

# Saint Rene Goupil Catholic Church

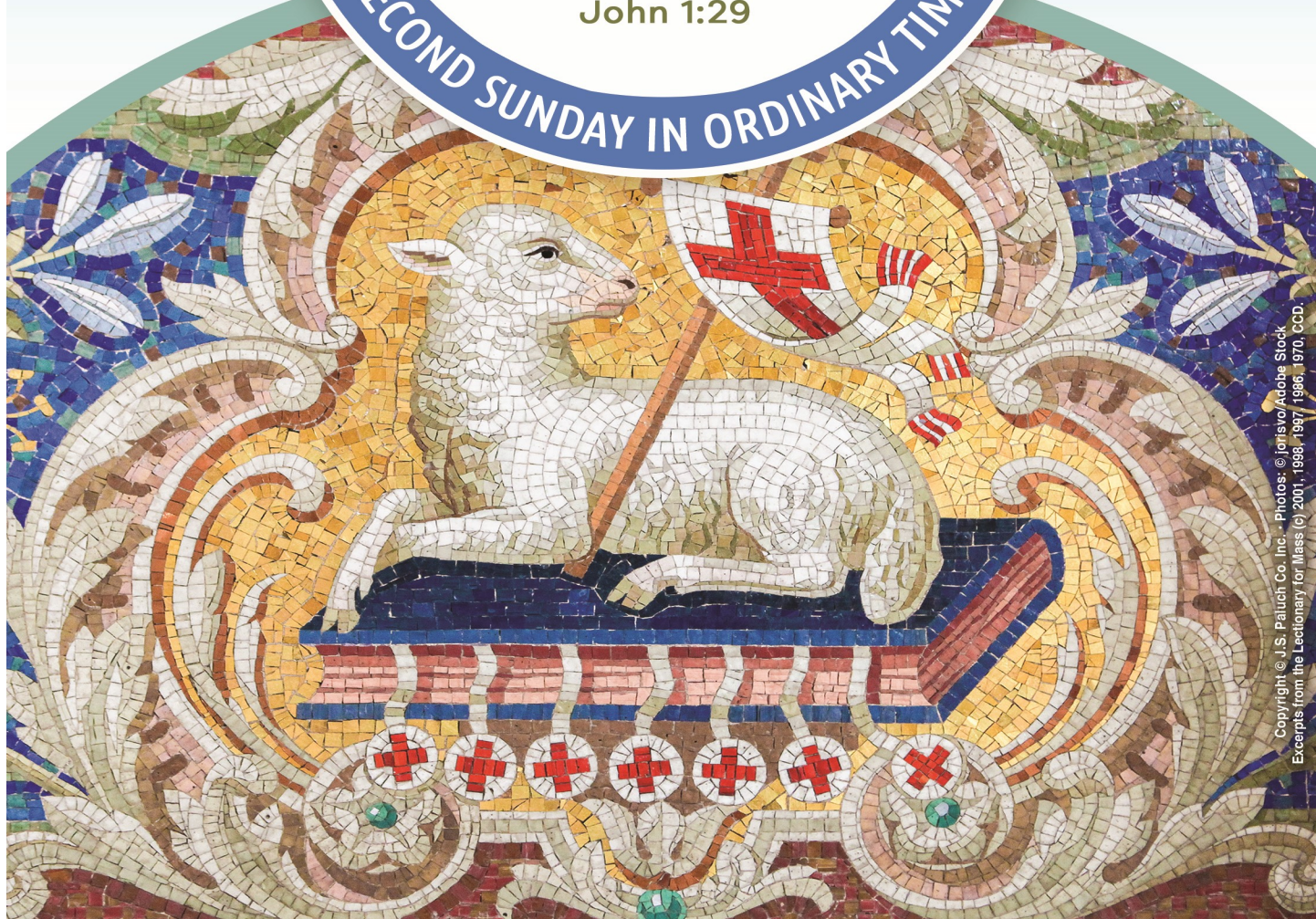
64th Street & New England Avenue - Chicago, Illinois 60638—773-229-8523

JANUARY 19, 2020

**John the Baptist  
saw Jesus coming  
toward him and said,  
“Behold, the Lamb of God,  
who takes away  
the sins of the world.”**

John 1:29

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME





## Fr. Bob's Weekly Blog



Rules without relationship lead to rebellion. Relationship without rules leads to chaos.

