

# Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



August 2, 2020

Jesus said the blessing, broke the loaves,  
and gave them to the disciples,  
who in turn gave them to the crowds.  
They all ate and were satisfied.

Matthew 14:19-20

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ST. SYMPHOROSA & ST. RENE PARISH

St. Symphorosa & St. Rene Parish Office  
6135 S. Austin Ave Chicago, IL 60638  
(773) 767-1523



# Fr. Bob's Weekly Blog

## Welcome to the Parish of St. Symphorosa & St. Rene!!

Nothing concretely happens just by wishing it to happen.

Action involves hands and feet stepping up and saying, "How may I serve?"

In that spirit, allow me to formally thank our St. Symphorosa/St. Rene volunteers who have been so helpful with our church re-opening phase. The State of Illinois and the Archdiocese of Chicago have asked a lot of us as it relates to safely allowing our parishioners back on our property.

Part of the specific guidelines we are expected to adhere to is the sanitizing of the inside of each of our churches after every Mass or liturgical service. Pews/kneelers must be wiped down, along with other objects. While it may seem extreme to some (or overkill), these are the guidelines laid down for the sake of the common good.

We have a host of lay volunteers, at both the St. Symphorosa and St. Rene campuses, who have raised their hands – or said yes when asked – to be part of the sanitizing teams. They receive no financial compensation. We do say THANK YOU for lending a hand so that the people of God can safely enter our churches.

If you or someone you know would also like to volunteer, let us know and we can find you a spot to "lend a hand."

Now, allow me to switch from pastor talk to priest insight. It's been interesting to watch human behavior the past few months as we deal with CoVID-19. We are justifiably concerned about our physical health and safety. We as a society have become UBER sensitive about hand sanitizing, mask wearing, and physical distancing.

As a priest of Jesus Christ, however, I can't help but say, "Where is this same hyper concern for the spiritual life?" As human beings we are body AND soul. We're not just a body. We are not just a soul. We need to have concern for both body and soul. Sadly, far too many today seem only concerned with the body (as if proper care for the soul isn't a big deal, and the virus of sin isn't a big deal).

Everything Jesus gives us in and through His Church is for care of the soul. Yes, He cares about the body too, but the Lord is THEE doctor of the soul. He desires to penetrate the depths of our heart so that we are spiritually healthy.

Our earthly body has an expiration date. We might not like to think about this reality, but it's true. Our soul, however, is immortal. This should remind us that the spiritual life is UBER important even as we face the physical challenges CoVID-19 (or any other health scare) presents to us.

May we never forget that one day, when all things come to fulfillment at the end of time, Jesus returns in glory. Those who have said YES to His way, His truth, and His life will undergo an amazing transformation as the immortal soul is united with a new glorified body in a new heaven and a new earth.

But it should be no wonder to us that those who do not believe in life beyond the grave are the ones today living in fear; fear of suffering, fear of death. In their eyes, suffering and death have no explanation. In their Utopian vision, we can't go outside again until it is safe. Who will decide when it is safe? When was life in this world ever 100-percent safe?

We see reality through the eyes of Christ. The crucifix reminds us that there will be suffering at times, and there will be death in this world. Jesus said, "In this world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

We can be people of hope, or we can be people of despair. Jesus helps us be the former. He is the Light that overtakes the darkness.

### Graduation, finally!

Congratulations to the 2020 graduates of our St. Symphorosa School. The official graduation Mass/ceremony is Friday, August 7<sup>th</sup>. These students have had quite an interesting and challenging year.

We wish them all the best as they prepare for high school and beyond. We hope their memories are good, and we want them to know this is always their spiritual home.

Thank you to our principal Kathy Berry, the 8<sup>th</sup> grade teachers, and all the faculty and staff who have helped form minds and hearts all through the students' year at St. Symphorosa School.

Keep everyone in your prayers as we already embark on the 2020-2021 school year.



