come and see," as the Risen Lord summons us always into deeper relationship.

The Church is the sacrament of salvation given to us by Christ Himself and we are called to holiness. The good Lord provides us with everything we need to be sanctified and to live in a state of grace. This includes: The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, Sacred Scripture, the seven sacraments (especially the Eucharist and Reconciliation), prayer, devotions, and the corporal/spiritual works of mercy. God provides. We must receive and share.

This all flows from the good news of salvation, and this good news is a Person; the Person of Jesus, the Christ, thanks to his suffering, death, resurrection and ascension (the Paschal Mystery). Christ is the reason for our hope. Jesus is the "why" of our love and the source of our faith, and our journey of faith begins in the blessed waters of baptism, which usually takes place in the font of the local parish as part of a diocese as part of the universal Church. It's all connected. No parish is an island unto itself.

Please receive this pastoral letter in good faith and with a heart centered on Christ. The Great Commission of the Lord continues today throughout the world and on the southwest side of Chicago. This Great Commission calls us to go out to the world, to make disciples, to baptize, and to teach. In all this, we trust the Lord is with us (in and through his Church) until the end of time.

Two Holy Martyrs Parish is a spiritual home. This is where we worship, where we pray, where we celebrate, where we mourn, where we learn, and where we serve. A parish is special in the lives of the faithful and we are grateful to all the men and women through the decades who have brought us to where we are today as a parish.

This pastoral letter is our encouragement and inspiration to not only look back at parish history but to confidently and faithfully look forward to the next 5, 10, 20, 50, and 100 years of this parish. We must look and plan beyond our own respective lifetime so that we can respond now to the spiritual needs of our children's children and their children. Our sacrifice for the parish is but a mere shadow of Christ's sacrifice on the cross for us. He died so that we might have life in him; life in abundance. So, with all this in mind, where do we go from here?

The Importance of Vision

An older translation of Proverbs 29:18 reads, "Where there is no vision, the people perish." It's true. When people begin to tread water with no sense of destination, we risk losing our energy and our hope. We stagnate. We get bored. However, when we realize our destination, our goal, our end game, we are encouraged and inspired each day to do what is necessary.

Friends, our destination, ideally, is the Beatific Vision. This is the fancy theological name for Heaven. If this doesn't excite us and inspire us, what will? This "vision" is the deep longing of our hearts. It's why nothing in this world ultimately satisfies us; no amount of money, no amount of pleasure, no amount of power, no amount of honor/fame. We were made for more. We have a God-shaped hole in our hearts that only God can fill.

Keeping the Beatific Vision in mind helps us stay focused in the present and compels us to do our part in cooperating with God's grace to manifest the kingdom of heaven on earth. We, as Christians, do not check out and wait for a magic spaceship to arrive to lift us away from earth. Just the opposite, our faith makes us present in love to the needs of today. The love of Christ compels us to serve God and serve neighbor. The two commands belong together.

The "Big Picture" of eternal life gives meaning and purpose to what we do in parish life. Everything in parish life flows from the core purpose of salvation of souls and sanctification of the people. A parish risks becoming a private club or "do-gooder" organization when we forget the core mission, which is to make disciples.

What is a parish? The parish is the community of the faithful, whose pastoral care is entrusted to a pastor as its proper pastor under the authority of the diocesan bishop. A parish is more than just a place we "go to Mass." A parish is our community. And yes, Sunday Mass is the pinnacle of parish life. Everything we do in the Church flows from and returns to the gift that is the Eucharist. Reverent and joyful celebration of Holy Mass is a priority.

The parish is also the place we visibly and tangibly receive God's grace; primarily in and through the seven sacraments of the Catholic Church, which are baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick, Matrimony and Holy Orders. A sacrament is a visible sign that communicates God's invisible grace. Sacraments are not magic, but they are mystery, and they are our supernatural life source.

Peter Kreeft, college professor and Catholic convert, wrote, "Sacraments are like hoses. They are the channels of the living water of God's grace. Our faith is like opening the faucet. We can open it a lot, a little, or not at all."

At Two Holy Martyrs Parish, we want the faucet opened a lot. We need grace. God gives it. We need it and must receive it. In this way, we will grow closer to God and closer to one another as brothers and sisters in Christ. We then become a place where sincere seekers of God can find what they are looking – a family of faith.

