



ST. SYMPHOROSA PARISH

A Family Celebrating Faith

6135 S. Austin Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60638

773-767-1523 (phone) 773-767-6135 (fax)

www.stsymphorosa.org

symphorosa@comcast.net (email)

Parish Staff

Rev. Idzi Stacherczak, Pastor

Rev. Ted Bojczuk, Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Norman Trela, Retired Priest

Ken Hilliard, Operations Director

John & Sue O'Keefe, Music Directors

Magdalan Barry, Parish Secretary

Nancy Markham, Office Coordinator

Barb Grzenia, Religious Education
Coordinator

Kathy Berry, Principal

Nancy Loduca, Assistant Principal

Parish Office Hours

Monday through Friday

9:00 am—12:00 pm

1:00 pm—7:00 pm

Saturday: 9:00 am—12:00 pm

Our School

Address: 6125 S. Austin Avenue
773-585-6888

Schedule of Masses

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

Saturday Evening Mass: 5:00 pm

Weekdays: 8:00 am

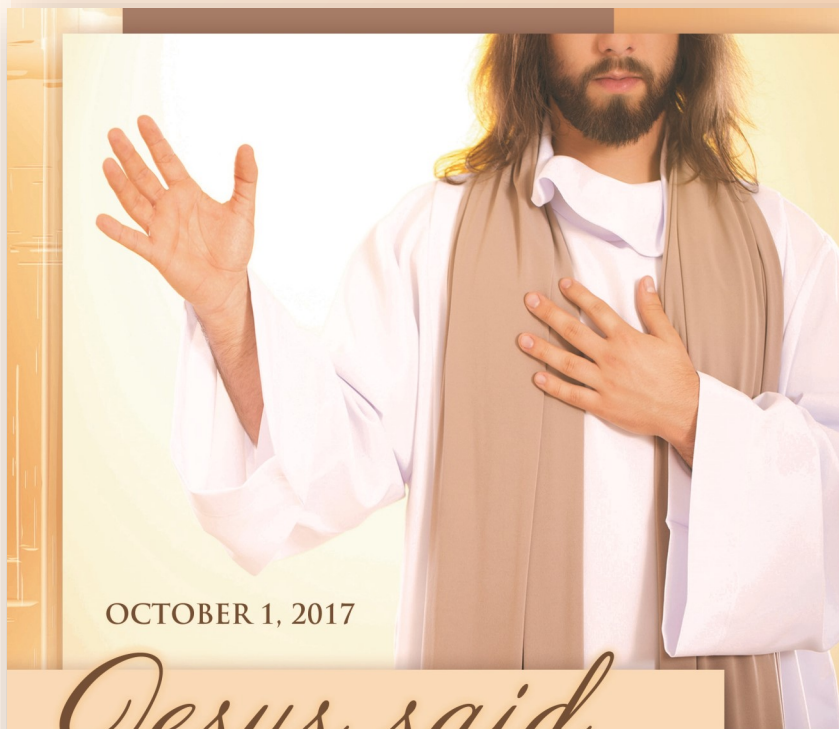
Monday through Saturday

Holy Days:

7:30am, 9:30 am and 7:00 pm

Sacrament of Penance:

Monday through Saturday
after 8:00 am Mass



OCTOBER 1, 2017

Jesus said

*to the chief priests
and elders of the people,
"Amen, I say to you,
tax collectors and prostitutes
are entering into the
kingdom of God before you."*

Matthew 21:31

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

REFLECTION FOR THE 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Today's First Reading and Gospel both speak quite strongly of repentance – of reforming and changing our lives in response to Jesus Christ. Repentance is difficult; repentance is challenging, but it is an absolute requirement for a relationship with God, and an absolute requirement for the Kingdom of Heaven.

What is repentance? Simply put: change. The Greek word used in the New Testament is *metanoia* – change of heart, or change of mind.

This isn't change for the sake of change, however. We turn our hearts and our minds – our lives – from sin and back to God, to our Heavenly Father, His Son our Lord Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit. We turn from the path of sin and selfishness to life in Christ, life lived at the service of the Gospel.

In the Gospel, Jesus draws a sharp contrast between those who do good, and those who only give the appearance of doing good. One son only says he will work; the other son goes to work. Jesus points out the similarity with those who think in only legalistic terms and do not "practice what they preach." This brings Jesus to the conclusion that "prostitutes and tax collectors" are more likely to enter the Kingdom of God than the chief priests and the elders.

God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ is infinitely willing to receive us back. It does not matter what we have been or done in time past. If we repent and come back to Christ then, the old things will pass away, and all things will become new for us (II Cor. 5:17).

