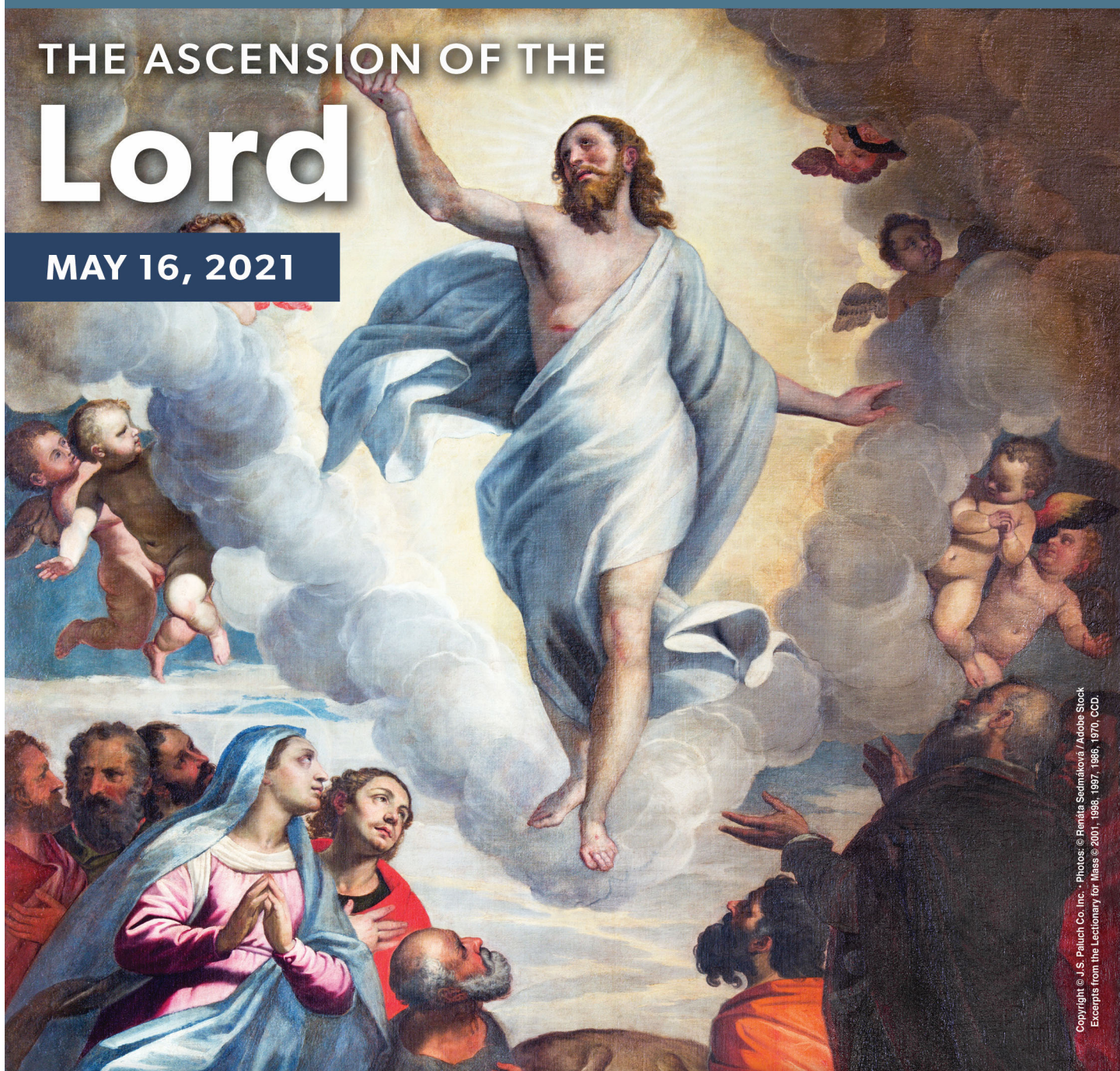


THE ASCENSION OF THE Lord

MAY 16, 2021



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Go into the whole world and
proclaim the gospel to every creature.