Perhaps you've heard the aforementioned parenting adage before, but these wise words certainly pertain to our faith.

God sent his only-begotten Son into the world to redeem the human race and to restore an intimate relationship once severed in the Garden of Eden. Grace is now available to us and we are invited into a covenantal relationship with God the Father.

As part of this relationship, there are "rules of the road" as we continue our pilgrimage through this world. Please note that the relationship is primary to the secondary rules. God's love for us and our reception of His love and our return of His love takes precedence.

Sadly, there are those who only see our faith as being "all about the rules." They miss the primary relationship.

The rules (God's teaching for humanity) flow from God's love for us. God desires what is best for us – both individually and as a human race. Chicago Bears legendary founder George Halas used to say, "Behind every good rule is a good reason." Hmmm!

There are those folks who would then insist that God is soooooo loving that it doesn't matter what we do. This is a deception. What we do or fail to do also matters. Relationship without rules leads to

chaos. Freedom in Christ does not mean we can do whatever we want. That's not freedom. That's called license. There is a difference.

Freedom involves doing what we OUGHT to do; what we SHOULD do, and the guiding star of our freedom is Jesus the Christ; the One who is the way, and the truth, and the life; the One who says to each of us, "Follow me!"

The Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes are given to us by the Lord for a reason; a good reason, which is love. Let's use this analogy: loving parents establish house rules for their children out of love and concern for their well-being. And so does our God for His children.

We need the relationship, and we need the "rules," which help us stay on the path that leads to holiness and happiness. When we accept the Lord's offer of relationship, it changes how we live our life. We are to align our will with God's will out of love.

### Knowing Our Faith

Holy Mass is the daily/weekly pinnacle of our Catholic faith. The Eucharist is the Source and Summit. However, intentional disciples of the Lord want to consistently deepen their understanding of the faith. What are some ways this can be done?

Personally I recommend owning or borrowing the DVD series "Catholicism" produced by Word on Fire and narrated by Bishop Robert Barron. This is a professionally produced and beautiful exploration of our faith tradition. Sit back and enjoy the series.

Also, every Catholic home should have within its walls the Holy Bible, a book on the saints, and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Once they are on the book shelf, make it a point to take them off the book shelf and explore them. Do a little reading every day (or minimally, once a week).

There are numerous websites and YouTube videos that help us know our faith better. Fr. Mike Schmitz offers some relevant videos on YouTube that normally run between five and ten minutes.

Of course, there are always books. If you asked what spiritual classic is a "must read," the answer would be St. Augustine's *Confessions*, but there are thousands of quality books whose purpose is to lead us closer to God. A good question to ask when you pick up a book is, "Does this author want me to grow closer to God?"

In this day and age, it is essential we have a better understanding of our faith. We want to engage the heart AND THE MIND, and there are some amazing resources out there today to help us.

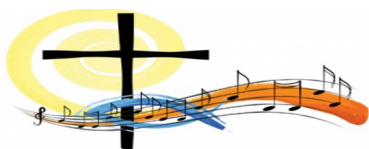
We are life-long learners in general, but even more so when it comes to our Catholic faith.

### Favorite Quote of the Week:

**"Man has set for himself the goal of conquering the world, but in the process loses his soul."**

**– Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn.**





## A Note of Thanks to Our Children's Choir and Adult Choir

I would like to express my most sincere gratitude to all who participated in our choirs this Christmas Season. The Children's Choir sang wonderfully at the Christmas Pageant in the Christmas Eve Family Mass, and the Adult Choir was inspiring at the Midnight Mass and 9:30am Mass on Christmas Day.

Thank you for the time spent in rehearsals, and going over the music until it became more natural and could be sung with ease. Your commitment to the music was enlivening. Thanks to God for giving you the gift of music. Thanks to you for giving so much to others through your gift of music.

