

TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH

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

“Thus it is written that the Christ would suffer
and rise from the dead on the third day
and that repentance, for the forgiveness of sins,
would be preached in his name
to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.”

Luke 24:46–47

APRIL 18, 2021

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER



Fr. Bob's Weekly Blog

Welcome to Two Holy Martyrs Parish!!

Jesus often used exaggeration to make a point. Case in point -- "And if your hand or foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it from you." Um, please, in this instance, don't take the Lord, literally. We want you using your hands and feet to manifest the kingdom of God on earth.

Exaggeration is still a good way, however, to get people to think through the issues of the day.

There is a growing number of people who think the world would be a better place if religion would go away. That is a very bold statement to make, and one that is a tad general. Is the deeper issue really religion? Or might the issue be more related to the human person and the human heart?

Let's imagine we eradicated all religion. The state has stepped in and banned Christianity, Judaism, Islam, etc.. There can be no worship of God and no houses of worship. In the wake of this edict, will we suddenly experience a world at peace? Will Cubs fans and White Sox fans suddenly gather together and sing "Take Me Out to the Ballgame?" I wonder!

Sadly, there will be more than a handful of folks who answer "yes," that the world will be better off without religion. Religion is the problem. No religion equals a better world. Ahh, if only things were so simple and we could just point over there at THEM, and eliminate THEM, we'd finally have world peace.

Please take time and ponder this quote by Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn. He wrote, "If only it were all so simple. If only there were evil people somewhere insidiously committing evil deeds, and it were necessary only to separate them from the rest of us and destroy them. But the line dividing good and evil cuts through

the heart of every human being. And who is willing to destroy a piece of his own heart?"

Far too often our self-righteous pointed finger is a placating of our own guilty conscience in some other area of our personal life. Example: a husband who regularly beats his wife also volunteers at a soup kitchen and likes to preach to anyone who will listen, "We need to do something about world hunger."

Well, he's right about addressing world hunger, but we can see how his moral concern pointed in another direction keeps him feeling good about himself all the while his wife continues to live in fear of the next incident. Maybe Mr. Slap Happy needs to take a look inside his own troubled heart.

Jesus talked about this when he said, "Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?"

One of the roots of the word religion is the Latin "*religare*," which means to bind, or to connect. Authentic religion should connect the human with the divine, and in turn, connect us to one another. This is why the Father sent His only-begotten Son -- to be the mediator; to restore what had been lost. Sadly, religion, can be hijacked and used for nefarious purposes (This is not God's fault. We choose to use freewill to do evil). The mis-use of religion, however, does not cancel out the goal of authentic religion, which is UNION WITH GOD.

We are capable of great good, but also of horrific evil. So much depends on the inner stirrings of our respective hearts, and who or what we have made God (or a god) that is NOT God. We do well to unite our human hearts with the Sacred Heart

of Jesus. God's grace working in and through us helps to manifest the kingdom of God on earth. Blaming authentic religion is not the answer to our complex societal problems. It's scapegoating!

So, Fr. Bob, what, then, is the way?

The Lord told us when He said, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life."

And that is no exaggeration.

School Choice

Please continue to let any parents you know who are looking to make a school choice that Two Holy Martyrs Parish offers a quality school for pre-kindergarten through 8th grade.

St. Symphorosa School enrollment for the 2021-22 academic year is now open.

Our school offers good leadership, dedicated teachers, sound academics and faith formation. We want to form not just the mind of our children but also their precious hearts.

Even if you personally don't have children of school age, please consider being an ambassador for the school. We want this school not only to survive but to thrive.

Visit the school website (stsymsschool.org) or call the school office for more information (773-585-6888). The physical school is located at 6125 S. Austin Ave.



Quote of the Week

"Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter."

