

# Saint Rene Goupil Catholic Church

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

We know that Christ, raised from the dead,  
dies no more; death no longer has power over him.

Romans 6:9



**THIRTEENTH  
SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME**

**JUNE 28, 2020**



# Fr. Bob's Weekly Blog



"Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every joint with which it is supplied, when each part is working properly, makes bodily growth and upbuilds itself in love." Ephesians 15: 15-16

Establishing a firm foundation is crucial to building a house.

A solid foundation paves the way for the rest of the structure, but a faulty foundation assures disaster down the road.

St. Rene and St. Symphorosa both laid firm foundations in the Clearing area of Chicago in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. The parishioners were a figurative concrete foundation, and those who came after laid brick upon brick well into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

Think of all the baptisms, weddings, first communions, confirmations, funerals, confessions (plenty of God's mercy); and probably a few too many rambling homilies over the years. There have been tears shed in the pews of both St. Rene and St. Symphorosa. You've laughed. You've been angry at times. You've worked together. You've mourned. You celebrated.

These memories live on in our minds and hearts. No one can take them away. The shed blood of time, treasure, and talent is in the brickwork of both parishes. We will always honor our past.

Allow me, as the current pastor, to thank everyone who has graced the doors of St. Rene Church, and to thank every priest and religious sister who has served the people here. It's all part of a rich history.

We're not going away but we are beginning a new chapter in an

evolving story that is part of the greatest story ever told – that God took on human flesh, showed us the way, and the truth and the life, suffered, died, and rose from the dead. Wow! Yes, we are part of this story – the story of salvation. We are part of something much bigger than 64<sup>th</sup> and New England Ave.

Certainly this area of Chicago is our sphere of influence, but we must always keep in mind why we as a parish exist. It's because of Jesus, and we have Good News to share.

We live in the present moment. This is not halcyon days of the 1950s. We have challenges today both spiritual and temporal. The new parish of St. Symphorosa & St. Rene will meet these challenges. We will center our lives on Christ. The spiritual is primary. If it's not, then something has gone drastically wrong. Our buildings will all crumble one day. May our hearts not crumble alongside them.

Let us not be naïve, however. We have to also look at how to best be stewards of our resources. We need to use money wisely and take care of what we have. Unlike the government, we can't keep taxing you involuntarily. Yes, we as a Church ask for money a lot, but we leave you the freewill to say yes or no. Does the IRS? Hmmm! Go directly to jail. Do not pass Go!

Things are going to be challenging over the next few months and years as this new reality unfolds, but in times of change, what helps keep us centered are the things that can never change -- Sacred Scripture, Holy Mass, devotions, prayer, works of mercy.

Our world and our culture have changed over the past 50-60 years. Far too many are turning away from God or are indifferent toward God and the things of God. We must read the signs of the times in the light of the Gospel. This isn't the time for less God or lukewarm faith. Just as heroes are made during times of war, so do saints arise during times of persecution and suffering.

We want to do our part in the Clearing community to help make saints. That is why Jesus gave us His Church – as a saint making organism that brings light into darkness.

We are preparing for the future. Much of what will be taking place in the next three to six years is laying the groundwork for 20, 30, 40 years from now. We want to hand on something to the next generations. As much as we'd like to sit back and say "Well, I've done what I needed to do," we can still do our part to help the newly-formed parish of St. Symphorosa & St. Rene to be the best saint-making church it can be.

As pastor, I cannot, and should not, do this alone. All hands on deck. We have a beautiful faith and it is meant to be shared. We share our faith with one another, and with those who have drifted away as well as those who despise Her. Jesus didn't tell his apostles "Shhhh! Keep this Good News to yourself. We wouldn't want to offend anybody."

No! He told us, “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.”

