

October 11, 2020

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time



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THE KING SAID TO HIS SERVANTS,
“THE FEAST IS READY, BUT THOSE WHO WERE
INVITED WERE NOT WORTHY TO COME.
GO, THEREFORE, INTO THE MAIN ROADS AND
INVITE TO THE FEAST WHOMEVER YOU FIND.”

Matthew 22:8-9

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!!

One of the joys of priesthood is witnessing a person coming back to the practice of his or her faith after a prolonged absence, or seeing someone who once identified as a non-believer, but through grace, has found Jesus to be the answer to the heart's deep desire.

Yup, I am sucker for conversion stories.

No doubt St. Paul is one of the most well-known conversions. He had been a vociferous persecutor of the early Church, but on the road to Damascus he had encounter with the Risen Lord. This was a life-changing encounter. This was a change in his life direction.

An authentic conversion transforms the heart and reprioritizes our life. We begin to make different choices.

St. Clare of Assisi gives us food for thought. She wrote, "We become what we love and who we love shapes what we become." Hmmm! A person whose life is directed away from God and the things of God distances himself from the source of love – God. For God is love.

We'd like to think that conversion is a one-time affair, but if we are being honest, conversion to Christ is an every-morning affair. When our eyes awaken in the morning, we begin by saying, "Thank you, Lord, for the gift of a new day. May all I do this day be for Your great glory. I say YES to you once again."

We formally say YES to God at certain moments in our faith life: Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Orders, Religious Vows, Matrimony. But it is our YES each

morning that keeps us focused on our No. 1 love. When we begin with our eyes fixed on the Lord, our charity then flows from our heart united to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. This is why daily prayer is so important. We spend time with the One we love. The relationship is strengthened and deepened.

If you know someone who is adrift from God and the ways of God, please make that specific person part of your daily prayer. Pray for their conversion. Pray that the Holy Spirit touch their lives in a very concrete way. Ask for the intercession of St. Monica, she who didn't stop praying for her wayward son, Augustine.

I'm pretty certain that when my life consisted of hanging out every weekend with the Lite Brothers (Bud, Miller, Coors), my mom was praying for me. She knew my life had gotten off track, and in the silence of her heart, she reminded Jesus that her youngest son had a vocation to the priesthood. And not long after she died, I rediscovered The Call. Thank you, mom!

Big Picture, Little Picture

Amidst our day to day busy-ness, we can easily lose sight of the Big Picture. This can happen in parish life, too. We can become so focused on what we are DOING, we forget the WHY of our doing. Note to self: everything we do each day is for the greater glory of God, or should be.

This is all about keeping an eternal perspective while we go about daily life in this world. Over the past few years, in my experience, I encounter more and more people who seem

unable to keep perspective. Little issues get blown out of proportion to what is eternally important.

This might make sense for the atheist, the agnostic or the indifferent, but for us as Christian disciples, we need to set one eye on this world while keeping the other eye on eternity. This helps us make daily decisions with proper perspective.

Yes, of course, we will have to attend to daily issues and parish issues, but we want to make sure we have perspective. A couple years ago a guy came into the parish saying he needed to see me. He said it was urgent. I assumed this was going to be a serious issue about life and death, so I dropped what I was doing to meet with this guy.

Turns out, the urgent matter was that he needed money for work boots. This may have been urgent in his eyes. He and I had a different perspective on the meaning of the word urgent.

Pray to the Lord to help us keep the Big Picture in mind as we go about our tasks of everyday living in our homes and in our parish. Kneeling in front of the crucifix helps us to remember God's got the whole world in His salvific arms. Knowing that helps us to BE NOT AFRAID.



Quote of the Week

"Conversion is not implanting eyes, for they exist already; but giving them a right direction, which they have not."
~Plato

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Robert Regan
Pastor

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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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Parish Organist

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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

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



Reopening Team In-Person Training

Our Reopening Team is offering the opportunity to complete the online training live, in-person, at St. Symphorosa on October 12, 2020. The training session will be held at 7pm in the Sharp Center (5940 W 62nd St.). This is a great opportunity to meet the team leaders, ask questions and share any concerns you may have.

All attendees must register by calling the parish office at (773) 767.1523. Social distancing guidelines will be followed during this meeting and masks are required in the building. Please contact Maggie (773.767.1523 ext. 221) in the parish office with any questions.

