

Saint Rene Goupil Catholic Church

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

Do you not know
that you are the
temple of God,
and that the
Spirit of God
dwells in you?

1 Corinthians 3:16

SEVENTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY
23
2020

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Fr. Bob's Weekly Blog



Behavior changes when one recognizes eternity.

When we surrender to God's love and His promise of eternal life, we then want to live on a higher plane. Thanks be to God's grace, this is possible. On our own power, we could not ascent one rung on the divine ladder. As Jesus says, "Without me you can do nothing." We need God! We need GRACE.

And yet, how many people in our society are trying to live without God? Too many! Or how many people say "Lord, Lord," but inside their heart do not heed God's law and God's love? Too many!

Being a disciple of Jesus means we surrender our ego so that we can live IN CHRIST. Recall what EGO can stand for – Edging God Out. One of the first things that must go when we aspire to authentic discipleship is the ego.

However, once we "Let go, and let God," we discover an inner peace and joy we never had before. Life takes on a new direction. We begin to live for God and for others. In all this, we trust God's promise of eternal justice. We live each day with an eye focused on the present and the other eye gazing toward heaven.

Only with this trust in tomorrow can we actually live out in our own lives Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. The Lord says things like, "Offer no resistance to one who is evil." He says, "If someone strikes you on your right cheek, turn and give

them your left." He says, "Love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you."

Huh? What you talkin' bout Jesus?

Jesus is talking about manifesting the kingdom of heaven. The ways of God are different than the ways of the world. What the Lord says is so counter-cultural. Exactly! When Jesus summons us to follow Him, it means we walk away from a life of sin and embrace a new mind; a new heart. Transformation in Christ is an inside job, and with the inside (the heart) transformed by grace, our external actions become beacons of light in the darkness of the world.

Here Comes Lent

Lent begins this Wednesday, February 26th. Mass with distribution of ashes will be celebrated at 8 AM and 7 PM. There will also be a Noon Ash Wednesday service (the noon service is not a Mass). Please join us as we enter into our penitential season all the while preparing our minds and hearts for the glory of Easter.

Lenten Mission 2020

Please consider attending the Lenten Mission at St. Symphorosa Church. The Mission will take place on March 2nd, 3rd and 4th. This year's Mission speaker is Fr. Bob Regan, pastor of St. Rene Goupil Church. This is a great way to get centered on Christ during these days of Lent.

Rumorville, Continued

This is another reminder as to what the Renew My Church decision is in regards to St. Rene and St. Symphorosa. Our two parishes are UNITING to form

a new parish; a new entity. This new parish will support TWO worship sites – the St. Rene campus and the St. Sym's campus. The parish school will be the current St. Symphorosa School.

Please note: the St. Rene campus is NOT closing. The St. Symphorosa campus is NOT closing.

Do we have some important work to do over the next three years? Yes. But right now the vital aspect of Renew My Church is to renew our hearts in Christ and engage those neighbors who, for whatever reason, are not currently involved in the communal aspect of our faith.

Research showed us that in the Clearing area of Chicago, there are 50,000 residents. Of those, 20,000 identify as Catholic. Hmmm! We need not travel halfway across the world on mission for Christ. Our mission is right here; in this neighborhood. One person at a time.

Accept my invitation to mission, and to taking this renewal ONE DAY AT A TIME.

Favorite Quote of the Week:
"If the Devil cannot make us bad, he will make us busy." – Corrie ten Boom.



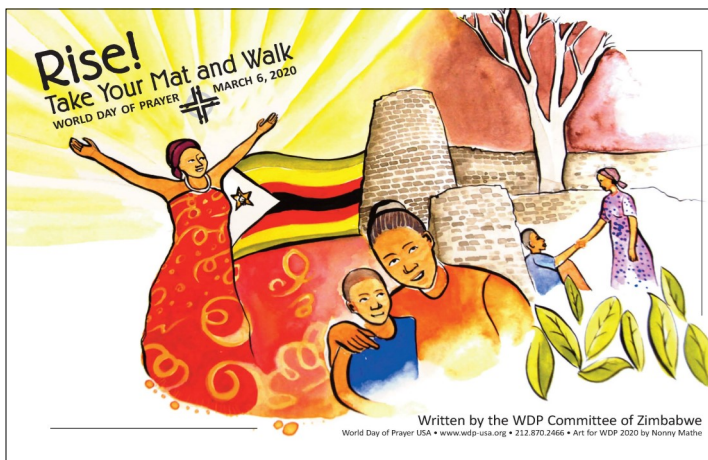


**8:00am Mass, 7:00pm Mass
Service at Noon**

Every Friday at 7:00pm



STATIONS of the CROSS



The World Day of Prayer 2020 will be held on Friday, March 6, at St. Daniel's Church hall at 10:00am. Coffee and refreshments will precede the service at 9:30am.