Mark 16:15

TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH

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



Fr. Bob's Weekly Blog

Welcome to Two Holy Martyrs Parish!!

St. Symphorosa & St. Rene Goupil

He ascended into heaven. Huh?

This weekend we celebrate the Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord. In the wake of the Resurrection, Jesus appeared to His disciples over the course of forty days. He then left them at His Ascension the commission to proclaim the good news.

What's so good about this news?

We, mere humans, thanks be to God, are invited to follow Jesus through the cross into the glory of eternal life. We do NOT get there on our own power. The Lord has paved the way via the Paschal Mystery (Suffering, Death, Resurrection and Ascension). We take hold of his nail-marked salvific hand and hold on for dear life.

Saint Augustine wrote, "Out of compassion for us He descended from heaven and although He ascended alone, we also ascend, because we are in Him by grace."

This is the GOOD NEWS. Although we await the day of fulfillment, we can already unite our earthly heart with the heavenly heart of our Savior who now serves as mediator between us and the Father.

Sadly, for many different reasons, people have chosen to reject the good news. The limiting of the Christian story to mere morality is one reason. People are not inspired by a list of "do this and not that." We, at times, lose sight of what the transformative power of the Gospel is supposed to do – lift us toward the divine. In technical theological language this is known as Divinization (also Deification or Theosis).

St. Irenaeus beautifully expressed this elevation of the human toward the divine when he wrote, "This is why the Word became man, and the Son of God, Son of man: so that man, by entering into communion with the Word and thus receiving divine sonship, might become a son (daughter) of God."

Our reaction to the Good News should be "Wow!" and not a yawn or indifference. We've allowed the despairing news of this world to shout over the Christian proclamation of ALLELUIA! We have a love story to tell. We must tell this story but also LIVE this story as we go about our day. We can experience the joy of the risen Lord now but our joy will be complete when Christ makes all things new.

Popular media wants us to believe more and more people don't believe in God. I don't believe this is true. Certainly, people are turning away from "organized

religion," but that does not mean they don't believe in God. Jesus didn't give us "organized religion." He gave us His life. The core of our faith is not an idea, event or ideology. The center of our faith is a Person, and from the Person of Jesus, the Christ, we receive a Church that serves as an ark amidst the tumultuous waves of this world.

Organized religion didn't suffer, die, rise and ascend. Jesus did. He is Lord. He gives us His Body & Blood at every single Mass. May our hearts never experience the cold of indifference to so great a gift.

Ordination Anniversaries

This is the time of year when most Archdiocese of Chicago priests celebrate their respective anniversary of ordination.

Please take a moment to wish Fr. Matt and Fr. Norm a happy anniversary. As priests we truly believe we have been called to serve the Lord in this way. Ordination is not a right. The three of us take this responsibility seriously and do our best to teach, preach, and govern in the name of Jesus.

This year my anniversary (May 16, 2015) falls on the Sunday we celebrate the Ascension. Thanks be to Jesus.

Also, we want to honor the diaconate ordinations of Deacon Tom Hyde and Deacon Raul Duque. All the best!

Scam Alert

In this day and age, it's wise to be leery of a scam coming your way via email or cell phone.

Last week one of our parish employees received a text on his cell phone indicating he had just received a red-light camera violation within the City of Chicago. The text seemed very authentic but his suspicion was raised when the link to click had a website that was NOT the City of Chicago's authentic site.

Thankfully, he did not click on the link.

This is just one recent example of the types of scams we might encounter today. Please use prudence and caution as you navigate the cyberworld we live in.



