

# Saint Rene Goupil Catholic Church

64th Street & New England Avenue - Chicago, Illinois 60638—773-229-8523

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF

# *Easter*

MAY 3, 2020



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The shepherd calls his own sheep  
by name and leads them.

John 10:3



## Fr. Bob's Weekly Blog



Jesus opens the way to God.

“Until Jesus came, people could think of God only as, at best, a stranger and as, at worst, an enemy,” wrote biblical scholar William Barclay. “But Jesus came to show people what God is like, and to open the way to him. He is the door through whom alone entrance to God is possible.”

Imagine if all you had to work with was your thoughts about God. We wouldn't get very far and many of our thoughts would remain abstract. Fortunately, God gave us a concrete means to know more about Him, and He did this in the Person of Jesus, the Christ.

Jesus is the face of the Father, and the WAY to the Father.

Barclay continues, “Once anyone discovers, through Jesus Christ, what God is like, a new sense of safety and of security enters into life. If life is known to be in the hands of a God like that, the worries and the fears are gone.”

The ways of the world do not work. History teaches us this lesson. We keep thinking war, assassinations, and murder will lead us into a golden age. As Dr. Phil would say, “How's that

working for you?” There are those today who believe that the golden age must be brought in with violence, class warfare, bitterness and destruction.

Jesus shows us a different way. His is the way of peace, love and life. And if we choose to take His way, it leads us ever closer and closer to God.

“I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly,” Jesus says in today's Gospel.

To be a follower of Jesus, to know who He is and what He means, is to have a superabundance of life.

Barclay tells the story of a Roman soldier who came to Julius Caesar for permission to take his own life. He was a wretched, dispirited creature with no vitality. Caesar looked at him and said, “Were you ever really alive?”

Barclay adds, “When we try to live our own lives, life is a dull dispirited thing. When we walk with Jesus, there comes a new vitality, a superabundance of life. It is only when we live with Christ that life becomes really worth living and we begin to live in the real sense of the word.”

Is Jesus your shepherd? If not, whose voice are you listening to for comfort and guidance? And why?

### Video Reflections Begin

Beginning this weekend, St. Rene will offer a weekly video reflection which can be found on our website ([strenegoupil.org](http://strenegoupil.org)) and on YouTube. Our music director Steve Kittler has been hard at work creating something that lifts our minds and hearts to God.

Fr. Bob will offer a roughly 10-minute reflection each week and there will be meditative music provided by Steve. We will be using video footage of our beautiful St. Rene Church.

We hope this keeps us connected in a more intimate way as we deal with the suspension of the public celebration of Holy Mass.

There are other avenues for watching Mass online. We here at St. Rene wanted to provide something spiritual that serves as a complement to Holy Mass. If all goes well, we plan to continue the weekly video reflections into the future.

### Favorite Quote of the Week:

**“There is a tyranny in the womb of every Utopia.”**  
– Bertrand DeJouvenel

*When You Can't Come to St. Rene Church.....*

*.....St. Rene Church Can Now Come to You*

No one could have predicted what we are now going through due to the coronavirus outbreak. Our churches are closed, and we really don't know the next time we will be able to sit in our favorite seat at St. Rene Church. For the past few weeks, I have been working on a YouTube channel, so that you could visit St. Rene at any time, day or night.

Jesus said, "Go into all the world and make disciples of all nations,"...and to do so in 2020, you don't even have to leave your house. We can now begin to reach out through a cellphone, tablet, or laptop. The world has changed, and there are great opportunities for St. Rene Church.



If you want to stay connected to your faith, you are in the right place. The St. Rene Goupil Church channel will help deepen or even spark your relationship with Christ when not in Church, even for those not presently a part of our parish family. The channel will feature weekly reflections from Fr. Bob, as well as liturgical music that I will post on a regular basis. All you have to do is simply go to our website and click on the link to take you directly to the channel. Fr. Bob's reflection will be timely, sincere, and include his usual good sense of humor.