Two Holy Martyrs Parish Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow

There's a question asked in the Alan Parson's Project song *Games People Play* that is also the question we need to ask as a parish today. Where do we go from here?

Please allow a quick review of history as we prepare to meet the needs of today while we also plan for tomorrow. Five years ago, on July 1, 2020, two formerly separate parishes (St. Symphorosa Parish and St. Rene Goupil Parish) were canonically suppressed and a new parish formed (Two Holy Martyrs Parish).

For one year prior, parish leaders and respective discernment teams met on a regular basis to look at the spiritual and economic realities of both former parishes. Upon completion of the discernment phase, the group presented a recommendation to the Archbishop of Chicago along with his advisement team. The discernment group recommended we become one new parish while keeping two campuses open (two church buildings).

The archbishop accepted this recommendation with one proviso – that we continue to evaluate the parish and make decisions that make sense both spiritually and economically. There was nothing in the original decision by the archbishop that said one of the two campuses had to close by a certain date.

So, after five years, we are still one parish with two campuses (two church buildings). We regularly use both campuses. We can go forward any number of ways, but so much of what we do to move forward has to be supported (faithfully and fiscally) by the people of the parish. A specific parish in a specific place needs the economic support of her people. This is part of the healthy relationship that needs to exist in parish life. It's a mutual relationship as the parish provides for the people and the people provide for the parish. The parish has a responsibility to her people and the people have a responsibility to the parish. When this is a reality, a parish sees growth and vibrancy.

We should guard against our buildings becoming more important than our people. We want to begin regularly asking the question, "Where do we go from here?" This then begs the question, "Looking at everything we have in terms of land and buildings, what do we need (or not need) in our physical make-up that makes the most sense spiritually and economically to support the mission of Two Holy Martyrs Parish in 2025 and beyond?

We need to be open and honest as we ponder these important questions. What makes sense going forward? Can we financially support it? Will we spiritually support it? What do we need to do today and in the next few years that will help prepare the way for the next 25, 50, 75. 100 years? This approach helps us see beyond our own lifetime, just as this long-term approach inspired the men and women who originally founded both St. Symphorosa Parish and St. Rene Goupil Parish. We are grateful for their blood, sweat, and tears as they paved the way to today.

Love for Christ Leads the Way

No one I knew in the seminary ever sat around and talked about how they couldn't wait to get to a parish and share their love of boiler rooms, church roofs, and sewage pipes. Not a single one. We talked about our vocations and how the Lord calls us to share the good news of salvation with people who are hungry for more than the world is offering them in the endless cycle of production and consumption; buy and sell. People thirst for more than artificial light, and we desire to share with them the Light of the world.

And yet, boiler rooms, church roofs, and sewage pipes are a reality when it comes to the physical plant of a parish. Just like a homeowner has house responsibilities but it is his or her love for family that is most important. The house serves the purpose of the family, not the other way around. Woe to a parent whose love for the house is greater than love for their children. Woe to the people of God when our buildings become more important than our love for one another.

May we not lose perspective along the way Home. There is nothing more important in our life than relationship with Christ; our closeness to the One who is the Way, and the Truth, and the Life. But think of all the ways we lose perspective and think of the many distractions that can easily pull us away from the unum necessarium; the one necessary thing – Christ.

We live in the most affluent and comfortable culture in all of human history. Our technological advances have helped make life more efficient and more comfortable, and yet studies show the increase in depression, anxiety, despair and suicides. People are angry and hostile to one another, often for no good reason other than inconvenience. Addiction runs rampant.

As we grow more comfortable and secure, we begin to think we do not need God and the things of God; until our comfort and security are threatened. Perhaps there is a direct correlation between the decline in formal worship of God and the increase in the aforementioned maladies. Faith in Jesus eases our anxiety, our fear. A common phrase throughout sacred scripture is "Do not be afraid." Even Jesus spoke these words, and he speaks these words to us today. Do not be afraid. Trust in the Lord, even when the wind and the waves of our tumultuous world seem like they are going to sink the boat that is the Church on earth.

Jesus told Peter, "You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it."

Pay no mind to the denizens of despair who offer nothing but more fear and scare; the sky is always falling, it seems. Remember that this world is not heaven, and yet we have heaven-sized expectations placed in our hearts by our Creator who longs to share with us divine life, and this sharing of divine life begins in this life. This is good news. May we never see Jesus as bad news or as some kind of burden.

