



St. Rene Goupil Catholic Community
January 21, 2024

3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He walked along a little farther and saw James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They too were in a boat mending their nets. Then he called them. So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him. - Mk 1:19-20

Notes from Fr. Steve

During Advent several people in the parish asked me to please write biographies of the saints as I have in the past. So, I thought I would write a little something about my own patron saint, St. Stephen.

St. Stephen, often referred to as the first Christian martyr, holds a significant place in Christian history. While the details of his life are drawn primarily from the Acts of the Apostles in the New Testament, his impact on the early Christian community is profound.

St. Stephen was likely born in the Hellenistic Jewish community in Jerusalem around the 1st century AD. He is traditionally considered one of the seven deacons chosen by the apostles to assist in the distribution of food and aid to widows within the Christian community, as recounted in Acts 6:1-6. His selection for this role suggests that he was known for his devotion, wisdom, and integrity.

According to the biblical narrative, St. Stephen gained a reputation for performing miracles and speaking with great wisdom, drawing the attention of both believers and non-believers. His eloquence and defense of Christianity led to conflict with some Jewish religious authorities who opposed the Christian message.

The pivotal moment in St. Stephen's life came when he was brought before the Sanhedrin, the Jewish high court, on charges of blasphemy. In his defense, Stephen delivered a powerful speech recounting the history of the Jewish people and highlighting the rejection of prophets. This narrative culminated with a bold accusation that his accusers were responsible for the betrayal and murder of Jesus Christ.

This courageous testimony enraged the authorities, and St. Stephen became the first Christian martyr. Acts 7:54-60 describes how he was stoned to death, with Saul of Tarsus (later known as the apostle Paul) consenting to his execution. St. Stephen's last words were a prayer for forgiveness for his prosecutors, echoing Jesus' own words on the cross.

St. Stephen's martyrdom marked a turning point in the early Christian movement. His steadfast faith and willingness to die for his beliefs inspired others, and his death is often seen as a precursor to the widespread persecution faced by Christians in the following decades. The Feast of St. Stephen is celebrated on December 26th in the Western Christian tradition, commemorating his life and martyrdom.

Please let me thank all of you for your prayers, cards, flowers, masses and support at the recent death of my brother and nephew. It is still overwhelming to think they are both gone. Your prayers, brought blessings and peace to me and my entire family at that time. So, I thank you and ask for continued prayerful support.

Also, please remember to pray for the parish, especially the sick and the suffering. Your prayers bring them healing, comfort and peace. May God bless you and those you love.

Fr. Steve

**REQUEST FOR
2023 CONTRIBUTION
STATEMENT**

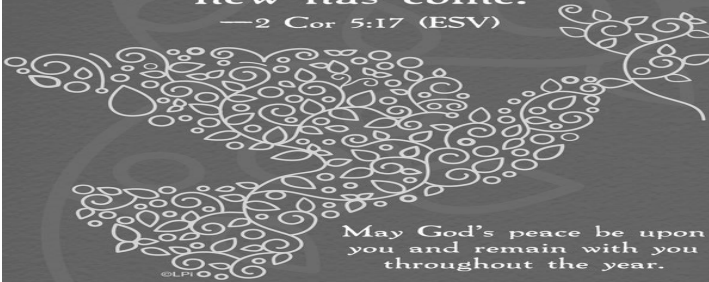
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ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

ENVELOPE NUMBER _____

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.
—2 Cor 5:17 (ESV)



Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

In today's First Reading, God prompts the prophet Jonah to carry out His message in warning the people of Nineveh to turn from their wicked ways and repent—which they do. In St. Mark's Gospel, the evangelist tells of Jesus' invitation to Simon-Peter, Andrew, James, and John to discipleship in Him. They respond immediately, abandoning their fishing businesses and leaving their families—ultimately, sacrificing everything—to follow Jesus. Their acts considered radical in our Lord's day would be considered just as radical in today's secular society. As steward disciples seeking to deepen our relationship in Christ, we, also, must be willing to open our hearts to His true peace, joy and happiness. Then, in a spirit of evangelization, we will be sent to spread His Good News to those we meet. This is our task as joyful missionary disciples. An organization that supports missionary discipleship is St. Paul Street Evangelization. Join a local team at <https://streetevangelization.com>.