Thank you!

Knights of Columbus Thanks!

We at the St. Sym's/St. Rene's Knights of Columbus would like to express our sincere gratitude to the parishioners for their support during our recent "Tootsie Roll Drive".

Thru a very tough time we exceeded expectations. Your donations help support the parish SPRED programs - along with other causes that assist handicapped kids and adults.

Feel confident you'll hear from us again in the near future as "we're nothing without you!"



NEW CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Beginning November 3, 2020 confessions will be held within our parish on Tuesdays from 6-7pm at St. Symphorosa and on Saturday's from 3-3:45pm at St. Rene Goupil.

Confessions are still available by appointment.



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

Offerings for the weekend of: Sunday, October 4, 2020

Contribution: \$9,709.00

Thank you for your generosity!



Split the Pot

October 4, 2020

Received this week: \$90.00

Winning envelope: #1680

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



Do You Play a Musical Instrument, and Would You Like to Play Your Music in Church?

If you are a student at St. Symphorosa School, or are an RE Student at St. Symphorosa & St. Rene Parish, and play any instrument, I would like to teach you the music of our faith, and then use this music in the worship of our God at Mass. The experience of worshipping through music is a lasting gift that will stay with you into adulthood. As you enhance your musical skills and learn our music traditions, you will build courage to present your talents to the entire church.

Parents, whatever your children learn through music will have a significant impact on their beliefs, values, and perceptions for life. Think about what your children are hearing on a daily basis. What are they hearing about the world they live in, and the God who created it? By the time your children are 18, they have an estimated 10,000 songs in their heads. You can ensure that a good portion of those tunes honor Jesus and change hearts and lives.

Music is celebrated as one of the gifts that God gives to us. Playing an instrument at Mass is an expression our of praise to God. Encourage your child to take advantage of this opportunity. If you are interested, talk to your teacher, contact me at Church, or talk to me after any Mass. I will be happy to answer any questions that you may have.

Steve Kittler
Director of Music



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

For the repose of the soul of Jack Doherty
given by Family

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

Unfortunately due to human error, the list of sanctuary candle intentions requested for November and December have gone missing. If you offered an intention for either of these months, please contact the Parish Office at (773) 767.1523. Thank you.

Submission Form for Newly-Unified Parish Name

Thank you for taking the time to complete and submit this form as we undertake the process of discerning a name for our newly unified parish. This is a challenging yet exciting process. Please take time to pray before officially offering a parish name. The Holy Spirit must play a part, and we want to be attentive to the stirring in our minds and hearts.

Once you have written down a potential name, we ask that you write a few paragraphs on why you think the name you submitted would be the right fit for the newly unified parish of Sts. Symphorosa & Rene Goupil.

The Renew My Church committee for the Archdiocese of Chicago has asked that we begin to steer clear of Marian names. There has been an overload of newly-formed parishes selecting a name that relates to the Blessed Mother. However, if the Spirit so moves you and you feel strongly about the name choice, then please go ahead and submit the Marian-themed name.

Our parish Unification Team will sift through the submissions and carefully/prayerfully choose 3-5 names which we will send to the archdiocese. In conjunction with the Presbyteral Council, the Archbishop of Chicago (Cardinal Cupich) will make the final decision.

The parish name submission forms can be dropped off in church or at the parish office. They can also be emailed or sent via US Postal Service. Thank you!

May God bless you and your families.

Fr. Bob

Name (optional): _____ **Submission Date:** _____

Suggested Parish Name:

Brief explanation why you think this name would be a good fit for our newly unified parish:

[illegible]



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

- 10/20:** Faith Formation Classes (Tues.) & Reconcil. Parent Meeting - St. Rene Campus
- 10/21:** Faith Formation Classes (Wed.) & Confirmation Parent Mtg. - St. Rene Campus
- 10/24:** Faith Formation Classes (Sat.), Reconcil. Parent Mtg., Confirmation Parent Mtg. - St. Sym's Campus



FIRST RECONCILIATION PARENT MEETING

On October 20th & 24th our Second Grade parents from the Faith Formation Program and St. Symphorosa Catholic School will gather for a special meeting in preparation for their child's celebration of First Reconciliation which takes place in December.