Many of those who convert and enter the Catholic Church know the faith at a much deeper level than "cradle

Catholics" because they were searching for answers in their own church denomination and did not find the answers but found the complete answer in the Catholic Church.

Do you know Jesus or do you only know about Jesus? If we only know about Jesus while those who were drug addicts, alcoholics, gang members, sex addicts, have converted and know Jesus personally then surely Jesus can say they are making their way into the kingdom of God before us. Do you only know about Jesus or do you know Jesus in your heart? Have you met Jesus? If not, tell him you want to meet him.

So, this parable becomes a warning to all of us who show lip service to the Father. We may be regular churchgoers, or even a minister, yet do not in the end obey God's commands and serve Him.

The good news my dear friends today is that, in spite of all our failings, there is still ample opportunity for us to return to the part of integrity, to make good our promises to God as the first son did. It is time to say: Oh Lord, I have disobeyed you enough, now, "I am here to do your will". It is time to synchronize or harmonize the words of the second son and the action of the first son in order to be the best we can in doing what God wants us to do in obedience and humility. Once we realize ourselves and are ready to do this, we like the Psalmist today can cry out to God: "*Lord make me know your way, teach me your truth*".

THANK YOU TO ALL!

As you read in last week's bulletin article from our Operations Director, our profit from the 2017 Family Fest was \$113,000.

As your Pastor, I rejoice along with you on this accomplishment and would like to take the opportunity to say "thank you" to all of you for your tremendous efforts in making this event such a success!

As you know, this is a result of the hard work of many dedicated people: our Operations Director, Mr. Ken Hilliard; Members of the Family Fest Committee; Staff and Faculty, Sponsors and Vendors and our neighbors and guests. I am grateful to each of you for taking your role and responsibility to support and parish and school. In a special way, I am very thankful to our Parish Seniors and I know that I can always count on you!!

I am confident that this profit will help us as a parish, especially our St. Symphorosa School at the beginning of our school year. May our Lord Jesus Christ reward your good heart and dedication to this parish with many, many graces in your family lives.

SAVE THE DATE!

With less than one week, as a parish community of St. Symphorosa, we will celebrate our **90th Anniversary** on Saturday, October 7th at the 5:00pm Mass. We are honored to host our Cardinal Blase J. Cupich as the main celebrant of this celebration.

All are welcome to attend and to give thanks to our God for all of the graces we have received over the past 90 years.

~Fr. Idzi



Today's responsorial psalm is:
**I will always thank the Lord, I will always
praise God's name!**



Please extend a warm welcome to Fr. Chris Aleti from the Comboni Fathers Mission. The second collection today will be to support the important work of the Comboni Fathers. God bless you for your generosity!



**THE ST. SYMPHOROSA
STAFF &
FR. IDZI STACHERCZAK,
PASTOR**

**CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO ATTEND
THE CELEBRATION OF THE**

**90TH ANNIVERSARY OF
OUR PARISH**

**Saturday, October 7, 2017
at the 5:00pm Mass**

**St. Symphorosa Catholic Church
6135 S. Austin
Chicago, IL 60638**

**Cardinal Blase Cupich
Archbishop of Chicago
will be the Principal Celebrant**

Reception immediately following in the Sharp Center Gym.

RSVP to 773-767-1523 by Friday, September 29, 2017



**Offerings for the weekend of
September 24, 2017**

Weekly Budget (Est.) 9,000.00

**Contributions: \$7,635.62
of Envelopes: 296**

Anointing Mass Collection: \$256

Thank you for continued support!



September 24, 2017

**Received this week:
\$453.00**

Envelopes Entered: 82

**This week's winner is envelope
782**

**As a reminder, a minimum of
\$5.00 is required to participate in
Split the Pot.**



Our 90th Anniversary Celebration is almost here! As we make final preparations for this milestone celebration, we are asking for volunteers to help us polish our Parish Church.

Please bring your buckets, rags, mops, etc. and join us on Tuesday, October 3 and Wednesday, October 4 from 2:00pm—4:00pm.

If you are able to lend a helping hand, please contact Maggie in our parish office at 773.767.1523.

Thank you, in advance, for your continued support and gift of time in continuing to make our parish shine!

~Fr. Idzi



**St. Vincent de Paul
BUNDLE WEEKEND**

St. Vincent de Paul Bundle Weekend returns once again to St. Symphorosa.

Please consider helping by bundling up usable clothing and household items and

bringing them to our parking lot across from the church from 4 – 6 pm on Saturday, October 21 and 7 am – 1 pm on Sunday October 22. All donations are tax deductible.

Thank you to all donors to St. Vincent de Paul.