GOSPEL MEDITATION

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

We start telling lies around the age of three, the experts tell us. It's understandable. Lying is a god-like power. Whatever I want, I need only say it, and the world rearranges itself accordingly. It's amazing at first. But soon reality snaps back and I'm faced with a dilemma. If I remain committed to my lie I start to fracture into pieces. My words and reality drift apart, and I find myself lost in a lonely world of further falsehoods and fear of being found out.

How marvelous, then, that Jesus begins his ministry by proclaiming: "**Repent!**" We tend to think it means "stop doing bad things" but it doesn't. It literally means "go beyond the mind you have." Think in a new way. It's painful to admit, but some portion of my mind is addicted to lie-telling, usually to protect my ego or make life easier. To repent means to admit this tendency, to say, "I'm done lying," and to move beyond my split mind into a complete commitment to the truth. Perhaps that's why at Mass we together proclaim, "I have sinned in my *thoughts*, and in my *words*..." Repentance and truth-telling work together.

Those who know the twelve-step process of addiction recovery know this process well. The fourth step requires radical truth-telling: listing our moral defects. This isn't being scrupulous. Rather it is freedom from falsehood, and entrance into the real world. This week, I invite you to join me in this practice. Get your phone or piece of paper. Answer the question: what are your true moral defects? Write them down. Remember, the Lord knows them already and loves you. We have a sacrament where this truth-telling is celebrated: Confession. Perhaps it is finally time to go beyond our childish lies.

— *Father John Muir*





Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

Pope Francis has said that respect for life is not just about the unborn child in the womb, but also about the least of our brothers and sisters. Yes, it is even upon the undocumented resident alien who has no voice but ours. As followers of Jesus Christ, we are all called to protect the voiceless.

Let us pray...

Good and gracious God,
you blew into our nostrils the breath of life.
You are the One to whom we owe our very existence.

Give us the courage to take that unpopular position
of protecting those who have no voice,
the unborn child in the womb
to the person taking his or her last breath.

The life you have given us is a gift beyond measure.
Embolden us to speak the truth
about protecting the child, the elderly,
and the one without a voice in the public square.

With thankful hearts,
we ask all this of the One God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
Amen.

You now can donate to St. Rene Goupil using your cell phone! Just take a picture of the QR code in the gathering space or in the bulletin; it will automatically link you to the St. Rene donation site. Enter the amount you wish to donate, card information and press the “Pay” button. It’s that simple! We thank you for your generosity.



SCAN CODE TO DONATE TO ST. RENE GOUPIL

Everyday Stewardship

Give Until It Hurts

One of the characteristics of Everyday Stewardship is to be committed — to persevere daily in a way of life acknowledging that everything belongs to God.

I know, I know. Easier said than done.

Just ask Zebedee. It’s quite an image we get from the Gospel, after all. “So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him.”

There was Zebedee, about his business, mending nets with his two sons, who were undoubtedly his best workers — they had to have been more dedicated than the hired men, who worked for wages rather than for family. And in an instant off they go, following this strange man.

I don’t know about you, but if my kids left me on a hot summer day to finish the lawn by myself, I wouldn’t be too happy.

But Zebedee must have been someone quite special. Perhaps he realized that his sons didn’t belong to him — not really. They belonged to God, and from the beginning of time, it had been appointed that they would be among the first disciples of Christ. He passed, he called, they followed, and Zebedee obliged. He simply went back to mending his nets, I imagine.

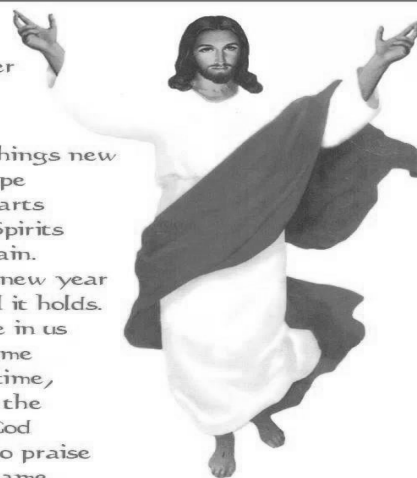
Zebedee already understood what St. Teresa of Calcutta would say millennia later: “Give until it hurts.”

