

# CONGRATULATIONS REV. IDZI STACHERCZAK



Seventh Pastor of  
the St. Symphorosa  
Parish Faith  
Community

August 12, 2017

May God Bless  
You Always!



# REFLECTION FOR THE 19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



The story for this weekend's Gospel is the classic journey of faith. That journey often involves three steps: loving Jesus, faltering due to human imperfection, and calling out to the Lord. So, (1) Peter obviously loved Jesus, then (2) he doubted and then faltered, but then did the greatest thing of all. When he realized he faltered, he yelled out, (3) "*Lord, save me!*" Isn't that what faith is all about? Peter's call to Jesus is the call each of us should make when we realize we cannot go it alone.

**First**, it is clear that Peter loved Jesus. Peter left behind his fishing boat and career and followed Jesus unreservedly. Jesus was an itinerant preacher whose acceptance in society and among religious authorities was questioned. It is evident that Peter was overwhelmed with grace in His presence and was inspired to follow Him. Peter was filled with passion, zeal, and love for the Lord.

The modern Christian is called to love the Lord in the same way. Our faith is to be passionate! Following the Lord is the first priority of one's life. While we might not be called to leave it all behind as Peter did, we are called to love the Lord with the same passion and zeal, each in our own individual vocation, calling, and context.

While Peter's love was almost palpable, he also stumbled, both in this particular story and in others throughout the Gospels. He had a tendency to blurt out the wrong

thing at the wrong time, denied he ever knew Jesus, and, at times, faltered in his belief, as found here.

**Second**, like us, Peter is human to the core. Even with his faults, Jesus appointed him the Rock, and it is clear from the Acts of the Apostles that Peter led the early Church.

With all of his human weaknesses, Jesus saw something special in Peter. He knew his gifts and what he could accomplish. In Peter, the rest of us can take solace. Jesus loved Peter and called him to do great things; He loves you and me in our humanity and calls us in the same way. That's how much He loves us!

**Finally**, Peter gives the Church a great example of what to do when he faltered: he yells out, "*Lord, save me!*" Those might be the three words each of us should make our personal motto. Peter's overall love for the Lord helps him understand that only Jesus could save him. His faith in Jesus ran deep, and in the depths of his heart and soul he knew Jesus would save him. Indeed, He did save him and help him.

In the journey of faith, do we know that Jesus will save us? This implies that the person has a deep love for Christ that will show itself in faith. Jesus will save us. There is nothing to fear. The modern person has such a hard time understanding and believing in the power of God. Why does that happen? In many ways, Peter's faith is childlike. And childlike faith is the faith

Jesus wants in each of us. We allow the need for control and pride to creep into our faith, making it much more complicated than need be. Faith is simple. Love Jesus and know He will save you. Peter had that kind of faith, that is clear. You and I are called to that same level of faith.

It is necessary that the human person peel back that which makes faith complicated. In prayer, the person asks the Lord to be free of the need of control and pride that keeps us from that simple faith that Peter expressed in this Gospel reading. Peter knew the Lord would save him. While human, he loved Jesus passionately and knew what Jesus would do for him. He saved him. Let's all pray for the same faith as Peter!

Perhaps we need to be like Peter and climb out of our comfort zone. In order to genuinely move forward, we must step out onto the stormy sea of uncharted territory and go to Jesus, trusting where he may lead us. Although it may be rough at times, he will lend a hand and in his time, lead us to the light of a new and brighter day.

~Fr. Idzi



## Today's responsorial psalm is:

The Lord is my light and my salvation, of whom should I be afraid?

## Have You Ever Thought of Becoming Catholic?

### Why not explore the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults?

RCIA may be for you if:

- ◆ You were never baptized
- ◆ You were baptized in another denomination or faith tradition
- ◆ You were baptized Catholic but did not receive First Communion or Confirmation

RCIA begins with a period of inquiry—a time to learn and ask questions. The only requirement is a desire to explore one's relationship to God and through the Catholic faith. No firm commitment to join the Church is needed at this time. One might wish to come for one of the following reasons:

- I definitely want to become Catholic
- I might want to become Catholic
- I'm just looking—not sure at this time.

