

AUGUST 23, 2020 | TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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!!

Looking back on my boyhood days as I would get together with my buddies, we'd wander into some type of adventure. Sometimes this involved turning a dirty space under a front porch into our clubhouse.

How quickly into our "new" clubhouse we'd create a hierarchy. If this was going to be our club, we needed roles assigned. We knew nothing yet about the ways of the world so we seem to have instinctively needed structure to our childhood organization. There would be a pecking order of responsibility (treasurer made sure we had enough money for candy from the store).

Chances are pretty good that at your place of employment, you either have someone above you, or you yourself are the top of the workplace food chain. Someone is either signing your checks or you are the check-signer, so to speak. In every place of employment, the buck stops on some specific person's desk.

The visible Church Jesus gives us is no different. Although we properly refer to the Church as an organism (Body of Christ), she has an organizational structure headed by Christ's vicar on earth, whom we refer to as the pope, in conjunction with the bishops of the world.

Our Gospel this Sunday shows us Jesus handing to Simon Peter a great role to play – a great responsibility.

"And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church."

We would now say that Peter was the first pope. This wasn't about giving some imperfect human being perfect power. All power belongs to God. However, the Lord did leave us a visible sign of authority. Those who have followed in Peter's shoes (Pope Francis, today) have a great

responsibility placed upon their shoulders to guide and protect Mother Church.

Bishops, priests, deacons (along with religious brothers and sisters) are NOT perfect people. Far from it. However, the Lord has called them to a specific role in the mission of manifesting the kingdom of heaven on earth. Great responsibility is entrusted to them, and they must surrender themselves to God's will. First and foremost, they must be persons of prayer. They must also be servant-leaders.

There are those idealists among us who wish all forms of hierarchy be stripped. The question can be asked, "And replaced with ... ?" Allow me to say that all corrupt authority must be challenged and, if need be, replaced. But to think we, as human beings, can function without some form of authority is rather fictional. In my experience, those who seek to tear down authority actually want to become the authority, and these types tend to be more authoritarian – even tyrannical-- than those they have replaced.

No earthly leader is God. No earthly leader is the Messiah. To cast divinity upon any human authority is idolatry. God is God. We are not!

And yet, we have leaders within the Church who must be servant-leaders who GUIDE and help protect the Church. You expect these leaders to be persons of prayer who live out their respective vocation in union with God's will.

Have there been wolves in sheep's clothing within the walls of the institutional church? Yup! There have been, there are today, and there will be tomorrow. That sad reality must never make us take our eyes off of the Lord and His earthly shepherds who desire to serve the Lord in both truth and love.

Jesus said to Peter, *"The gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it (the Church). I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven."*

God gives certain people the keys, but may we never forget Who owns the House. The Church does not belong to us. We belong to Her. She is the Lord's Mystical Body on earth. Her leaders are to be caretakers who proclaim to every human person, "Come and see!"

And never forget, at the end of the day, God is God. He's got the whole world in His Hands.

First Communion Blessings!

This weekend the Parish of St. Symphorosa & St. Rene celebrates two First Communion services for our school and faith formation disciples.

What a great blessing! This year's young disciples have been patiently waiting to receive the Body and Blood of Jesus for the first time. The shutdown of our church prevented us from celebrating in the Spring.

Please keep these children and their parents in your prayers. May their First Communion not be their last, but the first of a lifetime of being able to receive the Gift of Finest Wheat.

May this also be an opportunity for each of us to give thanks for so great a gift. The Eucharist is the Real Presence of Christ, not a symbol. Continue to show proper respect for the Lord as you approach for Communion.

As we grow closer to Jesus in Communion, we grow closer to one another.



Quote of the Week

"Modern intelligence won't accept anything on authority. But it will accept anything without authority."