“You’re wasting my time.” “I’ve done so much for her; she owes me this.” How often do we think things, and even people and relationships, belong to us? The truth is none of them do. We must be ready, as Zebedee was, to surrender them to God when He comes walking past.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

A New Year's Prayer

Lord, You make all things new
You bring hope
alive in our hearts
And cause our Spirits
to be born again.
Thank you for this new year
For all the potential it holds.
Come and kindle in us
A mighty flame
So that in our time,
many will see the
wonders of God
And live forever to praise
Your glorious name.



Amen

Readings for Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reading I *Jonah 3:1-5, 10*

The word of the Lord came to Jonah, saying: "Set out for the great city of Nineveh, and announce to the messenger that I will tell you." So Jonah made ready and went to Nineveh, according to the LORD'S bidding. Now Nineveh was an enormously large city; it took three days to go through it. Jonah began his journey through the city, and had gone but a single day's walk announcing, "Forty days more and Nineveh shall be destroyed, when the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast and all of them, great and small, put on a sackcloth. When God saw by their actions how they turned from their evil way, he repented of the evil that he had threatened to do to them; he did not carry it out.

Reading II *1 Corinthians 7:29-31*

I tell you, brothers and sisters, the time is running out. From now on, let those having wives act as not having them, those weeping as not weeping, those rejoicing as not rejoicing, those buying as not owning, those using the world as not using it fully. For the world in its present form is passing away.

Gospel *Mark 1:14-20*

After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." As he passed by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting their nets into the sea; they were fishermen. Jesus said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." Then they abandoned their nets and followed him. He walked along a little farther and saw James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They too were in a boat mending their nets. Then he called them. So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him.

Readings for the Week

©LPI

Sunday, January 21, 2024:Jon 3:1-5, 10/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (4a)/1 Cor 7:29-31/Mk 1:14-20
Monday, January 22, 2024: 2 Sm 5:1-7, 10/Ps 89:20, 21-22, 25-26/Mk 3:22-30
Tuesday, January 23, 2024:2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Mk 3:31-35
Wednesday, January 24, 2024:2 Sm 7:4-17/Ps 89:4-5, 27-28, 29-30/Mk 4:1-20
Thursday, January 25, 2024:Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Mk 16:15-18
Friday, January 26, 2024:2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 7-8a, 10/Mk 4:26-34
Saturday, January 27, 2024:2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 16-17/Mk 4:35-41
Sunday, January 28, 2024:Dt 18:15-20/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9 (8)/1 Cor 7:32-35/Mk 1:21-28

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, January 23, 2024

9:30 a.m.
+Jose Tolentino

Thursday, January 25, 2024

9:30 a.m.
Funeral

Friday, January 26, 2024

9:30 a.m.
+Dee Mullaney
+Bev Romeo

Saturday, January 27, 2024

4:00 p.m.
+Felix & Rita Gatt
+Mary Jean Calmi
+Edwin Wagner
+Franklin Langenstein
+Steven Herbert
+Joan Hewitt

Sunday, January 28, 2024

8:30 a.m.
+Sharon Murawski
Felecia Rice, Healing
+For the Soul of Shirley Shamoun
Special Intention of John & Katrina Gjonaj

10:30 a.m.
+Dave Willick
+Vincenzo Ciavaglia
+Ryan & Jennifer Ambrosio
+Antonio Serrano

5:30 p.m.
Louise Hornung (100th Birthday)



Please Remember
St. Rene Goupil Parish
In Your Will

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

I use GPS wherever I go and it serves me well most of the time. However, sometimes it leads me to a place that does not exist. Then there are those times when I am about to turn and the man inside my phone shouts out, "GPS signal lost" or "Rerouting!" The problem is when the area is unfamiliar to me, I have no choice but to listen. I could try to get where I am going by simple intuition or pulling over to look at a paper map, but I don't trust my sense of direction and haven't bought a paper map in close to a decade.

