

NOVEMBER 22, 2020

SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING



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!!

Ready for a new year?

Many folks are ready for 2021, but in the Church we are already close to turning another page.

This weekend we end the liturgical year by celebrating the Solemnity of Christ the King. We begin a new liturgical year next weekend with the First Sunday of Advent.

Jesus is Number One in our life, or certainly should be. How easy it can be during the course of a long year to lose sight of the One whose Paschal Mystery opens up for us mere humans a divine way Home. The Lord tells us that He is "the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Him."

Christ is our Light. He is the Word made flesh, and His becoming like us paves the way for us to become more like Him. This process of spiritual growth is known as Deification or Divinization. Sadly, this holy way of living has gotten lost over the years as folks began to rely less on God's power and more on human industrialization and technology.

This is a wonderful time of year to get re-focused on the Lord and who we are in relation to the Divine.

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI wrote, "We are not some casual and meaningless product of evolution. Each of us is the result of a thought of God."

Our relativistic (there is no objective truth) society continues to darken as it turns away from God in preference for idols and false gods. Our response is to re-commit ourselves to the Lord; first by making sure we are in a good place in our own relationship with Christ. In turn, we can share the "Love that keeps us sane" with those in our sphere of influence.

Division is being fomented left and right these days. This is not the first time in history human beings have become so ensnared. We can get so fixated on all our earthly problems that we forget we

already have been given a Solution – the Person of Jesus, the Christ. We cannot simply wink at the Lord and expect things to change. There must be true surrender, and this is not easy. Surrender butts up against our pride, and yet, surrender we must.

"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me," Jesus says. "For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?"

This kind of talk makes no sense to those whose eyes are closed to the supernatural; to those whose eyes are fixated only on worldly goods and pleasures. But to those with faith, we place our trust in the Lord. We prepare our hearts in this world for eternal satisfaction that only comes from God. St. Augustine said this most wonderfully when he wrote, "You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it finds rest in You."

Maybe – just maybe – so much of the restlessness we experience today is because far too many folks have set their hearts on things NOT OF GOD. We must find our rest in the Lord, the One who challenges us to see Him in our neighbor in need.

Take a look inside today; not the newspaper, not the church building, but inside your heart. Where are you, YOU, with Jesus on this great feast of Christ the King? Is He your king? Or are we trusting a restless heart to some earthly prince instead of the Prince of Peace?

The Lord will give us what we choose. May we choose wisely who we make king of our hearts.

School News

This school year has been inspiring yet challenging. The principal, teachers, staff and students of our parish school deserve recognition for going above

and beyond to make in-class learning a reality.

Many guidelines and obstacles have been thrown at them and they have responded heroically when it could have been much easier to go 100-percent online. Please keep all of them in your prayers as we head into the holiday season and into the new year.

Kathy Berry continues to lead and inspire as our school principal and she has a group of dedicated and talented teachers helping to engage the minds of our children and form their hearts.

Our school enrollment most recently is just over 190 students. We do have 50 or so families choosing to do purely remote learning, which is understandable in light of our current COVID concerns.

We would love to continue to see our school enrollment grow as we head into the next academic year and beyond. If you are a young family looking for a good educational fit for your child, please consider our parish school (St. Symphorosa). We offer strong academics, but in addition we concern ourselves with the faith formation of the child's heart.

We want to prepare our children for life, but we also want to show them – through a relationship with Jesus Christ – how to live in this world as a human being all the while preparing for eternity.

If you want to learn more about St. Symphorosa school, please contact the school office and feel free to ask the questions you need to ask.



Quote of the Week

"It is to the Cross that the Christian is challenged to follow his Master; no path of redemption can make a detour around it."

~Hans Urs von Balthasar

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

Magdalan Barry
Irene Perconti
Administrative Assistants

Nancy Markham
Office Coordinator

Peg Siebenaler
Faith Formation

Kathy Berry
Principal

Chris Garza
Assistant Principal

Mark Schusteric
Maintenance Supervisor

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 - 4:30 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 & St. Rene's

MILITARY GIFT BOXES

The Knights of Columbus are again sponsoring the popular Gift Box program for deployed soldiers. The collection boxes will be set up November 28th thru December 13th in the Church lobbies. Below is a suggested list - much can be picked up at dollar stores. We also gladly accept monetary donations for postage which can be dropped in the collection boxes - or church mailbox - in an envelope marked "Knights".

Thanks again for your support!

