

SEPTEMBER 1, 2019 The Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

SAINT SYMPHOROSA PARISH

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



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**“When you hold a banquet,
invite the poor, the crippled,
the lame, the blind.”**

Luke 14:13

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Jesus wants to talk to us today about humility and what that might look like in our lives and what meanings it might have for us. Great spiritual teachers in our Catholic tradition have taught about humility. Real humility is living in the truth of who we are before God and who we are in relationship to one another. Our present culture values neither truth nor humility and so this teaching on humility is at times difficult to accept.

The first reading today is from the Book of Sirach. The teaching is that humility will make a person loved, even more than giving gifts to others. Humility always places us below others so that we can serve them without resentment and with true love and appreciation. The higher position that we have in the world, the deeper is our need for humility. Such humility will be shown in having an attentive ear. Today, we would say that we need to listen to the other person. Humility is also known in the person who listens attentively to wisdom stories, to proverbs and to real life situations that help us understand others and respect them.

Wisdom is not an intellectual activity. No, it is the gift of knowing how to live well in every situation while maintaining our deepest values. At times wisdom can lead us to martyrdom, since that is the only way to live our values well. Often wisdom knows how to be still and keep silence so that all our attention is focused on knowing what our situation really is.

As a practical spiritual exercise, today we might try to be still and silent and just listen to others and see what that listening does to us interiorly.

The Gospel today invites us to think about how we think and act in relationship to others. When we are in the company of others, do we put ourselves forward or do we stay in the background unless we are called forward? Perhaps even more importantly, how do we think of ourselves in relationship to others? We can stay in the background and still think of others as fools!

Jesus invites us to think of ourselves as always the last and the least. This is a difficult spiritual teaching, but one that needs to be heard at face value and not discussed away. We are invited to think of ourselves as less than others. This has nothing to do with poor self image nor with psychological problems! Rather, this is an invitation to live in truth with others and to forge a new relationship with others by changing our way of thinking of them.

Just for a moment, try to imagine such a way of thinking among politicians. It boggles the mind. On the other hand, if you and I are not willing to try living it in our own personal lives, then we can never understand the power of love and of humility.

Let us love others today, especially those who cannot repay our love! Let us serve each person who comes into our life. Let us listen attentively so that we can know the divine presence at work in our world!

Humble people are grateful for small and big things; they pray often and know their need for prayer; they know they have faults and are no better or worse than most, and know they need God's mercy; they love children because they are childlike at times, and they know they are not humble all the time. They don't take themselves too seriously and are compassionate to the faults of others. They know who they are – in one way the least of all, but always loved, always forgiven, always a child of God.

The church teaches us that: "Humility is the foundation of prayer." (CCC 2559). Only a humble heart can come and prostrate before God in prayer. A humble person is always ready to ask for guidance from God and from others. He is also ready to listen, and learn from others. It takes humility to say please, and also, to ask for forgiveness. So, let us humbly implore the Lord: "O Jesus! Meek and humble of heart, make my heart like yours. From the desire to be honored and esteemed deliver me!"

~Fr. Idzi



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
[sympborosa@comcast.net](mailto:symphorosa@comcast.net)

Parish School

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



An Invitation to Join* the Roman Catholic Church ***or perhaps become fully initiated into the sacramental life of the Church** **through the RCIA Process**

If you are (or know someone who is):

- An adult who has never been baptized
- An adult who was baptized in another denomination or faith tradition
- An adult who is baptized Catholic but would like to complete his or her Sacraments of Initiation (receive the Eucharist/celebrate your First Holy Communion; celebrate your Confirmation)

This fall, our parish will begin the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) process with the period of inquiry and questioning - there is no formal commitment at this time. The only requirement at this point is a desire to explore one's relationship with God through the Catholic Faith. In a supportive group setting, we will learn about the teachings of the Catholic Faith, share stories, and journey together toward greater intimacy with our God through the reception of the Sacraments.