Many people move through life without any direction. They find themselves constantly rerouting and wondering when they will ever get to a satisfying final destination. What they need is a compass and a companion for the journey, yet they have no idea how to get either.

Prayer can serve as a compass and it connects us to a companion for the journey. Stewardship living is impossible without prayer. If we count on our own will and believe we can become fruitful without daily contact with the divine we can find ourselves looking for directions more than moving toward a destination. God through prayer will help us see all we have as gift. God through prayer will lead us away from materialism and selfishness toward freedom and generosity. Even when we fall to sin, the path back is clearer. God's GPS signal is never really lost.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

3rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Weekend Liturgy Schedule for January 27 & 28

	Saturday 4:00PM	Sunday 8:30 AM	Sunday 10:30 AM	Sunday 5:30 PM
Presider	Fr. Steve	Fr. Joy	Fr. Steve	Fr. Tim
Lector	Lorraine Doyle	Rob Wilson	Thess Monterio	Paul Hornung
Altar Servers	Isabella Gonzalez Nathan Gonzalez	Karin Nieto	Phat Le Phong Le	
Eucharistic Ministers	J Dzuris M Passalacqua Open	Open Open Open	E Monterio T Monterio Open	Open Open Open
Ushers	Tom Pluta Bill Broaddus Dave Hintz Todd Messineo Karen Messineo Nick Rieser Jim Moravek Omar Oszust Gary Novelli	Tom Dutkiewicz Luis Nieto Al Gyenese Mike Kazyak Ed Stivers Sharon Olszewski	Terry Shaughnessy Tom Fooy Ralph Fackler Wilmar Suan Joe Meli Chrisie Fish Chris Norris	Paul Hornung Mike Galuszka Ofelia Fermil Fred Rossi
Sacristan	L Youkhana	K Nieto	H DeVera	V Jennings



St. Rene St. Vincent de Paul helps with utility bills, clothing, household items, food and in certain cases evictions. If you know of anyone who needs help, please have them call (586) 718-4523. They do not need to be parish members. All information is kept strictly confidential.

The St. Vincent de Paul food pantry is in need of the following items:

Tuna, cereal, pasta sauce in Jars, pancake syrup, white rice and spaghetti.



O St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God, I place in thee all my interest and desires.

O St. Joseph, do assist me by thy powerful intercession, and obtain for me from thy divine Son all spiritual blessings, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. So that, having engaged here below thy heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of Fathers.

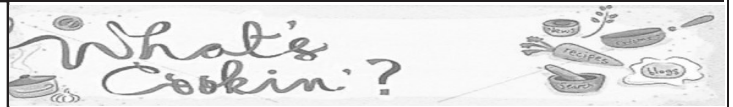
O St. Joseph, I never weary of contemplating thee, and Jesus asleep in thy arms; I dare not approach while He reposes near thy heart. Press Him close in my name and kiss His fine head for me and ask Him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath.

St. Joseph, patron of departing souls, pray for me. Amen.

STAY CONNECTED

I encourage you to sign up for this resource and make use of the Bible studies, faith formation opportunities, and Catholic movies available. Signing up only takes a few easy steps:

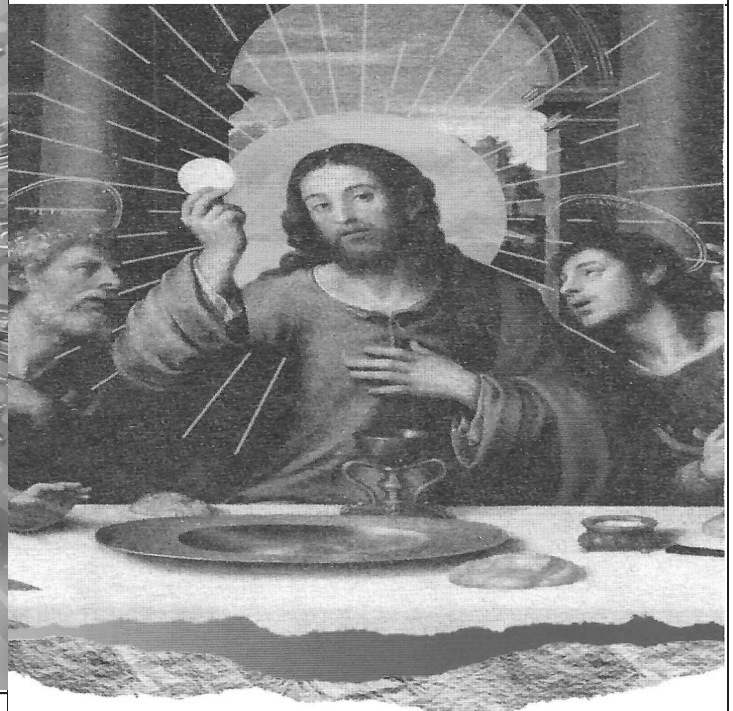
1. Visit www.formed.org and click “Sign up.”
2. Click “I belong to a Parish or Organization.”
3. Type “Faith at Home Detroit” in the center box under Create New Account. (You’ll see it populate from the drop-down menu.) Click “Next.”
4. Enter your first and last name as well as your email.
5. Now you’re registered! You can also download the app on you Smartphone. If you need further assistance, contact *Formed* at www.help.formed.org or toll-free at 844-367-6331.



Scotch Shortbread Bars

- 1 cup butter—no substitutes
- 1/2 cup confectioner’s sugar
- 2 cups all purpose flour
- 1/4 tsp. baking powder
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- Additional confectioner’s sugar

In a mixing bowl, cream butter and sugar. Combine flour, baking powder and salt; gradually add to the creamed mixture. Spread into ungreased 11x7x2 baking pan. Prick several times with a fork. Bake at 350 F for 20-22 minutes, or until edges begin to brown. Dust with confectioner’s sugar. Cool on wire rack. Cut into bars. (2 dozen cookies)



**Our Sunday Offering
January 13 & 14
Thank you for your
generous response.**

God Bless you!

If you wish to read the bulletin it can be found online at Parishesonline.com then search by zip code. You can go online to the aod.org/live masses to find Weekday and Weekend Masses that can be watched.



eucharisticrevival.org



We are in need of Sacristans and Eucharistic Ministers. If anyone is interested, please contact Gordon Yeck at (810)343-2954.

We are in need of Ushers at the 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Masses. If you are interested in Ushering, please see one of the Ushers.

**Altar Server training
Anyone young or adult who would like to serve at the altar is invited to a training session. Please come serve at the altar!
Date & Time to be announced!**

The names for the prayer list for the sick is now done by personal intercession. Please drop the names of those needing prayers for healing in the petition box in the gathering area. We are asking that you take 2 names from the basket and pray for those people by name every day for four weeks. If an emergency comes up please call the parish office and we will get members of the community to pray and offer intercessions for them at daily mass.

Please Pray for the Family Members of our Parishioners serving in the Military:

Josey Blades (Air Force)
Airman 1st Julie M. Chervon
Spc. Shaen Connery (Army)
P.O. 1st Dale A. Foglyano
Nicholas Foglyano (Army)
P.O. 2nd Nicolas Fooy (Navy)
Lt Col David Fries
Maj. Laura Geldhof
Joe Gill, Navy
Staff Sgt. Nicole R. Grenon
Christopher Grubby (Navy)

Pfc. Kevin Heath
Lt. Christopher Kerr
Pfc. Paul Koss (Marines)
Lt. Joseph Kraft
Sgt. Joseph Kucharek (Army)
Sgt. Chris Libeck
Mark Locricchio (Army)
Sgt. Sean McDowell (Army)
LCPL Miguel Menzer
SPC Matthew Muellenhagen
Maj. Eric Olson
Chief Daniel Przybylinski

(Navy)
Justin Quinn (Marines)
Anthony Roszko (Army)
Lt. Greg Siuta
Maj. Allison Stewart
Sgt Tomas R. Studholme, Jr.
ISG Robert Sutton
Sgt. Matthew Sweetman
Joel Vasquez, (Navy Seal)

Prayer for Those Serving in the Military

Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us.
Bless them and their families for their selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need.
Amen.

