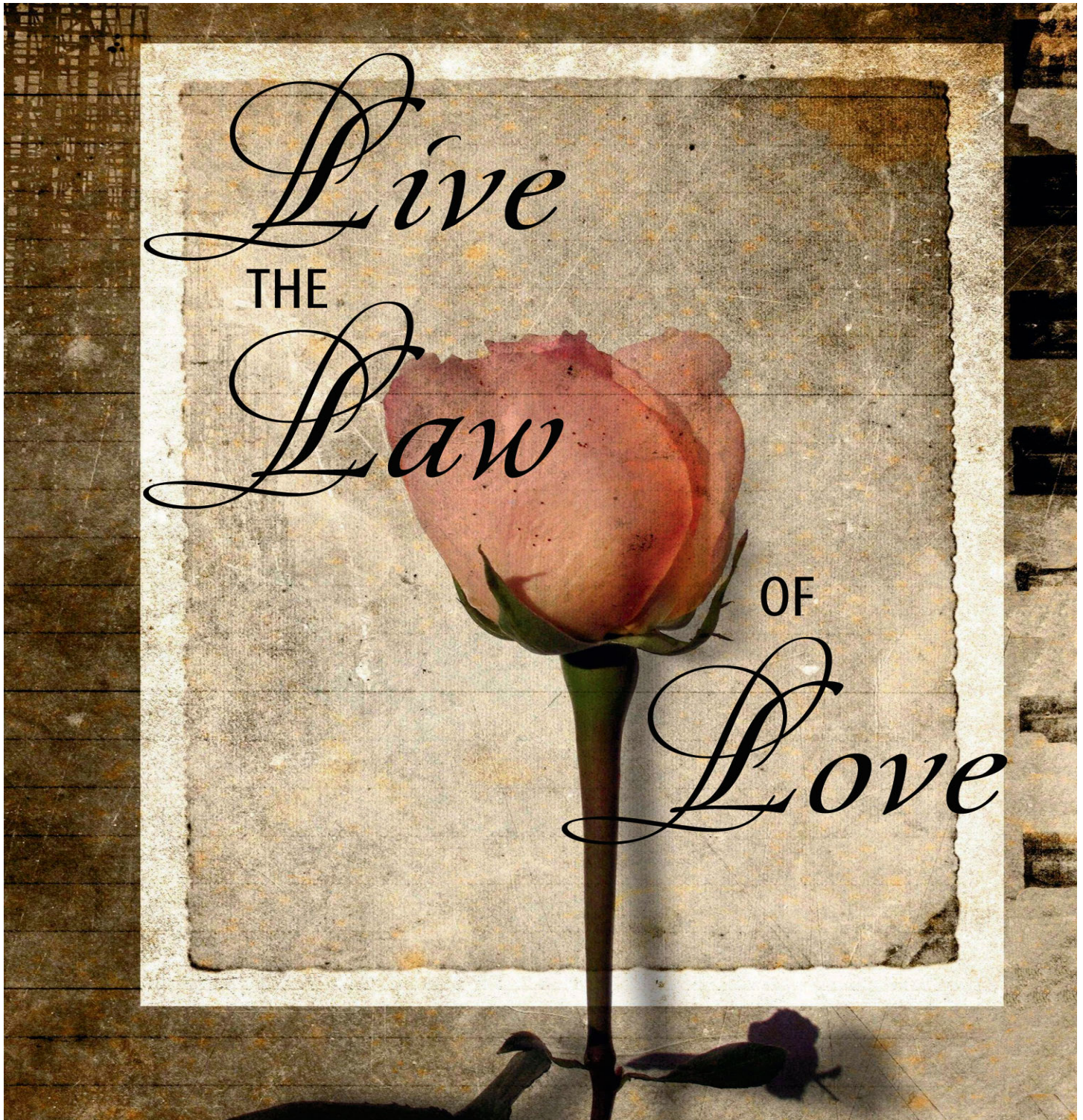


The Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

JULY 14, 2019



Saint Symphorosa Parish

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

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

As Jesus continues his journey to Jerusalem, he is confronted by a scholar of the law who wants to test him. In the Gospels of Mark and Matthew, Jesus is asked about the greatest commandment. Here, in Luke's Gospel, the lawyer asks what we must do to inherit eternal life. In the other two Gospels, Jesus answers the question by quoting Deuteronomy 6:5, on loving God with all your heart, and Leviticus 19:18, on loving your neighbor. Here Jesus asks the expert to answer this question, "What is written in the law?" The man is caught and responds with Deuteronomy 6:5. This verse is one of the most important prayers in Judaism, and it was said twice a day in Jesus' time. Love of God and love of neighbor are what is required for eternal life. Jesus' response is simple, "Do this and you will live."