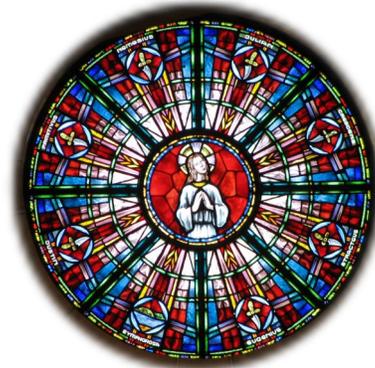
Friends, that’s the mission. That’s why we exist as a parish. Jesus isn’t going to ask for our budget or balance sheet on Judgment Day, but He will ask “How well did you love?” What will you present to the Lord? Grudges? Resentments? Hard feelings? Or will you say, “Here’s my heart, dear Lord. I did my best to share your love and mercy. Be merciful to me, a sinner.”

The foundations have already been laid down. Our ancestors at St. Rene and St. Symphorosa took care of the groundwork. Now we will add another layer to an already rich history of advancing the mission given to us by Christ.

Please join me in building a bridge; not just toward one another, but the one that extends into eternity; the one Christ provided the first pieces of wood – blood-stained wood on Calvary. He did the heavy lifting.

Honor the past. Live in the present. Prepare for the future.

**Favorite Quote of the Week**  
**“While the world changes, the Cross stands firm.”**  
 – St. Bruno



### New Mass Times

One of the realities of the newly unified parish of St. Symphorosa & St. Rene is the necessity for a new Mass schedule. Changing Mass times can be one of the most stressful things we experience in parish life. A pastor and his advisors should only make adjustments to a Mass schedule if it is absolutely a must.

Well, the new parish reality makes the altering of the Mass times a must.

The new Mass schedule begins on the weekend of July 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. Please make sure the new Mass times are in a convenient place in your home for reference purposes.

To those folks for whom this change causes great angst or anger, please accept my apology and know I understand. But a pastor has to make decisions based on the well-being of the entire parish, not just certain individuals. But, yes, I get it. It will take time to adjust, but we’ll walk this road of transition together united by the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

As a new parish, we have two options as far as worship site is concerned. Parishioners can participate in Holy Mass at both the St. Symphorosa and St. Rene church buildings. As pastor, I encourage you to make use of both locations depending on what Mass time works for you on a given weekend.

My dream is that in a few years we need to ADD Masses because our pews are full. Right now, that is not the case. Jesus gave us a mission, and this mission prompts us to go, make disciples, baptize and teach. And this is what we’ll be doing in the years to come. It’s both an exciting time but also challenging. We need one another now more than ever.

Thank you! – Fr. Bob

#### New Mass Schedule with worship site

##### *Saturday (Vigil Mass)*

4:00 PM – St. Rene campus  
 5:30 PM – St. Symphorosa campus

##### *Sunday*

7:30 AM – St. Rene campus  
 9:00 AM – St. Symphorosa campus  
 10:30 AM – St. Rene campus  
 NOON – St. Symphorosa campus

## Saint Rene Goupil

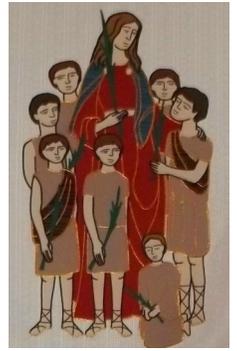
St. Rene was born at St. Martin Du Bois, France in 1608. Rene's father was a surgeon who taught him medical skills before he died when Rene was only 12. He entered the Jesuit Novitiate in Paris at the age of 31 and was dismissed three months later, because of partial deafness. In 1640, he sailed from France to New York and became a lay assistant to the Jesuit Missionaries in Canada. In July of 1642, Rene met St. Isaac Jogues, a Jesuit priest and volunteered to work with him among the Huron Indians. Fr. Jogues immediately accepted Rene because his medical skills were invaluable in the work of the Jesuits in caring for the sick and wounded American Indians. St. Rene was brutally tortured for his work in bringing God to the people and later killed for making the Sign of the Cross on the forehead of an Indian child.



**FEAST DAY - OCTOBER 19**

## Saint Symphorosa

According to early church tradition, St. Symphorosa and Her Seven Sons served as an example of faithfulness to God. The tradition is that St. Symphorosa, the widow of St. Gelulius, lived near Rome around 135 A.D. With her seven sons, she refused the order of the Emperor Hadrian to give sacrifice to pagan gods. Because of her steadfast faithfulness and great love of Jesus Christ, St. Symphorosa, was beaten for a long period of time, suspended by her hair, and finally thrown into the Anio River with a stone tied to her body. Her seven sons - Crescens, Eugenius, Julian, Justin, Nemesius, Primativus, Staceteus - followed their mother's example, refused to follow the emperor's order, and were martyred by the sword on the following day.