Quote of the Week

*"The basic reason for loneliness is that man today has divorced himself from both love of God and love of neighbor."
~Fulton Sheen*

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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

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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

St. Symphorosa School Parent Association

presents

Plant Sale Days *at* Soukal's Greenhouses

Throughout the entire month of May,
St. Sym's will receive **10%** of your
(pre-tax) total purchase when you
present this flyer at your next visit to

Soukal's Greenhouses
5336 South Mason Avenue
(Just north of Archer Avenue on Mason)

Greenhouse Hours: **Mon – Fri: 8 – 7**
Saturday: 8 – 5
Sunday: 9 – 2

All proceeds support technology for
St. Symphorosa School.

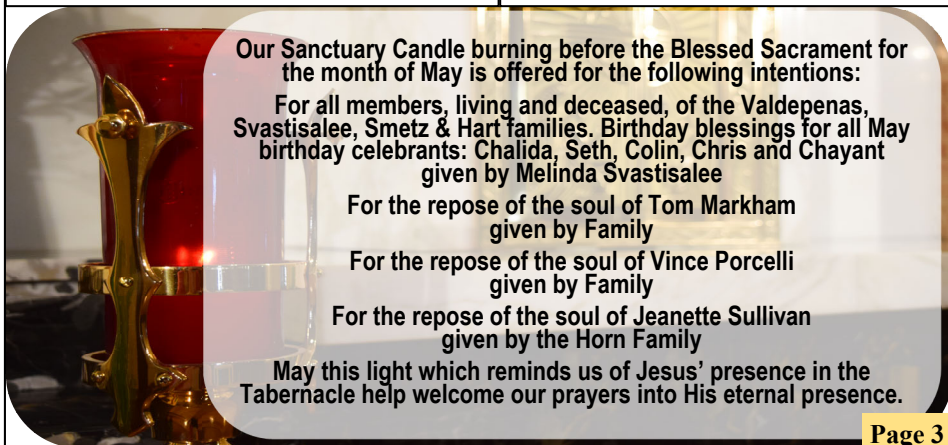


Two Holy Martyrs Parish
Offerings for the weekend of
Sunday, May 9, 2021
Contribution: \$8,461.50
Thank you for your generosity!



Split the Pot
May 9, 2021
Received: \$195.00
Winning envelope: #7733

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



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

For all members, living and deceased, of the Valdepenas, Svastisalee, Smetz & Hart families. Birthday blessings for all May birthday celebrants: Chalida, Seth, Colin, Chris and Chayant given by Melinda Svastisalee

For the repose of the soul of Tom Markham
given by Family

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

For the repose of the soul of Jeanette Sullivan
given by the Horn Family

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



“And behold, I [Jesus] am with you always, until the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:20)

On this Sunday, we will pray the Mass of the Ascension of the Lord. Traditionally, this Mass, remembering our Lord's Ascension from earth back to the Father, was fixed on the fortieth day of Easter. During the past several decades, some dioceses, including the Archdiocese of Chicago, have transferred the celebration of this solemnity to the following Sunday, the Seventh Sunday of Easter. If you use a daily missal or a monthly devotional guide for the Mass, such as Magnificat, then you might have seen this description in the introduction for the Ascension. As with a few other solemnities, the Church provides us with two options for the Collect, the opening prayer. The first one reads as follows: “Gladden us with holy joys, almighty God, and make us rejoice with devout thanksgiving, for the Ascension of Christ your Son is our exaltation, and, where the Head has gone before in glory, the Body is called to follow in hope.” (*Roman Missal*, 3rd ed.)

The second option is slightly shorter and almost verbatim with the Collect prayed in the Latin Mass and in the Mass of the Anglican Ordinariate (Catholics of Anglican heritage now in union with the Catholic Church). This second option for the opening prayer in our Mass is as follows: “Grant, we pray, almighty God, that we, who believe that your Only Begotten Son, our Redeemer, ascended this day to the heavens, may in spirit dwell already in heavenly realms.” (*Roman Missal*, 3rd ed.)

