

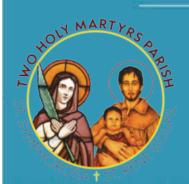
TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH

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

SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 2025

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD





"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest." - Lk 19:38

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

PARISH STAFF

Ken Hilliard

OPERATIONS DIRECTOR

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

F⊙RMED

How do I register for

FORMED FOR OUR PARISH

OG IN TO OUR PARISH ACCOUNT AND

Go to signup.formed.org.

Type in our parish name.

6 Enter your name and email.





During February 2022, I found myself in a hospital bed for 11 days at Silver Cross Hospital in New Lenox, Illinois. A friend drove me to the emergency room because I was having trouble breathing. After a couple days of delay, I finally had to admit something was seriously wrong physically. I had pneumonia.

The first 24 to 48 hours were touch and go. Doctors and nurses attentively took care of me and watched my vitals and other important numbers. Oxygen was key.

As some of you know, 24 hours is a long time when lying in a hospital bed. I quickly realized I could not watch television. It was too loud and distracting; the exception being a serenity channel that showed beautiful nature scenery with soothing piano music.

What to do each day? Pray! But I also needed something to read. A family member dropped off a book. It was No Greater Love: A Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion by Edward Sri. Outside of the Holy Bible, I could not have asked for a better book for the hospital stay. As I read and pondered the chapters of the book, I would often stop and pray, asking for the intercession of Fulton Sheen and Francis George.

Reading about Jesus' passion

FR. BOB'S WEEKLY BLOG

helped put my suffering into perspective. I was no longer the priest attending to the sick person in bed. I was the sick person in bed, and I needed Jesus. Live or die, I needed Jesus. My suffering moved me closer to Christ.

This Sunday is Passion Sunday; a.k.a. Palm Sunday. Holy Week begins. We recall our Lord's suffering, death, resurrection and ascension (Paschal Mystery). We are particularly focused this Sunday on His Passion as we listen to the Passion proclaimed during Holy Mass. We should listen with attentive ears and hearts as Jesus shows us how far love goes for the good of the beloved; all the way to the cross.

People seldom have an indifferent reaction to the crucifix. Some folks see it as an instrument of execution used by the Roman Empire. Others see it as a macabre symbol of death. How should we see it as Christian disciples? We see it as an act of self-sacrificing love. The cross is our redemption. Jesus visually speaks to us, "This is My Body given up for you." He dies our death so that we might have life (zoe) in Him; the life of grace.

Jesus' suffering for us becomes quiet tangible for us when suffering comes our way. We need not suffer alone. We have the Lord. We have our brothers and sisters in Christ. We become more compassionate because we understand. The English word compassion comes from two Latin words: com, which means with, and passio, which means suffering. When we show compassion to each other, we are with someone in their suffering.

Edward Sri writes, "The nails could not have held him fast to the

Cross if love had not held him there first."

The Lord wants us to see that Love is stronger than death. We need not live in fear of death because Christ has eternally overcome death, sin, and evil. Bodily death awaits but so does our being born into eternal life. This world is only heaven's womb. Heaven awaits!

As much of our world descends into distraction, discouragement, deceit, and division, we need to stay focused on Christ, the One who is the way, and the truth, and the life. At the hour of our bodily death (and that day will come), what will matter most? Certainly not the superficialities of the day, the glitz and the glamour of this world, the power plays and obsession with money, power and fame. What will matter most? Love! Love for God. Love for neighbor.

And Jesus shows us what it looks like. Will we follow Him?