*"A dead Christ I must do everything for; a living Christ does everything for me."*

*~Andrew Murray*

#### Pastoral Staff

Rev. Robert Regan  
Pastor  
Rev. Matthew Compton  
Associate Pastor  
Rev. Ted Bojczuk  
Pastor Emeritus  
Rev. Peter Paurazas  
Pastor Emeritus  
Rev. Idzi Stacherczak  
Pastor Emeritus  
Rev. Norman Trela  
Retired Priest

#### Parish Staff

Ken Hilliard  
Operations Director  
Karen Hoogland  
Business Manager  
Steve Kittler  
Music Director  
Deacon Raul Duque  
Parish Musician  
Magdalene Barry  
Irene Perconti  
Administrative Assistants

Nancy Markham  
Office Coordinator

Peg Siebenaler  
Faith Formation

Kathy Berry  
Principal

Chris Garza  
Assistant Principal

Stanley Silacz  
Mark Schusteric  
Maintenance Supervisors

#### St. Symphorosa & St. Rene Parish Office

6135 S. Austin Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60638  
773-767-1523 (phone)  
773-767-6135 (fax)  
symphorosa@comcast.net (email)

Monday ~ Friday  
9:00 am ~ 7:00 pm

Saturday  
9:00 am ~ 12:00 pm

St. Rene Worship Site  
6949 W 63rd Place  
Chicago, Illinois 60638

St. Symphorosa School  
6125 S. Austin Ave  
Chicago, Illinois 60638  
(773) 585-6888

#### Sacrament of Penance

3:15-3:45pm every Saturday (St. Rene Site)  
Offered by Appointment During the Week  
Please call the Parish Office

# CHURCH REOPENING GUIDELINES

As we progress, we have been given strict guidelines that **MUST** be followed from the Archdiocese of Chicago. The guidelines briefly listed below are for confessions, private prayer and public Masses. Please contact the parish office (773.767.1523) for more information or if you have any questions in regards to the guidelines. Also, please contact the Parish Office if you or someone you know is interested in volunteering to join our Reopening Team.

#### Mass - Attendance Capacity Restricted to under 20% - Social Distancing

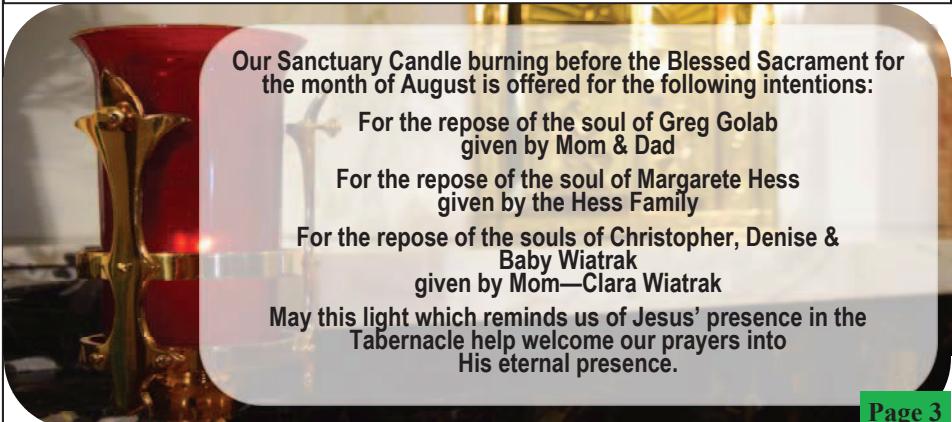
- All Mass worshippers **MUST** Pre-register for a reserved slot, indicating # of attendees (either by changing the quantity or noting the comment sections) and including your first and last name. *If you miss the opportunity to pre-register for Mass you may still come to church and register upon arrival.*
  - *Pre-register* via a link provided on our parish website and social media or calling the Parish Office (773) 767-1523.
  - *Pre-registration* for weekend Masses opens at Wednesday morning prior to the weekend. Registration will stay open through 12pm (noon) Saturday.
- Please arrive at least **15 minutes** before the start of Mass.
- Upon arrival – (**wearing a mask**) check in with a Greeter for seating assignment.
- While not recommended, if you have not pre-registered last minute space MAY be available which would allow late registration on the day of Mass.
- Please be understanding, patient, and courteous throughout this process.