Both prayers explicitly reference Jesus' Ascension as well as the desire that we would also participate with our Lord in heavenly life. A difference in the prayers is one of emphasis. The first option seems to unite elements from the end of St. Matthew's, St. Mark's and St. Luke's Gospels. This year, we will hear St. Mark's account of Jesus' Ascension and are told that “the Lord worked with them and confirmed the word through accompanying signs.” (Mark 16:20) The Head (Jesus) remains attached to His Body (the Church), which is manifested by the works of the Lord, which the disciples accomplish. From St. Matthew's conclusion, our Lord promises, “I am with you always, until the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:20) Here, too, the Head and Body are not separated and the grace of hope is nourished in the Apostles. St. Luke concludes his Gospel with an additional description of the disciples, that they “returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and they were continually in the temple praising God.” (Luke 24:53) Notice, the Church, in the first option for the Collect, asks that God also “Gladden us with holy joys, ..., and make us rejoice with devout thanksgiving,” in other words, to make us like the disciples who saw Jesus ascend into Heaven.

We can detect the influence of St. Luke in the second option. The Acts of the Apostles are attributed to St. Luke along with one of the Gospels. In his account of Jesus' Resurrection, St. Luke describes, “two men in dazzling garments” who appear and speak to the myrrh-bearing women, revealing, “Why do you seek the living one among the dead? He is not here, but he has been raised.” (Luke 24:4, 5-6) Again, in the Acts of the Apostles, what we hear in the First Reading for this Sunday, St. Luke reports that to the Apostles, “suddenly two men dressed in white garments stood beside them. They [the two men] said, ‘Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky? This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven.’” (Acts 1:10-11)

The “two men” likely are angels and both at Jesus' tomb and at His Ascension, they explain why the myrrh-bearing women, the Apostles and we have reason to hope: that Jesus has risen from the dead and that despite no longer seeing Him He has not abandoned us. By our union with Christ in Baptism, we are being drawn to Him; by our praying of the Liturgy, we pray with the Lord and thus “may in spirit dwell already in heavenly realms.”

The death of loved ones can feel like absolute separation and a cause for mourning. Does Jesus' Ascension, His promises and the reaction of the Apostles who witness the Ascension influence how you view your own beloved dead?

~Fr. Matt Compton

Project Linus



Project Linus Blanket Drive

May 22, 2021
10am - 1pm

St. Symphorosa Church

Please turn into the parking lot next to the church. Project Linus volunteers will be at the end of the lot accepting your donations of new, handmade blankets suitable for children aged 0-18. Fleece (single or double, flannel, cotton and yarn blankets are accepted.



St. Vincent de Paul Bundle Weekend

The Two Holy Martyrs St. Vincent de Paul Society will have their donation truck in the St. Rene church parking lot (64th St. and New England Ave.) on **Saturday, May 29** and **Sunday, May 30, 2021**. The hours on Saturday will be 12pm - 5pm and on Sunday from 6am - 12pm (noon). Items accepted are gently used clothing and small kitchen items.

NO ELECTRONICS OR FURNITURE CAN BE ACCEPTED!

Thank you for your generosity!!



Dates: April 5, 2021 to April 25, 2021

Transactions: 118
Amount: \$3,964.00



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 BASILICA
of the NATIONAL SHRINE of the
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Conference of Bishop's website from the Basilica of the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, in Washington, DC:

<https://www.nationalshrine.org/event/worldwide-rosary-to-pray-for-an-end-to-the-pandemic-2021/>

Pope Francis has invited Catholics throughout the world to pray the Rosary with him, on **Monday, May 17 at 11am (Central Time)** for an end to the pandemic. A livestream of this prayer will be broadcast on the United States Catholic



Faith Formation Office

Phone: (773) 767-1523 x226

Email: msiebenaler@archchicago.org

Coordinator: Peg Siebenaler

UPCOMING EVENTS

Totus Tuus

June 13th - June 18th

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



TOTUS TUUS

Summer Youth Camps

JUNE 13TH – 18TH

Our Parish is hosting a summer youth camp....sponsored by the Archdiocese of Chicago.