~G.K. Chesterton

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

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Operations Director

Karen Hoogland
Business Manager

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

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

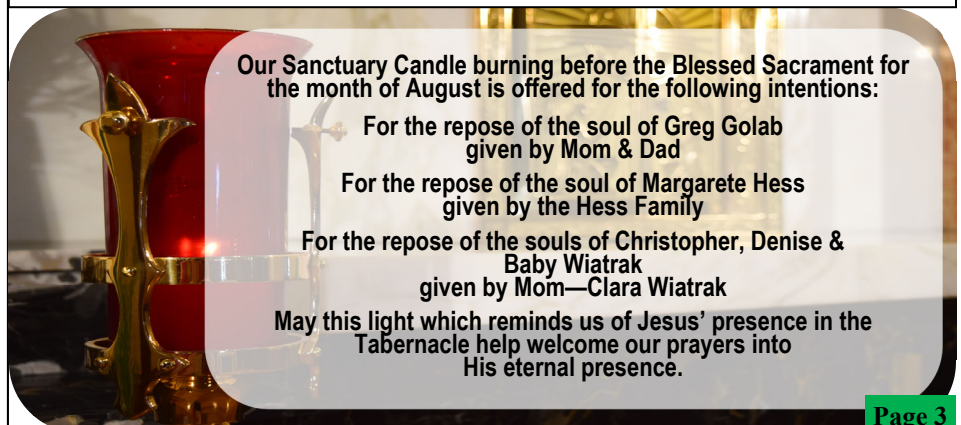
- All Mass worshippers **MUST Pre-register** for a reserved slot, indicating # of attendees (either by changing the quantity or noting the comment sections) and including your first and last name. ***If you miss the opportunity to pre-register for Mass you may still come to church and register upon arrival.***
 - 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.





Feast of Our Lady of Czestochowa

On Wednesday, August 26, 2020 we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Queen and Protectress of Poland. In honor of this feast day we invite all to join us for a special Mass this **Wednesday, August 26th at 7pm** at the St. Symphorosa Worship Site. A special devotion to Our Lady of Czestochowa will follow immediately after Mass.



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

Offerings for the weekend of:
Sunday, August 16, 2020
Contribution: \$6,265.10

Thank you for your generosity!



Split the Pot

August 16, 2020

Received this week: \$140.00

Winning envelope: #3068

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



St. Symphorosa School is searching for School Board members!

Our ideal candidate would be a St. Symphorosa - St. Rene parishioner, a Syms School Parent or an alumni of St. Symphorosa School. Must be at least 18 to be considered for this rewarding position which will help benefit our students. Interviews are being scheduled now!

Use this link to submit your application:

<https://forms.gle/kqh4NW5UBquuSJsH7>



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

On **Sunday, September 6th**, the St. Symphorosa and St. Rene Altar & Rosary Societies will begin to blend into one group. Each month the Masses and meetings will alternate locations depending on the daily Mass location. **Therefore, the members will meet at 10am in the narthex of St. Rene Goupil Church for the 10:30am Mass.**

The membership meeting on Tuesday, September 8th will be at 12:30pm. Doors will be open at 11:30am at Flannery Hall (Bingo location). A lift is available to bring handicapped persons down to the hall. As we are still amid the COVID-19 pandemic, members are required to wear a mask. Food will not be served. Water, soda and straws will be available. Hand sanitizers will be available before signing in.

It will be a good time to reconnect with old friends and make new friends. If you have any questions, please call Marie at 773.586.4378



Knights of Columbus "Tootsie Roll Drive"

Please help support the fundraising efforts of the St. Rene/St. Symphorosa Knights of Columbus Council by purchasing a Tootsie Roll bank after all Masses. All proceeds benefit our parish SPRED programs.

**Saturday, September 5th &
Sunday, September 6th**

Cost is \$3 each or 2 for \$5.

"Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven;
and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

— Matthew 16:19



The following parking restrictions
HAVE BEEN IMPLEMENTED
as of Monday, August 17th.

