

February 2, 2020

THE PRESENTATION

OF THE
Lord

Simoneon blessed them and said to Mary his mother...

“...Behold, this *child* is destined for
the fall and rise of many in Israel.”

~Luke 2:34

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SAINT SYMPHOROSA PARISH

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

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD



In the today's Gospel we have the persons of the Holy Family, Joseph, Mary and Jesus going to Jerusalem. This is where they have to ritually redeem Jesus, who was the first born in the family, and where Mary herself will have to be ritually purified. The Gospel also tells us of the prophesy and blessing of Simeon the Prophet.

Today these three persons are given to us as an example for all Christian families to look towards this earthly trinity. As an example of inspiration and encouragement.

Whenever a Jewish couple became parents of a firstborn son, two ritual acts were required. First, they had to redeem the firstborn son or buy him back from the Lord because it was rightly to the Lord he belonged. The second ritual was the purification of the mother, which was aimed at making her ritually clean.

Luke does not explain to us how these rituals were performed in the Temple. He shows their humble unquestionable obedience to the Mosaic Law, a law to which they were not really bound, as an example and encouragement to all. Mary because of the virginal conception and the birth of Jesus the Son of God did not need the legal purification. Jesus himself being the divine person did not have to be redeemed or purchased from God. His whole life on earth was going to be uninterrupted service of God. Joseph as Father and Head of the Family silently accompanies Mary and the child to Jerusalem. They perform the rights that were asked of them.

Luke in the gospel intends to show us that Mary and Joseph were a typical pious Jewish couple, who went to the Temple in obedience to do all that was required and expected of them by the Law. They

willingly accepted the simple ordinary life in a remote village, living in harmony, observing the laws prescribed, visiting the Temple and Synagogue and living an exemplary life. They indeed accepted God's will and having understood partially at least the salvific role of Jesus, they were ready to accept the suffering and pain that came along the way. They are for us a true example of what a family life should be here on earth.

Today's gospel speaks of two other persons Simeon and Anna, who are characterized as being lifelong righteous and devout Jews, who encounter Jesus, Mary and Joseph during their ritual visit in the Temple. Their purpose is simply to point out who Jesus really is and his destiny is going to be the salvation of Israel.

Simeon spoke guided by the Holy Spirit and this in reality was God's greater plan. The old woman Anna, too, on seeing the child, breaks into praising God. And she spoke of him to all who looked forward to the liberation of Jerusalem. She gives her silent witness to the world's longing for salvation through him.

We look at the response of Mary and Joseph towards this sudden encounter. They were totally amazed by what these two prophets had to say. They are portrayed as being unaware that their son was anything other than an ordinary first born son. Perhaps this was the time for Mary to ponder once more the Annunciation scene where the angel had told her that he would be king. Certainly it was time for Joseph and Mary to understand more fully their responsibility before God to protect the child and they return to Nazareth unfazed by all this. The Gospel tells us that in Nazareth Jesus grew into

adulthood and grew in wisdom, while God's favor was with him.

Mary, Joseph and Jesus model for us the life of the Holy Family. Joseph exhibited great trust in God and demonstrated intense devotion and love in caring for Mary and Jesus. Scripture does not quote a single word of Joseph, and yet his actions speak volumes of a strong man devoted to God and family. Mary, too, showed tremendous faith in God and trusted in God's love for her. As wife, she helped Joseph in his quest for holiness. As mother, she cared for Jesus with great love and tenderness. Both Mary and Joseph created the environment which allowed Jesus to grow in wisdom and age and favor before God and man.

Jesus, for his part, was obedient to Mary and Joseph and obviously loved them both very much. Out of great love for his Father and for us, he was obedient to all that God asked of him, including death on a cross. This type of sacrificial love for the other defines a significant attribute of a holy family—a love that allows all in the family to flourish in their quest for holiness.

~Fr. Idzi Stacherczak



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



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.

Project Linus *Providing Security Through Blankets*



National Make A Blanket Day

Saturday, February 15, 2020

Sharp Center from 9am-1pm

Project Linus is a National Organization devoted to making blankets for children of all ages in crisis situations.

The Southwest Chicagoland Chapter will be making "no sew" fleece blankets on this day. They will teach you how to make these blankets and ask only that you donate two 1.5 yard pieces of fleece fabric. One print suitable for a child up to 18 years of age, and the other a coordinating solid. Please bring fabric scissors for your personal use. Each blanket takes about 1 1/2 hours to complete.

New handmade quilts and crochet blankets can be donated on this day too.