For more information, please contact our Parish Office at 773.767.1523

New **Choir Members** *Welcome!*

Greetings Parishioners of St. Symphorosa:

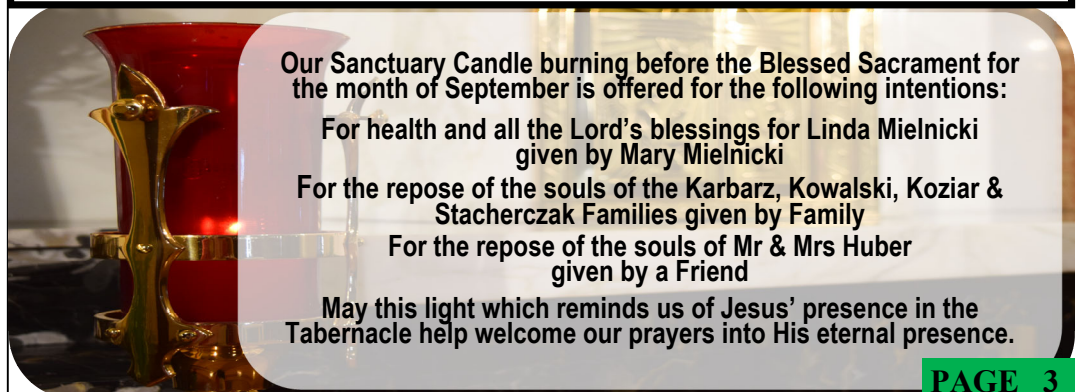
Choir season will soon be upon us and I am asking at this time for any interested parishioners who would like to become part of the choir and be part of the music ministry program as well. Choir practice takes place on Tuesday evenings from 7-9pm and is extended for an extra half hour during the Christmas and Easter seasons.

All you need to bring with you is a binder for your music, a pencil and a bottle of water to keep hydrated. All music materials such as books and music sheets will be supplied by myself and the parish. Please do not be shy if you do not know how to read music or even sing very well, all of that comes with time and practice.

Once again, I invite anyone interested in joining myself and the choir in this ministry at our first practice of the year on Tuesday, September 10th beginning at 7pm in church. I pray that the Holy Spirit will help guide you in your discernment and give you the courage to join this wonderful ministry here at St. Symphorosa Parish.

In the words of St. Augustine, *"He who sings prays twice"*. Thank you and may God bless you always and in all ways.

Deacon Raul Duque
Music Director of St. Symphorosa Parish



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

**For health and all the Lord's blessings for Linda Mielnicki
given by Mary Mielnicki**

**For the repose of the souls of the Karbarz, Kowalski, Koziar &
Stacherczak Families given by Family**

**For the repose of the souls of Mr & Mrs Huber
given by a Friend**

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



PLEASE JOIN OUR FIRST PARISH CONVERSATION ON *RENEW MY CHURCH*

As a first step, we invite you to join parish leadership for our first Renew My Church parish conversation on **Monday, September 16, 2019 at 6:30pm** in the **School Building located at 6125 S. Austin Ave.**

During this conversation we will:

Pray and discuss Renew My Church and the process we are beginning together,
Review important information and questions about our community such as the strengths and challenges that exist in our grouping, and
Answer any questions you may have.

All are welcome and encouraged to attend!

Renew My Church is a faithful response to Christ's call to renew His Church in the Archdiocese of Chicago; it is a journey that is both spiritual (to re-encounter Jesus Christ as disciples and parish communities) and structural (to ensure our parishes have adequate resources for vitality).

Through Renew My Church initiatives, the Archdiocese will re-commit our local Church to our gospel commission to make disciples, build vital communities of faith and inspire witness to bring the light and hope of Christ to a world in need. These mission imperatives guide all that we do in and through the spiritual and structural efforts of renewal.

One initiative of Renew My Church is focused on increasing the vitality of our local communities. Cardinal Cupich has asked our parish to come together with the other parishes in our grouping to start a process of reflection, discernment, and planning to consider how we can collaborate and combine resources so that we are better equipped to bring Jesus Christ to the world today.

Our journey from now through December will entail collaborating with our neighbors to:

- ⇒ Assess the current situation in our community,
- ⇒ Understand the criteria and principles for our planning efforts,
- ⇒ Discuss possible scenarios for how our grouping's parishes and schools could be structured in the future,
- ⇒ Compile our feedback to share with Archdiocesan leadership and Cardinal Cupich

Let us hold each other, our school and the other parish community in our grouping in prayer as we enter this time of rededication to our faith in Jesus Christ and planning for the future.

As always, for more information, visit RenewMyChurch.org, or call the parish office.