Everything God gives is meant as a blessing; and this includes our parish. We are blessed to worship together and to serve together until the day the good Lord calls us Home, and that day will come. The most important name on that day will be ... Jesus, our Savior.

The Fiscal Side of Parish Life

As a young boy, I remember when our new pastor at St. Leonard in Berwyn would regularly talk about the need for people to give more in the weekly collection. My dear mom didn't care for it, and young children listen to what their parents say. I know I did. Imagine my mom's reaction when the pastor decided the church needed a new mosaic on the wall behind the tabernacle. My parents were paycheck to paycheck people, so the money stuff didn't always land too well on them. The new pastor was a complete contrast to the beloved pastor emeritus who would visibly struggle when he needed to ask the parishioners for money. Such is parish life.

Why share that story? Because I was greatly affected by my parents' take on the fiscal reality of parish life, and I lean more toward the struggle of that pastor emeritus when it comes to dealing with the financial stewardship side of parish life. That being said, I have a responsibility as the pastor of Two Holy Martyrs Parish to make sure we are taking in more than we are putting out. That's economics 101. We must, as a parish, regularly look at our spending, but there is a time and a place for us to look at our giving.

Because of my dear parents, I know some of our people are paycheck to paycheck. There are also those among us who are more well-off and are able to donate quite generously. Then there are those somewhere in the middle. Regardless of which level you might be, thank you for what you are able to contribute to the parish. You know your budget better than anyone else.

Like other areas of life, parish giving tends to follow the 80-20 rule; 20 percent of the people give 80 percent of the money. A good goal for us as a parish is to see some contributions from parishioners who currently give nothing, and for those who are currently giving on a weekly/monthly basis, to please take a look and see if that amount can increase.

You know from your own household that the cost of almost everything is up. It's the same for the parish. We hope the economy improves, no doubt. At the parish, we have seen our utilities spike across the board. We also try to give our employees a little bump each year. If you've been giving the same amount for the past 10 years, please consider an increase, as best you are able.

We should not see our parish donations as a charge or expense, but as an investment in the life of the parish and the Church at large. Some folks use the word tithing. We use the word stewardship. Part of stewardship is financial; the support of the parish. We also give to our parish in other ways, which include sharing our talent and our time.

Allow me to also thank those who regularly contribute to the various fundraisers and raffles that happen throughout the year. These extra sources of revenue matter in the great scheme of the annual budget. The parish is not exempt from fiscal reality; just as your place of employment is not exempt from fiscal reality. We must bring in more than we put out. If we can't, then that's when tougher decisions are made. And yes, I mirror the pained look of dear Monsignor John Farrell as he tried to be a man of God while also asking his people to contribute more to the parish. Does the good Lord provide? Oh, indeed. But we are invited to play our part.

Where Do We Go From Here?

The first answer to this question (Where do we go from here?) is the title of this pastoral letter. "As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." (Joshua 24: 15). That is our response to a world forcing us to choose the Lord or some earthly idol. This household, this parish, Two Holy Martyrs Parish, will serve the Lord. This is our spiritual home where we worship God (love God) and serve one another (love neighbor).

American folk singer Bob Dylan expressed this same choice when he wrote and sang the song, "Gotta Serve Somebody." Here's the refrain: "But you're gonna have to serve somebody. Yes, indeed, you're gonna have to serve somebody. Well, it may be the Devil or it may be the Lord, but you're gonna have to serve somebody."

Our life is full of choices. Every day, from the time we wake up until we fall asleep at night, we are making choices. This pastoral letter encourages us and inspires us to serve the Lord. We do so as active members of this parish; a parish we support with our time, treasure and talent. We agree to come together every Sunday as a community to celebrate the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, where we are sanctified and then sent back into the world on mission (serve the Lord).

The second answer to the question (Where do we go from here?) is truly dependent on the pastor, parish staff, parish leadership and the parishioners working together and supporting the parish and the Church. If our dreams exceed our budget, then we must deal with reality. However, if we do what needs to be done, and we have the support of the people, we can move this parish forward and sustain this parish well into 2050 and beyond. It might need to look a little different in terms of buildings and property, but the parish will be serving the same purpose – the salvation of souls and the sanctification of the people.

Paulo Coelho, author of The Alchemist, wrote, "Change, but start slowly because direction is more important than speed."

