

ST. SYMPHOROSA & ST. RENE PARISH

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

O God, you are my God whom I seek;
for you my flesh pines and my soul thirsts
like the earth, parched, lifeless and without water.

PSALM 63:2

THIRTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

NOVEMBER 8, 2020



Fr. Bob's Weekly Blog

Welcome to the Parish of St. Symphorosa & St. Rene!!

This is the time in the Church's liturgical year that our Mass readings take on a more ominous, end-of-times theme.

We're invited to consider the Second Coming of Christ and our own inevitable death. We do this not to strike fear but to wake us up and to encourage us to be prepared.

Back in the late 1980s, Steven Covey introduced his best-selling book *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*. Habit number two is "Begin with the end in mind." We can take this habit and Christify it by realizing we gain perspective when we begin each day knowing there is an "end."

Does this make some folks uncomfortable? Yes. We naturally fear the unknown, but we need not have fear because Christ made it known that if we take up our cross and follow him, He gives us life; life now and life eternal.

The only ones who need to fear are those who boldly and consciously reject Jesus and His offer of Salvation. The Lord says, "Follow me." We have a choice. We can follow the Son of God. . . or not. Love does not coerce. If someone has to use threats, intimidation, and violence to advance their cause, we might do well to question their cause. Jesus' summons is one of love.

We as human beings consist of body and soul. We are material and spiritual. Our earthly body has an expiration date. We don't know that date, do we? But we have a date. The body will die but the soul lives on. The soul is immortal. Our hope is in the promise of Christ.

One day when all things are brought to fulfillment, our body will be re-united with the soul. For those who remained in God's grace, a new glorified body will join the soul in eternity.

Jesus has given us everything we need to be with Him forever. The Church is the sacrament of salvation. She is our avenue of grace. To avoid Her gifts is to avoid what Jesus gave us for salvation.

Keeping the end in mind helps give focus to our day. Each day we breathe has a purpose and meaning. We live either for the Lord or for his Enemy. Indifference is a choice and it is a choice that yawns "Whatever!" in the face of so great a gift as God's grace. How can we be indifferent?

Stay awake! Be prepared. The Lord shall come.

Name Submission Thanks

Thank you to everyone who took the time to submit a possible name for our newly-unified parish. We received numerous ideas, and many folks wrote beautiful reasons for the name they recommended.

There were some very unique names offered and it was a delight to read through them. You can sense the love for Jesus and His Church in many of the submissions.

Some people wrote paragraphs explaining the name and why the name would be a good fit for us as a newly-united parish heading into 2021 and beyond.

However, there were a handful that made it clear things

should just stay as they are, and they did so in one sentence. A real example is (without using specific name): "just leave the name St. XYZ, and we can name a building after the other parish."

Imagine how the people of the other parish would take to such a decision. Folks we are currently calling our fellow parishioners are being told a current standing building will have the former parish name. Not sure either side of the coin would like such a future.

Friends, this is tough stuff, but the growing cultural darkness isn't going to care about our parochial tension between two former parishes. And while we risk getting distracted by in-house tension, the Enemy and those who cooperate laugh as another generation loses its faith and embraces despair.

We want to face our current challenges with trust in Christ and trust in our brother/sister Christians. Just as musicians keep an eye on the conductor who directs the music, so we keep a united eye on Jesus who keeps us focused and in tune as we sing God's glory with a unified heart. Remember Jesus's prayer to the Father. "That they may be one, as we are one." Only the Enemy seeks our division. Jesus sees an "us." We are his disciples. We learn from our Teacher.



Quote of the Week

"The destiny of man is to unite; not divide. If you keep on dividing you end up as a collection of monkeys throwing nuts at each other out of separate trees."

~T. H. White

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



Our Parish Community "Thankful" Tree

As the Thanksgiving holiday rapidly approaches in just a few short weeks, we reflect on the many wonderful blessings that Almighty God has bestowed on us.

This year, we invite all members of our Faith Community to participate in our Parish "Thankful" Tree. This "Thankful" Tree is made up of beautiful paper leaves supplied by our parish Transformation Team and filled out with what each and everyone of us is thankful for during this season of thanks.

We ask each member of our parish visit the table located in the narthex of our churches and take one of the autumn leaves to write all the things you are thankful for during this season. These leaves will be available during the weekends of November 7/8 and November 14/15. Please return the filled out leaves to the supplied baskets. These beautiful leaves with all of our words of thanks will be incorporated into our church's Art & Environment on a special Thankful Tree for Thanksgiving.

ANNUAL REPORT

The annual report for our parish is inserted in this weekend's bulletin. This report will cover the financial information for both St. Symphorosa and St. Rene church, as they were separate parishes during the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

If, for some reason, your bulletin did not have a copy of this insert, we ask that you contact by phone (773.767.1523) or visit the parish office for a copy. Thank you.