Having been shown up by Jesus, the lawyer tries another question: Who is my neighbor whom I must love like myself? In the society of Jesus' time, with its distinctions between Jews and Gentiles, men and women, clean and unclean, this was a trick question. Jesus responds with one of the most beautiful of all the parables, the Good Samaritan. It is found only in Luke's Gospel.

The road from Jerusalem to Jericho descends 3,300 feet in just 17 miles. Its narrow passes and rocky terrain made it an easy place for bandits to wait for travelers. The traveler in this parable is identified only as "a certain man." Luke uses this phrase in many of his

parables so that the audience, Jew or Gentile, could identify with the man. After the attack, the man is left for dead, naked and bleeding on the side of the road. A priest comes along, but rather than helping, as one might expect, he moves to the other side of the road. Another religious person comes along, a Levite who assists in the Temple. His reaction is the same as the priest's. Both of them choose to not even find out if the man is alive. A third person comes along.

The listeners would probably expect him to be an Israelite. This would make the parable a criticism of the religious leadership. Instead he is a Samaritan, an Israelite's most hated neighbor. Samaritans were descendants of Jews from the northern part of the country, who had intermarried with Gentiles and did not worship in Jerusalem. The Samaritan not only goes over to the injured man but cleans his wounds, puts him on his own animal, takes him to an inn to recover, and promises to pay all his expenses. The hated enemy is the compassionate neighbor in this parable.

Jesus has demolished all boundary expectations. It is not social definitions such as class, religion, gender, or ethnicity that determines who is our neighbor. A neighbor is a person who acts with compassion toward another. The point becomes not who deserves to be loved as I love myself, but that I become a person who treats everyone with compassion.

When Jesus asks the lawyer who was the neighbor in the story, the lawyer can't bring himself to say it was the Samaritan. All he says is that it was "the one who treated him with mercy." Jesus' response was similar to that of the first discussion: "Go and do likewise." The lawyer, and we, know what is right. The key is to do it.

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The whole focus of Luke's Gospel today is on the story of the Good Samaritan. Clearly we are called to love our neighbor. This is the direct teaching of Jesus. And who is my neighbor: everyone who comes into my life in any way. My neighbor is every person I treat with mercy for love of the Lord Jesus, my Teacher. My neighbor is each person who needs my help or asks my help or who enters my life in any way. We can see quickly that this answer makes us leave aside any book of good deeds that I must do and instead I must serve each person according to that person's needs.

An incredible commandment! It demands everything of us, just as it demanded everything of Jesus, even unto death.

My sisters and brothers, we are invited to walk the way of the Teacher, the Lord Jesus, and serve all others and to give our lives up completely in the love of others. Let us walk in the way of the Lord!

~Fr. Idzi





Feast of St. Symphorosa July 18 We Honor and Celebrate Our Parish Patroness

My Dear Parishioners,

Each time we enter our parish church, we are greeted by the beautiful stained glass window in the sanctuary area above the crucifix. Have you ever taken the opportunity to look closely at the intricacy of this window's design and realize the symbolism within it?

As we celebrate the Feast of St. Symphorosa and Her Seven Sons, I thought this to be the perfect time to outline these important symbols within this beautiful piece of art.

The woman in the center of the window is St. Symphorosa. She is surrounded by the names of her seven sons (Crescens, Julian, Nemesius, Primitivus, Justin, Stracteus, and Eugenius).

There is a sword by the name of each son – the tool of their martyrdom. The swords facing inward symbolize the sons who died from an attack on the front of their bodies. The swords facing outward symbolize those killed from the back.

The eight panel on this window bears the name Symphorosa and does not have a sword. Rather you will see a rock in a river. According to the story of Symphorosa, she was drowned in a river with a stone tied to her.

All eight panels have palm branches – the traditional symbols of martyrdom and heavenly glory. Finally, you will notice that red is certainly the prominent color in the window as red is the color of martyr's blood.