~Isaiah 5:20

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
Steve Kittler
Music Director
Deacon Raul Duque
Parish Organist
Magdalen Barry
Irene Perconti
Administrative Assistants
Nancy Markham
Office Coordinator
Peg Siebenaler
Faith Formation
Kathy Berry
Principal
Chris Garza
Assistant Principal
Mark Schusteric
Maintenance Supervisor

Two Holy Martyrs Parish Office

6135 S. Austin Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60638
773-767-1523 (phone)
773-767-6135 (fax)
www.twoholymartyrs.org (website)
info@twoholymartyrs.org (email)

Monday - Friday
9:00 am - 4:00 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

6-7pm every Tuesday (St. Symphorosa Site)
3-3:45pm every Saturday (St. Rene Site)
Offered by Appointment During the Week
Please call the Parish Office



Where Is Mary?

Many of you may have noticed that our beloved statue of Mary is not currently in its normal location! Rest assured, Mary is off-site and being well taken care of. In fact, Mary is being refinished, as well as, Mary's Shrine enclosure. This is a detailed project that will hopefully have a restored Mary back in place during the month of May. While our parish will certainly miss Mary's daily presence in our Sharp Building Prayer Garden, her time away will be short. Likewise, we will anxiously await her return after a much needed renovation!



Letters from Heaven



Start with the letter in the shaded square. Draw a path from letter to letter to complete the Biblical statement. Move one square at a time, up, down, right, left and diagonally until all letters are used once. Ignore any black squares.

Jesus spoke to his disciples and said, "Peace be with you." But they were startled and terrified and thought that they ...

S	O	G	G
T	N	H	A
I	E	E	E
W	E	R	S

W

Answer: *we were seeing a ghost*

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Dates: February 22, 2021 to April 4, 2021

Transactions: 273
Amount: \$9,684.00



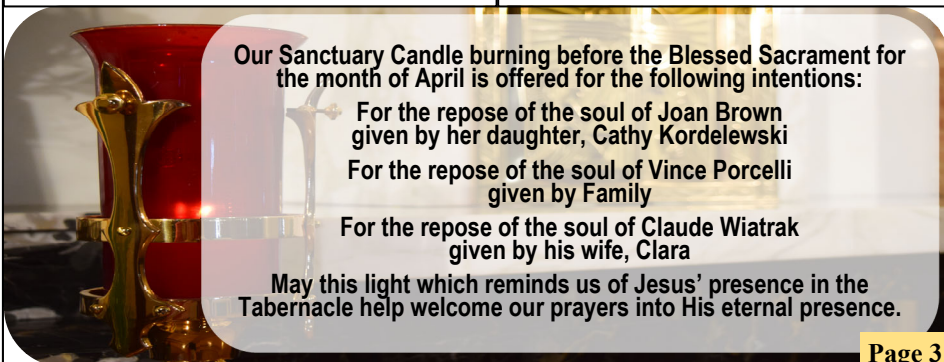
Two Holy Martyrs Parish
Offerings for the weekend of
Sunday, April 11, 2021
Contribution: \$6,351.00

Thank you for your generosity!



Split the Pot
April 11, 2021
Received: \$195.00
Winning envelope: #3421

Reminder: A minimum of \$5.00 is required to participate.



Our Sanctuary Candle burning before the Blessed Sacrament for the month of April is offered for the following intentions:

For the repose of the soul of Joan Brown
given by her daughter, Cathy Kordelewski

For the repose of the soul of Vince Porcelli
given by Family

For the repose of the soul of Claude Wiatrak
given by his wife, Clara

May this light which reminds us of Jesus' presence in the Tabernacle help welcome our prayers into His eternal presence.



Domine, labia mea aperies (Lord, you will open my lips) (Psalm 51:17)

The Collect in our Mass for the Third Sunday of Easter models a certain characteristic, which runs through the Catholic faith and is expressed in the Liturgy, namely, a looking to the past and to the future while in the present. The text of the prayer is as follows: "May your people exult for ever, O God, in renewed youthfulness of spirit, so that, rejoicing now in the restored glory of our adoption, we may look forward in confident hope to the rejoicing of the day of resurrection." (*Roman Missal*, 3rd ed.) Although we continue to rejoice in the Season of Easter, we are not yet rejoicing in the resurrected life of Heaven. Our joy is rooted in Christ's Resurrection from the dead (the past) and liberating us from the bonds of sin, though the temptation to sin persists in our lives (the present), we still await the coming day of Jesus' Second Coming and our resurrected life with Him (the future). Put another way, we are in that mysterious and at time perplexing state of "already" and "not yet."