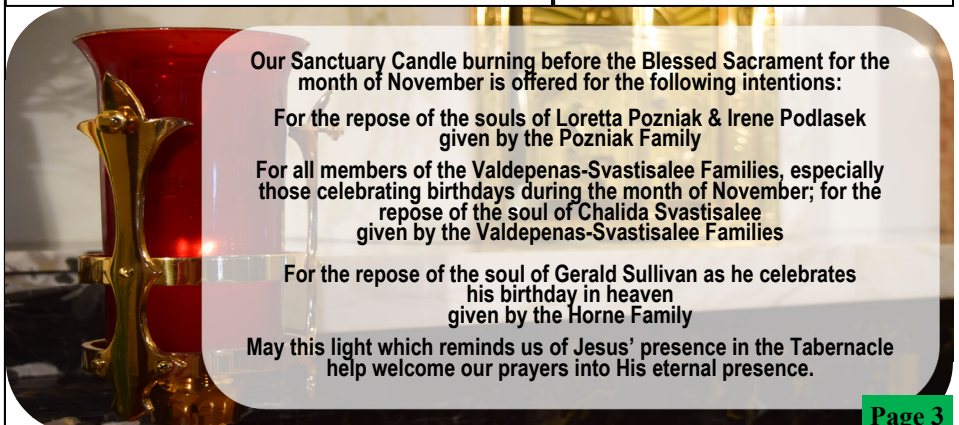
Our stewardship is a combined total
from the St. Rene and
St. Symphorosa Worship Sites.

Offerings for the weekend of: Sunday, November 1, 2020
Contribution: \$8,292.00
Thank you for your generosity!



Split the Pot
November 1, 2020
Received this week: \$120.00
Winning envelope: #1814

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



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.

VETERAN'S DAY

Wednesday, November 11, 2020

On Veteran's Day, November 11th, we pay tribute to all those who have served our country. We express our gratitude not only to those among us today, but also to those of generations past for their courage and selflessness. Please keep all veteran's in your thoughts and prayers on this day and everyday for their service to our country.

Compassionate God, source of all mercy, we ask for Your blessings on all those who have served their country in the armed forces. May we never let down those who served in defense of this country by upholding the values of freedom and by the kindness and tolerance we show each other.

We ask for healing for all veteran's who have been wounded, in body and soul. We ask that peace can be brought to their hearts and the regions they fought in. We ask also for blessings for all those who served their country in noncombative posts. May their calling to serve continue in their lives in many positive ways.

May we lead the world by example, with a creative vision that allows us to see a world in which we grow weary with fighting. A world that moves to affirming the importance of the life of every human being, from conception to death. May we become, in the words of Isaiah, "a light for the nations" (Isa 42:6).

We ask of this through Christ our Lord, Amen.

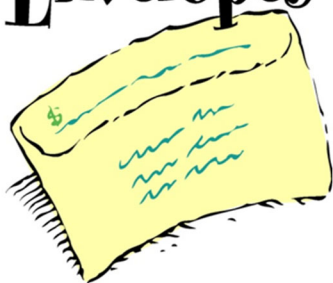


During the month of October, the following amounts were collected for special Collections at both worship sites.

All Saints' Day	\$61
All Souls' Day	\$312
Ascension	\$10
Assumption of Mary	\$13
Building & Maintenance	\$1,948
Candle Money	\$669.32
Cath. Campaign for Human Development	\$5
Catholic Charities (Mother's Day)	\$10
Church in Central & Eastern Europe	\$503
Christmas Flowers	\$30
CRS Rice Bowl	\$50
Easter	\$95
Easter Flowers	\$12
Father's Day	\$10
Good Friday	\$10
Holy Thursday	\$10
Immaculate Conception	\$10
Mother's Day	\$10
Parish Lenten Mission	\$420
Peter's Pence	\$294
Priest Retirement	\$10
Prop. of Faith/World Mission	\$653
Religious Assistance to Poland	\$5
Religious Education Assistance Program	\$271
Saint Vincent de Paul	\$50
School Support	\$331
Seminaries	\$235
Solemnity of Mary	\$10
Thanksgiving	\$85
Utilities Fund	\$635

Thank you for your kindness & generosity!

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.

Pastor Al



"You watch the X-Files too much! There's no Vatican secret knowledge of the date for the Second Coming."