May this beautiful window be a constant reminder to each of us of the sacrifice that St. Symphorosa and Her Seven Sons made in the name of Christianity.

God Bless our Parish Faith Community on the Feast of St. Symphorosa!

~Fr. Idzi



Thursday, July 18th Feast of St. Symphorosa, our Parish Patroness

Please join us on the weekend of July 20/21 as we celebrate as a Parish Family at all masses. Our Parish Transformation Team invites you to the Social Hall of the Sharp Center immediately following mass for hospitality and fellowship.

Lord, God, Holy are You, Your saints and holy ones give you glory all days. In their holiness they are channels of Your grace for us. May St. Symphorosa be for all of us a sign of faithfulness and love. May we, like her, always remain faithful to Your Son and His message of Good News.

May our Parish, through the intercession of St. Symphorosa and her Seven Sons, be a sign of "A Family Celebrating Faith".

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.



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 July is for the Integrity of Justice.

That those who administer justice may work with integrity, and that the injustice which prevails in the world may not have the last word.

Ushers Needed *Are you willing to serve?*

Please join our Usher Ministry!

I would like to usher at the following Mass(es):

- ☐ Saturday 5:00pm
- ☐ Sunday 7:30am
- ☐ Sunday 9:30am
- ☐ Sunday 11:30am

Name _____
Address _____
Telephone _____ Email _____

Please return completed form in the collection basket or to our Parish Office!

Thank you for your consideration!

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

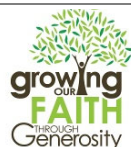
Schedule of Masses
 Sunday
 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 am
 Saturday Evening Mass
 5:00 pm
 Weekdays: 8:00 am
 Monday through Saturday
 Holy Days:
 7:30am, 9:30 am and
 7:00 pm

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
 symphorosa@comcast.net

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



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

Ascension\$444
 Building & Maintenance\$1,595
 Candle Money\$1,567.11
 Catholic Charities Appeal\$5
 Easter.....\$60
 Father's Day Memorial\$1,895
 Good Friday/Holy Land\$20
 Immaculate Conception\$50
 Mother's Day Memorial\$60
 Parish Debt Reduction\$479
 Peter's Pence.....\$1,032
 Priest's Retirement.....\$1,204
 School Support.....\$400
 Sharing Parish (Maternity BVM)\$270
 Religious Retirement.....\$5

Thank you for your kindness & generosity!



St. Symphorosa is currently seeking well read and reliable persons who are interested in proclaiming the Living Word of God during weekend Masses. If you are interested please contact Maggie at the parish office (773.767.1523) for more information.

PARISH OFFICE **CLOSED**

The parish office will be closed **Monday, July 15**, due to Family Fest.

We will reopen on Tuesday, July 16, at **9am**.



Dates: April 22, 2019 to May 12, 2019

Transactions: 124

Amount: \$3,067.00



Offerings for the weekend of June 30, 2019

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

Contributions: \$5,381.25

Envelopes: 243

Offerings for the weekend of July 7, 2019

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

Contributions: \$6,786.20

Envelopes: 282

Thank you for your support & generosity!



Split the Pot

June 30, 2019

Received this week: \$336.00

Winning envelope: #677

July 7, 2019

Received this week: \$305.00

Winning envelope: #3013

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

“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.”

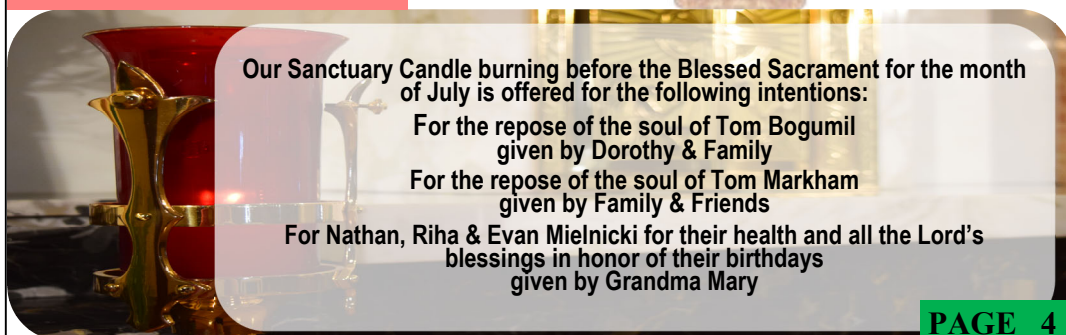
Pour out the gift of your Holy Spirit upon us,
 and so enable us
 to hear you clearly

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



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

For the repose of the soul of Tom Bogumil
 given by Dorothy & Family

For the repose of the soul of Tom Markham
 given by Family & Friends

For Nathan, Riha & Evan Mielnicki for their health and all the Lord's
 blessings in honor of their birthdays
 given by Grandma Mary

CATECHISTS NEEDED

Can You Help?