This is wisdom, and we heed this advice at Two Holy Martyrs Parish. We don't want change for the sake of change. We want change that makes sense in the great scheme of things. During the past five years, we've avoided making any abrupt changes just to make a change. We wanted to make sure our daily and Sunday Masses are reverent and joyful. Holy Mass and our two church buildings are a priority. We also attend to baptisms, anointings of the sick, confession, funerals, weddings, quinceaneras, and faith formation. This is the parish's responsibility to the people of God.

We've also invested a lot in upgrades to both our parish campuses; much of which is behind the scenes and less-than-glamorous but necessary. As of today, our parish moves forward with two campuses both having a respective church building. Between the two campuses, we have a total of 10 buildings that are in use and must be maintained. In addition to the two churches, we have three school buildings, a social hall building with gymnasium, two rectories, and some garages. Do we need all this? What do we need to repair or replace? What do we need? What do we not need? These are the key questions in the coming years so that the parish is more mission focused

and not saddled financially by excessive and expensive maintenance costs that drain resources. We want to be good stewards of our resources, and sometimes we need to make a tough short-term decision that makes more sense for the long-term good of the parish.

Not everything, however, is based on economics. If that was the case, the decision five years ago would have been to close one of the campuses outright. We didn't do that although that might have made sense economically. We must also make pastorally sensitive decisions.

Consider this, as a current parishioner, if we totally closed one of our two campuses, and it was the campus you prefer stay open, what would be your reaction? Some folks have shared with me they would be angry and likely would not continue with the parish. Others have shared that they would understand the decision (even if they don't like it) and would adjust as needed. Others see that it would make sense economically but might not be the right pastoral decision at this time.

This helps us see more clearly the reality of our current parish structure and the need for wise decisions formed by honest, caring discussion and prayer. We need to be attuned to the workings of the Holy Spirit, and the stirrings of the Spirit take place in each one of our hearts.

As we face the challenges of today, we do so with hearts and minds set on the Beatific Vision; on Heaven. This Big Picture approach helps keep things in perspective in the here and now; especially in our parish, but also in a culture that is distracted and confused. We have good news to share; good news of salvation. Love is stronger than death, and the good Lord brings us through the cross into eternal life. Placing our trust in the Lord helps make our daily crosses more bearable.

As the current pastor of Two Holy Martyrs Parish, I thank you for choosing to make this your spiritual home. You have options. Help us move this parish forward with faith, hope, and love. Embrace the sacrifices needed in the months and years ahead. Celebrate the joys together and endure the sorrows that are part of life as we make our pilgrim way Home.

Please know you and your loved ones are in my prayers. Fr. Kevin, Fr. Norm and I ask for your prayers. A good pastor realizes he is entrusted with the souls of the people. I am an imperfect man doing my best to represent Christ and his Church, and to help people encounter the risen Lord. I often fall short, but the Lord is in charge. He knows the truth. He knows the deal. He knows our hearts. He is the "good news." It is He we seek; He we long for.

Forward, together forward. We will serve the Lord.

Yours in Christ

Fr. Bob Regan

The School as a Ministry of the Parish

There are few things more important in a family than raising, educating, and forming children. Parents play the primary role in this area, but our grade schools, high schools, and colleges also play their respective part.

An important ministry of Two Holy Martyrs Parish is our parish grade school (St. Symphorosa School). It is within the walls of our school building that our dedicated educators teach our children the academic basics but also help form the hearts of our young ones. Education is not just about what we learn. It's also about who we are becoming as human beings made in the image and likeness of God.

We encourage our school families to be registered and active members of Two Holy Martyrs Parish (This includes being together for our Sunday celebration of Holy Mass). We encourage our parishioners to pray for our school families, to serve as vocal ambassadors of the school in our community and surrounds, and to support the overall mission of Catholic education.

Our parish school leadership has made Catholic identity important. We are not simply a private school that offers solid academics. Faith and formation are part of the curriculum. God is important. A relationship with Christ is introduced and nurtured during a child's time in our school. We want our children to become good students, but we also want them to be good people.

For our St. Symphorosa School to continue its mission of education and formation, we need families choosing our parish school. This is a sacrifice for many folks because of tuition. People ponder sending their children to a public school because it is "free." Well, it's not free. Our public schools receive generous amounts of tax revenue from all taxpayers even if they do not have children in school. Educating children is an investment.