Consistent with the Collect in our Mass, the Collect for the Latin Mass also looks to the past and the present, with hints at the burgeoning future, in light of our faith: "O God, who to those that go astray dost show the light of Thy truth, that they may return to the past of justice: grant that all who are enrolled in the Christian faith, may both spurn all that is hostile to that name, and follow after what is fitting to it." (Translation, *The Daily Missal and Liturgical Manual*, Baronius Press, Ltd. 2007) From past sins, the Church petitions God that we "may return to the past of justice" (the present) and then, rejecting evil, "follow after what is fitting to it [God's name]" (the future).

References to the past, present and future are also evident in the Mass prayed by Catholics from the Anglican liturgical tradition. In the Collect for this Mass, the Church prays, "Almighty God, who hast given thine only Son to be unto us both a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: give us grace that we may always most thankfully receive his inestimable benefit; and also daily endeavour ourselves to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life." (*Divine Worship: The Missal*) Christ as the "sacrifice for sin" (the past) continues to be made present in the Holy Eucharist. Moreover, in this prayer, the recognition of conscientious discipleship is explicit: "daily endeavour ourselves to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life" (the present) and a looking forward, "that we may always most thankfully receive his inestimable benefit."

~Fr. Matt Compton



Mass pre-registration will open as of Sundays a week before. We highly encourage all to pre-register for Mass each and every weekend. You may register by calling the parish office (773.767.1523) during regular business hours, visiting our website (twoholymartyrs.org) or by scanning the printed QR code.



The faithful all around the world are invited to join with Pope Francis for his special intention. Won't you join in? The intention for the month of April is for Fundamental Rights.

We pray for those who risk their lives while fighting fundamental rights under dictatorships, authoritarian regimes and even in democracies in crisis.

WEDDING BANNERS

III – *Kaitlyn Szaflarski & Thomas Glynn*

THANK YOU

to each and every parishioner, troop member, family and friends who helped Alejandro with his Eagle Scout project this past March. Everyone was very generous with their donations.



Alejandro was able to deliver everything to the St. Leo Residence right at the start of April. Again a heartfelt thank you to all who donated and supported Alejandro's Eagle Scout project.



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 twoholymartyrs.org or go directly to the YouTube page at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJm6IOYVzFmLnENC-rj7jMQ> to view.



Faith Formation Office

Phone: (773) 767-1523 x226

Email: msiebenaler@archchicago.org

Coordinator: Peg Siebenaler

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 4/20: Faith Formation Classes**
St. Rene Campus (Tues.)
- 4/21: Faith Formation Classes**
St. Rene Campus (Wed.)
- 4/24: Faith Formation Classes**
St. Symphorosa Campus (Sat.)
- 5/1: First Holy Communion**
St. Symphorosa Church 11am
- 5/8: First Holy Communion**
St. Rene Campus 1:30pm

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



TOTUS TUUS

Summer Youth Camps

Week 1: June 13-18, 2021

Two Holy Martyrs – St. Symphorosa
and St. Rene Goupil, Chicago

St. Norbert and Our Lady of the Brook,
Northbrook

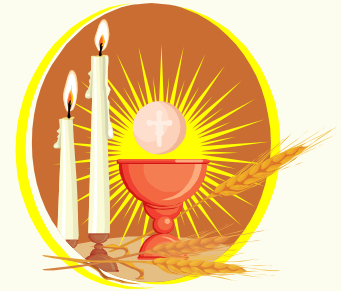
St. Francis de Sales, Lake Zurich

For more information and to register, please visit:
[chicagopriest.com/events/totus-tuus/
parent-information-registration](http://chicagopriest.com/events/totus-tuus/parent-information-registration)

WELCOME FAMILIES TO TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH FAITH FORMATION

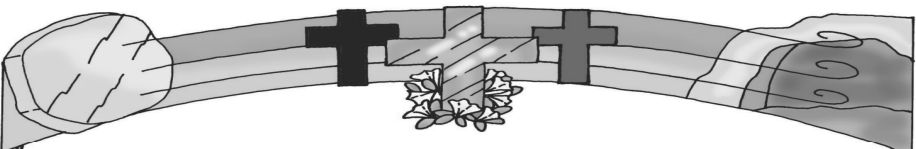
First Eucharist

On Saturday, May 1 and on Saturday, May 8, the Level Two students in our Faith Formation Program and the Second Graders from St. Symphorosa 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.