Although we are in the middle of summer and the thought of starting a new Religious Education school year may seem a bit premature, it is never too soon to begin planning for our wonderful students who are in need of individuals that are willing to share their faith.

We are looking for individuals who love their faith and want to make a difference in a child's faith formation. I believe we have people in our parish who are willing to bring the Word of God to children who cannot attend a Catholic School. Won't you please help us by volunteering as a catechist so that we can continue to accept all of the children who come to us?

For those, who are a little afraid of teaching, be aware that the Archdiocese of Chicago offers classes for new catechists to help prepare you to teach.

We are in need of three teachers for the coming year. **PLEASE HELP!!!**

If you are interested, please call the rectory at 773.767.1523 ext. 226. If I am not in the office, leave your name and phone number and I will return your call.

Enjoy the rest of the summer.

Judy Banasiak, Coordinator of Religious Education



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.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, July 15, 2019

Saint Bonaventure, Bishop

8:00am †Lottie Sochacki (Walter Sochacki)
†Jean Kibler (Family of Jean Kibler)

Tuesday, July 16, 2019

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

8:00am †Nathan Karpowicz (Barbara Rendak)
†Mae & John Griffin (Normoyle Family)
†John & Vera Normoyle (Normoyle Family)

Wednesday, July 17, 2019

8:00am †Robert Montgomery, Sr. (Wife)
†John Kolimas (Mary Kolimas)

Thursday, July 18, 2019

Saint Symphorosa and Her Seven Sons

Saint Camillus de Lellis, Priest

8:00am †Philip Losos (Barbara Rendak)
†Marina Battung (Rosario Battung)

Friday, July 19, 2019

8:00am †Melinda Mackey (Family)

Saturday, July 20, 2019

Saint Apollonaris, Bishop

8:00am †Marion Tisonczyk (Wife)
†Maria Gawelda (Ilona Szkodon)
†Edward M. Toczykowski (Wodke & Toczykowski Families)
5:00pm †Colette "Cookie" Findysz (Mary Kruzel)
†Baldomero Gonzales, Jr. (Wife & Sons)
†Greg Golab (Mom & Dad)
†Gloria Terrill (Joan Wash & Gerry Farganus)

Sunday, July 21, 2019

7:30am †Nick Bouzios (Janina)
9:30am †Chuck DeLauriea (Rich & Marge Marcello)
†Renata Domalik (Kisielewski Family)
†Jim Thorpe (St. Symphorosa Super Club)
11:30am †John Stachon (Family)



*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
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
Lee Karpinski
Dennis Kline
Antoinette Kloppman
Walter Kokoszka, Sr.
Claudia Kwilosz
Norman Kwilosz
James Lapsansky
Donna Lauritzen

Domenico Lepore
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
James Suchy
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	Pvt 1st 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

saint snippets



The poor and the sick
are the heart of God.
In serving them, we
serve Jesus Christ.

St. Camillus de Lellis
16th-century founder of a religious order
dedicated to caring for the sick; Patron of the sick

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July 18



In today's Gospel, when Jesus asks "which of these three, in your opinion, was neighbor to the robbers' victim?" the scholar of the law answered, "the one who treated him with mercy." Jesus then said, "Go and do likewise."

This week you can also "treat the poor with mercy" by putting a gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box.

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

New Parishioners: Welcome to our Parish! We are so happy to have you join us.

Sacrament of the Sick and Communion Calls: Please contact our Parish Office to make arrangements.

Sacrament of Baptism: Second & Fourth Sunday at 1:00pm in Church. Parent Preparation Session: First Thursday of every other Month at 7:00pm. Please contact Maggie in our Parish Office for assistance.

Marriages: Arrangements must be made at least 6 months prior to the proposed date of your wedding. Please contact Maggie in our Parish Office for assistance.

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.

Felipe Lopez