Our parish school operates on tuition, fundraising, grants, and donations. This is a challenge every year but a challenge worth facing because we believe a Catholic education makes a difference in the life of a child. We lay a very important foundation in a child's life. Neil Postman wrote, "Children are the living messages we send to a time we will not see."

The parish and the school – as we are today -- should not be seen as separate entities that have nothing to do with one another. The mission of the school flows from the mission of the parish, which flows from the mission of the universal Church, and that mission is to make disciples. There can be no division in the Body of Christ when it comes to being disciples of Jesus. His love unites us as we make our pilgrim way Home.

When all eyes are fixed on Christ, amazing things can happen. This is true in our parish and in our school. We move forward as a parish and school with our hearts united to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Our ultimate destination is more than diplomas, good grades, a career and retirement. Our destination is heaven, and Jesus makes this possible, thanks be to God.

Frequently Asked Questions

- Q Why is the parish school called St. Symphorosa School?
- A Consistency and stability. Although the school is a ministry of the parish, we decided, at this time, not to change the name of the school to match the new parish name. St. Rene school was permanently closed in 2015. Alumni from both St. Symphorosa School and St. Rene Goupil School should consider themselves alums of our parish schools. This is part of our history.
- Q Why is the new parish name not St. Symphorosa & St. Rene Parish?
- A For the sake of unity in Christ, we chose a new name that would honor the history of the respective former parishes while also keeping the saint names alive under the unifying umbrella of Two Holy Martyrs Parish. Both St. Symphorosa & Her Seven Sons and St. Rene Goupil & the North American Martyrs are, indeed, martyrs. We could have gone with a totally new name (St. Benezet, Blessed Fulton Sheen, St. Gemma, etc.). Also, if we chose to just combine the names (St. Symphorosa and St. Rene Goupil) it would have been an invitation for people to remain in the silos of the former parish and not embrace the need for unification.
- Q Why did we cancel the annual parish Family Fest?
- A To be more precise, we actually suspended Family Fest. It is not necessarily cancelled forever, despite what a local newspaper published. Parish leadership identified 9 to 10 valid reasons we needed to take a break from Family Fest. If conditions change soon, there is no reason we can't re-ignite Family Fest. We will also need new parish leaders to step up and agree to "run" Family Fest.
- Q Why is there not a Saturday vigil Mass at our St. Symphorosa church?
- A The unified parish currently offers a 4 PM Saturday vigil Mass on our St. Rene campus. We originally offered two vigils Masses but after three years, it became more apparent we didn't need two separate vigil Masses. Changing or altering Mass times is always a sensitive issue but Mass time decisions are made with the entire parish in mind, not an individual's preference.
- Q Why is the parish leasing the St. Rene Goupil school building?
- A Bottom line? Additional revenue for the parish. We also like the idea of one of our buildings being used full-time with the tenant agreeing to help make improvements to the building. Otherwise, the St. Rene school building was only used once or twice a week.
- Q Why is the chair lift not repaired in Flannery Hall (St. Rene campus)?
- A The chairlift can no longer be repaired. It needs to be replaced. The estimated cost of a new lift is roughly \$30,000. This is a huge expense for a lift that will only be used once or twice a month. This issue is still being evaluated.

Q – Why is the parish school operating at a deficit?

A –The costs of successfully operating a Catholic school tend to center around the employment costs. For example, there are more than 30 people who are needed to operate our school. The related salary and benefits approach 1.5 million dollars. That expense alone equates to roughly \$6,250 per student.

Q – Why is the parish office located on the St. Symphorosa campus?

A – The location of the parish office/rectory could have been on either campus. A big part of the decision was the housing of three priests. The St. Rene rectory is designed for one priest. We also regularly interact with school staff, so having the parish office close to the school building is also important. All of our parish sacramental records are stored in the parish office.

Q – Who do I contact if I have questions about the parish?

A – The parish office number is 773-767-1523. The office is open for business Monday through Friday from 9 AM until 4 PM. The office is also open on Saturday morning from 9 AM until Noon. Depending on your question, you will be directed to a person who can best assist you. You might be put in touch with the operations director, or the faith formation coordinator, the music director, or the pastor. If you need to leave a message and have someone call you back, then that is the route to go.

Q – How can I speak with a parish priest?