Adoration Chapel



In the documents of the Second Vatican Council, the Church Fathers describe the Eucharist as: "The source and summit of the Christian life. The term "Eucharist" originates in the Greek word Eucharistia, meaning thanksgiving.

"Take; this is my body" Mark 14:22

1. The real presence of Christ in the Eucharist is real, true and substantial.
2. "It is called the Eucharist because it is an action of thanksgiving to God." (CCC. No. 1328)
3. "Jesus awaits us in the sacrament of love." (St. John Paul II, Dominicae cene, no. 3)
4. Eucharist makes the one present sacrifice of Christ the Savior." (CCC, no. 1330)

If you would like to take the opportunity to be still and listen to God (without worldly interruptions), we have need for almost every hour to have a second adorer, thereby making less the need for a substitute. It is a sacrifice being Catholic in our world today, you need contemplation and the grace to make you holy. Please call Mary Peterson to sign up at (586)979-1469 or (586)738-1154.

**Uncommitted Hours
Tuesday 1pm & 2pm
Friday 4pm
TAKE TIME FOR PRAYER!**

**SAINT RENE GOUPIL
Catholic Church**

35955 Ryan Road
Sterling Heights, MI 48310
(586) 939-7500
Fax (586) 939-7839

Office Hours
Monday - Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Closed 12 Noon—1:00 p.m. Lunch
Friday 9:00 a.m. - Noon

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Steven Koehler, Pastor
Rev. Joy Chakian, Associate
Rev. Mr. John Ball, Deacon
Rev. Mr. Kevin Tietz, Deacon
Michael Novak,
Director of Evangelization & Education
Alexander Sunga
Director of Worship & Music

ORGANIZATIONS & SERVICES

Legion of Mary
Mary Peterson (586) 979-1469
Divine Mercy
Diane Broaddus (586) 977-1978
Ushers
Al Gyenese (586) 808-3128
Perpetual Adoration
Mary Peterson (586) 979-1469
**Catholic Social Services
of Macomb**
Clinton Twp. (586) 416-2300
St. Vincent de Paul (Poverty Help)
(586) 718-4523
Joseph White, Grand Knight, K of C
(586) 556-2122

Weekend Liturgy Schedule

Saturday 4:00 p.m.
Sunday 8:30 a.m.
10:30 a.m.
5:30 p.m.

Weekday Mass

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:30 a.m.

Confessions

3:00 p.m. every Saturday

WELCOME

If you have attended Mass at St. Rene and would like to become a member, please visit our parish office where you can register and discuss all of the wonderful ways to grow in faith through Christian Service, Worship, Youth Ministry, Outreach, Faith Formation, and in our Adoration Chapel. For more information call 586-939-7500.

St. Rene Mission Statement

St. Rene Goupil Parish is a Catholic Community, dedicated to strengthening the faith and love of its people. Our mission is to proclaim that Jesus is Lord, to celebrate His Presence, and to reach out to others in His name.

Parish Registration:

Welcome to all new families/individuals. Please register as soon as possible. Membership is a condition for the reception of the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, First Eucharist, Confirmation and Marriage. Registration is also required before the parish can issue a sponsorship certificate for those asked to be a sacramental sponsor. Registration forms are available in the Parish Office.

Baptism:

Baptisms are celebrated the third Sunday of the month at 12:00 p.m. A parent preparation class is mandatory. Classes are held on the fourth Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. Call the Parish Office during weekday office hours to register for a class.

Penance: Saturday 3:00 p.m. Special schedules for Advent and Lent.

Marriage:

Arrangements must be made through the Parish Office at least six months prior to the desired wedding date. One person of the couple must be an active, registered member of St. Rene Goupil Parish for six months.

Anointing of the Sick:

On request or by appointment through the Parish Office.

Remember in Your Prayers

ALL THOSE AFFECTED BY THE CORONAVIRUS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

