

THEY OPENED THEIR TREASURES
AND OFFERED HIM GIFTS
OF GOLD, FRANKINCENSE, AND MYRRH.

MATTHEW 2:11



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

JANUARY 5, 2020

SAINT SYMPHOROSA PARISH

A Family Celebrating Faith
6135 S Austin Ave Chicago, IL 60638
773.767.1523 (Phone) 773.767.6135 (Fax)

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Wisdom is something which all of us seek in our lives. When raising your children, you hope to make wise decisions. When making an investment or major purchase, we hope to make the wisest decisions which will benefit us. When people come to us asking our advice, we hope to impart our own wisdom on them.

We admire wisdom which has, not so much to do with learning, but more discerning. It involves the good judgment which comes from the knowledge of life experiences. That is why, as we grow older and more seasoned by life, we find ourselves looking back and saying, "If only I knew then what I know now!"

On this Feast of the Epiphany, we honor three men who made such a wise choice in their lives, that throughout the ages they are known as the three Wise Men. At the appearance of His star, they made the wise decision to seek and adore the promised one of the ages – to seek the King of kings – to seek the Savior of the world, Jesus the Christ. Although they were earthly kings themselves, in their wisdom, they acknowledged the supremacy of God and His Incarnate Son, Jesus. They journeyed for two years, leaving behind country and crown. When they arrived at the place where the new born King was, they were not too proud to kneel and do Him homage.

While honoring the wisdom of those Three Wise Men, let's not forget the foolishness of King

Herod who was asked for directions to the new born King.

Unlike the Wise Men who saw the birth of Jesus as an epiphany for all human kind, Herod saw Jesus as a threat to his own position and plotted to eliminate this new born king through mass execution. Just as so many foolish, power mad people throughout history, Herod failed and came to a bad end.

Two thousand years later, we, as believers, still seek Him. Although it is likely we were brought here to church today by a car and not a star, the same wisdom of faith compels us to this holy place – just as the Wise Men were compelled to the place where the Holy Child was. We have the advantage of knowing the rest of the story. We seek and kneel before the Christ who lived from cradle to cross – from tomb to triumph all for the salvation of all human kind.

Two thousand years later, there are still the foolish who reject our new born King. We constantly hear calls to eliminate the name of God and Jesus from public discourse. Every Christmas, the foolish who seek to remove the humble nativity scene from public viewing. We see judges with foolish pride, without wisdom, bowing low before calls for a Godless society rather than bowing low before the manger. They fear our new born King because looking into the eyes of Jesus forces them



to look at their own sinfulness and bankrupt spirits.

They are threatened. They feel that if Jesus is out of sight, He will be also out of mind. But, they are wrong – they are foolish.

The Jesus who came at Christmas is, was and will always be and now sits at the judgment seat of the Father, to judge the wise and the foolish – those who accept the Son of God and those who reject Him.

Let us pray for the misguided and foolish that, like the Three Wise Men, they too will have their eyes opened to the truth, that they gain the wisdom of faith, that they will accept the new born king – that they will have an epiphany.

Two thousand years after the Three Wise Men made their journey to seek Christ, the story is still the same: WISE men, STILL seek Him!

~Fr. Idzi



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 January is for the Promotion of World Peace.

We pray that Christians, followers of other religions, and all people of goodwill may promote peace and justice in the world.

Parish Staff

Rev. Idzi Stacherczak
Pastor

Rev. Ted Bojczuk
Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Norman Trela
Retired Priest

Ken Hilliard
Operations Director

Deacon Raul Duque
Music Director

Magdalan Barry
Parish Secretary

Nancy Markham
Office Coordinator

Judy Banasiak
Religious Education
Coordinator

Kathy Berry
Principal

Chris Garza
Assistant Principal

Parish Office Hours

Monday through Friday
9:00 am—7:00 pm

Saturday
9:00 am—12:00 pm

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 - Saturday
after the 8am Mass

Parish Office

6135 S. Austin Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60638
773-767-1523 (phone)
773-767-6135 (fax)

www.stsymphorosa.org
[symporosa@comcast.net](mailto:symphorosa@comcast.net)

Parish School

6125 S. Austin Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60638
773-585-6888



Lord Jesus, you speak to us today, as you spoke to holy men and women who have gone before us. In every age and in our own time, you call to us and say: Renew My Church.