- Overnight parking in the parish lots will be restricted, unless specific prior approval is provided by the Parish Office (Pastor)
- The St. Symphorosa Campus gates (3) will be closed during the school year on Monday - Friday (when children are in attendance) beginning at 9am. Please be alert of this when attending 8am daily Mass.
- Due to COVID restriction - NO cars will be allowed to enter the interior parish parking lots during the school day - these areas will be used for expanded school use (gym, recess, etc.)

As campus parking will become more challenging with the start of the new school year, it will be important that we all work together to ensure that our parishioners, groups, volunteers, staff and school families have parking access when needed.



WELCOME FAMILIES TO ST. SYMPHOROSA AND ST. RENE PARISH

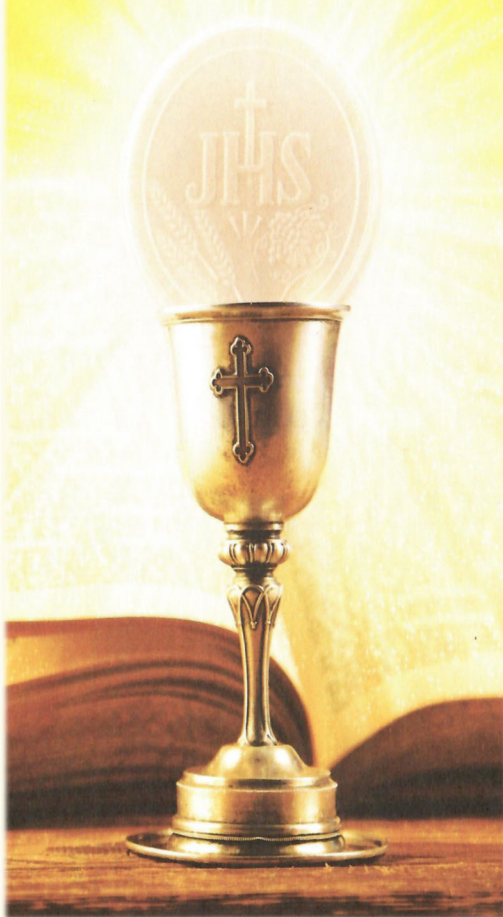


LET HIM EAT OF THAT BREAD,

&

DRINK OF THAT CUP.

1 CORINTHIANS 11:28



First Holy Communion

August 22, 2020

*"I am the Bread of Life ... whoever receives Me
lives in Me, and I live in him". (John 6)*

**Congratulations to all the boys and girls who are meeting Je-
sus**

David Alvarez
Sabina Alvarez
Andrew Aranda
Blake Barajas
Charles Casey
Alexis Castañeda
Marilyn Espinoza
Azaylia Ferrer
Amado Garibay
Matthew Garibay
Olivia Gaytan
Aviana Gonzalez
Yaretzi Gonzalez
Vivian Granado
Rafaella Harris
Ivan Hernandez
Jacob Hernandez Doherty
Itzayana Iniguez
Alyzamarie Jimenez
Alexander Kelly
Cayden Ligue
Manuel Medina III

Diego Melgoza
Vincent Mendez
William Montoya
Sebastian Nedza
Kevin O'Brien
Christopher Osuna
Nathan Pacius
Rita Pater
Brielle Peralta
Michelle Peralta
Emma Perdomo
Giovanni Perez
Joseph Petraitis
Sirena Ramirez Cortes
Leonardo Reynaga
Nalani Scott
Giada Spataro
Noah Vazquez
Adan Zamarripa
Isabel Zamora
Sebastian Zamora



Look for our Faith
Formation Registration
Table in the Narthex of
the Church.

Sun. Aug. 30, 2020

St. Symphorosa Church
(After the 9am & Noon Masses)

Sun. Sept. 6, 2020

St. Rene Church
(After the 7:30am & 10:30am Masses)

Representatives will be available to answer
questions. Registration Forms will be available.