When I ask someone to join the choir, I often get the answer "but I can't sing." Don't let this discourage you. I will teach you to sing, and bring out your best. When anyone uses their talent, at whatever level that may be, to sing music in church, I view it as an offering to God, not a performance.

I will soon be starting an Easter Choir, and details will be forthcoming. Don't miss another opportunity to be a part of this wonderful ministry.

*"Music expresses that which cannot be put into words and that which cannot remain silent." - Victor Hugo*

In song and faith,

Steve Kittler, Director of Music

### St. Symphorosa School Open House

Sunday, January 26, 2020  
11:00am - 1:00pm

Staff will be on hand to give a tour  
and answer questions.

The school is located at 6125 S Austin Ave.



### Raffle Ticket Sale - January 26, 2020 ONLY!

Tickets are \$10.00 each and will have a 3-digit number on them. For the entire month of February, if your number matches the Illinois Pick 3 lottery game, you win!

Monday thru Saturday, you can win \$50 at each of the two daily drawings. On Sunday there is one drawing and you could win \$100. You can win multiple times.

This raffle will benefit Tom Salzburg who was extremely active in the St. Rene Community. He and his wife were responsible for organizing the St. Valentine's dance, which was the biggest fundraiser St. Rene had for 6/7 years. Tom is now battling ALS.

There will be a benefit for the family on April 19th. For more information, please contact Jerry Hughes at 773-485-0146.





## ***Our Catholic Faith***

### ***By Fr. Bob Regan***

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and behold, I am with you always, to the close of the age.” Matthew 28:19-20

Just a few weeks ago there was an interesting survey making its way through the news cycle. The results of the survey revealed the varying length of sermons in different Christian denominations. Of course, the Catholic Church got lumped in with the denominations. This didn't make any sense to me because we have a totally different approach to preaching on the Word of God, and we are not a denomination.

In the Catholic Mass, there is a homily, not a sermon. Is there a difference, Fr. Bob? Yes!

Ideally, the homily takes us from having heard the Word of God and points us toward the Eucharist. The homily is not meant to be a prolonged dissertation on biblical exegesis. The homily should have something to do with the scripture we just heard in the readings, and it should direct our minds and hearts to worthy reception of the Blessed Sacrament, and inspire us to go back into the world on mission.

In the survey, some of our Christian brothers and sisters listen to an hour-long sermon. These denominations often refer to themselves as Bible-based, or say “We are people of the Book.”

In contrast, Catholics would say, “We are people of the Word.” We do not limit our faith to just the physical book that we call the Bible. We embrace Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition, and we have been care-takers of the Holy Bible for over 2,000 years.

Where do you think the Bible came from? Did Jesus hand out bibles to each of his Apostles right before He ascended into heaven? No! The Canon of Sacred Scripture emerged from the Church. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, the Church discerned the books that would make up the Bible we know today.

There is a time and place for extended preaching, but in our view, the Mass is not that place. The survey reported that Catholic Church had the shortest sermons. The survey made no attempt to explain the different approach between Christian denominations and the Catholic Church.

The homily should NEVER be unnecessarily long. Sure, occasionally the priest or deacon may need to spend some more time with a homily, but a homily should range between five and fifteen minutes. The star of the Mass is NOT the preacher, it is the Eucharist; it is Christ present in the Sacrament of Love.

Back in my seminary days, one of the professors of Sacred Scripture would often challenge the newly ordained deacons about their respective homilies. He'd be half joking but half serious when he'd say, “What could you possibly say that Scripture has not already said?”

Ahh! Fr. Peter Damian. You always humble the pride-filled preacher.

**Hello Jerry Hughes,**

**I recently received a care package from you here in Afghanistan. I want to say thank you for the supplies and also for your support. Hope all is well back home.**

**Much Appreciated,  
SGT Vazquez**

(Received above email from “the Sarge” regarding our care package drive. These guys really appreciate those packs. He's also active CPD. I'm relaying his thanks....Jer)