Pour out the gift of your Holy Spirit upon us, and so enable us to hear you clearly to listen to each other attentively to imagine our future boldly to discern your direction wisely to persevere in your holy will courageously

Renew My Church Prayer

to stay together in charity to surrender our own plans readily to embrace the greater good to hand on your gifts to future generations.

May we remain in the holy company of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the apostles, and all the saints. May their example and presence inspire us with patient confidence in the work of your grace. We ask this of you who live and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.
Amen.



St Symphorosa
Catholic School



773-585-6888

WWW.STSYMPHOROSA.ORG

Financial Aid Night

Wednesday, January 8, 2020

7:00pm-8:30pm

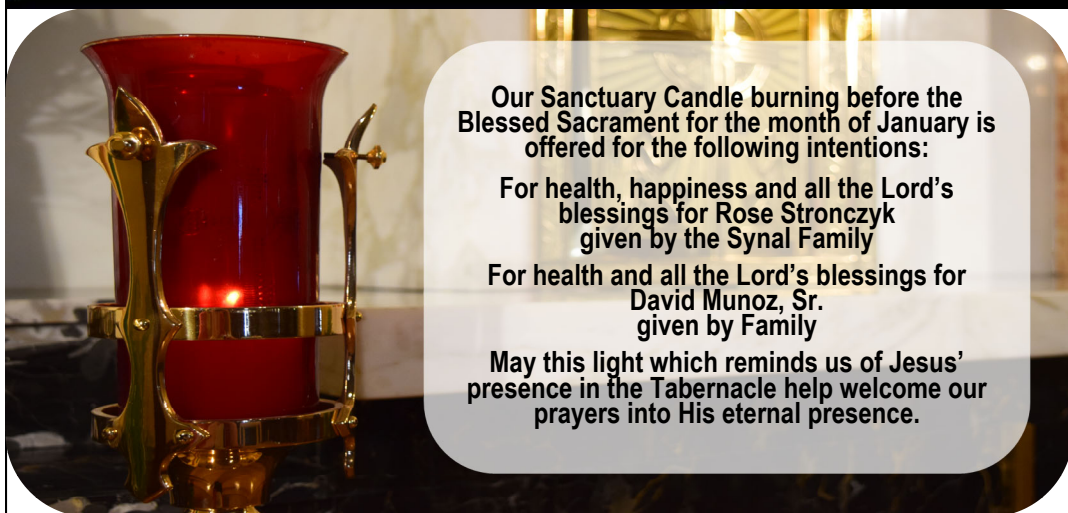
A Catholic education may be more affordable than you think!

Meet with representatives from St. Syms, Big Shoulders Fund, Empower Illinois, and the Archdiocese to learn about the Tax Credit Scholarship and many other financial aid options you may qualify for!

6125 S. Austin Ave Chicago, IL 60638



**ST. SYMPHOROSA IS A FAMILY
CELEBRATING JAN'S!**



Our Sanctuary Candle burning before the Blessed Sacrament for the month of January is offered for the following intentions:

For health, happiness and all the Lord's blessings for Rose Stronczyk given by the Synal Family

For health and all the Lord's blessings for David Munoz, Sr. given by Family

May this light which reminds us of Jesus' presence in the Tabernacle help welcome our prayers into His eternal presence.

JOIN US....

On social media via



Twitter
[@StSymphorosa](https://twitter.com/StSymphorosa)



Instagram
[st.symphorosacatholic](https://www.instagram.com/stsymphorosacatholic)



Facebook
www.facebook.com/stsymphorosachurch/

St. Symphorosa Parish
Transformation Team
invites you to...

Valentine BINGO

WHERE:

St. Symphorosa Sharp Center
62nd & Mason, Chicago, IL 60638

TIME:

Sunday, February 9, 2020
Doors open at 12:30pm
Games begin at 1:30pm

PRICE:

\$20 at the door includes one set of game cards
& jackpot coverall game

DETAILS:

14 Regular Games – Pays \$50 each

Special Split the Pot Game

Requires separate card - \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00

\$100 minimum prize guaranteed

Jackpot Coverall \$300 Minimum Guarantee

Rises to \$400 at 75 players and \$500 at 100 players

(2) 50/50 raffles one drawing at halftime and the second before
the coverall game. \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00

Tickets for pull tab games will be available at \$1.00 each

Prize money varies by type of pull tab.