Please prayerfully consider the RCIA Program. If you are interested or know someone who might be, please consider joining us for a meeting to learn more.

**Monday, September 18, 2017**  
**7:00pm—9:00pm**  
**St. Symphorosa School Hall**  
**6125 S. Austin Avenue**

For more information and to let us know of your intention to join us at this first gathering, please call our parish office at (773)767-1523. Our RCIA facilitator is Marge Garbacz.



## SAVE THE DATE

We are very excited and proud to announce that on Saturday, October 7, 2017 at the 5:00pm mass, Archbishop Cupich will join the St. Symphorosa Parish Family in celebrating our 90th Anniversary. Stay tuned for more information!



### SPLIT THE POT!!

**Date: August 6, 2017**

**Received this week: \$251.00**

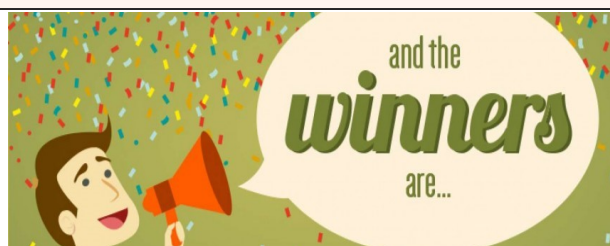
**Envelopes Entered: 98**

**This week's winner is Envelope # 1230**

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

### Please Note The Following Change:

**Effective immediately, all Split the Pot envelopes MUST be turned into the Parish Office by Monday at 7:00pm to be included in the Split the Pot drawing.**



Please join in congratulating the following Super Club Raffle Winners for July & August!!

July	August
\$25.00 Nancy Baio	\$25.00 Katie Sigafosse
\$25.00 Lou Norbut	\$25.00 Madelyn Curran
\$50.00 R. Curran	\$50.00 Dawn Gasior
\$100.00 M. Doherty	\$100.00 J. Schumacher
	\$15.00 Sellers - M. Thorpe



Our Choir will be back in the next few weeks. Stay tuned for more details!

## St. Symphorosa....A Family Celebrating Faith!

### OUR PARISH STAFF

**Rev. Idzi Stacherczak, Pastor**  
**Rev. Ted Bojczuk, Pastor Emeritus**  
**Rev. Norman Trela, Retired Priest**  
**John & Sue O'Keefe,**  
**Music Directors**  
**Ken Hilliard, Operations Director**  
**Magdalan Barry, Parish Secretary**  
**Nancy Markham,**  
**Office Coordinator**  
**Barb Grzenia, Coordinator of**  
**Religious Education**  
**Kathy Berry, Principal**  
**Nancy Loduca, Assistant Principal**

**6135 S. Austin, Chicago, IL 60638**

**Telephone: 773.767.1523 Fax: 773.767.6135**

**www.stsymphorosa.org**

### OUR MASS SCHEDULE

**Sunday: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 am**  
**Saturday Evening Mass: 5:00 pm**  
**Weekdays: 8:00 am**  
**Monday through Saturday**  
**Holy Days: 7:30 & 9:30 am, 7:00 pm**

### SACRAMENT OF PENANCE:

**Monday through Saturday**  
**after 8:00 am Mass**

### 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**  
**SCHOOL**  
**Address: 6125 S. Austin Avenue**  
**773-585-6888**



## The Good News & Religious Education Program

Just what signs do you look for to help your child understand the importance of faith in their life. These buried treasures can be found by helping your child find a relationship with Jesus. How do they know Jesus? Faith is a treasure that leads us to become faithful followers of Jesus.

Children need to grow in their knowledge of faith through prayer, catechesis and an understanding of who Jesus is in their life. Your child's faith is one treasure that Jesus is referring to in our Gospel. Our Religious Education Program will help your child learn about the treasures that lead them to Jesus. Classes begin on Saturday, September 9th.