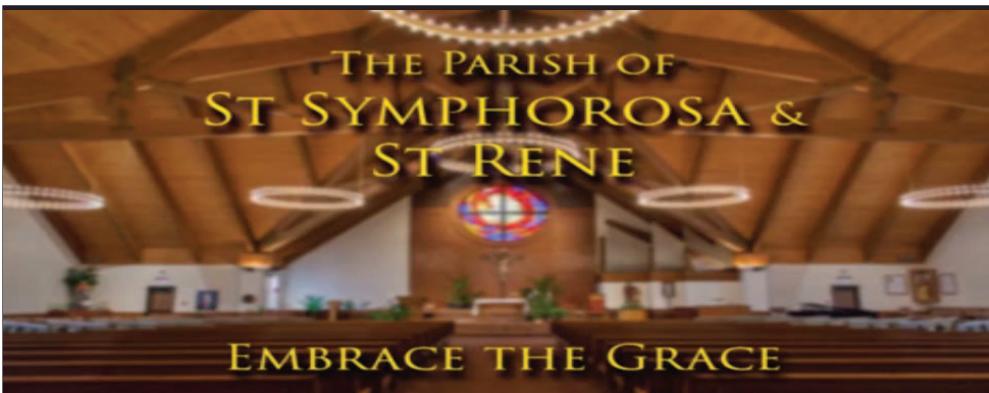
**PLEASE NOTE:** Dispensation from Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation continues. It is still advised that the elderly and those with underlying medical conditions stay at home and participate through livestreamed and televised Masses. If you are feeling ill or have a temperature please do not come to church.

#### Guidelines for Confession, Private Prayer & Public Mass Attendance

- Everyone entering the church **MUST** wear face masks the entire time, whether during confession, private prayer or Mass! Hand sanitizer will be provided by the parish and **MUST** be used upon entering the church.
- Trained Greeters will monitor entry, ensure social distancing & direct to appropriate seating.
- Pews and floor will have markings to designate waiting lines, seating, etc. to maintain social distancing

Once again, we are all learning... please be mindful of these guidelines for the safety of yourself and all those around you. We ask for patience and respect towards our greeters and those within our Re-opening Leadership team as they navigate through the first few weeks of this process. We look forward to this opportunity, not only to see some familiar faces again, but to be able to share the Eucharist and worship together within our Catholic faith tradition.





Please take a moment to sit down, watch, and/or listen to Fr. Bob's "Embrace the Grace" meditations every week.

Fr. Bob and Steve Kittler, our parish Music Director, began this page as a way to keep in contact with the parish and all our parishioners during the COVID stay at home order. This seven to ten minute video shares the good news with all interested persons.

Please visit the parish website at [stsymphorosa.org](http://stsymphorosa.org) or go directly to the YouTube page at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJm6IOYVzFmLnENC-rj7jMQ> to view.



Our stewardship is a combined total from the St. Rene and St. Symphorosa Worship Sites.  
Offerings for the weekend of:  
Sunday, July 26, 2020  
Contribution: \$7,292



**Split the Pot**  
July 26, 2020  
**Received this week: \$130.00**  
**Winning envelope: #2405**  
Reminder: A minimum of \$5.00 is required to participate.



The Transfiguration of the Lord  
Celebrated on August 6, 2020

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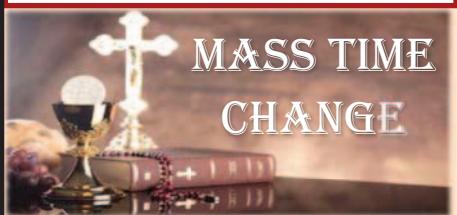
Call 773-585-6888 or email [stsymphorosa1@gmail.com](mailto:stsymphorosa1@gmail.com) to learn how to apply!

**DEADLINE APPROACHING! CONTACT US ASAP!**

## HELP WANTED

### Parish Maintenance Help Wanted!

The new parish of St. Symphorosa & St. Rene will be hiring a part-time maintenance worker to perform a variety of general maintenance duties at both campus locations. This position will work Monday-Friday on a 20-25 hours per week basis. Please contact the Parish Office at 773.767.1523 for additional details. Resume submission is required.