**We invite everyone to join us for our next “Super Bingo/Raffle” on Sunday, January 19.**

**Doors will open at 12:30pm and games will begin at 1:30pm.**

**The cost is \$20 per person. Tickets will be sold in the narthex and at the door.**



**Faith Formation Office**  
(773) 229-8523

**Coordinator:**  
**Peg Siebenaler**

**Email:** [strenefaithformation@gmail.com](mailto:strenefaithformation@gmail.com)

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 1/19: Family Mass 9:30am.
- 1/22: Classes for ALL Levels.
- 1/26: Family Mass 9:30am.
- 1/29: Classes for Level 8 ONLY.
- 2/02: Family Mass 9:30am.
- 2/05: Classes for ALL Levels.
- 2/09: Family Mass 9:30am.
- 2/12: Classes for Level 8 & Level 2 ONLY.  
Level Two students and their parents participate in the Bread Meeting.
- 2/16: Family Mass 9:30am.



### Jesus Projects

This year, our students in levels Five, Six and Seven are focusing on the person of Jesus in the Gospels. These students will be using some creative art form to depict a Jesus story of their choice. Their projects will be on display for viewing by our parish community in the Spring.



Thanks to all our Faith Formation Families who participated in the Belonging Service for our First Eucharist Candidates at the 9:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, January 5th. The children should proudly wear their badges when they come to Mass on Sundays.



On February 12<sup>th</sup> our First Communicant's along with their parents are invited to a Special Bread Meeting. Each family is asked to bring a loaf of "homemade" bread to share within the context of this gathering wherein we thank the Lord for the Eucharist and the joy it brings into our lives. Happy are we who have been called to the Lord's Table!

### St. Rene Faith Formation Program Emergency Closing Information



**IMPORTANT REMINDER.....**in the event of a heavy snowfall, or inclement weather you can access Emergency Closing information for our program by going to the St. Rene Website.....[Strenegoupil.org](http://Strenegoupil.org) (in the event of an emergency closing, this announcement would be the First Message to appear on the Web-Site at the top of your screen.)



# Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



## Saturday, January 18, 2020

4:00pm—Geraldine Finlay (McAllister & Neligan Families)

## Sunday, January 19, 2020

7:30am—Michael Rizzo (Family)

9:30am—Raymond Sutkowski (Edna Bazik)

9:30am—Ron Mroz (Leahy Family)

11:30am—Robert Traynor (Family)

11:30am—Len & Judy Siwek - 58th Wedding Anniversary Blessings (Siwek Family)

## Monday, January 20, 2020

8:00am—Phillip O'Brien (Family)

## Tuesday, January 21, 2020

8:00am—Genevieve Kistingner (Family)

## Wednesday, January 22, 2020

8:00am—Dawn Denis Bodoki (Capparelli Family)

## Thursday, January 23, 2020

8:00am—Bernice Dowling (Kathleen Dowling)

8:00am—Steve Krupowicz (Dalia Family)

## Friday, January 24, 2020

8:00am—Gloria Kochan (Family)

## Saturday, January 25, 2020

8:00am—Patricia Synowiecki (Family)

8:00am—Wendy Bartusiak (Aunt Jean)

4:00pm—Casimir C. Wilczynski (Family)

## Sunday, January 26, 2020

7:30am—Stephanie Adam (Family)

9:30am—John Siebenaler (Peg Siebenaler)

9:30am—Ron Mroz (Peg Siebenaler)

9:30am—Vincent Salamendo (Terri & Dan Domarsky)

11:30am—William A. Kappel Jr. (Kappel Family)

11:30am—Michael Angel Colon (Life Partner)



Martin Adelsbach  
Judy Adelsbach  
Larry Adkins  
Guadalupe Almendarez  
Anthony Barone  
Carl Bell  
Joanne Bukowiecki  
Gina Camp  
Dominic Ciampaglia  
Margaret Ciampaglia  
Mitchell Gallas  
Geri Gestaut

Robert Hilbruner  
Rose Ann Lindsay  
Marge Masunas  
Lori McCarthy  
Kenneth Milewski  
William Nita  
Rochelle Piegari  
Joseph Rice  
Edward Robertson  
Judith Siwek  
Jeanne Schmitz  
Michael Tallon  
Sandra Tallon  
Scott Tloczek  
Shirley Tloczek  
Joan Wilhelmy  
Richard Zaleski