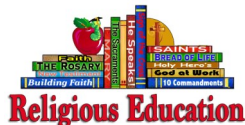
This is a reminder for all parents that

the registration for the 2017-2018 year has begun. You may register Monday through Friday from 9:00am—12:00pm and 1:00pm—7:00pm, and Saturday from 9:00am—12:00pm at our parish office.

Is this a Sacrament Preparation year for your family? If so, please remember that First Communion preparation begins in the 1st Level Program and Confirmation preparation begins in the 7th Level Program.

It is our hope that the Religious Education provided at St. Symphorosa will allow your child to build on the treasures that will prepare him or her to become a faith-filled child of God.

Please contact Barb Grzenia at 773.767.1523 with any questions.



## A Special Celebration!!

The Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass will be held on Sunday, September 17, 2017 at 2:45pm at Holy Name Cathedral, 735 N. State Street, Chicago.

Couples married in 1967 interested in attending this celebration should call our parish office at 773.767.1523 to register. For further information, call the Marriage and Family Ministries Office at 312.534.8351 or visit the website: <https://pvm.archchicago.org>.



*"Each person marvels to find in the divine scriptures truths which they themselves have thought out."*

--St. Thomas Aquinas

## COME JOIN THE FUN!!!

Four Winds Casino  
August 22, 2017  
\$35.00 per person  
Bus leaves at  
9:00am sharp!



Need more info?

Contact Chris at 773.512.8708

## Stewardship of Treasure

*Offerings for the weekend  
of August 6, 2017*

**Weekly Budget (Est.) 9,000.00**

**Contributions: \$8,519.80**  
**# of Envelopes: 340**

**Thank you for your continued support!**



**Our Lady of  
Czestochowa  
Feast Day Mass**

**Saturday, August 26  
7:00pm**

Help keep our database up to date by sending us any changes in address, telephone number, email or name. Call Maggie in our parish office at 773.767.1523

## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

The Roman Canon, called Eucharistic Prayer I, is probably seldom heard in your parish. Some priests will choose it for at least one of the Masses of Christmas, or the Easter Vigil. Such sparing use of this prayer seems strange, especially since it was the only Eucharistic Prayer in the Latin Rite for many centuries, from as long ago as 500 right up to 1970.

In 1965, the vernacular language was approved for the canon of the Mass. Almost immediately, some experimental texts began to surface in the Netherlands, and priests began to use new Dutch texts without permission. By 1966, Pope Paul VI had set up a committee to consider whether or not it was time to approve such experimentation and extend it to non-Dutch churches. No sooner had the committee been formed than other individuals copied the Dutch by just plunging on ahead. The Dutch bishops had approved the use of the new prayers nationwide in 1968, and Flemish bishops in Belgium quickly agreed. By then, German translations of the Dutch prayers were in wide use, and before long nearly one hundred Eucharistic Prayers, all unapproved, were in circulation in France.

The Vatican heard the widespread desire for more variety in Eucharistic Prayer forms, and, with the pope's approval, the process of creating new official prayers began.

--Rev. James Field, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.



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

MONTH	CLASS	BAPTISMS
September	No Class	9/10, 9/24
October	10/5	10/8, 10/22

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

*"We shall  
never know  
all the good  
that a simple  
smile  
cando."*

Mother Teresa

## Follow St. Symphorosa on Social Media



stsymphorosachurch  
@stsymphorosa



Please join in extending a warm St. Symphorosa welcome to the newest members of our faith community!

**Rafael, Yesenia &  
Emmanuel Murillo**  
**Daniel, Taura, Elizabeth &  
Alexander Basulto**

O Lord Jesus Christ, Who said to Your Apostles: "Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you," regard not my sins but the faith of Your Church, and deign to give her peace and unity according to Your Will: Who live and reign, God, world without end. Amen.