- | | | |
|--------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| • Shampoo | • Toothbrushes | • Gum |
| • Body wash | • Cough drops | • Nuts |
| • Deodorant | • Icy Hot | • Trail mix |
| • Razors | • Magazines | • Energy bars |
| • Baby wipes | • Crosswords | • Beef Jerky |
| • Eye drops | • Jumbles | • Individual |
| • Toothpaste | • Puzzles | powdered drink mix |
| • Floss | • Cards | (lemonade, ice tea, |
| • Lip balm | • Small card/dice | etc.) |
| • Sunblock | games | |



Thanksgiving Day Mass Schedule

Give thanks to God this year and join us for Mass on Thanksgiving, **Thursday, November 26th**. Preregistration for Mass is recommended. Please visit our website or call the parish office through Wednesday, November 25th by 4pm.

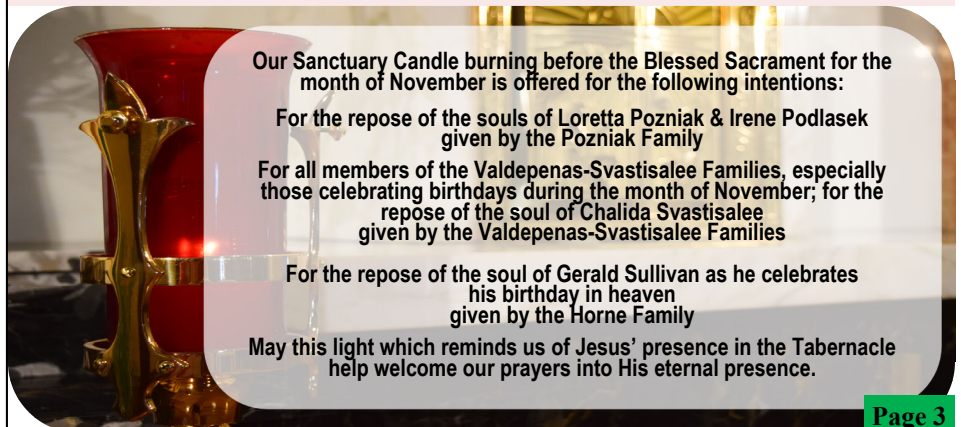
Mass will be celebrated at the following times and worship sites:

8am - St. Rene Worship Site
9am - St. Symphorosa Worship Site



Parish Office Closed

The St. Symphorosa & St. Rene parish office will be closed in celebration of Thanksgiving on **Thursday, Nov. 26 & Friday, Nov. 27, 2020**. Our entire staff wishes everyone a very happy and full Thanksgiving this coming week.



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

For the repose of the souls of Loretta Pozniak & Irene Podlasek given by the Pozniak Family

For all members of the Valdepenas-Svastisalee Families, especially those celebrating birthdays during the month of November; for the repose of the soul of Chalida Svastisalee given by the Valdepenas-Svastisalee Families

For the repose of the soul of Gerald Sullivan as he celebrates his birthday in heaven given by the Horne Family

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

OCTOBER

School News



Grade five working on some All Saints' Day research on Halloween.



The Kindergarten class loves to share with everyone, how much God loves them!



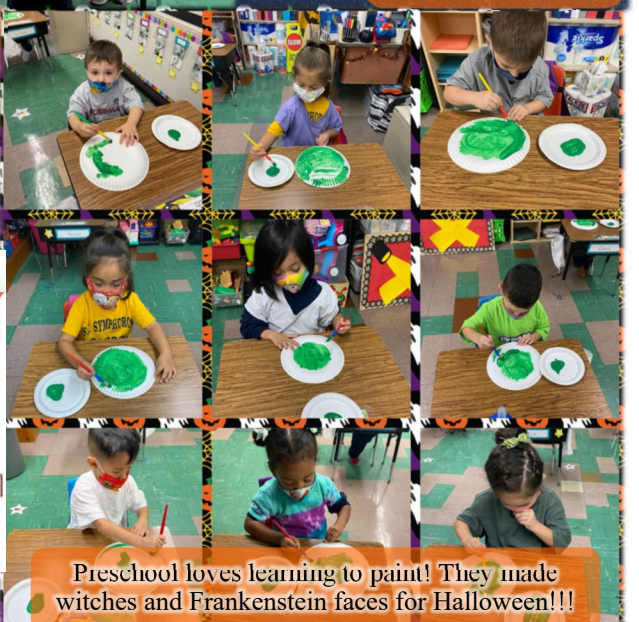
Seventh graders getting some exercise.



First graders enjoying being outside.



2nd grade working on their leaves acrostic poems as well as sponge painting a fall tree.



Preschool loves learning to paint! They made witches and Frankenstein faces for Halloween!!!



Copies of grade six's saints reports.



Third graders enjoy dancing to Monster Mash prior to playing a game sponsored by the Parents' Association.



Eighth graders decorating their door for Halloween.



Fourth graders working on inferencing skills.