All our First Communicants are invited to wear their Communion attire to whatever Mass they attend the weekends of May 8th and May 15th.

God's Word for Children



Third Sunday of Easter

We search for lots of answers in our lives, especially to questions like
 "Who loves me even when I do wrong?" "Who forgives me?"
 "Who brings my concerns to God?"

Use the letters in the question mark to fill in the blanks
 so they will spell out something you should always remember.

W H E S
 E A
 U T
 R S
 S J

_ _ S _ _
 i _ _ _ _
 _ n _ _ _ _ !

(See 1 John 2:1-2)



Jesus Projects

This year, our Faith Formation Students in level Seven have focused on the person of Jesus in the Gospels. These students used a variety of creative art forms to depict a Jesus story of their choice. The projects are on display this weekend in the Narthex. Please, take the opportunity to view the wonderful work created by our Faith Formation Students.

Jesus Calms the Storm



Luke 8:22-25

saint snippets



I shall spend every
moment loving.

St. Bernadette of Lourdes

Young visionary of Our Lady of Lourdes in 1858

Copyright © 2018, Michael Th...

April 16

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, April 17, 2021

4:00pm *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

Godly leadership in the United States & throughout the world
(*Pelegrino Family*)

†Irene, Ceferino & Fidel Parra (*Almendarez Family*)

†David Valles (10th Annv.) & Andres Valles (1st Annv.) (*Family*)

†Wanda Zalewski (*Chester & Peggy Potempa*)

†Thomas W. Bobbitt (*Hohm Family*)

†Alice Kennedy (*Madalyn McLean*)

†Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)

5:30pm *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Matt

Sunday, April 18, 2021

7:30am *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Norm

9:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

Third Sunday of Easter

For all Two Holy Martyrs' Parishioners, living & deceased

†Thomas W. Bobbitt (*Hohm Family*)

†Ana Maria & Lorenzo Duran (*Daughters*)

†Liam Hanley (*Margaret Scanlon*)

†Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)

†Virginia Sullivan (*Tom & Mary Anne Milici*)

†Jim Jannesse (*Teresa & Nick Laskewich*)

†Vince Porcelli (*Wife Judy*)

†Marion Schrock (*Family*)

10:30am *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

12:00pm *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Matt

Monday, April 19, 2021

8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

For all Two Holy Martyrs' Parishioners, living & deceased

Health & all the Lord's blessings for Moe Faraj (*Zamudio Family*)

Health & speedy recovery for Carlos Montes, Jr. (*Mary Kolimas*)

†Kathy Arvetis (*Husband*)

†Dexter Duck (*Barbara Rendak*)

Tuesday, April 20, 2021

8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

Health & all the Lord's blessings for Janet Funk (*Teresa & Richard Koziar*)

†Vince Porcelli (*Wife Judy*)

Wednesday, April 21, 2021

8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

†Caroline Frances Connelly (*Barbara Rendak*)

†Eddie Walsh (*The Murphy Family*)

Thursday, April 22, 2021

8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

†Chester Goluch (*Family*)

†Sophie Plosaj (*Barbara Rendak*)

Friday, April 23, 2021

8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

Gratitude to God for life & all blessings (*Pelegrino Family*)

†Marilyn Polit (*Karen & Allen Crosser*)

Saturday, April 24, 2021

8:00pm *St. Symphorosa Church*

4:00pm *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Matt

Health & birthday wishes for Michael Sarlitto (*Mary Sarlitto*)

†Dominic Capparelli (*Nancy Markham*)

†Vince Porcelli (*Wife Judy*)

†Liz Malloy Porter (*Family*)

5:30pm *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

Health & all the Lord's blessings for Luann O'Donnell (*Family*)