## THE HOLY MASS

In the coming weeks, we will walk through most of the actions and gestures at Mass and together we will explore the meaning and origins of the Sacrament that is central to who we are as Catholics. We invite you to reflect on the the liturgy and more specifically on the presence of God in our celebration at Mass.

### INTRODUCTORY RIGHTS

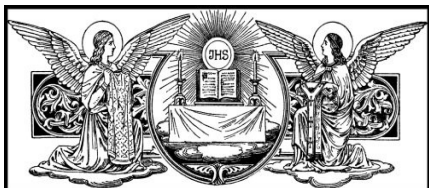
This first part of the Mass is meant to gather all the individual people in the church into the Body of Christ. The rite takes each of us out of our individual thoughts and gathers us all into the prayer of the Church. It is a transition that gets us ready for the awesome mystery of the Eucharist where we can meet God and God meet us.

As we sing the Opening Song which helps to unify us as one voice, think about the prayer that you bring to church; a prayer for yourself and a prayer for our faith community. In the words of St. Augustine, "He who sings, prays twice!"

### VENERATION OF THE ALTAR

As the priest approaches the Altar he bends forward in reverence and kisses it. This ritual goes back to the earliest followers of Jesus who were persecuted, even killed because their faith was contrary to that of the Romans. The early Christians would gather in hidden places to pray and share their Eucharistic meal, often in underground catacombs, and the "table" they used was the coffin of one who was martyred. The gesture of kissing the burial site was one of reverence for those who gave their life for their faith. Many of our altars today contain relics of a saint, maintaining the tradition.

Another reason that the priest reverences the Altar with a kiss is because for us, the Altar—a table of sacrifice—is an image of Christ, who made the ultimate sacrifice, offering his very self to the Father.



In this Gospel, Jesus immediately stretched out his hand and caught Peter, and said to him, "O You of little faith, why did you doubt?"

Please help the Society of St. Vincent de Paul bring respite and hope to the elderly who are not able to find relief from the summer heat, and you will bring them faith and hope!"

All monies collected in our Poor Boxes located in the back of church help to aid the ministry of our parish St. Vincent de Paul Society. Thank you for your generosity!



## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday:** Dt 10:12-22; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Mt 17:22-27
- Tuesday:** Vigil: 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2; Ps 132:6-7, 9-10, 13-14; 1 Cor 15:54b-57; Lk 11:27-28  
Day: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Ps 45:10-12, 16; 1 Cor 15:20-27; Lk 1:39-56
- Wednesday:** Dt 34:1-2; Ps 66:1-3a, 5, 8, 16-17; Mt 18:15-20
- Thursday:** Jos 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17; Ps 114:1-6; Mt 18:21 -- 19:1
- Friday:** Jos 24:1-13; Ps 136:1-3, 16-18, 21-22, 24; Mt 19:3-12
- Saturday:** Jos 24:14-29; Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-8, 11; Mt 19:13-15
- Sunday:** Is 56:1, 6-7; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Rom 11:13-15, 29-32; Mt 15:21-28

## Feast of the Assumption of our Blessed Mother

Since at least the 10th Century, it has been customary in the Western Church for the priest to bless herbs on the Solemnity of the Assumption. The Eastern Church likely had a similar formulary much earlier. In many places the faithful had all their flowers blessed, especially those closely associated with the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is meant to remind all of us of the gifts God has given us for our sustenance, healing and beauty.

Holy Tradition educates us that all the Apostles, except St. Thomas who was late, were transported mystically to Jerusalem in order to be with the Mother of God – the Theotokos – as she reposed, and to give her a burial. When Thomas arrived the next day, the Apostles opened the tomb so that he could kiss Mary farewell. The opened tomb revealed that the body of the Holy Virgin Mother of God was missing, and filled with herbs and flowers. This event was a sure sign of her great purity and holiness.

Throughout the world, it was (and is still) traditional to celebrate the Feast of the Assumption by bringing the summer harvest to be blessed. The first fruits — herbs, tomatoes, summer squash, etc. — are often associated with the Feast of the Assumption both because of the time of year and because Mary was the first believer in Jesus to experience the promised resurrection. She is the first fruit of a great coming harvest.