WELCOME FAMILIES TO ST. SYMPHOROSA AND ST. RENE PARISH FAITH FORMATION



Faith Formation Office

Phone: (773) 767-1523 x226

Email: msiebenaler@archchicago.org

Coordinator: Peg Siebenaler

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 11/29: Lighthouse Display
- 12/8: Faith Formation Classes (Tues.)
St. Rene Campus - 6pm
- 12/9: Faith Formation Classes (Wed.)
St. Rene Campus - 6pm
- 12/10: First Reconciliation - St. Rene Campus
- 12/12: Faith Formation Classes (Sat.)
St. Sym's Campus
First Reconciliation
St. Sym's Campus

Jesus is the Light of the World

Remember to check out our Lighthouses! The Lighthouses will be on display in the Narthex of the Church (at both campus') today and on November 29. It's our hope that these lighthouses will serve as a reminder to all our Parishioners, to **Let our Light of Jesus Shine for Others!**



The Sacrament of Reconciliation

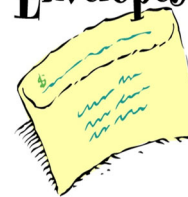
The Level 2 Students in our Faith Formation Program and the second graders at St. Symphorosa School will celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Thursday, December 10 and on Saturday, December 12. Please remember these young students in your prayers as they journey closer to Jesus in the sacrament of Reconciliation.



Thank You, LORD!

As we celebrate this season of giving thanks, we express our sincere appreciation to all who serve our parish in the Faith Formation Ministry. We are thankful for the blessing you are to St. Symphorosa & St. Rene Parish!

Offering Envelopes



**SPECIAL NOTE ONLY
FOR PARISHIONERS
CURRENTLY
RECEIVING
ST. SYMPHOROSA
CHURCH
OFFERTORY
ENVELOPES**

Beginning with the December 2020 Offertory Envelopes, our envelope company will begin to mail one (1) month at a time instead of the two (2) months together in a packet.

USPS has standing instructions that the packets of envelopes are to be delivered to the homes at least ten (10) days before the first Sunday in the month. Basically this means that you should have received your envelopes by the last week of the month for envelope use during the next month.

St. Symphorosa & St. Rene Altar and Rosary Society News



The Altar & Rosary Society is very saddened to announce that the Annual Christmas Party has been **cancelled** due COVID-19 restrictions. At this time, we would also like to announce, that all future meetings are also cancelled until further notice. Our Altar and Rosary Society is keeping all of our members and their families in our prayers. We pray for our entire parishes health and safety as well as for a return to normalcy in all of our lives. We wish each and every member and their families a magical and joyful Christmas season.



Our stewardship is a combined total from the St. Rene and St. Symphorosa Worship Sites.

Offerings for the weekend of Sunday, November 15, 2020

Contribution: \$6,201.00

Thank you for your generosity!



Split the Pot
November 15, 2020
Received this week: \$115.00
Winning envelope: #1680

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

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, November 21, 2020

4:00pm *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

5:30pm *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Matt

Sunday, November 22, 2020

7:30am *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Norm

9:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

10:30am *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

12:00pm *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

Monday, November 23, 2020

8:00am *St. Rene Church*

Tuesday, November 24, 2020

8:00am *St. Rene Church*

Wednesday, November 25, 2020

8:00am *St. Rene Church*

Thursday, November 26, 2020

8:00am *St. Rene Church*

9:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

Friday, November 27, 2020

8:00am *St. Rene Church*

Saturday, November 28, 2020

8:00am *St. Rene Church*

4:00pm *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Matt

5:30pm *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Norm

Sunday, November 29, 2020

7:30am *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

9:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

10:30am *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Matt

12:00pm *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Matt

The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

†Geraldine Finlay (*McAllister & Neligan Families*)

†Tony & Josephine Pelegrino (*Pelegrino Family*)

†Abigail & Charles Toribio (*Almendarez Family*)

†Dorothy Bogumil (*Claire Moran*)

†Lucille Cantu (*Sisters & Nephew*)

†Rose Karpinski (*Mary Trendle*)

†Walter Labno (*Wife & Family*)

†Tom Markham (*Wife*)

†Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)

†Alfreda Sajdak (*Family*)

†Margaret Murphy (*Fr. Bob*)

†Helen Hermanowicz - 6th anniversary of passing (*George & Nancy Groszek*)

†Elaine Hilliard (*Barb Grzenia*)

†Marion Loconsole (*St. Symphorosa Super Club*)

†Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)

†Anne & William Saunders (*Daughter Mary Thorpe & Family*)

†Claude Wiatrak (*Wife Clara*)

†Israel Garcia & Raul Nieto (*John Garcia*)