†Thomas W. Bobbitt (*Hohm Family*)

†Thomas Hermle (*Ginny & Sarah*)

†Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)

†Msgr. Francis J. Smith (*Barbara Anna Rendak*)

Sunday, April 25, 2021

7:30am *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

Fourth Sunday of Easter

For all Two Holy Martyrs' Parishioners, living & deceased

9:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Norm

For all members of the Jurewicz & Newtoff Families, living & deceased
(*Family*)

†Thomas W. Bobbitt (*Hohm Family*)

†Rosario Maria Dragosetti (*Elvira D. Starshak*)

†Harry Kochan (*Arlene Scaletta*)

†Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)

10:30am *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Matt

Health & all the Lord's blessings for Alessandra Sutkowski
(*Sutkowski Family*)

†Jack Orsi (*Family*)

†Judy Siwek (*Altar & Rosary Society*)

†David Valles (10th Annv.) & Andres Valles (1st Annv.) (*Family*)

†Charles McDermott (*Family*)

†Vince Porcelli (*Wife Judy*)

12:00pm *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

Weekend Presider subject to change without notice



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

Martin Adelsbach
Judy Adelsbach
Larry Adkins
Mary Adkins
Guadalupe Almendarez
Raeann Arends
Kim Argies
JoAnn Baade
Ignatius Battialo
Carl Bell
Mary Bieser
Fr. Ted Bojczuk
Lydia Brown
Kathy Calcagno
Gina Camp
Pat Carmody
Judy Carranza
Margaret Ciampaglia
Michael Clifford
Marilyn Crites
Chris Doherty
Randy Etapa
Moe Faraj
Juan Figueroa
Maria Flores
Janet Funk
Mitchell Gallas
Geri Gestaut
Carol Gress
Suzann Gunter
Kathy Haars
Catherine Hier
Megan High
Robert Hilbruner
Heather Hradek
Larry Holmes
Deacon Tom Hyde
Denise M. Jandura
Rich S. Jandura
Joan Juris
Pete Kats
Lee Karpinski
Dennis Kline
Claudia Kwioloz
Norman Kwioloz
James Lapsansky
Maryann Larson
Donna Lauritzen

Domenico Lepore
Rose Ann Lindsay
Debbie Lipien
Maria Lopez
Diane Malarick
Maria & Martinez Family
John Martini
Marge Masunas
Lori McCarthy
Tina McGleam
Thomas Minnich
Christine Mosqueda
Genevieve Nagle
William Nita
Carol Oles
Joan Orsi
Florence Panzarella
Eleanor Pastorek
Baby Alexander J Pentz
Gi Gi Piccolini
Rochelle Piegari
Marie Pratt
Ann Robertson
Edward Robertson
Fr. John Rudnik
Joseph Rudnik
Collyn Schmidt
Kristyn Schmidt
Marge Schmidt
Elliana Sterk
Brian Styka
Sr. Christine Styka
Terry Styka
Melinda Svastisalee
Michael Tallon
Sandra Tallon
Mary Thorpe
Shirley Tloczek
George Trendle
Hector Hugo Valles
Ryan Vaughan
Judith Webber
Joan Wilhelmy
Richard Zaleski
Emily Zambrano
John Zappavigna
Barb Ziegler
Michelle

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 Bartelmey
CS-1 Joel 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
Corpsman 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 Johaniewicz, 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
LCpl. Justin R. Thorpe, USMC
1LT Zachary White, IL Army NG



In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus explains the meaning of the scriptures. Like the disciples, when we offer and receive forgiveness, our hearts burn because we encounter the risen Christ within us.

Have you considered answering the call to "help the poor find forgiveness and healing in their life" by joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul?

St. Vincent de Paul phone number: (773) 682-3342

Page 6



Flood Brothers

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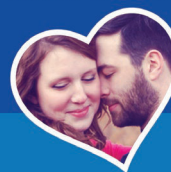
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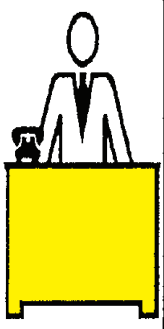
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