We initially prepare our children for this sacrament as we teach them about right and wrong. And way before they understand what sin is, we teach them to say "I'm sorry" when they have done wrong or have hurt someone. Once again, we emphasize that parents are the first and primary catechists of their children, using "teachable moments" to help their children grow in faith.

The focus of the Parent Gathering will be to honor your role as parents and assist you in that role.



PARENT/ STUDENT CONFIRMATION MEETING

We will welcome our Confirmandi, and their parents to a Confirmation Preparation meeting. Our own Pastor, Fr. Robert Regan will be the Presenter. We happily anticipate his time with us because we know he will encourage our Confirmation candidates to share the good news of Jesus by their witness to Gospel values and their care for those in need. Please remember to include the Confirmation Candidates and their parent in your prayers.



Welcome back all St. Symphorosa & St. Rene Faith Formation Families

A Virtual Fundraiser for St. Symphorosa School

SYM-PLY SHINING STARS FACE RACE

This very special raffle item will be posted on our facebook group on Tuesday, October 13 at 6:30pm.
Only 25 lines will be sold at \$29.50 each.

WIN A \$500 ST. SYM'S TUITION CREDIT



TO JOIN THE FACEBOOK GROUP:
Search for the "Sym-PLY" Shining Stars facebook group and request to join.
Invite your family and friends!!

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, October 10, 2020

4:00pm *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Matt

5:30pm *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

†Tom Biondo (*Karen DeRango & Joe Izzo*)
 †Margaret Murphy (*Fr. Bob*)
 †Walter Labno (*Wife and Family*)
 †Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)
 †Michael E. Abbott (*Nancy Markham & Barb Payne*)
 †Claude Wiatrak (*Wife Clara*)
 †Walter Szumowski (*Wes & Debbie Szumowski*)

Sunday, October 11, 2020

7:30am *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Norm

9:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Matt

†Mildred Denwood (*The Capparelli's*)
 †Omar Saucedo (*Maria Gonzalez*)
 †Januario Gonzalez (*Maria Gonzalez*)
 Health & all the Lord's blessings for Sharon Crowley (*Diana Schmidt*)
 †Gary Nagle (*Nagle Family*)
 †Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)
 †Raymond Saunders (*Sister - Mary Thorpe & Family*)
 †Nick Bouzios (*Janina*)
 †Raymond Sutkowski (*Edna Bazik*)
 †Jack Orsi (*Daughter Flori*)
 †George Ruiz (*Rubin Lopez*)
 †Marco Antonio Alcocer (*Sutkowski Family*)
 Health & 80th birthday blessings for Pat Carmody (*Ross Family*)
 †Terry Daukus Fogell (*Edward Fogell*)
 †Dorothy Broenneke (*Gary & Bonnie Broenneke*)

Monday, October 12, 2020

8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

†Russ Dober (*Hecker Family*)
 †John Van Leur (*Friend*)
 †Valeria Witkowski (*Family*)

Tuesday, October 13, 2020

8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

†Tom Biondo (*Capparelli Family*)
 †Esperanza Calderon (*Kathleen Gallichio*)

Wednesday, October 14, 2020

8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

Saint Callistus I, Pope
 †Florence Capparelli (*Family*)
 †Charles DeLauriea (*Lorraine DeLauriea*)
 †John Kolimas (*Mary Kolimas*)
 †John & Irene Simonelic (*Simonelic Family*)

Thursday, October 15, 2020

8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

Saint Teresa of Jesus
 Unity and healing for all of God's world (*Pelegrino Family*)
 †Robert Hurley (*Carmella Sorice*)

Friday, October 16, 2020

8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

Saint Hedwig; Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque

†Rosa Cicchino (*Rosa Rodriguez*)
 †Leo Thomas Crotty (*Mary Sarlitta*)

Saturday, October 17, 2020

8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

4:00pm *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

5:30pm *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Norm

Saint Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop
 †Bob Kolimas (*Mary Kolimas*)
 †Geraldine Finlay (*McAllister & Neligan Families*)
 †Anthony & Lupe Mendez & Louie Valenciano (*Almendarez Family*)
 †William Berglund (*Family*)
 †Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)
 †Dorothy Bogumil (*Claire Moran*)
 †Ernest Konie (*Dawn Gasior & Family*)