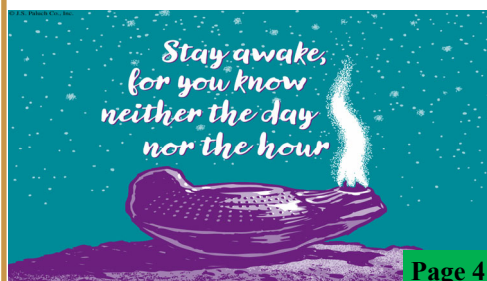
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2021 Mass Intentions and Sanctuary Candle

Our 2021 Mass Intention book and Sanctuary Candle are officially open. Any St. Symphorosa & St. Rene Parish community member can stop by the parish office and put in their Mass requests for the next year. All Mass intentions are subject to availability and the stipend per Mass is \$10.

If you decide to sponsor our Sanctuary Candle, this intention is for an entire calendar month. More than one person or family may sponsor during the same month but no more than 4. Your sponsorship will be acknowledged, along with the intention of the lit candle, during the chosen month in the Sunday bulletin. The cost to sponsor the candle will be \$40.

If you have any questions please contact the Parish Office at (773)767-1523.





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



Jesus is the Light of the World

At Baptism, we are all given a lighted candle. This reminds us to live as followers of Jesus, *The Light of the World*. Some of our Faith Formation students have been given the opportunity to construct their own lighthouses with their families. During the weekends of November 22 and November 29 these beautiful creations will be on display in the narthex at both of our worship sites. Please take a moment and visit our display. May these lighthouses serve as a reminder for us to be *Shining Lights, in the world*.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 11/07: Catechist Meeting I-Building
St. Syms Campus - 10am
- 11/10: Faith Formation Classes (Tues.)
St. Rene Campus - 6pm
- 11/11: Faith Formation Classes (Wed.)
St. Rene Campus - 6pm
- 11/14: Faith Formation Classes (Sat.)
St. Sym's Campus
Session A - 8:30am
Session B - 11am



Thank You, LORD!

As we approach the season of giving thanks, the St. Sym's & St. Rene Faith Formation program will be remembering the less fortunate. This year, we will join with our fellow parishioners in helping to "Fill the Altar" with food for the needy.

When our students attend mass or when they come to Faith Formation classes, we are asking them to bring in non-perishable food items. We are thankful for your participation in the Thanksgiving Food Drive. (Non-perishable food items can also be dropped-off at the Parish Office.)



The Sacrament of Reconciliation

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



Gospel Reflection

The following is an excerpt from a former Faith Formation student.....

"My favorite story about Jesus is "The Calming of a Storm at Sea". This one is one of my favorite stories for many, many reasons. This story of Jesus is about when (he) and his disciples were out at sea on a boat and a storm was starting to occur. But, Jesus was sleeping in the stern, so while the disciples were all frightened and not knowing what to do, they decided to wake up Jesus. Once Jesus awoke and the disciples told him what was going on, he stayed very calm and just simply told the sea to be quiet and the storm went away. The disciples were amazed! He asked them, "Why are you terrified, do you not have faith?" Therefore, this is my favorite story in the Bible because it teaches me to never give up and stay calm, don't panic. Also, it reminds me to ALWAYS have faith in God - he will always have your back.

I would like to become a disciple of Jesus through the sacrament of Confirmation because going through Confirmation is a huge deal to me! I am ready to change myself and become more faithful in my religion. Personally, I would love to be able to remind myself every day that Jesus is always with me and he will guide me down the right path.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, November 7, 2020

4:00pm *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Matt

†Tom Biondo (*Cieslewski Family*)
 †Birthday blessings in heaven for Lorraine Gorniak (*Family*)
 †Petra & Miguel Parra (*Almendarez Family*)
 †Vince Porcelli (*Wife Judy*)
 †Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)
 †Helen Morrissey (*Joanne Tishka*)
 †Gary Nagle (*Nagle Family*)

5:30pm *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Norm

Sunday, November 8, 2020

7:30am *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

†Nancy Halper (*Maryann Werr*)
 †Maria Gawelda (*Ilona Szkodon*)
 †Karol & Joanna Marzec (*Ilona Szkodon*)
 †Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)
 †John Szkodon (*Ilona Szkodon*)
 †Urban & Connie Zielinski (*Clara Wiatrak*)
 †Frank Molisius (*Family*)
 †Jack Orsi (*Ben & Judy Shafer*)
 †Estelle Rabbitt (*The Lane Family*)
 †Linda Pecoraro (*Linda Eckhorn*)

9:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Matt

10:30am *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

12:00pm *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

Monday, November 9, 2020

8:00am *St. Rene Church*

The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

†Paddy Sheeran (*Murphy Family*)
 †Marion Tisonczyk & his Parents

Tuesday, November 10, 2020

8:00am *St. Rene Church*

Saint Leo the Great, Pope

†Mary Cerv (*Mary Sarlitta*)
 †Edward Kmak (*Kmak Family*)

