

Saint Rene Goupil Catholic Church

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

FIRST SUNDAY OF

Lent

MARCH 1, 2020

*Jesus was led by the
Spirit into the desert
to be tempted
by the devil.*

Matthew 4:1





Fr. Bob's Weekly Blog



Welcome to Lent 2020; here we go!

Wasn't it just Christmas? Seems like it for sure, but this weekend we begin our annual penitential season.

Think of it as spiritual Spring Training. Each spring baseball players (many of whom have been playing baseball since they were young children) show up and return to the basic fundamentals of the game – field the ball, hit the ball, run the bases.

We, too, as committed Christian disciples, show up and return to the basics of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Many of us use Lent as a time to address an area of our life that has grown lax. We sometimes say things like, “I want to do a better job this Lent of ...” Fill in the blank.

Let me offer a slight twist for Lent. Instead of what we are **DOING**, let's get focused on our **BEING**. Who are we becoming as human persons? We run the risk of turning Lent into more stuff **WE** have to get done, instead of allowing Jesus to do some interior cleansing in our hearts.

Those of you who regularly hear my homilies know I often refer to the heart. In biblical language, the heart is the core of our person; our being. And what is going on inside us matters ... big time! Lent is a season to allow purification to take place, and we must open ourselves up to what God desires to give us. We must yearn to receive from God, who longs to simply love you where you are, but also lead you to places you can't get on your own power.

The Enemy (the murderer and father of lies) wants nothing more than to

foment doubt and confusion. Our first reading this weekend from Genesis reminds us of the sly serpent's tactics. This Enemy seeks to sever our relationship with God and with one another. Who do you think is behind so much of the chaos in the world? I know. I know. This murderer and father of lies also has plenty of human cooperation; those he has succeeded in convincing God is our competitor and we, too, if we so desire, can be like gods.

Lent is a time to check our deepest desires. What do you long for? Go beyond your wants and needs. What is your deepest desire? And who or what can satisfy that hunger? That thirst?

Many people think Lent is a time to go searching for God again, but the reality of it all is that it is a time to allow God to find us where we are (be honest about where you are right now) and let him show us -- more clearly than ever -- the way and the truth and the life.

Mission Mission Mission

We are encouraged to attend this year's 2020 Lenten Mission hosted by St. Symphorosa.

The three-day Mission will take place March 2, 3 & 4 and begin each evening at 7 PM inside St. Symphorosa's main church. I have been invited to be the Mission speaker this year, and I am certainly honored to spend some time with the Lord and with each other, as we open our minds and hearts to God's amazing grace.

The Tuesday, March 3rd session, will include time for celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Please take advantage of the healing grace made available in Confession. Whether it's been one month

or 20 years since your last confession, the Lord awaits your sorrowful contrition (I'm sorry) so as to give you His beautiful mercy.

Expressing Gratitude

Occasionally we just need to say **THANK YOU!** Who do you mean, Fr. Bob? Let's start with **YOU** reading this bulletin right now. Thank you for being a part of St. Rene, or for joining us this weekend. You are here to worship and to be sanctified. Together, we say thanks!

Also, thank you to so many who do the little “this” and “that” around our parish. No Catholic parish should ever become dependent on one person. So many of you care about your spiritual home. I've experienced it, even when it comes across as a little too concerned.

Whether you are giving your time, or your treasure, or your talent, we appreciate your gift and we **THANK YOU** for being **YOU**. When you give from the heart, even if it resembles the two small coins of the widow's mite, you have given your all, and the Lord knows it.

Favorite Quote of the Week
“Nothing would be done at all, if a person waited until he could do it so well that no one could find fault with it.” – St. John Henry Newman.





Lenten Mission

**March 2nd, 3rd and 4th
7:00pm**

**Speaker: Fr. Bob Regan
St. Symphorosa Parish
62nd & Austin Ave.**



Lenten Regulations

The **rules** for **fasting** and abstinence in the United States are: Every person 18 years or older must abstain from meat (and items made with meat) on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, and all the Fridays of Lent. Every person between the age of 18 and 59 (beginning of 60th year) must **fast** on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.



STATIONS of the CROSS
Every Friday at 7:00pm

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.



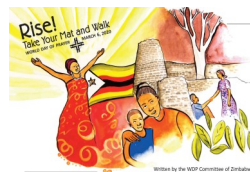
Rehearsals for the Holy Week choir will be held each Tuesday at 7pm in the Church. Just show up and be ready to learn some of the most beautiful music of our tradition.



St. Rene Altar & Rosary Society

**The members will meet on
Tuesday, March 2, in the
church narthex at 1:00pm.**

Doors are open at 12:30 and guests are welcome. The game Left, Right and Center will be played during the social hour.



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.



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

This week we will once again present a Question & Answer format in the Our Catholic Faith section of the bulletin as an informative update in the Renew My Church process that involves St. Rene Goupil and St. Symphorosa uniting to form a new parish.

Question #1 – Will this unification of the two parishes with two worship sites affect the current Mass times?

Answer – Yes! Between the two parishes right now, we have a total of eight (8) Masses – four Masses at each parish. We can anticipate a re-structuring of Mass number and Mass time. This will be discussed by parish leadership in the coming months. Nothing has been decided at this point.

Because there will be occasions when ONE priest needs to cover ALL the Masses on a given weekend, he will need to be able to commute between the two locations (8 minute drive legally, 5 minutes illegally). We cannot have two Masses at the same time, and must allow for breathing space between the Masses.