Quote -- "Our greatest cross is the fear of crosses." -- **St. John Vianney**





For the week of:

April 12th - April 20th

Saturday April 12th

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

Kathy Calcagno (Lullo Family)

骨Larry Piotrowski (Jeanie)

Birthday Blessings for Amelia E. Cruz (Family)

God's Blessings for a Safe & Healthy Delivery for Jocelyn &

Baby Vaca (Love)

Sunday April 13th

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

骨Joseph & Josephine Dyniakoski (Family)

骨Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)

骨Ceil Bohan (Mary Sarlitto)

☆Carole Signore (Pat Soltis & Family)

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

Heavenly Blessings for Rafael Alvarez (Family)

令Stanley Witkowski (Arlene Scaletta)

♣Joe Murphy (Margaret Scanlon)

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

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

⊕Ben P & Estelle Shafer (Ben & Judy Shafer)

 \P Mercedes Valentin & All Deceased Members of Valentin

Family (Family)

⊕Robert Hilbruner (Kuhtic Family)

骨Henry & Helen Kroll (Family)

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

PRO POPULO

Monday April 14th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa

骨Claude Wiatrak (Wife Clara)

⊕Walter Monstrom (Soltis Family)

骨Nick Bouzios (Janina)

Health & God's Blessings for Rich & Arlene Willus

(Mary Kolimas)

Tuesday April 15th

(Mary Kolimas)

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa

Health & God's Blessings for Fr. Bob (Mary Kolimas) Health & God's Blessings for Leona Altman (Mary Kolimas Health & God's Blessings for Lorraine DeLauriea



Presiders are subject to change without notice.

Wednesday April 16th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa

∜Vince Porcelli (Wife Judy)

骨Kathy Arvetis (Husband)

⊕Bernadette Wodke (St. Syms Kindergarten Class)

骨Richard Weiss (St. Syms Kindergarten Class)

⊕Andres Valles (Valles Family)

Thursday April 17th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa

HOLY THURSDAY

Friday April 18th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa

GOOD FRIDAY

Saturday April 19th

08:00 AM | St. Symphorosa

HOLY SATURDAY

07:00 PM | St. Rene Goupil | Presider: Fr. Bob & Fr. Kevin

EASTER VIGIL

Sunday April 20th

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

EASTER

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

EASTER

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

EASTER

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

EASTER





OUR SANCTUARY CANDLES

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

APRIL

VINCE PORCELLI & MARIA PORCELLI

For the repose of their souls, given by Family.

4th ANNIVERSARY FOR RAFAEL ALVAREZ, SR.:

given by Prendergast 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
Guadalupe Almendarez
Marlene Annerino
Walter Annerino
Sharon Arends
Fr. Ted Bojczuk
Glenn Boyle
Maxine Carey
Rita Cernick
John Clementi
MaryEllen Compton
Margaret Dalton
Karen Holmes

Joan Juris
Z Ron Kelly
Sharon Labiak
Elena LeCompte
Natalie LeCompte
Debbie Lipien
Mary Liszka
Rosemary Litwin
Joelee MacMaster
Rich Marcello
Cathy Mazeika
Clarence Oleszkiewicz
Eleanor Pastorek

Ramon Perez Christine Petry Ann Robertson Michael Roman Adan Sanchez William Serpico Katrina Sigafoose Karen Singer Manuel Soto Fr. Norm Trela Christine

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



Due to an early deadline, contribution information will be printed on the next bulletin.





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

APRIL

ALL LIVING & DECEASED OF THE KOUNTIS, BARA, & KUDWA FAMILIES: given by Dee.

4th ANNIVERSARY FOR RAFAEL ALVAREZ: given by Family.

ALL LIVING & DECEASED OF THE SULLIVAN & PRENDERGAST FAMILIES: 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.