In his 2016 message for World Communications Day, Pope Francis said: "Emails, text messages, social networks and chats can also be fully human forms of communication. It is not technology that determines whether or not communication is authentic, but rather the human heart and our capacity to use wisely the means at our disposal."

I hope that you would consider this option as an opportunity to bring us closer to our faith, our church, our Pastor, and our neighbors.

In song and faith,

Steve Kittler  
Music Director







## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Hello Fellow Parishioners,

Not everyone is in the same boat during the “Corona lockdown”. Medical personnel, first responders, grocery store staff etc. (essential workers) are overwhelmed - a retired guy like me is looking to keep busy. We people of faith of course want to do good things for our families, neighbors, communities and churches.

We don’t want to abandon the actions we perform in normal times. It starts at home being OK to the folks we live with. You can take it a step further by checking up on a neighbor without a good support system. Contacting a friend can often make their day - sometimes leading to picking up a couple things from the grocery or pharmacy. Often, chipping in to lend a hand for another will make you feel less alone or concerned...

I miss going to Mass but have found the next best thing. Many of you have probably caught services from Holy Name with Cardinal Cupich—they air Sundays at 9:30am on ABC 7 here in Chicago. Also on Relevant Radio 950 AM you have daily Mass at noon - and “Chaplet of Divine Mercy” (a Rosary based prayer) on at 3:00 in the afternoon. All these services mentioned are quite uplifting...

If you find yourself cleaning out your pantry, a thoughtful way to make use of any extra food goods is to contact the St. Blasé Food Pantry (708-563-2407) to donate. A phone call to them can pinpoint certain items they need. Located at 7438 W. 61 Pl. - this longtime neighborhood asset is as local as it gets. A great cause especially in trying times...

For a little fun...We all love Girl Scout Cookies. Go to [Girlscouts.org](http://Girlscouts.org) to order up some Thin Mints etc. and help out the kids who can’t really sell in person right now. You can also donate boxes of cookies to soldiers and first responders thru this site...

Don’t forget your Parish collections now. Of course you can drop your donations in the mailbox—or go to [ArchChica.org](http://ArchChica.org) to give to St. Rene or St. Symphorosa. Click the blue word “LINK” on the site to direct your money to them...

I feel if we all stick together as a religious community the strength we gain from this adversity will give us a renewed focus. Stay safe, wash your hands and may God bless all...

Jerry Hughes, St. Rene/Sym’s Knights of Columbus #3024



### Mother’s Day Prayer Intentions

Please submit Mother’s Day envelopes with prayer intentions this week if you want the name(s) entered into a prayer book which will be located by the Mary statue in the St. Rene Church during the entire month of May.

You can drop the pink Mother’s Day envelope in the brown mailbox on the brick wall outside the parish office by Wednesday, May 6th. Be sure to list one or more names on the back of the envelope so that we can pray for our living and deceased mothers.

Some of you have already submitted

### St. Symphorosa/St. Rene Family Fest 2020 Update

To all St. Rene parishioners, neighbors, supporters and staff.

As we all know, our lives have changed dramatically over the past sixty days. The Coronavirus has impacted every facet of our work day, education, communication, entertainment and certainly spiritual life. Unfortunately, there still seems to be more questions than answers and many more uncertainties about how quickly our “old” way of life will return ... or maybe “if” it will return.

It is with these countless levels of uncertainties that St. Symphorosa/St. Rene have made the decision to cancel this year’s Family Fest. This is most unfortunate as we were looking forward to our first big parish party as a unified St. Symphorosa/St. Rene Parish.

While the loss of the 2020 Fest will be a difficult financial challenge for our new parish, our priority must be the health and safety of our parishioners, as well as our extended family within the community. Rest assured that we can and will create other new/exciting parish events in the not too distant future.

Stay tuned ... we will keep everyone updated as we contemplate other celebrations during the upcoming months. There is no doubt that we all will need to celebrate our faith, family and community once this current situation is behind us.