The name Totus Tuus is Latin for "all yours."

"The Totus Tuus program aims to inspire young people to long for holiness, develop a deep desire for conversion and personally renew their faith with a stronger prayer life. Through evangelization and catechesis, Totus Tuus sees to foster openness to the sacrifices and blessings of the various Christian vocations."

DAY PROGRAM:

Grade School (1st to 6th grade)
Monday - Friday (9am - 2:30pm)

EVENING PROGRAM:

Jr. High/High School
(7th - 12th grade)
Sunday - Thursday (7pm - 9pm)

Questions?

Contact Ms. Peggy
773-767-1523 ext. 226

WELCOME FAMILIES TO TWO HOLY MARTYRS PARISH FAITH FORMATION

REGISTRATION
OPENING SOON

2021-2022 Registration

The Registration material for the 2021-2022 school year will be coming soon! Please check this bulletin for more details as we approach Spring Registration.

Pastor Al



"Why do I welcome you to the parish with plastic fruit? The Gospel says 'Go and bear fruit that will remain.'"



THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!!!

As we celebrate the end of our Faith Formation year, we thank all of our Catechists and Office Assistants! Many Thanks, to All those who contributed their time and talents in any way to make our Faith Formation program effective.

A very special "thank you" to all of our parents / guardians who entrusted their children to us this year.

May our Loving God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, watch over you and keep alive in your heart all that you learned this year.

Keep your mind on God. Remember to pray often and to celebrate your faith, at home with your family and at Mass with your faith family.

Keep your faith in God, Let all the joys of summer remind you of God's goodness. Never forget that God is always with you, no matter what.

May the God of all creation, who comes to us in Jesus, and lives among us in the Holy Spirit, Keep you safe, happy and holy this summer and always. Amen.

saint snippets



I am full of confidence in the power of God.

St. Eugene de Mazenod

19th-century Bishop of Marseille who dedicated his life to spreading the Gospel

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May 21

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, May 15, 2021

4:00pm *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Matt

5:30pm *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

Sunday, May 16, 2021

7:30am *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

9:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Norm

10:30am *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

12:00pm *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Matt

Monday, May 17, 2021

8:00am *St. Rene Church*

Tuesday, May 18, 2021

8:00am *St. Rene Church*

Wednesday, May 19, 2021

8:00am *St. Rene Church*

Thursday, May 20, 2021

8:00am *St. Rene Church*

Friday, May 21, 2021

8:00am *St. Rene Church*

Saturday, May 22, 2021

8:00am *St. Rene Church*

4:00pm *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

5:30pm *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Norm

Sunday, May 23, 2021

7:30am *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Matt

9:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

10:30am *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Matt

12:00pm *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

†Stephanie Adam (*Barbara Stoyak*)

†Froylan Mendoza (*Family*)

†Judy Siwek (*Linda Dobias*)

†Thomas W. Bobbitt (*Hohm Family*)

†Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)

†Chalida Svastisalee (*Family*)

†Wanda Zalewski (*Chester & Peggy Potempa*)

The Ascension of the Lord

For all Two Holy Martyrs' parishioners, living & deceased

Health & all the Lord's blessings for Maria Perez Montiel (*Zamudio Family*)

†Jesus Perez, Jr., Salvador Perez, Leonardo Perez, Micaela Luquin

(*Zamudio Family*)

†Thomas W. Bobbitt (*Hohm Family*)

†Nick Bouzios (*Janina Turek*)

†Socorro Duran (*Family*)

†Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)

†Andrew Schramm (*Family*)

†John F. Soltis (*Pat Saltis*)

†Joseph & Mary Negoski (*Ben & Judy Shafer*)

†Judith Siwek (*Family*)

†Dennis Battain (*C. Moran*)

†John Dragosetti (*Rosaria Dragosetti*)

†Vince Porcelli (*Wife Judy*)