Our Baptism classes are held in the Austin Avenue School Building at 7:00 pm. Baptisms are on Sundays at 1:00pm in Church.

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>BAPTISMS</u>
October	10/5	10/8, 10/22
November	No Class	11/12, 11/26
December	12/7	12/10

Parents are required to bring their child's birth certificate to the Parish Office in order to register for a class.

**Southwest
Chicago PADS**



We are once again collecting new and gently used jeans for Southwest Chicago PADS on 71st & Kedzie. All donations can be dropped in the containers placed in the back of our church.

Thank you very much for your continued support. Please direct any questions to our parish office.



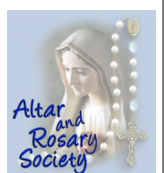
**Our Parish
History**

On July 1, 1981, Fr. John P. McNamara became the fourth pastor at St. Symphorosa Parish. Fr. McNamara brought a renewed energy and a more collaborative (shared) style of parish leadership to our parish. He strongly encouraged parishioner involvement in parish decision-making. He established the Parish Council and Parish School Board. He promoted the concept of parish stewardship—members supporting their parish with their time, talent and treasure. He worked to help his parishioners acquire a "sense of ownership" of their church. Also under his leadership, the original church building was renovated and converted into a Parish Center with a gym and meeting rooms. He remained our pastor for 10 years, until 1991.

Fr. Marc Pasciak was appointed our fifth pastor by Cardinal Joseph Bernardin. Fr. Marc's term as pastor was characterized by strong parishioner involvement in parish decision-making and activities as well as increased emphasis on the continued need for a strong parish school and a viable Religious Education Program. During Fr. Marc's term, the St. Symphorosa Parish Family Fest grew into one of the largest parish summer festivals in the Archdiocese. Perhaps the most important accomplishment of Fr. Marc's term was the church renovation project that has renewed and beautified our current church building.

Altar & Rosary Society Meeting Tuesday!

The next Altar & Rosary Society Meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 3rd from 12pm—2pm in the Sharp Center Social Hall. Our meeting will include a "Sing Along with Monica". Come join the fun!



Blessing of the Animals
This afternoon—Sunday, October 1st
1:00pm—2:00pm
Church Parking Lot

Please join us for this annual tradition here at St. Symphorosa as we celebrate the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi.

In addition, we excited to welcome back by “popular” demand, Fido to Go, Chicago’s premier gourmutt Food Truck will join us again this year .



Please join St. Symphorosa School in the fight to help eliminate hunger with the **Soup-er Stadium Challenge**.

This is a partnership with Catholic Charities, Soldier Field, and the Charles Tillman's Cornerstone Foundation. Please donate non-perishable items to the school or parish office no later than October 6, 2017. The goal is to collect enough food to fill the seats at Soldier Field twice!!

Thank you for your generous support and participation!

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



ARCHDIOCESAN FIREARMS POLICY

The Archdiocese of Chicago is committed to providing safe environments for the community. In the midst of a culture of violence, the Church is a staunch voice to call us to be a place of peace.

The Archdiocese has long had a best practice restricting the presence of firearms in our facilities. Most of our buildings display signage, consistent with the laws of the State of Illinois, indicating that these weapons are prohibited on the premises. Cardinal Cupich recently distributed a Policy aimed at updating and clarifying the Archdiocese's position on the prohibition of firearms on all property it owns and controls.

The Archdiocese respects the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution and recognizes the right to lawfully possess a firearm for personal protection, hunting, or other sports. The Archdiocese has sought to balance the rights of all who visit our properties with the need to protect children, the elderly and other vulnerable populations. However, this Policy is rooted in the belief that our churches and community spaces are intended to be sacred sites where people come to gather, pray, and worship God. There are exceptions to this policy for law enforcement officers, and authorized security personnel.

For more information about this Policy, please visit archchicago.org.



Mark your calendars and plan to attend the Knights of Columbus for “A Knight at the Races” Fund-raiser on Saturday, October 7th.

For more information, please contact Jerry Hughes at 773-485-0146.



I would like to extend a A special thank you to our Split the Pot Winners Envelope #203

from September 17 who generously donated their winnings back to our parish! May God Bless you for your generous donation to our parish community.

~Fr. Idzi

Our Second Collection next weekend will be to support the Building & Maintenance Fund.

Thank you for your support!



Thank You for Your Generosity!

Last weekend, our parish received \$1,329.75 in contributions to the Annual Seminary Appeal Collection.

May God continue to bless you for your continued support!



September 14, 2017

Dear Fr. Stacherczak,

Greetings, once again, from Maternity BVM.

Things are moving along here at Maternity BVM. The spirit of the parish is good.