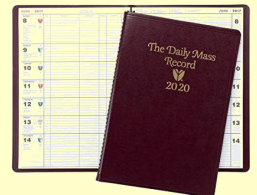


## St. Rene Devotional Candle

Sophie & Floyd Mateja-Health & Special Intentions

## Mass Book Open

Just a reminder that you can now get your mass intentions for 2020. Our mission is to pray for one another and this is your chance to do so. Have a mass said for your loved one, living or deceased. Have a mass said for a loved one's birthday or anniversary. Have a mass said for good health or healing. A donation of \$10 is suggested for all mass intentions. Please stop in or call the Parish Office at (773) 229-8523.



## January 11/12, 2020 Offering

Total envelopes	\$4,915.00
Total loose cash	\$ 612.25
Total Sunday Giving	\$5,527.25

Thank you for your generosity!

We are still awaiting the final numbers for the Christmas Offering.



## Altar & Rosary Society

Cleaning Schedule—January 24/25

Judy Pinzine & Bernice Cieslewski

**Parish Staff**

Rev. Bob Regan  
Pastor

Rev. Peter Paurazas  
Pastor Emeritus

Karen Hoogland  
Businesss Manager

Peg Siebenaler  
Faith Formation

Irene Perconti  
Administrative Assistant

Steve Kittler  
Director of Music

Joanne Tishka  
Bulletin Coordinator

Stanley Silacz  
Maintenance Supervisor

**Daily Masses**

Monday - Saturday at 8:00am

**Weekend Mass Schedule**

Saturday at 4:00pm  
(Confessions from 3:15 - 3:45pm)

Sunday  
7:30am, 9:30am, 11:30am

**Parish Office Hours**

Monday - Saturday  
9:00am - 3:00pm

**Parish Office**

6949 West 63rd Place  
Phone (773) 229-8523

**Email**

office@strenegoupil.org

**Website**

www.strenegoupil.org

**Baptism**

First Sunday of the month or during weekend Mass. Parent preparation class required. Contact the Parish Office at (773) 229-8523 to register.

**Marriage**

Saturday afternoons at 12:30pm or 2:00pm. Please call Fr. Bob at least 6 months in advance to make arrangements.

**Reconciliation/Confession**

Saturdays from 3:15—3:45pm or in the Parish Office by appointment.

**Anointing of the Sick**

Please call the Parish Office at (773) 229-8523 for a family member who is seriously ill.

**Communion for the Sick and Homebound**

Ministers of Care are available to bring Communion to the homebound. Please call the Parish Office to make arrangements.

Due to privacy regulations, hospitals can no longer contact the parish without family consent. Please contact the Parish Office when you or a loved one would like a visit or to be added to the prayer list.

**Faith Formation Classes**



Classes for Grades 1-8 are offered on Wednesday evenings from 6:00-7:30pm. They will meet during the school year. Please call Peg Siebenaler in the Parish Office with any questions.

**RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)**

This program is designed for adults who are not baptized, those who were baptized into a Christian tradition other than Roman Catholic and those Catholics who have not yet celebrated the Sacraments of First Eucharist or Confirmation. Classes begin in September with the Sacraments being received at the Easter Vigil. Please contact Fr. Bob for more information.

**New Parishioners are always welcome at St. Rene.  
Our doors and hearts are open to you.  
Please stop in the office to join our Parish family.**



Mass	4:00PM January 25, 2020	7:30AM January 26, 2020	9:30AM January 26, 2020	11:30AM January 26, 2020
	<b>Nancy Gunnell</b> Pat Gunnell Frank Zalewski Dan Bartusiak Russ Dober	<b>Mary Sarlitto</b> Arlene Capparelli Jack Kenney Amy Shanahan	<b>Fred Bartuch</b> Mary Bartuch John Garcia Norine Abramovic Marie Zilka	<b>Joanne Tishka</b> Mark Dill Carole Dill Charlie Murphy John Strompolis
	<b>Nancy Gunnell</b>	<b>Leo Crotty</b>	<b>Jerry Hughes</b>	<b>Ben Shafer</b>



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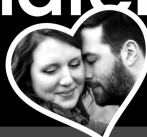
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