RENEW MY CHURCH PRAYER

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
to stay together in charity

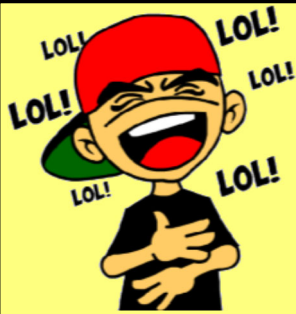
to surrender our own plans readily
to embrace the greater good
to hand on your gifts to future generations.

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



Need A Laugh???

Then Save the Date
Comedy, Comedy,
Comedy

Sunday, Sept. 22, 2019

2:00 pm—4:30 pm

St. Rene Church's Flannery Hall

**Come join St. Rene Church for an afternoon
of delight with comedian VITO ZATTO**

**Expect a fun-filled afternoon
More information coming soon**



*Offerings for the
weekend of
August 25, 2019*

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

*Contributions: \$5,189.26
Envelopes: 243*

*Thank you for your
support & generosity!*



Split the Pot

August 25, 2019

*Received this week:
\$345.00*

Winning envelope: # 760

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



During the month of August,
the following amounts were
collected for special
Collections.

Assumption.....	\$1,585
Building & Maintenance.....	\$1,578
Candle Money	\$1,355.17
Flowers.....	\$2
Our Lady of Czestochowa	\$67
Parish Debt Reduction.....	\$465
Peter's Pence	\$103
Priest's Retirement	\$30
Religious Assistance to Poland	\$1,070
Saint Vincent de Paul	\$46
School Support.....	\$1,826
Seminarian Education	\$5
Sharing Parish (Maternity BVM)	\$227
Summer Mission Co-Op	\$25

Thank you for your kindness & generosity!

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



MARRIED IN 1969?

Join us to celebrate 50 years
of marriage at the Golden
Wedding Anniversary Mass!

The Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass will be
celebrated by Cardinal Cupich on Sunday,
September 8, 2019 at 2:45 p.m. The Mass
will be held at St. John Brebeuf in Niles, Illinois.

To register, please
contact your local parish,
or register online at
bit.ly/goldenweddingchicago.

We hope to see you there!



Knights of Columbus "Tootsie Roll Drive"

Please help
support the
fundraising efforts
of the St. Rene/St. Symphorosa
Knights of Columbus Council
by purchasing a Tootsie Roll
bank after all Masses. All
proceeds benefit our parish
SPRED programs.

**Saturday, September 7th &
Sunday, September 8th**

Cost is **\$3** each or **2** for **\$5**.

Please join us for a Prayer Service on
Sunday, Sept 8th in church after the
11:30am mass as we remember the
horrific tragedy we experienced as a
nation on 9/11/01.

All first responders are asked to join us
as we honor them for their service to
our community.



**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 14TH!
12PM-4PM**

**Ridge Funeral Home's
Annual**



First Responders Appreciation COOKOUT

Ed Tylka and the staff of Ridge Funeral Home
would like to invite all active and retired first
responders and their families to our Appreciation
Cookout. Join us for food & refreshments; a bounce
house, petting zoo, face painter & balloon artist for
the kids; & music by the band Legacy.

**6620 W. Archer Ave. Chicago, IL 60638
773-586-7900**



St. Symphorosa Altar & Rosary Society News

The first meeting of the year will be held on
Tuesday, September 3, 2019 from **12-2pm** in the
Social Hall of the Sharp Center. This is a general
meeting with sandwiches. There will be a guest
speaker at this meeting from the Fire Prevention
Bureau.

The Altar & Rosary Society will have a
membership drive the weekend of **Saturday,
September 28** and **Sunday, September 29** after
all Masses in the back of church. All membership
dues are due by the end of September.