Sunday, October 18, 2020

7:30am *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Matt

9:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

†Dawn Bodoki-Denis (*Mom & Dad*)
 Health & all the Lord's blessings for Matthew & Karen Smoter (*Mom-Anna Smoter*)
 Good health & all the Lord's blessings for Pat Carmody (*Ross Family*)
 †Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)
 †Leo & Ann Kopszka (*Saltis Family*)
 †Durack - Gubista Families (*Family*)
 †Jack Orsi (*Daughter Flori*)
 †Tom Biondo (*John & Gloria Bodoki*)
 †Betty Benbow (*Ives Family*)
 †John Dragosetti (*Rosario Dragosetti*)
 †Terry Daukus Fogell (*Edward Fogell*)

10:30am *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Matt

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

Martin Adelsbach	Domenico Lepore
Judy Adelsbach	Rose Ann Lindsay
Larry Adkins	Debbie Lipien
Guadalupe Almendarez	Maria & Martinez Family
Kim Argires	John Martini
Ignatius Battiato	Marge Masunas
Elizabeth Bedran	Lori McCarthy
Carl Bell	Ed McGriff
Mary Bieser	Thomas Minnich
Fr. Ted Bojczuk	Christine Mosqueda
Lydia Brown	Genevieve Nagle
Joanne Bukowiecki	William Nita
Gina Camp	Carol Oles
Pat Carmody	Florence Panzarella
Judy Carranza	Eleanor Pastorek
Dominic Ciampaglia	Baby Alexander J Pentz
Margaret Ciampaglia	Gi Gi Piccolini
Michael Clifford	Rochelle Piegari
Marilyn Crites	Marie Pratt
Norma De Stefano	Ann Robertson
Chris Doherty	Edward Robertson
Juan Figueroa	Fr. John Rudnik
Mitchell Gallas	Joseph Rudnik
Geri Gestaut	Coltyn Schmidt
Carol Gress	Kristyn Schmidt
Suzann Gunter	Marge Schmidt
Kathy Haars	Judith Siwek
Catherine Hier	Elliana Sterk
Megan High	Brian Styka
Robert Hilbruner	Sr. Christine Styka
Heather Hradek	Terry Styka
Denise M. Jandura	Michael Tallon
Rich S. Jandura	Sandra Tallon
Joan Juris	Mary Thorpe
Pete Kats	Scott Tloczek
Lee Karpinski	Shirley Tloczek
Dennis Kline	George Trendle
Walter Kokoszka, Sr.	Judith Webber
Claudia Kwilosz	Joan Wilhelmy
Norman Kwilosz	Richard Zaleski
James Lapsansky	Barb Ziegler
Maryann Larson	Michelle
Donna Lauritzen	

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	Anthony Johaniwicz, US Navy
Sgt. Ted Bartelme	Corporal Noah M. Kanie, USMC
CS-1 Joel Battung	Lance Corp. Tim Lisenko, USMC
1st Sgt. Chas. Berglund, USMC	Trevor Lutz, US Army
Sgt. Naveen Bobba, USMC	Corporal Zachary Maderak, USMC
Sgt. Arthur A. Boruch, National Guard	Private Joseph M. Mikutis, USMC
Hospitalman Blythe A. Cisneros, USN	Pvt 1st Class Daniel Morales, US Army
Airman Carlos Cisneros, USAF	SPC Alex Ramos
Sgt. Frank Cisneros, USMC	Staff Sgt. Abel Sandoval, USMC
Corpsman Nicholas J. Cundari, USN	WO-1 Richard Sabeske, US Army
Captain Kevin Dobbyn, US Army	Sgt. 1st Class Kristina Stuhlmecher
Sgt. John Flores, IL National Guard	LCpl. Justin R. Thorpe, USMC
Staff Sgt. Andrew Gaca, USAF	1LT Zachary White, IL Army NG
Sgt. Michael Hough, US Army	

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.

Lorraine Gorniak



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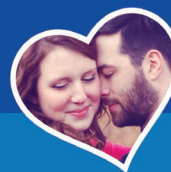
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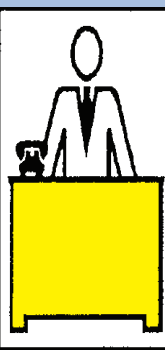
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