The women of Zimbabwe have chosen John 5:2-9 as their theme for World Day of Prayer 2020, with a focus on peace and reconciliation. "Rise Take Your Mat and Walk".

Tickets may be obtained at St. Rene Rectory or call Maria at 773-586-4378. The ticket donation of \$1.00 is used to offset expenses.



Meet the Choir Bake Sale



Join us **this Sunday, February 23, after the 9:30am Mass** to meet our Adult Choir and help our choir fund by buying a few treats before Lent begins. We may even have a few members of our **Children's Choir** joining us for this event.

The choir sounds better every week, and will be happy to answer any questions about joining the choir, or participating in our **Holy Week Choir**.

The Holy Week Choir

In order to make Holy Week the most beautiful celebration of the year, I would like to invite everyone to join in with the Adult Choir to sing during Holy Week. Are you someone who likes to sing, but has never been asked to join our choir? This may be the perfect opportunity for you! If you would like to sing in the choir for Holy Week, I want to extend, for this upcoming Lenten season, the invitation to participate in this special choir.



Rehearsals for the Holy Week choir will be held each Tuesday at 7pm in the Church. Just show up and be ready to learn some of the most beautiful music of our tradition.



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

Over the course of the next few months, we will occasionally use this space in the bulletin to more directly answer specific questions and concerns regarding the unification of St. Rene and St. Symphorosa into a new parish. Please pray that we all approach this unification with minds set on Christ and hearts on fire for mission.

Item #1 – I heard St. Rene got closed. Is that true?

Answer – No! It’s not true. The legalistic canonical wording of the Renew My Church decision was easily misinterpreted by some media types and folks from the neighborhood. St. Rene is NOT closing. Although the St. Symphorosa campus has been designated as the location of the office and church sacramental records, this does not mean the St. Rene campus is closing. The newly unified parish will offer two worship sites – the St. Rene campus and the St. Sym’s campus. A certain number of Masses will be held at each worship site.

Item #2 – What about any debt? How will that be handled?

Answer – Cardinal Cupich wants all newly unified parishes focused on mission out of the gate, and does not want debt to hold back this task. Although the debt will not totally be excused, the debt must be paid off in the future. However, the debt will need to be paid off with future asset sales from the original parish that had the debt. A percentage of the asset sale will go to pay off the debt while another percentage will remain in the parish for the mission. Weekly collection money for the new parish will NOT be going toward paying off old debt. As of February 2020, St. Rene Goupil has little debt on the books other than an old payroll loan.

Item #3 – When will a pastor be appointed as the shepherd of the new parish?

Answer – We can expect a final decision from the priest placement board and Cardinal Cupich by early to mid-March 2020.

Item #4 – Why are we even doing this whole Renew My Church thing?

Answer – Six years ago, our archbishop quickly surveyed the landscape of the entire archdiocese and saw what many had already been seeing for years – we need a major renewal on two fronts: the property/building side, and the spiritual side.

Instead of simply closing targeted parishes overnight without any local input, Cardinal Cupich launched Renew My Church. Every single parish in the archdiocese is involved in this process. He asked for an honest evaluation of each parish in the areas of finance, buildings, schools and spiritual life.

This is a challenging but necessary undertaking so that we can be responsible stewards of our property all the while reminding ourselves of the vital necessity of evangelization (which is sharing the Good News of Christ with those around us).

We need to address the challenges of today with the realities of today. Simply wishing it were still 1950 doesn’t help the cultural climate we face in 2020. We live in a post-Christian society. We live in a society where many folks believe they no longer need God, and most certainly no longer need organized religion.

We as committed disciples think differently. Our culture needs God just as every culture has needed God throughout human history. Jesus gave us the Church as the sacrament of salvation. Within Her graces are bestowed for our good. Our mission is still the same. Share Christ with the world, even when they claim, “Keep your faith to yourself.” Jesus’ tells us differently. He says, “Go ... make disciples.” And so we shall!





Faith Formation Office
(773) 229-8523

Coordinator:
Peg Siebenaler

Email: strenefaithformation@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 2/23: Family Mass 9:30am.
- 2/26: Class for ALL Levels.
Ash Wednesday.
- 3/01: Family Mass 9:30am.
- 3/04: Classes for All Levels.
- 3/08: Family Mass 9:30am.
- 3/11: Classes for All Levels.
Students present their Jesus Projects.
- 3/14: 8th Grade Retreat (St. Sym's)
- 3/15: Family Mass 9:30am.
- 3/18: Classes for All Levels,
Students present their Jesus Projects.
- 3/22: Family Mass 9:30am.
Jesus Projects on Display.