Must be 18 years of age or older to participate



*Offerings for the
weekend of
December 23, 2019*

Weekly Budget (Est.): \$9,000.00

Contributions: \$5,749.00

Envelopes: 293

Thank you for your support & generosity!



Split the Pot

December 23, 2019

Received this week: \$295

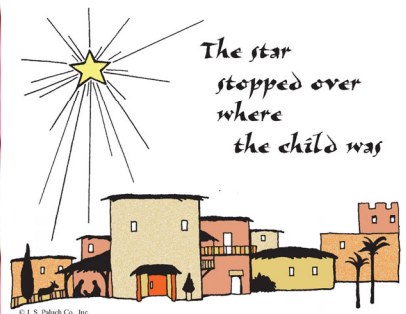
Winning envelope: #1454

*Reminder: A minimum of \$5.00 is required
to participate.*

**NO LONG TERM PARKING
WHEN SNOW IS
OVER 2 INCHES**

TOW ZONE

With the cold weather and snow upon us, the parish office would like to remind all parishioners that overnight and long term parking in any church parking lot is not allowed. Parking like this makes it difficult for our plowing company to plow the lot and make it accessible for all. Please contact the parish office if you have any concerns. Thank you for your cooperation.



St. Symphorosa 2019 Contribution Statements

If you would like a statement of your contributions for 2019, please call the Parish Office at 773.767.1523 to request one.

You may also email at symphorosa@comcast.net. The statement can be picked up in person with a photo ID or emailed to you. Thank you.



Ever wonder if you could sponsor the Sanctuary Candle?

Well, if so, then the opportunity to do just that is here. Any St. Symphorosa Parish community member can stop by the parish office and sponsor our Sanctuary Candle for an entire calendar month. More than one person or family may sponsor during the same month but no more than 3. Your sponsorship will be acknowledged, along with the intention of the lit candle, during the chosen month in the Sunday bulletin. The cost to sponsor the candle will be \$40. The book has been opened for the sanctuary candle for the 2020 calendar year.

If you have any questions please contact the Parish Office at (773)767-1523.



Grateful 🌻 Thankful 🌻 Blessed

Thank you to everyone who made it out to the school's "Grateful, Thankful, Blessed" event this past November. Thanks to the ongoing efforts of our School Advisory Board, as well as through the supports of our parishioners, community and sponsors, the event raised a total of **\$8,751.10**. The money raised from this event has been designated to increase campus security measures as well as enhance technology. Our parish school is very blessed to have such generous support from every one within this community. Thank you once again and we look forward to seeing everyone again at next year's event!




 Shop. Snap. Earn.

SHOPAROO

Shop for any product, at any store

Snap a picture of your receipts

Earn for your school

This is the easiest fundraiser you will ever be a part of. Just download the Shoparoo app to your phone from the Apple or Google Store. Register for our school, St. Symphorosa Elementary School, take pictures of your receipts and submit.

You can buy anything, anywhere, anytime. There are limited restrictions (i.e. how many grocery receipts uploaded in a certain period of time)

Download, join, and help support our St. Symphorosa School!!!!



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Thank You for Your Generous Gift

I would like to extend a thank you to a few people for their generous donations to our church.

To my dear friends and non-parishioners, **Mr. & Mrs. Casey and Maria Czochara**, for their support of our parish and **\$500** donation this past Christmas.

To **Mr. & Mrs. Tom and Maggie DeRose**, for their generosity and **\$300** cash donation to our church.

To **Ms. Monica Wodke and Mrs. Bernadette Wodke** for their generous cash donation of **\$300** during this Christmas season.



These donations are truly appreciated and have been designated towards church needs. Please look to a future bulletin to see how these funds have been invested into our church. Thank you once again from the bottom of my heart for your ongoing support and dedication to St. Symphorosa Parish.