Wednesday, November 11, 2020 Saint Martin of Tours, Bishop

8:00am *St. Rene Church*

Health & all the Lord's blessings for David Gasior (*Daughters & Families*)
 †Grace Lyons (*Kenney Family*)
 †Filomena Plewa (*Barbara Rendak*)
 †Joseph Slowinski (*Daughters & Families*)
 †Mary Suchy (*Family*)
 †Marilyn Weleba (*Diane Biondo*)

Thursday, November 12, 2020

8:00am *St. Rene Church*

Saint Josephat, Bishop

†Larry Piotrowski (*Jeanie*)

Friday, November 13, 2020

8:00am *St. Rene Church*

Saint Frances Xavier Carhini

†Tom Biondo (*Plak Family*)
 †Stanley Michalec (*Pat Saltis*)
 †Agnieszka Miodunka (*Halina Kovacs*)
 †Geri Norbut (*Family*)
 †Albena Strzelec (*Barbara Rendak*)
 †Marilyn Stygar (*Family*)

Saturday, November 14, 2020

8:00am *St. Rene Church*

4:00pm *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

†John Kolimas (*Mary Kolimas*)
 †Tom Biondo (*Karen de Rango & Joe Izzo*)
 †Providenza Chiamonte (*Chiamonte Family*)
 †Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)
 †John & Irene Simonelic (*Simonelic Family*)

5:30pm *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

Sunday, November 15, 2020

7:30am *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Matt

†Oliver Suacedo - 3rd Anniversary of passing (*Maria Gonzalez*)

9:00am *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Norm

Health & birthday blessings for Fr. Norm (*St. Symphorosa Super Club*)
 †Evelyn Badonski (*Ray & Mary Lou Kolasinski*)
 †Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)
 †Maria Palikowska (*Ilona Szkodon*)
 †Linda Pecoraro (*Friends*)
 †Marian Tisonczyk (*Ilona Szkodon*)
 †Ben P. & Estelle Shafer (*Ben & Judy Shafer*)
 †Raymond Sutkowski (*Sutkowski Family*)
 †Vince Porcelli (*Sue Solcani*)
 †Dorothy Broenneke (*Gary & Bonnie Broenneke*)

10:30am *St. Rene Church*

Presider: Fr. Matt

12:00pm *St. Symphorosa Church*

Presider: Fr. Bob

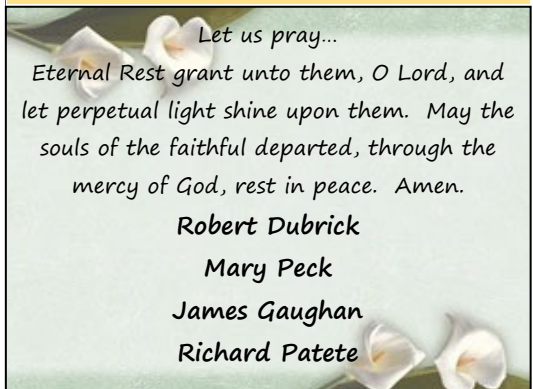
Weekend Presider subject to change without notice



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
JoAnn Baade	Marge Masunas
Ignatius Battiatto	Lori McCarthy
Carl Bell	Ed McGriff
Mary Bieser	Thomas Minnich
Fr. Ted Boiczuk	Christine Mosqueda
Lydia Brown	Genevieve Nagle
Gina Camp	William Nita
Pat Carmody	Carol Oles
Judy Carranza	Florence Panzarella
Dominic Ciampaglia	Eleanor Pastorek
Margaret Ciampaglia	Baby Alexander J Pentz
Michael Clifford	Gi Gi Piccolini
Marilyn Crites	Rochelle Piegari
Norma De Stefano	Marie Pratt
Chris Doherty	Ann Robertson
Juan Figueroa	Edward Robertson
Mitchell Gallas	Fr. John Rudnik
Geri Gestaut	Joseph Rudnik
Carol Gress	Coltyn Schmidt
Suzann Gunter	Kristyn Schmidt
Kathy Haars	Marge Schmidt
Catherine Hier	Judith Siwek
Megan High	Elliana Sterk
Robert Hilbruner	Brian Styka
Heather Hradek	Sr. Christine Styka
Larry Holmes	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.



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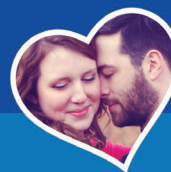
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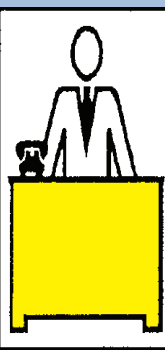
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