Tuesday, August 15th is a Holy Day of Obligation. At all masses that day, we will conclude with a Blessing of Flowers, Fruits and Herbs. We encourage you to bring items from your garden to be blessed during this celebration. If you do not have a garden, we encourage you to participate by bringing flowers, spices, herbs or fruit.







## We Remember and Celebrate

### Mass Intentions

#### Monday, August 14, 2017

8:00 am For All Parishioners (15)

#### Tuesday, August 15, 2017 – Feast of the Assumption

7:30 am † Elaine Travers—Bill Travers

† Richie Merda—Arlene Scaletta

9:30 am † Adeline Krzywicki—Gress & Staniskawski Family

† Susie Graziano—Barbara Anna Rendak

7:00pm For All Parishioners (16)

#### Wednesday, August 16, 2017

8:00 am † Frank Kulma—Darlene & Jim

† Joanne & Stanley Swiatkowski—Darlene & Jim

#### Thursday, August 17, 2017

8:00 am † Matthew Durkin—Arlene Scaletta

#### Friday, August 18, 2017

8:00 am For All Parishioners (17)

#### Saturday, August 19, 2017

8:00 am † Richard Siepka—Family

5:00 pm † Greg Golab—Matthew and Mom Golab

† William Zelenski—Pam

† Tom Markham—Szot Family

† Steve & Betty Wojcik (Anniversary) - Family

† Nick Bouzios—Janina

† David Kloppman—Bob & Karen Mrozen

#### Sunday, August 20, 2017

7:30 am † Elaine Predny & Family—Julia Henry

9:30am † Lynda J. Sullivan—Sullivan Family

† Tom Markham—St. Symphorosa Parish Council

† Marge Walsh—Nancy Markham

11:30 am † Gregg Gasior—St Symphorosa Parish

† Frank Strzelec—Barbara Anna Rendak

† Richard Montwill—Julio & Jeam Pimentel

† John & Cathy Ryan—Ryan & Carone Families

Please  
Pray  
for...



Rae Ann Arends, Donna R. Azzaline, Toni Bartz, Virginia Blazeniak, Dorothy Bogumil, Fr. Ted Bojczuk, Colleen Brown, 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, Tim Gattas, Bernard A. Gercius, Nincy Giron, Carol Golab, Gary Gorlen, Karen Gricus, Kathy Guzman, Erica Heilmann, Heather Hradek, Joe Infantino, Theresa Jahnz, Denise & Richard Jandura, Carol Kennelly, Jean Kibler, Adalbert Kouba, Patricia Kubik, Mark Kukulski, James Lapsansky, Chris & Donna Lauritzen, Virginia Macias, Lu Mackey, Ed Mallo, John Martini, Lori McCarthy, Gen Nagle, Helen Naughton, Marge Novak, Joe Paciga, David Paul, Katherine Pecoraro, Gunner (Baby) Pratscher, Carolyn M. Pysac, Lu Rackey, Sister Mary Rita, Ann Robertson, John A. Rosenthal, Larry Rosenstiehl, Fr. John Rudnik, Ben Sajdak, William Schrimpl, Stephen Sears, Dorothy Sniezewski, Marilyn Sobczak, Michael Straube, James Suchy, Chalida Svastisalee, Loretta A. Thomas, Jim & Mary Thorpe, Marge Walsh, Joan Witcher, Steve Wojcik, Pamela Wojdyla, Larry & Marianne Wysocki, and Michelle



Pray  
For Our Troops

*Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands, protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord.*

**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 Johanieicz, 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**



### Holy Father Monthly Intention

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 August is for Artists.

*That artists of our time, through their ingenuity, may help everyone discover the beauty of creation.*



Weekday and Weekend Mass Intentions are available for parishioners who would like their intentions to be remembered at Mass. Intentions are available for those who have died or through a Spiritual Bouquet for someone who is living. Call or stop by our Parish Office for more details.