If you have any questions, please contact Mary at mmmda32@aol.com



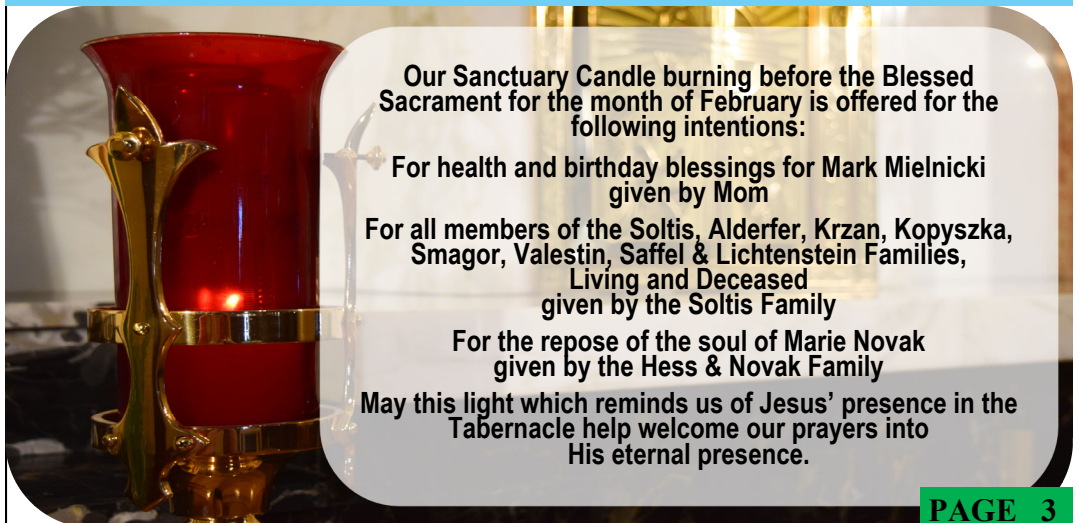
Our Sanctuary Candle burning before the Blessed Sacrament for the month of February is offered for the following intentions:

For health and birthday blessings for Mark Mielnicki given by Mom

For all members of the Soltis, Alderfer, Krzan, Kopyszka, Smagor, Valestin, Saffel & Lichtenstein Families, Living and Deceased given by the Soltis Family

For the repose of the soul of Marie Novak given by the Hess & Novak Family

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





JOIN US...

this Monday, February 3rd at 7pm inside St. Symphorosa Church. We invite all members of St. Symphorosa and St. Rene to be in attendance at this meeting as we receive the final decision from the Archdiocese of Chicago "Renew My Church" team in regards to our grouping.



Offerings for the weekend of January 26, 2020

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

Contributions: \$5,741.00

Envelopes: 255

Thank you for your support & generosity!



Split the Pot

January 26, 2020

Received this week: \$420

Winning envelope: #2893

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

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



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

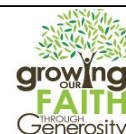
Rises to \$400 at 75 players and \$500 at 100 players

(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



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

Building & Maintenance	\$1,554
Candle Money	\$1,337.80
Christmas	\$775
Christmas Flowers	\$3
Church in Latin America	\$835
Immaculate Conception	\$46
Parish Debt Reduction	\$586
School Support	\$287
Solemnity of Mary	\$2,231.55

Thank you for your kindness & generosity!

Bring Your Palms!

If you saved your blessed palm fronds from last year's Palm Sunday Mass, we kindly ask for you to place them in the provided baskets located in the gathering space of our church by Monday, February 24th. We will burn them to be used as ashes on Ash Wednesday.



PRAYER REQUESTS

Each Friday, we will post a prayer request on our social media pages. If there is something that you would like us, as a family celebrating Faith to pray for, please add it in the comments section. These prayer requests will be prayed for during our intercessions at our weekend masses.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



COME, FOLLOW ME...
and heal our world

2020 Annual Catholic Appeal



Please Make Your Gift to the 2020 Annual Catholic Appeal

Come, follow me...and heal our world

Many families in our parish will be receiving the Annual Catholic Appeal request mailing from Cardinal Cupich. On behalf of those served by the ministries, parishes, and schools who receive funding from the Appeal, we thank you for your gifts. Please return your response as soon as possible.

The Annual Catholic Appeal offers a wonderful opportunity to answer Jesus' call to "Come follow me...and heal the world."

In addition to providing for ministries and services throughout the archdiocese, the Appeal also funds services that are of great help here in our parish. For example, Appeal funds support Lay Formation, Religious Education Programs, Parish Life and Catholic Relief Services.