I wish to send a big "Thank You" to you and to the parishioners of St. Symphorosa for supporting Maternity BVM, and for your most recent sharing offering of \$217.00. How extremely generous and how helpful to our Parish! Please know that we pray for your parish oftentimes during weekday masses and on one Sunday Mass per month.

If there is anything that I can do, please never hesitate to give me a call. Until then, may God continue to bless you and the good people of St. Symphorosa.

Sincerely,

Rev. Oswaldo Guillen



ST. LAURENCE HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

OPEN HOUSE: St. Laurence High School invites all prospective boys and girls to an Open House on Sunday, October 8 from 10am –12noon. Guests can tour the school and learn more about the nationally recognized STEM curriculum, unique leadership program, successful athletics program and more throughout the day.

VIKING VISITS: All prospective students are invited to attend a Viking Visit shadow day. Grade school students are paired with a St. Laurence student host, and are able to witness our unique StL STEM curriculum, great teachers and welcoming student body first hand.

St. Laurence will hold special Viking Visits on October 6 and 9 (Columbus Day Holiday). On October 6, shadows are invited to participate in a free girls softball or girls tennis clinic. On October 9, shadow are invited to participate in a free boys baseball, girls basketball or coed soccer clinic. All clinics will take place after the Viking Visits. Students are also welcome to shadow on any other regular school day.

To receive more information on Open House, Viking Visits, free clinics, or any other admissions event, please visit the school website at www.stlaurence.com/prospective.

HOW TO PRAY THE ROSARY

The Rosary is a Scripture-based prayer. It begins with the *Apostles' Creed*, which summarizes the great mysteries of the Catholic faith. The *Our Father*, which introduces each mystery, is from the Gospels. The first part of the *Hail Mary* is the angel's words announcing Christ's birth and Elizabeth's greeting to Mary. St. Pius V officially added the second part of the *Hail Mary*. The Mysteries of the Rosary center on the events of Christ's life. There are four sets of Mysteries: Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious and—added by Pope John Paul II in 2002—the Luminous.

The repetition of the Rosary is meant to lead one into restful and contemplative prayer related to each Mystery. The gentle repetition of the words help us to enter into the silence of our hearts, where Christ's spirit dwells. The Rosary can be said privately or with a group.

The *Five Joyful Mysteries* are traditionally prayed on Mondays, Saturdays, and during the season of Advent, on Sundays:

1. The Annunciation
2. The Visitation
3. The Nativity
4. The Presentation in the Temple

5. The Finding in the Temple
The *Five Sorrowful Mysteries* are traditionally prayed on Tuesdays, Fridays, and, during the season of Lent, on Sundays:

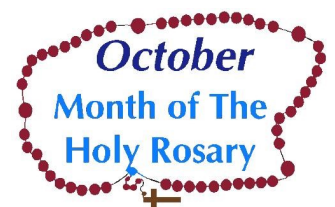
1. The Agony in the Garden
2. The Scourging at the Pillar
3. The Crowning with Thorns
4. The Carrying of the Cross
5. The Crucifixion and Death

The *Five Glorious Mysteries* are prayed on Wednesdays, and, outside the seasons of Advent and Lent, on Sundays:

1. The Resurrection
2. The Ascension
3. The Descent of the Holy Spirit
4. The Assumption
5. The Coronation of Mary

The *Five Luminous Mysteries* are traditionally prayed on Thursdays:

1. The Baptism of Christ in the Jordan
2. The Wedding Feast at Cana
3. Jesus' Proclamation of the Coming of the Kingdom of God
4. The Transfiguration
5. The Institution of the Eucharist



St. Symphorosa Parish
presents...

BINGO

WHERE:
St. Symphorosa Sharp Center
62nd Street & Mason Avenue
Chicago, IL 60638

TIME:
Sunday, October 15, 2017
Doors open at noon.
Games begin at 1:30pm

PRICE:
\$20 at the door includes one set
of game cards. Additional cards may
be purchased for \$15.00

DETAILS:
14 Games – Pays \$50 each
Special Game 8 – Pays \$100 minimum
\$300 Coverall

Must be 18 years of age or older
to participate



FAMILY MASS

This weekend, we welcome our Religious Education students and their families to the 9:30am Family Mass. May God continue to bless you!

Our 4th grade Family Mass is Sunday, October 15th at 9:30am.

Thank you!

I wanted to extend a special thanks to the following groups who made a generous donation to offset the cost of our 90th anniversary:

St. Symphorosa School	\$250.31
Transformation Team	\$200.00
St. Sym's RE Program	\$100.00

May God bless you for your generous heart!