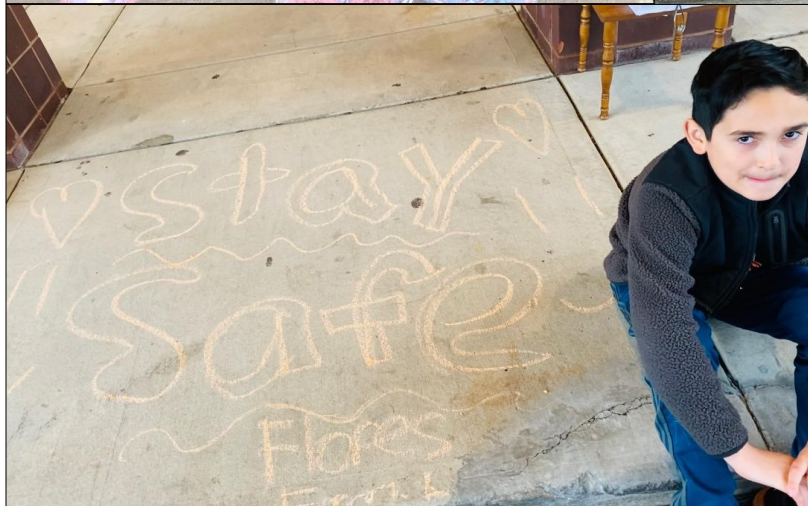
**Faith Formation Office**  
(773) 229-8523

**Coordinator:**  
**Peg Siebenaler**

**Email:** [strenfaithformation@gmail.com](mailto:strenfaithformation@gmail.com)

## TAKE A WALK WITH SOME CHALK!!!

Our Faith Formation students were invited to draw a picture or write an inspirational message on the sidewalks by our church. They were also asked to take a picture of their work to share with the St. Rene parishioners. I think you would agree that they did an awesome job! Thank you for your beautiful works of art!





# Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



## Saturday, May 2, 2020

4:00pm—Oczkowski Family, both Living and Deceased  
(Keith & Maryann Fox)  
4:00pm—Cruz Almendarez (Almendarez Family)  
4:00pm—Jack Orsi (Family)

## Sunday, May 3, 2020

7:30am—Samuel Sarlitto (Mary Sarlitto)  
  
9:30am—Good Health for Judy Carranza (Family)  
9:30am—Maureen DeGeorge—Blessings & Good Health  
(Laskewich Family)  
11:30am—Norbert Koziol (Family)  
11:30am—Jack Orsi (Friends)

## Monday, May 4, 2020

8:00am—Virginia Gawlik (Family)  
8:00am—Herman Bartkowiak, Sr. (Family)

## Tuesday, May 5, 2020

8:00am—Beatrice Lucio (Family)  
8:00am—Altar & Rosary Members (A & R Society)

## Wednesday, May 6, 2020

8:00am—Phillip O'Brien (Family)

## Thursday, May 7, 2020

8:00am—Patricia Koperczak (Family)

## Friday, May 8, 2020

8:00am—Rita Koziol (Family)

## Saturday, May 9, 2020

8:00am—Virginia L. Jankowski (Family)  
  
4:00pm—Alice Tomczak (Family)

## Sunday, May 10, 2020

7:30am—Pedro J. Medina (Family)  
  
9:30am—Raymond Sutkowski (Edna Bazik)  
9:30am—Good Health for Judy Carranza (Family)  
  
11:30am—Frances A. Potocki (Family)  
11:30am—Richard Kurek (Family)



Martin Adelsbach  
Judy Adelsbach  
Larry Adkins  
Guadalupe Almendarez  
Elizabeth Bedran  
Carl Bell  
Joanne Bukowiecki  
Gina Camp  
Dominic Ciampaglia  
Margaret Ciampaglia  
Mitchell Gallas  
Geri Gestaut

Robert Hilbruner  
Rose Ann Lindsay  
Marge Masunas  
Lori McCarthy  
Kenneth Milewski  
William Nita  
Rochelle Piegari  
Joseph Rice  
Rosemary Orsi Roberts  
Edward Robertson  
Judith Siwek  
Michael Tallon  
Sandra Tallon  
Scott Tloczek  
Shirley Tloczek  
Joan Wilhelmy  
Richard Zaleski