**FEAST DAY - JULY 18**

*Loving God, we ask that you grant us the spirit of wisdom and unity, so that we may be one, even as you are one with our Lord Jesus Christ - and he with you.*

*Enable all the members of the body of Christ to live together in unity and fellowship with one another, and lead us into the paths of peace and righteousness so that we may be well pleasing in your sight.*

*We ask you to teach us how to love one another as Christ loved us and help us to show one another the unusual kindness that can only come from knowing your Son, Jesus. May the Spirit stir up in our hearts a desire to be united as one, in the bond of peace and fellowship. This we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.*



## First Holy Communion June 27, 2020

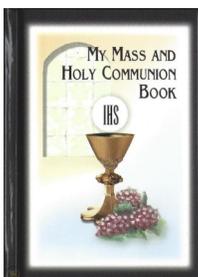
***“I am the Bread of Life ... whoever receives Me lives in Me, and I live in him”. (John 6)***

**Congratulations to all the boys and girls who are meeting Jesus in the Sacrament of the Eucharist for the first time.**

*Alizé Abarca  
Maya Cerwantes  
Gianna Delgado  
Marguerite Dybas  
Camila Gutierrez  
Enzo Hernandez  
Sophia Hernandez  
Nathan Mora  
Chrystian Ostrowski  
Samiya Ramirez  
Grace Sepulveda  
Natalie Sepulveda  
Leyla Valenzuela*



Dear Jesus,  
When I receive you on  
Communion day,  
Please come into my heart  
to stay.  
Bless me and my family and  
friends, I pray.  
Help me to love you more  
each day.  
Be with me at home, at school,  
and at play.  
I want to please You in all I do  
and say.  
Amen.



# Mass Intentions

FOR THE WEEK



**Saturday, June 27, 2020**

4:00pm - Raymond Sutkowski (John Sutkowski Family)  
4:00pm - Jesse Parra (Almendarez Family)

**Sunday, June 28, 2020**

7:30am - Helen Shearier (Family)  
9:30am - Fred Borowski (Geri Tomaselli)  
9:30am - Paulette Wilhelmy (Marie Zilka)

11:30am - Richard J. Kurek (Family)

**Monday, June 29, 2020**

8:00am - Ronald Mroz (Family)

**Tuesday, June 30, 2020**

8:00am - Dante Dimenna (Family)

**Wednesday, July 1, 2020**

8:00am - Nellie Shaughnessy (Hederman Family)

**Thursday, July 2, 2020**

8:00am - Joseph Lesker (Diane Biondo)

**Friday, July 3, 2020**

8:00am - Laura Pelegriano & Family (Pelegriano Family)

**Saturday, July 4, 2020**

8:00am - Sgt. Omar Saucedo (Family)  
4:00pm - Gloria, Raul & Ron Parra (Almendarez Family)

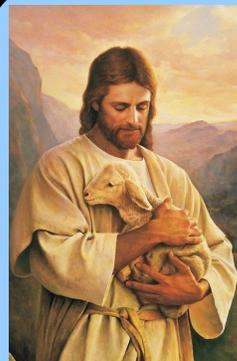
**Sunday, July 5, 2020**

7:30am - Jack Orsi (Family)  
10:30am - Raymond August (Family)  
10:30am - Evelyn Dober (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  
 Rosemary Orsi Roberts  
 Edward Robertson  
 Judith Siwek  
 Michael Tallon  
 Sandra Tallon  
 Scott Tloczek  
 Shirley Tloczek  
 Joan Wilhelmy  
 Richard Zaleski



Lord Jesus Christ, at your Last Supper you prayed to the Father that all should be one. Send your Holy Spirit upon all who bear your name and seek to serve you. Strengthen our faith in you, and lead us to love one another in humility. May we who have been reborn in one baptism be united in one faith

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