2020 - 2021 FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION

Our Faith Formation Office will be
EMAILING all formerly registered RE families,
Important Information regarding
the upcoming Faith Formation School Year. This email will
include the registration form. **(Watch for this email...end of
August)**

If you are a New Family interested in learning about our Faith
Formation Program. Please e-mail Peg Siebenaler
at: msiebenaler@archchicago.org

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, August 22, 2020

4:00pm *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

5:30pm *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Matt

Sunday, August 23, 2020

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, August 24, 2020

8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

Tuesday, August 25, 2020

8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

Wednesday, August 26, 2020

8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

7:00pm *St. Symphorosa Church*

Thursday, August 27, 2020

8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

Friday, August 28, 2020

8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

Saturday, August 29, 2020

8:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

4:00pm *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

5:30pm *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Norm

Sunday, August 30, 2020

7:30am *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Norm

9:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

10:30am *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Matt

12:00pm *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

†Joey Burton (Family)

Health & all the Lord's blessings for Mary Kolimas (Arlene Scaletta)

†Greg Golab (Mom & Dad)

†Bob Kolimas (Mary Kolimas)

†Janet & Steve Molnar (Hohm Family)

†Raymond Sutkowski (Family)

†Janet & Steve Molnar (Hohm Family)

†Christopher Wiatrak (Mom - Clara Wiatrak)

†Lorraine Ciccio (Margaret Santangelo)

†Diane Costello (Gloria & John Bodoki)

†Joseph Pavlik, Jr. (Family)

†Andres Valles (Family)

†Wesley Kupiec (Wife & Children)

Saint Bartholomew, Apostle

†Dorothy Bogumil (Nancy & Quinn Markham)

†Barbara Shaughnessy (Hederman Family)

Saint Louis; Saint Joseph Calasanz, Priest

†Pedro H. Alvarez (Family)

†James Capparelli (Family)

†Bob Soltis on the 2nd Anniversary of his passing (Pat Soltis)

Our Lady of Czestochowa

†Robert Montgomery, Sr. (Wife & Children)

†Mark Sarlitto (Mary Sarlitto)

†Mary Szlembarski (Barbara Rendak)

For all St. Symphorosa & St. Rene Parishioners, Living and Deceased

Saint Monica

†Richard Bielski (Family)

†David Feddor (Family)

†Philip Scaletta (Arlene Scaletta)

Saint Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

†Fred Borowski (Geri Tomaselli)

†Walter Szumowski (Barb Grzenia)

The Passion of Saint John the Baptist

†Joseph H. Pavlik (Family)

†Roberto Rodriguez (Ines Rodriguez)

†Helen Gerlick (Family)

†Mike Nych (Family)

†Albert Mazzone (Family)

†Janet & Steve Molnar (Hohm Family)

†Walter Szumowski (Kolasinski Family)

†Raymond Sarlitto (Mary Sarlitto)

†John Mielnicki (Mielnicki Family)

†Janet & Steve Molnar (Hohm Family)

†Joseph R. Pavlik, Jr. (Kolasinski Family)

†Raymond Sutkowski (Sutkowski Family)

†Jack Orsi (Gloria & John Bodoki)

†Ben P. & Estelle Shafer (Ben & Judy Shafer)

†For all St. Symphorosa & St. Rene Parishioners, Living and Deceased

Weekend Presider subject to change without notice



Like Peter in today's Gospel, we can find that when we open our eyes to see, our ears to hear and our hearts to experience Jesus' presence in our daily lives, God reveals himself to us.

Have you considered answering the call to help serve the poor by joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul?

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



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 Battiato
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
Eleanor Fousek
Mitchell Gallas
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 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
Ed McGriff
Thomas Minnich
Christine Mosqueda
Genevieve Nagle
William Nita
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 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. Kanie, 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

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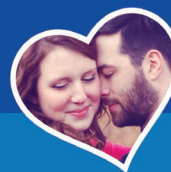
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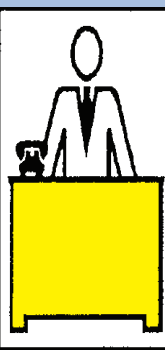
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