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 in the Narthex, for viewing by our parish community the weekend of March 22nd.



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 (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.)



OUR LEVEL TWO STUDENTS TAKE ANOTHER STEP TOWARD FIRST COMMUNION

On Wednesday, February 12, our Level Two Students along with their parents participated in a Bread Meeting.

This celebration is another step forward in their preparation for First Communion. The parents shared some good memories from when they first received this special sacrament. The students all had the opportunity to taste the unconsecrated hosts and shared conversation, bread and juice at their tables. We ended this event with viewing the movie "Grandma's Bread". Our St. Rene Faith Formation Students will celebrate First Eucharist on Sunday, May 3 at the 9:30 am Mass. We invite you to please remember them in your prayers.



Lenten Outreach

Our Faith Formation students invite all of our parishioners to participate in our Lenten Outreach project. All levels will be donating Children's Easter Basket items for the local shelters

and agencies we service. Donations can be dropped off in the Narthex of the Church when attending mass. Please note, we can always use empty Easter Baskets and the cellophane bags to wrap the baskets, after we fill them. For more information, feel free to call the Faith Formation Office. [God be with you and your dear families as we enter into this Holy Season of Lent.](#) Our 2020 St. Rene Confirmandi will take part in assembling the Easter Baskets and earn service hours for their upcoming Confirmation.

Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



Saturday, February 22, 2020

4:00pm—Casimir C. Wilczynski (Family)

4:00pm—Evelyn Dober (Marie Zilka)

Sunday, February 23, 2020

7:30am—Geraldine Kostka (Family)

7:30am—Good Health for Brianna Zamudio (Angel & Micaela Zamudio)

9:30am—Durack-Gubista Families (Family)

9:30am—Raymond Sutkowski (Sutkowski Family)

11:30am—Louise Gomez (Family)

Monday, February 24, 2020

8:00am—Health of Glen Miller (Family)

Tuesday, February 25, 2020

8:00am—Josephine Pelegrino (Family)

8:00am—Lois Spain (Diane Biondo)

Wednesday, February 26, 2020

8:00am—Daniel Sarlitto—Safety (Mary Sarlitto)

Thursday, February 27, 2020

8:00am—Alice Tomczak (Family)

8:00am—Personal/Special Intentions (Marge Tulik)

Friday, February 28, 2020

8:00am—Fred Borowski (Geri Tomaselli)

Saturday, February 29, 2020

8:00am—Jerome Brace (Max Grupenhagen)

4:00pm—Stephanie Adam (Family)

4:00pm—Evelyn Dober (Altar & Rosary Society)

Sunday, March 1, 2020

7:30am—Ronald DeVitto (Family)

9:30am—Raymond Sutkowski (Edna Bazik)

9:30am—James Koffend (Marie Zilka)

9:30am—Blessings for Zachary T. White (Zamudio Family)

11:30am—Michael Rizzo (Family)

11:30am—Thomas Murray (Family)



Martin Adelsbach
Judy Adelsbach
Larry Adkins
Guadalupe Almendarez
Elizabeth Bedran
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

“Sammy” -RIP
Elizabeth Bedran - Health
Margaret Dolton - Health
Marie Sablich - Health



We invite everyone to join us for our next “Super Bingo/Raffle” on Sunday, March 8.

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.

February 15/16, 2020 Offering

Total envelopes	\$3,601.00
Total loose cash	\$ 743.00
Total Sunday Giving	\$4,344.00
St. Rene Utilities Fund	\$1,269.27

Thank you for your generosity!



Altar & Rosary Society Cleaning Schedule

Feb. 28/29, 2020

Irene Korosa & Toni Ptak

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 February 29, 2020	7:30AM March 1, 2020	9:30AM March 1, 2020	11:30AM March 1, 2020
	Linda Dobias Diane Biondo Dan Bartusiak Russ Dober	Mary Sarlitto Arlene Capparelli Jack Kenney Amy Shanahan	Fred Bartuch Mary Bartuch John Garcia Norine Abramovic Marie Zilka	John Strompolis Mark Dill Carole Dill Charlie Murphy Ben Shafer
	Frank Zalewski	Pat O'Brien-Kenney	Barb Grzenia	Cathy Kordelewski

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of ADVERTISED coffee
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