A – Call the office and ask to speak with one of the priests. It does help to give the receptionist a general idea of why you are calling so that we can prioritize our response. Someone calling for anointing of the sick is going to be addressed sooner than someone who just wants to chat about the state of the world. Please leave a phone number so that the priest can call you back. We do understand there are times a person is calling for a sensitive reason. It's okay to say, "It's a personal matter."

Q – I regularly attend Mass at Two Holy Martyrs Parish but I am not registered as a parishioner. How can I register as a parishioner?

A -- This is a simple process and requires only a few minutes. You can stop by the parish office or call during normal business hours (773-767-1523).

Q – My children do not attend St. Symphorosa School but I do want them enrolled in Faith Formation (Religious Ed/CCD), how do I register?

A -- Contact the parish office during normal business hours at 773-767-1523.

- Q-I want my children to attend St. Symphorosa School but we would need financial assistance. How can we find out more about this?
- A -- Last year, approximately 40 percent of our school families applied for financial assistance. Accordingly, there are numerous options via scholarships, grants, and parish assistance. Please begin the process by contacting the school at 443-585-6888.
- Q I've never not received a sacrament (Baptism, Holy Communion, Confirmation). What's the process for initiation into the sacraments? What do I need to do?
- A -- Call the parish office and we can steer you in the right direction (773-767-1523).
- Q How can I volunteer in the parish?
- A -- Is there a specific area of interest you would like to assist? For example: usher, church greeter, fundraising, etc.. Please call the parish office and we can help you explore options (773-767-1523).
- Q Are our churches open during the day?
- A Our St. Symphorosa worship site is open for private prayer Monday through Friday from 9 AM until 4 PM. This is a great place to get away from the busy-ness and noise for some quiet and stillness.
- Q What is the process to request a house blessing by one of our priests?
- A Call the parish office and say you would like to have your house blessed. The receptionist will take your name and number. The priest will reach out to you personally to set up the house blessing and discuss anything that needs to be discussed.
- Q Why do we have Bingo on Sunday afternoon?
- A -- Sunday is the best opportunity that does not conflict with other area Bingo events. This topis is periodically reviewed to ensure that this scheduling remains accurate.
- Q I have a fundraising idea. Who can I discuss this with?
- A Call the parish office and ask to speak to our operations director about a fundraising idea.
- Q How can I leave a legacy gift to the parish?
- A -- Legacy gifts are an amazing way to parishioners to make a real financial impact to the parish. There are various estate planning options that can be coordinated. In fact, the parish is planning to provide a convenient information session on this topic in the near future. For immediate assistance, please call the parish office (773-767-1523).

Q – How can I receive Holy Communion if I am homebound?

A – Please call the parish office and express that you are homebound but would like to receive Holy Communion at least once a week. We will find a lay minister to bring you Communion and pray with you.

Q - I am homebound and I cannot make it to the parish. Can I still get the parish bulletin each week?

A - Yes. Call the parish office and ask to have the bulletin mailed to your residence, or you can access the bulletin via the parish website (twoholymartrys.org)

Q --- How do the advertisements in the bulletin work? Who receives the advertising revenue? What is the cost of the weekly bulletin?

A -- The weekly bulletin is a vital form of parish communication. Whether via hard copy or online, this vehicle provides current articles and information about all aspects of our parish. Likewise, the parish currently pays nothing for printing the bulletin. This entire cost is covered by the advertisements in the back of the bulletin. Historically, parishioners have kept a copy of the bulletin in case local services are needed. Parish advertisements have been an amazing outreach for small businesses to expand their reach to parishioners regarding their specific product or service. There are a variety of costs and timeframes that specific ads can be managed. This process is ongoing throughout the year and is done solely by our bulletin provider. As a sidenote, if advertising revenue exceeds the production cost thresholds, the parish would also receive a financial rebate from LPI.

Q – Do we have a Deacon in the parish?

A – We have two senior deacons who assist us at Two Holy Martyrs Parish: Deacon Tom Hyde and Deacon Ron Zielinski. We also have a parishioner in the Diaconate program to become a deacon. Darrin Bourret is in formation.

Concluding message

If you find yourself having a specific question about the parish or parish life, please stop by the parish office during business hours. We would love to see you in person and do our best to answer your questions or concerns. And yes, if you are not able to stop by in person, then please call and we will do our best to direct your question to the best person to help.

May the good Lord bless you and your loved ones.