~Fr. Idzi

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, January 4, 2020

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

- 5:00pm †Colette "Cookie" Findysz (*Mary Kruzel*)
 †Rozalia, John, Leon Nicalek (*Family*)
 †Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)
 †Elizabeth, John Sr. & John Jr. Curran (*Family*)

Sunday, January 5, 2020

Epiphany of the Lord

- 7:30am †Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)
 9:30am †Gerald Rohan (*Rohan Family*)
 †Jerry Fitzgerald (*Kucinsky & Duewerth Family*)
 †George "Al" Heinz (*Family*)
 11:30am †Bernard & Alfreda Sajdak (*Family*)
 †Kathleen Marie Harrington (*Andrea Silva*)

Monday, January 6, 2020

Saint Andre Bessette

- 8:00am †Michael Vogel (*DeLauriea Family*)

Tuesday, January 7, 2020

Saint Raymond of Peñafort

- 8:00am Health and all the Lord's Blessings for Arlene Scaletta
 (*Mary Kolimas*)

Wednesday, January 8, 2020

- 8:00am †John Lach (*Tim & Pat Sage*)

Thursday, January 9, 2020

- 8:00am Health and Birthday Blessings for Celsa Alvarez
 (*Rosario Battung*)
 †Maria Staszal (*Barbara Rendak*)

Friday, January 10, 2020

- 8:00am For All Parishioners, Living and Deceased (3)

Saturday, January 11, 2020

- 8:00am For All Parishioners, Living and Deceased (4)
 5:00pm †Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)

Sunday, January 12, 2020

Baptism of the Lord

- 7:30am †Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)
 †Claude Wiatrak (*Wife Clara*)
 9:30am †Dorothy Harvey (*St. Symphorosa Super Club*)
 11:30am †Patrick McGrath (*McGrath Family*)



A very heartfelt Thank You to our St. Symphorosa Super Club for their very generous **\$1,000 Christmas Gift** to our parish. This wonderful gift will be used towards parish needs and it truly appreciated. Again thank you for your generosity and support of St. Symphorosa Parish through so many years.

~Fr. Idzi



*There are in the end three things that last:
 Faith, Hope, and Love, and the greatest of
 these is LOVE.*

Ignatius Battiato
 Mary Bieser
 Dorothy Bogumil
 Fr. Ted Bojczuk
 Pat Carmody
 Michael Clifford
 Norma De Stefano
 Chris Doherty
 Juan Figueroa
 Carol Golab
 Carol Gress
 Suzann Gunter
 Kathy Haars
 Megan High
 Susie Hoyt
 Heather Hradek
 Denise M. Jandura
 Rich S. Jandura
 Joan Juris
 Lee Karpinski
 Dennis Kline
 Walter Kokoszka, Sr.
 Claudia Kwilosz
 Norman Kwilosz
 James Lapsansky
 Donna Lauritzen
 Domenico Lepore

Debbie Lipien
 John Martini
 Lou Mackey
 Kathleen McAuliffe
 Thomas Minnich
 Christine Mosqueda
 Genevieve Nagle
 Florence Panzarella
 Baby Alexander J Pentz
 Gi Gi Picciolini
 Marilyn Polit
 Marie Pratt
 Ann Robertson
 Edward Robertson
 Fr. John Rudnik
 Joseph Rudnik
 Collyn Schmidt
 Kristyn Schmidt
 Joseph Serpico
 Chalida Svatisalee
 Terry Styka
 Mary Thorpe
 George Trendle
 Barb Ziegler
 Michelle

Due to privacy laws, names may only be added to our prayer list by immediate family.
 Please let us know when to remove a name.

SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

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
 Corpsman Nicholas J. Cundari-USN
 Captain Kevin Dobbyn, US Army
 Sgt. John Flores, IL National Guard
 Staff Sgt. Andrew Gaca, USAF
 Sgt. Michael Hough, US Army
 Anthony Johaniwicz, US Navy
 Corporal Noah M. Konie, USMC
 Lance Corp. Tim Lisenko, USMC
 Trevor Lutz, US Army
 Corporal Zachary Maderak, USMC
 Private Joseph M. Mikutis, USMC
 Pvt 1st Class Daniel Morales, US Army
 SPC Alex Ramos
 Staff Sgt. Abel Sandoval, USMC
 WO-1 Richard Sabeske, US Army
 Sgt. 1st Class Kristina Stuhlmacher
 1LT Zachary White, IL Army NG



Today we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany, where the Magi find the newborn king and offer him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. In the spirit of the Magi, please put your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box so that comfort and peace can once again be given to a newborn child.

St. Vincent de Paul phone number: (773) 682-3342