### New Mass Schedule with Worship Site

#### Saturday (Vigil Mass)

4 PM – St. Rene campus  
5:30 PM – St. Symphorosa campus

#### Sunday

7:30 AM – St. Rene campus  
9:00 AM – St. Symphorosa campus  
10:30 AM – St. Rene campus  
NOON – St. Symphorosa campus

St. Symphorosa & St. Rene Parish invites you to a



Saturday, August 8, 2020  
5:30pm – 7:30pm  
5940 West 62<sup>nd</sup> Street

Fish Dinner \$10.00  
Kids Meal \$5.00  
Pierogi 4 for \$4.00



# WELCOME FAMILIES TO ST. SYMPHOROSA AND ST. RENE PARISH



## Faith Formation Office

Phone: (773) 767-1523 x226



Email:  
[msiebenaler@archchicago.org](mailto:msiebenaler@archchicago.org)

Coordinator:  
Peg Siebenaler

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| <b>8/8</b>  | Communion Practice<br>9:30am (RE Students)<br>St. Symphorosa Campus |
| <b>8/22</b> | First Holy Communion<br>10am & 2pm<br>St. Symphorosa Campus         |



## A SPECIAL CALL

When the waters of Baptism are poured over our heads, we receive the gift of grace. We become members of the Church and part of the Church's mission is to share the Good News of Jesus. And so WE HAVE BEEN CALLED to do just that.

Beyond the basic call we received in Baptism, the call to be a catechist is a special vocation, one affirmed by the Church. It's the voice of the Holy Spirit, an interior call to form others in faith.

This fall, the young people of our parish will begin to gather to journey in faith with other children their age. New and "seasoned" catechists are needed to accompany them on this journey.

I invite you to spend some time in prayer and reflection on whether you may be called to share your faith.



## Confirmed in the Spirit

On July 26<sup>th</sup>, all our level Eight students in the Faith Formation Program, along with the 8<sup>th</sup> grade students from St. Symphorosa School were confirmed by our Pastor, Reverend Robert Regan. All who were present made a meaningful contribution to the liturgy. We congratulate all these students!

It was a great celebration!

It is our hope and prayer that these young people who were confirmed will continue to rely on the guidance of the Spirit in all of life's important decisions.



## Mass Intentions for the Week

**Saturday, August 1, 2020**

**Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**

- 4:00pm *St. Rene Church* †Kathleen "Kitty" Mroz (Family)  
 5:30pm *St. Symphorosa Church* †Janet & Steve Molnar (Hohm Family)  
 †Walter Szymowski (Hamann-Balicki Family)

**Sunday, August 2, 2020**

- 7:30am *St. Rene Church* †Kenney Family (Family)  
 9:00am *St. Symphorosa Church* Health & Birthday blessing's for Evan Mielnicki (Mielnicki Family)  
 †Marian Zdziennicki (Sister)  
 †Janet & Steve Molnar (Hohm Family)  
 †Margarete Hess (Hess & Novak Family)  
 †Joseph Loduca (Family)  
 10:30am *St. Rene Church* Health & a Speedy Recovery for Rose Mazzone (Family)  
 †Thomas E. Murray (Family)  
 †Raymond Ulrich (Family)  
 12:00pm *St. Symphorosa Church* †Patricia Malone (Cathy & Pat Carone)

**Monday, August 3, 2020**

- 8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church* †Ron Mroz Family  
 †Johanna Krzan (Soltis Family)  
 †Margaret Arvetis (Son)

**Tuesday, August 4, 2020**

**Saint John Vianney, Priest**

- 8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church* †Altar & Rosary Members (Altar & Rosary Society)

**Wednesday, August 5, 2020**

- 8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church* †Rose Litviak (Hederman Family)

**Thursday, August 6, 2020**

**The Transfiguration of the Lord**

- 8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church* †Martin Sangpeal (Gail Sangpeal)

**Friday, August 7, 2020**

**Saint Sixtus II, Pope**

**Saint Cajetan, Priest**

- 8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church* Health and Birthday Blessing's for Mary Kolimas  
 †Helen Frank (Family)