As we contemplate God's many gifts to us, we should also reflect on our gratitude. Your financial support for the work of our parish, our archdiocese, and the Church throughout the world is one way to express this gratitude. Please give generously to the 2020 Annual Catholic Appeal.

**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.

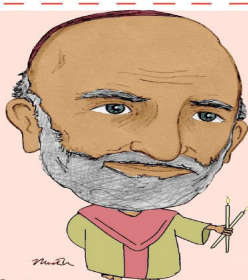
Join us for Bible Study every Thursday evening beginning at 7pm in the Parish Office meeting room. For more information please call the office at 773.767.1523.

HOLY BIBLE

Lectors

St. Symphorosa is currently seeking 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.

saint snippets



"Heal me, Lord, that I may be healed; save me, that I may be saved, for you are my praise."

-Jeremiah 17:14

St. Blaise

4th-century physician, Bishop, and martyr who healed a choking child through prayer. Patron saint against ailments of the throat.

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February 3



www.stsymphorosa.org
773.767.1523

St. Symphorosa Parish

**Lenten Supper
Fish Fry**

5:30pm – 7:30pm

Social Hall – Sharp Center

February 28, March 6, March 13,
March 20, March 27 and April 3

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, February 1, 2020

5:00pm †Janet & Steve Molnar (Hohm Family)
†LaVerne Slowinski (Daughters & Family)

Sunday, February 2, 2020

The Presentation of the Lord

7:30am †Janet & Steve Molnar (Hohm Family)
†George Simon (Mary Thorpe)
†Joe & Josephine Dyniakoski (Niemczyk Family)
9:30am †James Thorpe (Family)
†Dorothy Bogumil (Kolasinski Family)
†Mary Nevills (St. Symphorosa Altar & Rosary Society)
11:30am †Geraldine F. Kostka (Jim & Tricia Ramazinski)

Monday, February 3, 2020

St. Blaise, Bishop

St. Ansgar, Bishop

8:00am †Melinda Mackey (Family)

Tuesday, February 4, 2020

8:00am Health & blessings of a successful surgery for Mark Budz (Mom)
†Bess Oracki (Nancy Markham)
†Karolina & Jakub Kopec (Daughter)

Wednesday, February 5, 2020

St. Agatha

8:00am †Lillian Gaydos (Pat Soltis)

Thursday, February 6, 2020

St. Paul Miki and Companions

8:00am †Tony Bojarski (Barbara Rendak)
†Dennis Filipiak (Sister)

Friday, February 7, 2020

8:00am †Mary Dolores Hernandez Cruz (Rich & Diane Shatkus)

Saturday, February 8, 2020

St. Jerome Emiliani

St. Josephine Bakhita

8:00am For all parishioners, Living and Deceased (7)
5:00pm Health & all the Lord's blessings on the 25th Wedding Anniversary for Georgeann & Frank Losurdo (Family)
†Janet & Steve Molnar (Hohm Family)
†Robert Johnson (Family)

Sunday, February 9, 2020

7:30am †Janet & Steve Molnar (Hohm Family)
†Elaine Scarbrough (Mike & Debbie Soja)
†Claude Wiatrak (Wife Clara)
†James Suchy (Family)
9:30am †Josephine Wodarczyk (Barbara Rendak)
†James Thorpe (Family)
†John Mielnicki (Mielnicki Family)
11:30am †Carmen Ramirez (Barry Family)
†Bob T., John, Bob, Nick, Miriam & Mickie (Soltis Family)



Prayer

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

Ignatius Battiato
Mary Bieser
Fr. Ted Bojczuk
Pat Carmody
Michael Clifford
Norma De Stefano
Chris Doherty
Juan Figueroa
Carol Golab
Carol Gress
Suzann Gunter
Kathy Haars
Megan High
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
Coltyn Schmidt
Kristyn Schmidt
Joseph Serpico
Chalida Svatisalee
Brian Styka
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 Johanievicz, 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



Society of
St. Vincent de Paul
Neighbors helping neighbors

In today's, we hear Simeon say to Mary: *"your own soul shall be pierced with a sword -- so that the thoughts of many hearts may be laid bare."*

Your generosity enables to Society of St. Vincent de Paul to bring hope to parents whose hearts are burdened with worries and concerns.

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



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.

Joyce Stalmack
Salvatore Miglieri



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 February is to Listen to the Migrants' Cries.

We pray that the cries of our migrant brothers and sisters, victims of criminal trafficking, may be heard and considered.