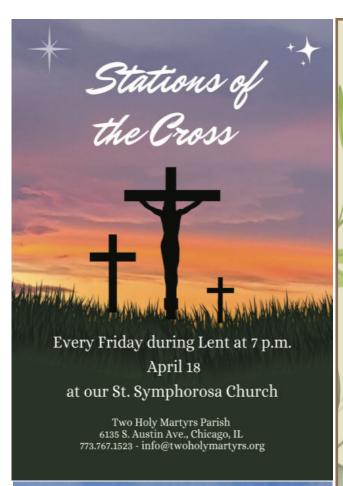


ONLINE/ELECTRONIC DONATIONS

\$8,441.75

February 1, 2025 to February 28, 2025

Total number of transactions: **252**





Mission Mondays Lent 2025

April 14 - Mercy Monday: Confession available (@ St. Rene)

Come Join us - No Admission Fee

Each event begins at 7 PM at the respective location





Palm Sunday Masses April 13th

4pm (Vigil Mass on Saturday) - St. Rene

7:30am - St. Rene

9am - St. Symphorosa

10:30am - St. Rene

12pm (Noon) - St. Symphorosa

Holy Thursday April 17th

7pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper - St. Symphorosa Worship Site St. Symphorosa Church open until midnight for

Prayer & Adoration

Good Friday April 18th

3pm - Celebration of the Lord's Passion - St. Rene Worship Site 7pm - Stations of the Cross - St. Symphorosa Worship Site

Holy Saturday April 19th

12pm (Noon) - Blessings of Easter Baskets - St. Symphorosa Worship Site 7pm - Easter Vigil Mass - St. Rene Worship Site

Easter Sunday April 20th

7:30am - St. Rene

9am - St. Symphorosa

10:30am - St. Rene

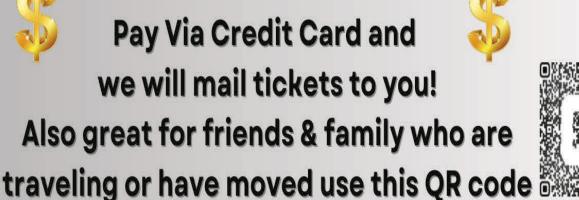
12pm (Noon) - St. Symphorosa

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW

Purchase Your Grand Raffle Tickets

ONLINE!







Spring is here, and our Cub Scouts are preparing for new adventures and experiences. We are excited to share our 3rd annual Spring Flower Bulbs Fundraiser with you, where Scouts will earn 50% of sales to help fund our pack's spring camping trip.

Order online by May 15 using this link and your bulbs, seeds, or supplies will ship to your home.

https://www.flowerpowe<mark>rfundr</mark>aising.com/marketplace/ seller/profile/shop/CubScoutPack4439







Representatives (family members of a Misericordia resident) will be collecting for the Annual Misericordia Candy Days on

Saturday, April 26 and Sunday, April 27th at all Masses.

Your donations directly support the programs and services provided to over 600 residents with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Your donation is appreciated.

If you would like more information about Misericordia, go to www.misericordia.com.

Thank you.

PARISH FAITH FORMATION

Upcoming Events:

April 13: First Grade Family

Mass & Palm Sunday

Procession.

April 15: Faith Formation

Tuesday Class.

@ St. Syms Campus.

April 20: HAPPY EASTER!!

April 26: Faith Formation

Saturday Class @ St. Syms Campus.

April 26: Faith Formation Bingo

Event.

April 28: First Communion

Practice.

April 29: Faith Formation

Tuesday Class @ St. Syms Campus.

May 1: First Communion

Practice.

May 3: First Communion

Day!!



The First-Grade Family Mass will be held on, Sunday, April 13th at 9:00am and at 10:30am. We look forward to welcoming All our First Grade Families on April 13th.



Palm Sunday Procession

We invite all our First Grade (level one) students to a Special Grade Level Family Mass on Palm Sunday. The children are being asked to carry palms and participate in the Palm Sunday procession at the 9:00am on April 13th at St. Symphorosa Church or the 10:30am Mass at St. Rene.

Please have your child/children gather in the Narthex 10 minutes before Mass begins. The children will form a line for the procession and after the procession will sit with their families during the liturgy.

(It's important that the children know where you are sitting.)

May God bless you as we continue our Lenten Journey.



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.



FIRST EUCHARIST

On Saturday, May 3rd our Faith Formation Students and the 2nd graders from St. Symphorosa Catholic School will receive Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time. These young children have worked very hard preparing for this special day and we invite you to please remember them in your prayers.