**Saturday, August 8, 2020**

**Saint Dominic, Priest**

- 8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church* †Michael Rizzo (Family)  
 4:00pm *St. Rene Church* †Aurora Lopez & Lupe Hernandez (Almendarez Family)  
 5:30pm *St. Symphorosa Church* Health and Birthday blessings for Mary Kolimas (Arlene Scalella)  
 †Bob Kolimas (Mary Kolimas)  
 †Janet & Steve Molnar (Hohm Family)  
 †Tom & Julie Dorencz (Kathy Calcagno)

**Sunday, August 9, 2020**

- 7:30am *St. Rene Church* †Marion Tulik (Marge Tulik)

- 9:00am *St. Symphorosa Church* †Bob Soltis (Pat Soltis)  
 †Janet & Steve Molnar (Hohm Family)  
 †Mary Lou Madej (Husband)  
 †Lawrence J. Stec (Markham Family)  
 †Millie Newhoff (Family)  
 10:30am *St. Rene Church* †Raymond Sutkowski (Edna Bazik)  
 †Bob & Penny Rogalin (Janice Shadrey)  
 †Alice Tomczak (Gloria & John Bodoki)  
 12:00pm *St. Symphorosa Church* Health and all the Lord's blessings for Dominic Rygiel

Let us pray...

Eternal Rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
 May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Amen.

Joseph R. Pavlik, Jr.



There are in the end three things that last: Faith, Hope, and Love, and the greatest of these is

- Martin Adelsbach  
 Judy Adelsbach  
 Larry Adkins  
 Guadalupe Almendarez  
 Kim Argires  
 Ignatius Battiatto  
 Elizabeth Bedran  
 Carl Bell  
 Mary Bieser  
 Fr. Ted Bojczuk  
 Lydia Brown  
 Joanne Bukowiecki  
 Gina Camp  
 Pat Carmody  
 Judy Carranza  
 Dominic Ciampaglia  
 Margaret Ciampaglia  
 Michael Clifford  
 Norma De Stefano  
 Chris Doherty  
 Juan Figueroa  
 Mitchell Galas  
 Geri Gestaut  
 Carol Gress  
 Suzann Gunter  
 Kathy Haars  
 Catherine Hier  
 Megan High  
 Robert Hilbruner  
 Heather Hradek  
 Denise M. Jandura  
 Rich S. Jandura  
 Joan Juris  
 Pete Kats  
 Lee Karpinski  
 Dennis Kline  
 Walter Kokoszka, Sr.  
 Claudia Kwiłosz  
 Norman Kwiłosz  
 James Lapsansky  
 Maryann Larson  
 Donna Lauritzen  
 Domenico Lopre

Due to privacy laws, names may only be added to our prayer list by immediate family. Please let us know when to remove a name.

### SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

- Sgt. Jaime A. Acosta, USMC  
 Sgt. Ted Bartelmev  
 C/Sgt. Joe Battung  
 1st Sgt. Chas. Berglund, USMC  
 Sgt. Naveen Bobba, USMC  
 Sgt. Arthur A. Boruch, National Guard  
 Hospitalman Blythe A. Cisneros, USN  
 Airman Carlos Cisneros, USAF  
 Sgt. Frank Cisneros, USMC  
 Corpman Nicholas J. Cundari-USN  
 Captain Kevin Dobbyn, US Army  
 Sgt. John Flores, IL National Guard  
 Staff Sgt. Andrew Gaca, USAF  
 Sgt. Michael Hough, US Army
- Anthony Jahaniewicz, US Navy  
 Corporal Noah M Konie, USMC  
 Lance Corp. Tim Lisenko, USMC  
 Trevor Lutz, US Army  
 Corporal Zachary Maderak, USMC  
 Private Joseph M. Mikutis, USMC  
 Pvt 1st Class Daniel Morales, US Army  
 SPC Alex Ramos  
 Staff Sgt. Abel Sandoval, USMC  
 WO-1 Richard Sobeske, US Army  
 Sgt. 1st Class Kristina Stuhlmacher  
 1LT Zachary White, IL Army NG

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 st.symphorosacatholic



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