SAVE THE DATE: The Altar and Rosary Bake Sale will be held
on **Saturday, October 19** and **Sunday, October 20**, after all
weekend Masses in the back of church.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, September 2, 2019

Labor Day

8:00am †Phil Kosiba (Mom)
†Robert Franco (Loving Family)

Tuesday, September 3, 2019

Saint Gregory the Great, Pope

8:00am Health and all the Lord's blessings for
Mr. & Mrs. Ed Gesiakowski (Lorraine DeLauriea)
†John Kolimas (Mary Kolimas)

Wednesday, September 4, 2019

8:00am †Jim Thorpe (Barbara Rendak)

Thursday, September 5, 2019

Saint Teresa of Calcutta

8:00am †Robert Soltis (Arlene Scaletta)

Friday, September 6, 2019

8:00am †Michael and James Gurgone (Family)

Saturday, September 7, 2019

8:00am †John Paulius (Soltis Family)
5:00pm †Theresa Pudelek (Pudelek Family)
†David Chikerotis (Greg Sabanov & Family)
†Elaine Jawor (Senase Family)
†Margaret Kobiljak (Rita Lane)

Sunday, September 8, 2019

7:30am †Robert Neumann (Mother)
†Charles Shilney (Mary Shilney)
9:30am Health and Birthday blessings for Janina Mroczkowska
†James Distasio (Terri & Dan Domarski)
†James Thorpe (Kathy Calcagno)
11:30am †Laverne Slowinski (Daughters & Families)
†Jimmy Gillies (Bill & Mary Skowronski)
†Nanette H. Thompson (Esther & Vanessa Garza)
†Dr. Gene I. Ridley (Esther & Vanessa Garza)



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

Ignatius Battiato
Dorothy Bogumil
Fr. Ted Bojczuk
Pat Carmody
Michael Clifford
Florence Comiso
Norma De Stefano
Chris Doherty
Juan Figueroa
Geri Gestaut
Carol Golab
Carol Gress
Suzann Gunter
Kathy Haars
Megan High
Dawn Hoyt
Heather Hradek
Denise M. Jandura
Rich S. Jandura
Joan Juris
Lee Karpinski
Dennis Kline
Antoinette Kloppman
Walter Kokoszka, Sr.
Claudia Kwilosz
Norman Kwilosz
James Lapsansky

Donna Lauritzen
Domenico Lepore
Debbie Lipien
John Martini
Lou Mackey
Lori McCarthy
Kathleen McAuliffe
Thomas Minnich
Christine Mosqueda
Genevieve Nagle
Ray Oracki
Baby Alexander J Pentz
Gi Gi Picciolini
Marie Pratt
Ann Robertson
Edward Robertson
Fr. John Rudnik
Joseph Rudnik
Gloria Schillings
Coltyn Schmidt
Kristyn Schmidt
Chalida Svatisalee
Terry Styka
Mary Thorpe
Nancy Webb
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	Staff Sgt. Andrew Gaca, USAF
Sgt. Ted Bartelmey	Sgt. Michael Hough, US Army
CS-1 Joel Battung	Anthony Johaniewicz, US Navy
1st Sgt. Chas. Berglund, USMC	Lance Corp. Tim Lisenko, USMC
Sgt. Naveen Bobba, USMC	Trevor Lutz, US Army
Sgt. Arthur A. Boruch, National Guard	Corporal Zachary Maderak, USMC
Hospitalman Blythe A. Cisneros, USN	Pvt1st Class Daniel Morales, US Army
Airman Carlos Cisneros, USAF	SPC Alex Ramos
Sgt. Frank Cisneros, USMC	Staff Sgt. Abel Sandoval, USMC
Corpsman Nicholas J. Cundari-USN	WO-1 Richard Sobeske, US Army
Captain Kevin Dobbyn, US Army	Sgt. 1st Class Kristina Stuhlmacher
Sgt. John Flores, IL National Guard	1LT Zachary White, IL Army NG



Today, we hear Jesus say to us, "...when you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame and the blind; blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

With love for your neighbors who are poor, crippled, lame or blind, look around your house to see what furniture, household items, and clothing you no longer use...and give it to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

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

Happy Labor Day

In Observance of Labor Day the Parish Office will be closed this coming Monday, September 2, 2019. We will reopen for regular business hours on Tuesday, September 3rd at 9am.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE

Kyle McHugh, a Saint Symphorosa graduate and member of Boy Scout Troop #1439, is currently working on his Eagle Scout project. He is collecting new school supplies (folder, notebooks, crayons, pencils, pens, paper, backpacks, etc.) that will be donated to a CPS elementary school. A box will be located in the back of Church for donations. Thank you very much for your support.



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.

Robert F. Deuser

Kenneth Estrella

George Heinz