The practices for First Holy Communion will take place on Monday, April 28th at 6pm and on Thursday, May 1st at 6pm. (both practices will be held at St. Symphorosa Church.) The child and at least one parent should attend the practice which they were assigned.

ST. SYMPHOROSA SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD INVITES YOU TO: SEAS THE CHALLENGE! MAY 10, 2025 I HALL - 6148 SOUTH MASON AVENUE **BYOB & FOOD** \$250 TEAM ENTRY TRIVIA GAMES TEAM PRIZES **BEST TABLE THEMES** GATHER YOUR TEAM OF 6-8 PEOPLE, PICK A TEAM THEME & GET READY TO OUTSMART

GATHER YOUR TEAM OF 6-8 PEOPLE, PICK A TEAM THEME & GET READY TO OUTSMART FR. KEVIN AS HE PUTS YOUR TRIVIA SKILLS TO THE TEST!

CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE, RECTORY OR EMAIL SCHOOLBOARD@STSYMSSCHOOL..ORG

TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY! TEAM TABLES MUST BE RESERVED BY MAY 1ST!

PARISH SCHOOL NEWS

Seas the Day at St. Symphorosa School

LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Our 7th and 8th grade students prayerfully presented the Living Stations of the Cross. Their hard work and dedication shone through in this beautiful portrayal. During the day, students participated in prayer, while in the evening, families & parishioners gathered to witness this powerful presentation.

A heartfelt thank you to our students for bringing this sacred tradition to life!



























REGISTRATION IS OPEN
Register for the new school year by April
11th for just \$100. After that, the fee
increases to \$150-secure your spot early!

"JOIN US" SCHOLARSHIP
An incredible opportunity for
our Faith Formation families!
Contact us to learn more.



SCHEDULE A SCHOOL TOUR
Curious about life at the school? Come see it in action!
Schedule a tour today.



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!



The W's and How's of SPRED...

SPRED (Special Religious Development) is a program which trains and guides parishes to provide faith formation to persons with developmental disabilities and/or learning problems and become integrated into parish life.

WHO is served by SPRED?

SPRED serves children and adults with various developmental and cognitive disabilities such as Down's Syndrome, Cerebral Palsy, anyone in the Autism Spectrum, seizure disorders, learning disabilities, etc. Participation starts at the age of 6 and may continue throughout adulthood.

HOW can faith be nourished in those with developmental disabilities?

A relationship with God is accessible to all. Friendship is the human experience closest to understanding the presence of God in life. By calling to mind life experiences, sharing these experiences in a circle of friendship. the small community of faith becomes aware of the sacredness of all life and then returns to life changed.

WHY SPRED?

In SPRED, each person is partnered with a catechist, a model of faith and friendship. As trust is established and friendship deepens, we all become aware of our place in the family of God and celebrate it in our community of faith that extends to the greater parish community.

WILL my son or daughter or the person in my care participate liturgically and sacramentally in the church? Sacraments and liturgy are a right of all people and are accessible to all. Participation in a SPRED community helps to facilitate readiness to enjoy the Sacraments with reverence and a new awareness.

HOW can I or my child participate in the SPRED program?

Contact the Two Holy Martyrs SPRED Chairperson, Ann Smolucha at 773-914-1900 or ann@smolucha.com to facilitate placement. Two Holy Martyrs' SPRED group is for 22 years of age and up. However, we can help place your loved one into an age appropriate group. Please contact Ann if you have any questions.



SPRED Family Mass

Special Religious Development

SPRED is a small community of faith which serves children and adults with various developmental and cognitive disabilities. SPRED has been in the parish for over 40 years.

Please join our group in the celebration of the Eucharist

ST. RENE WORSHIP SITE APRIL 27TH 10:30AM MASS

THERE WILL BE A SMALL RECEPTION WITH LITE REFRESHMENTS AFTER MASS

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