For all members of the John & Mary Kolimas families, living & deceased
(*Mom & Dad*)

†Tom Biondo (*Ann & Andy Tuszynski*)

Health & all the Lord's blessings for Richard Wilus (*Mary Kolimas*)

†Thomas Murray (*Family*)

†Laurence Flynn (*Margaret Scanlon*)

†Catherine Grady (*Tim & Pat Sage*)

†Jan Provenzano (*Tim & Pat Sage*)

†Rita Grzenia (*Family*)

†Josephine Monaco (*Marcello Family*)

†Joseph Michael Russell (*Quinn, Lucas & the RPM Seafood Family*)

†John Mrozek (*Ann & Andy Tuszynski*)

An end to Jewish & Christian persecution & all abuse throughout the
world (*Pelegriano Family*)

†Eleanor Bluiss (*Kathy Calcagno*)

†Vince Porcelli (*Wife Judy*)

†Thomas W. Bobbitt (*Hohm Family*)

†Thomas Gomez (*Rose Zielinski & Family*)

†Lisa Kurek (*Marcello Family*)

†Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)

Pentecost

Health & 96th birthday blessings for Esther Saucedo (*Maria Gonzalez*)

†Thomas & Mary Ciukaj (*Niemczyk Family*)

†Vince Porcelli (*Wife Judy*)

†Rafael & Maria Alvarez (*Jas Sullivan Family*)

†Thomas W. Bobbitt (*Hohm Family*)

†Dominic Gervasio (*Marcello Family*)

†Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)

†James Sullivan, Sr. (*Jas Sullivan Family*)

†Catherine Bartuch Morrell (*Family*)

†William A. Kappel, Jr. (*Mom & Dad*)

†Marlene Sutkowski (*Sutkowski Family*)

†Pedro Alvarez (*Family*)

†Harriet Janda (*Claire Moran*)

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
Raeanne Arends
Kim Argires
JoAnn Baade
Ignatius Battiatto
Carl Bell
Mary Bieser
Fr. Ted Bojczuk
Lydia Brown
Kathy Calcagno
Gina Camp
Judy Carranza
Margaret Ciampaglia
Michael Clifford
Marilyn Crites
Michael DeRose
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
John Kappel, Jr.
John Kappel, Sr.
Pete Kats
Lee Karpinski
Dennis Kline
Claudia Kwilosz
Norman Kwilosz
James Lapsansky
Maryann Larson
Donna Lauritzen

Domenico Lepore
Rose Ann Lindsay
Debbie Lipien
Maria Lopez
Diane Malarick
Maria & Martinez Family
John Martini
Marge Masunas
Cathy Mazeika
Lori McCarthy
Tina McGleam
Thomas Minnich
Maria Perez Montiel
Christine Mosqueda
Genevieve Nagle
William Nita
Carol Oles
Joan Orsi
Florence Panzarella
Eleanor Pastorek
Baby Alexander J Pentz
Gi Gi Picciolini
Rochelle Piegari
Marie Pratt
Ann Robertson
Edward Robertson
Fr. John Rudnik
Joseph Rudnik
Colyn 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
Beverly 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 Barthelemy
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 Dobbey, 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
Pvt1st Class Daniel Morales,
US Army
SPC Alex Ramos
Staff Sgt. Abel Sandoval, USMC
WO-1 Richard Sabeske, US Army
Sgt. 1st Class Kristina Stuhlmacher
LCpl. Justin R. Thorpe, USMC
1LT Zachary White, IL Army NG

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.

Betty Magda

Frank Tokarz



Flood Brothers

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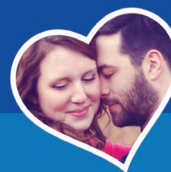
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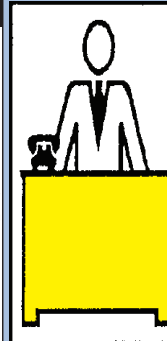
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