†Vince Porcelli (*Wife Judy*)

†John Dragosetti (*Rosario Dragosetti*)

†Elaine Hilliard (*Joanne Tishka*)

Saint Clement I, Pope; Saint Columban, Abbot

Health & all the Lord's blessings for Deacon Tom Hyde (*Barb Grzenia*)

†Vince Porcelli (*Wife Judy*)

Saint Andrew Dŭng-Lac, Priest

†Dominic Capparelli (*Arlene Scaletta*)

†Vince Porcelli (*Wife Judy*)

Saint Catherine of Alexandria

†Dominic Capparelli (*Grace Gryska*)

†Lorraine Maringer (*Linda Dobias*)

Thanksgiving Day

†Lucille S. Shotas (*Nancy Shotas*)

For all members of the McGriff & Jeziora Families, Living and Deceased (*Ed & Joann McGriff*)

†Marilyn Polit (*Karen & Allen Crosser*)

†Kathy Arvetis (*Husband*)

†Dominic Capparelli (*Marie Zilka*)

†Ken Strathdee (*Capparelli Family*)

†Stella Tomczak (*Arlene Scaletta*)

†Valeria Witkowski (*Family*)

†Fred Borowski (*Geri Tomaselli*)

†Patrick Crotty (*Mary Sarlitta*)

†Geri Norbut (*Family*)

†Edward Gerlick (*Gerlick Family*)

†Jeffrey Gerlick (*Gerlick Family*)

†Thomas P. Mahon (*80th Birthday*)

†Lucille Salamendo (*Terri & Dan Domarsky*)

†Esteban Garcia (*Markham Family*)

†James Gaughan (*Sue Solcani*)

†Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)

†Helen Morrissey (*Barb Grzenia*)

†Encarnacion Villarreal (*Daughter & Grandsons*)

First Sunday of Advent

†Vince Porcelli (*Wife Judy*)

†Andy Budz, Jr. (*Barbara Rendak*)

†Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)

†Daniel Plewa (*Barbara Rendak*)

†Estelle Rabbitt (*St. Symphorosa Super Club*)

†Roberto Rodriguez (*Inez Rodriguez*)

†Dominic Capparelli (*Altar & Rosary Society*)

†Jack Orsi (*Family*)

†Raymond Sutkowski (*Sutkowski Family*)

†Elaine Hilliard (*Joanne Tishka*)

†Linda Pecoraro (*Cathy & Pat Carone*)

†Robert Rodriguez (*Family*)

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

Martin Adelsbach
Judy Adelsbach
Larry Adkins
Guadalupe Almendarez
Kim Argires
JoAnn Baade
Ignatius Battiato
Carl Bell
Mary Bieser
Fr. Ted Bojczuk
Lydia Brown
Gina Camp
Pat Carmody
Judy Carranza
Dominic Ciampaglia
Margaret Ciampaglia
Michael Clifford
Marilyn Crites
Norma De Stefano
Chris Doherty
Randy Etapa
Juan Figueroa
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
Walter Kokoszka, Sr.
Claudia Kwilosz
Norman Kwilosz
James Lapsansky

Maryann Larson
Donna Lauritzen
Domenico Lepore
Rose Ann Lindsay
Debbie Lipien
Maria & Martinez Family
John Martini
Marge Masunas
Lori McCarthy
Thomas Minnich
Christine Mosqueda
Genevieve Nagle
William Nita
Carol Oles
Florence Panzarella
Eleanor Pastorek
Baby Alexander J Pentz
Gi Gi Piccolini
Rochelle Piegari
Marie Pratt
Ann Robertson
Edward Robertson
Fr. John Rudnik
Joseph Rudnik
Coltyn Schmidt
Kristyn Schmidt
Marge Schmidt
Judith Siwek
Elliana Sterk
Brian Styka
Sr. Christine Styka
Terry Styka
Michael Tallon
Sandra Tallon
Mary Thorpe
Scott Tloczek
Shirley Tloczek
George Trendle
Judith Webber
Joan Wilhelmy
Richard Zaleski
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 Babba, 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
Pvt1st Class Daniel Morales, US Army
SPC Alex Ramos
Staff Sgt. Abel Sandoval, USMC
WO-1 Richard Sabeske, US Army
Sgt. 1st Class Kristina Stuhlmecher
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.

Angeline "Chicky" McGleam

Edward McGriff



Flood Brothers

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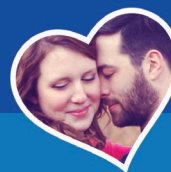
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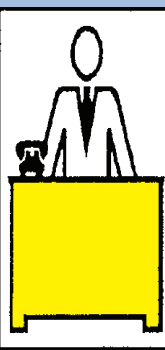


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