## Our Beloved & Recently Deceased

*James Koffend - 2/2/20*  
*Evelyn Dober - 2/5/2020*  
*Antoinette Veronica Cozzi - 2/15/20*  
*Anthony Barone - 2/17/20*  
*Charmaine Zahlmann - 3/4/2020*  
*Dante DiMenna - 3/6/2020*  
*Michael Abbott - 3/7/2020*  
*Cynthia Unser - 3/14/2020*  
*Jack Orsi - 3/31/2020*  
*Richard Kurek - 4/10/2020*  
*Rhonda Cepek - 4/14/2020*

**Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen**

**Parish Staff**

Rev. Bob Regan  
Pastor

Rev. Peter Paurazas  
Pastor Emeritus

Karen Hoogland  
Businesss Manager

Peg Siebenaler  
Faith Formation

Irene Perconti  
Administrative Assistant

Steve Kittler  
Director of Music

Joanne Tishka  
Bulletin Coordinator

Stanley Silacz  
Maintenance Supervisor

**Daily Masses**

Monday - Saturday at 8:00am

**Weekend Mass Schedule**

Saturday at 4:00pm  
(Confessions from 3:15 - 3:45pm)

Sunday  
7:30am, 9:30am, 11:30am

**Parish Office Hours**

Monday - Saturday  
9:00am - 3:00pm

**Parish Office**

6949 West 63rd Place  
Phone (773) 229-8523

**Email**

office@strenegoupil.org

**Website**

www.strenegoupil.org

**Baptism**

First Sunday of the month or during weekend Mass. Parent preparation class required. Contact the Parish Office at (773) 229-8523 to register.

**Marriage**

Saturday afternoons at 12:30pm or 2:00pm. Please call Fr. Bob at least 6 months in advance to make arrangements.

**Reconciliation/Confession**

Saturdays from 3:15—3:45pm or in the Parish Office by appointment.

**Anointing of the Sick**

Please call the Parish Office at (773) 229-8523 for a family member who is seriously ill.

**Communion for the Sick and Homebound**

Ministers of Care are available to bring Communion to the homebound. Please call the Parish Office to make arrangements.

Due to privacy regulations, hospitals can no longer contact the parish without family consent. Please contact the Parish Office when you or a loved one would like a visit or to be added to the prayer list.

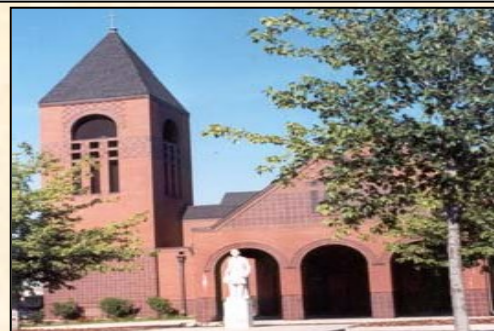
**Faith Formation Classes**

Classes for Grades 1-8 are offered on Wednesday evenings from 6:00-7:30pm. They will meet during the school year. Please call Peg Siebenaler in the Parish Office with any questions.

**RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)**

This program is designed for adults who are not baptized, those who were baptized into a Christian tradition other than Roman Catholic and those Catholics who have not yet celebrated the Sacraments of First Eucharist or Confirmation. Classes begin in September with the Sacraments being received at the Easter Vigil. Please contact Fr. Bob for more information.

**New Parishioners are always welcome at St. Rene.  
Our doors and hearts are open to you.  
Please stop in the office to join our Parish family.**



*"Let no one have contempt for your youth, but set an example for those who believe, in speech, conduct, love, faith and purity."*

-1 Timothy 4:12

***St. Nunzio Sulprizio***

*19th-century Italian who lived a brief life filled with faith and piety, even in the midst of very poor health. He was canonized in 2018.*





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