We Remember and Celebrate

Mass Intentions

Monday, October 2, 2017— Holy Guardian Angels

8:00 am For All Parishioners (21)

Tuesday, October 3, 2017

8:00am † John Kolimas—Mary & Family

Wednesday, October 4, 2017—St. Francis of Assisi

8:00am † Joseph Gall—Family

† Robert Neumann—Roslyn & Jim

Thursday, October 5, 2017—Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos

8:00 am † Mary Rose Torres—Gerald & Family

† John Szkodon—Ilona Szkodon

Friday, October 6, 2017—St. Bruno, Blessed Marie Rose Durocher,

8:00 am † Michael & James Gurgone—Family

Saturday, October 7, 2017—Our Lady of the Rosary

8:00 am For All Parishioners (22)

1:00pm Wedding: Michelle Lee & Edward Bailey

5:00pm St. Symphorosa Parish 90th Anniversary Celebration

Sunday, October 8, 2017—27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 am † Dorothy Madez—Husband, Ray

† Alicia Loconsole—Mary Shilney

† Frank Hohm—Family

9:30am † Ann Calcagno—Kathy Calcagno

11:30 am † Richard Montwill—Peter Kallas

1:00pm Baptisms



Rae Ann Arends, Donna R. Azzaline, Baby AJ, Toni Bartz, Virginia Blazeniak, Dorothy Bogumil, Fr. Ted Bojczuk, Maynard Buckley, Michelle Calamino, Pat Carmody, Hannah Carroll, Michael Clifford, Chris Doherty, Carol Ann Corcoran, Donal Corcoran, Manuel Coronado, Patricia Crotty, Chuck DeLauriea, Art DePesa, Pat Doyle, Kaye Fenlon, Gary Forbort, John Gaca, Ken Gattas, Bernard A. Gercius, Nincy Giron, Carol Golab, Gary Gorlen, Karen Gricus,

Kathy Guzman, Erica Heilmann, Heather Hradek, Joe Infantino, Denise & Richard Jandura, Carol Kennelly, Jean Kibler, Adalbert Kouba, Patricia Kubik, Mark Kukulski, Claudia Kwilosz, James Lapsansky, Donna Lauritzen, Virginia Macias, Lu Mackey, Ed Mallo, John Martini, Lori McCarthy, Gen Nagle, Helen Naughton, Marge Novak, Joe Paciga, David Paul, Katherine Pecoraro, Baby Alexander Joseph Pentz, Carolyn M. Pysac, Lu Rackey, Sister Mary Rita, Ann Robertson, John A. Rosenthal, Larry Rosenstiehl, Fr. John Rudnik, Ben Sajdak, William Schrimpl, Dorothy Sniezewski, Marilyn Sobczak, John Stachon, Michael Straube, James Suchy, Chalida Svastisalee, Loretta A. Thomas, Jim & Mary Thorpe, Joan Witcher, Chester Wodarczyk, Steve Wojcik, Pamela Wojdyla, Larry & Marianne Wysocki, and Michelle



For Our Troops, Their Families, and Our Country

Sgt. Jaime A. Acosta, USMC

Sgt. Ted Bartelmey

CS-1 Joel Battung

1st Sgt. Chas. Berglund, USMC

Sgt. Naveen Bobba, USMC

Sgt. Arthur A. Boruch, National Guard

Hospitalman Blythe A. Cisneros, USN

Airman Carlos Cisneros, USAF

Sgt. Frank Cisneros, USMC

Captain Kevin Dobbyn, US Army

Sgt. John Flores, IL National Guard

SRA Andrew Gaca, USAF

SMSGT Joseph Gaca, USAF

Sgt. Michael Hough, US Army

Anthony Johanievicz, US Navy

Lance Corp. Tim Lisenko, USMC

Trevor Lutz, US Army

Corporal Zachary Maderak, USMC

Pvt. 1st Class Daniel Morales, US Army

SPC Alex Ramos

Staff Sgt. Abel Sandoval, USMC

Sgt. 1st Class Kristina Stuhlmacher



Congratulations to our
Newly baptized and welcome
to St. Symphorosa and the
Body of Christ!

David Alfonso Elizondo
Child of Jorge & Shannon



The faithful all around
the world are invited to
join with Pope Francis'
for his special intention.

Won't you join in? The intention
for the month of October is for
Workers and the Unemployed.

*That all workers may receive
respect and protection of their
rights, and that the unem-
ployed may receive the oppor-
tunity to contribute to the
common good.*

Let us pray.....

Eternal Rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May the souls of the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen.

David Kloppman
Carmela Melone

In loving memory



WEDDING BANNES

III—Edward Baley & Michelle Lee