We realize everyone has their “preferred” Mass time, and that any change to a Mass schedule causes frustration. We also have to live with realistic parameters that are for the good of the whole, not just some parts.

My dream would be that in five years, we need eight Masses again because on Sundays the pews are filled to capacity; that so many people rediscover the beauty of the Mass and realize the supernatural power of the Eucharist. Jesus didn’t give us the Mass to make us feel burdened by a Sunday obligation. The Lord gave us the Eucharist as PURE GIFT to nourish our soul. And we come to say “Thank You!”

Question #2 – Will the newly-formed parish have a new name?

Answer – Yes! But what the new name is will be open for input in the coming months, and might not be decided until AFTER July 1, 2020. The option to simply combine the two parish names into one -- St. Symphorosa/St. Rene -- is certainly one possibility, although quite a mouthful to say.

Another option is to introduce an entirely new name. A recent example took place at St. Jane de Chantel. With the closure of St. Camillus and their joining of St. Jane, the newly-formed parish decided on St. Faustina.

Please note: Regardless of the official parish name change, the two campus sites will retain their original name. The parish location at 64th and New England will be the St. Rene campus. The parish location at 62nd and Austin will be the St. Symphorosa campus. If a funeral home were to call the parish office to schedule a funeral Mass, we’d ask them, “At which location?” And the family would mention either the St. Rene campus or the St. Sym’s campus, but the overall parish herself could have a new name. Stay tuned!

Question #3 – Why is there a vocation issue in the Church today?

Answer – Because there is a faith issue in our society. No doubt God still calls men and women to specific religious vocations, and there are some dynamic young folks hearing the call today and answering the call. The inspiring story of the Franciscans of the Eucharist is a perfect example of what can happen.

This religious order accepted the challenge to move into the old Our Lady of the Angels property at Hamlin Ave. and Iowa St. in the Garfield Park area. This is the site of the tragic school fire in the 1950’s. Today it is the home for Fr. Bob Lombardo, 10 nuns (all under 40) and a religious brother. They do wonderful ministry in a tough area of the city.

More specifically, we need good, faith-filled young men to not only hear the call to the priesthood but to actually discern the call, and if truly called by God, to answer this call. Also, young men and women discerning a call need the love and support of their respective families and their parishes.

We can do much more in our parish to foster vocations and to support vocations, but this begins by praying for specific men and women to hear God’s call amidst so much societal noise and distraction.

Vocations begin AT HOME!



Faith Formation Office
(773) 229-8523

Coordinator:
Peg Siebenaler

Email: strenefaithformation@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 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.
- 3/25: Classes for All Levels.
- 3/29: Family Mass 9:30am

Confirmation Retreat

St. Syms welcomes our St. Rene Confrmandi to a Spirit Day Retreat on Saturday, March 14th at 1pm. The day will conclude with a 5pm Mass. We invite all families to join our Confirmation Candidates for this special mass. (This mass will fulfill your Sunday obligation.)



Be assured of our prayers as you continue the journey toward Confirmation on May 8th.



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 March.



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. May God bless you and your dear families during this Holy Season of Lent. The 2020 St. Rene Confrmandi will take part in assembling the Easter Baskets and earn service hours for their upcoming Confirmation on May 8.

Pictured above are some of our Faith Formation students who are "preparing for Lent".



Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



Saturday, February 29, 2020

4:00pm—Stephanie Adam (Family)
 4:00pm—Evelyn Dober (Altar & Rosary Society)
 4:00pm—Edward Gerlick (Gerlick Family)

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)

Monday, March 2, 2020

8:00am—Raymond Sutkowski (Tammy & Jeff Sheffler)

Tuesday, March 3, 2020

8:00am—Altar & Rosary Members (A & R Society)

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

8:00am—Phillip O'Brien (Family)

Thursday, March 5, 2020

8:00am—William Bulster (Marie Zilka)

Friday, March 6, 2020

8:00am—Thomas E. Murray (Family)

Saturday, March 7, 2020

8:00am—Raymond Sutkowski (John Sutkowski Family)
 4:00pm—Janet Szponer (Donna Szponer)
 4:00pm—James Koffend (Judy Carranza)

Sunday, March 8, 2020

7:30am—Thomas Saucedo (Family)
 9:30am—Emma Morales (Zamudio Family)
 9:30am—Lucille Salamendo (Terri & Dan Domarsky)
 11:30am—Francis Calderon—Paco (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



*Super Bingo/Raffle
 March 8, 2020
 Doors open at 12:30
 Games begin at 1:30
 \$20/Person*



Sunday, March 8, 2020

February 22/23, 2020 Offering

Total envelopes	\$3,338.00
Total loose cash	\$ 755.00
Total Sunday Giving	\$4,093.00

Thank you for your generosity!



Altar & Rosary Society Cleaning Schedule

March 6/7, 2020

Marie Zilka

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 March 7, 2020	7:30AM March 8, 2020	9:30AM March 8, 2020	11:30AM March 8, 2020
	Diane Biondo Frank Zalewski Dan Bartusiak Nancy Gunnell Linda Dobias	Alice Schaefer Arlene Capparelli Pat O'Brien-Kenney Jack Kenney	Jack Orsi Joan Orsi Kay Marks Teena Smith Debbie Rudar	Ben Shafer John Strompolis Kathy Przekwas Julie Wojcik Monica Wojcik
	Jeannine Lascola	Amy Shanahan	Jerry Hughes	Joanne Tishka

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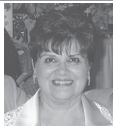
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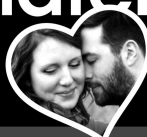
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of ADVERTISED coffee
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