

A pair of hands, one on the left and one on the right, are holding a small, red, fuzzy heart. The heart is positioned directly over the center of an open book, which has a red cover and visible pages. The background is a soft, out-of-focus grey. The overall composition is centered and symmetrical, emphasizing the heart and the book.

SIXTH SUNDAY OF

Easter

MAY 17, 2020

Copyright © J.S. Paluch Co. Inc. • Photos: © surachat/Adobe Stock
Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1996, 1970, CCD.

Jesus said, “If you love me
you will keep my commandments.”

John 14:15

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

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Keep My Commandments

In today's Gospel, Jesus makes a very simple statement when He says, *"If you love me, you will keep my commandments."* And then towards the end He somewhat repeats Himself by saying, *"Whoever has my commandments and observes them is the one who loves me."*

Observing the commandments is a rather straightforward thing. We know what they are and what they entail. They tell us what we should do and what we should not do. And if we go against them, then we are sinning. And in the manner or degree that we sin, that is the manner or measure in which we do not love Jesus. There is no way around this.

You may know people who say, "Oh, I am a Catholic, but I don't agree with what the Catholic Church says about birth control or abortion." Or, "I don't agree with the Church about women's ordination." You may hear other questions or comments. And this can also refer to things the Church teaches about which we must believe. For example, we know that there are some Catholics who don't really believe in our Lord's real presence in the Blessed Sacrament.

Jesus also speaks about sending the Holy Spirit who will teach you all the truth. We know that Jesus kept this promise first of all

on Pentecost when he descended on the Apostles. Jesus also promised that this Holy Spirit would be with His Church till the end of time. The fact that His Church is still in existence is proof that He has kept His promise. There have been many bleak moments in the history of the church, and yet, somehow or other the Church has always come through. And it will always come through because of the presence of the Holy Spirit.

We are reminded today that we are called to love Jesus; that is part of the Christian calling. Those who keep Christ's commandments will, He promises, receive the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit, our advocate will gently indicate the way to us that we should go, the paths that need to be repaired, the relationships in need of further inspection or care. For this Advocate, the Spirit of Truth, is a gift from God. And being from God, it can never do harm, never do wrong, never lead us into danger. We may, of course, be led in ways that we did not expect or anticipate, but if we are truly open to God and all His gifts than we must also be open to go where He would will for us to go.

So let us ask ourselves once again: Do we earnestly and genuinely want the Spirit of



Truth to enter into our hearts and stay with us always?

If we are at all uncertain about any of our answers to this question, then let us pray—pray that we might truly be open to the Scriptures, open to God, open to Jesus and what he asks of us in love.

And pray that as Pentecost approaches we too might become filled with "The Divine presence of the Holy Spirit" and completely open to the love and freedom in Christ that is promised to us as a result.

Do I really have hope? Am I a person of hope? And we can remind ourselves that this hope does not depend on us, on our strength and determination, but wholly on God's love for us in Christ, shown in his resurrection. And this is the Good News of today.

~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
symphorosa@comcast.net

Parish School

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

St. Symphorosa Student Receives Honorable Mention in Annual Haiku Contest



St. Symphorosa third grader, Adrian Sanchez, was honored with a special recognition at Haiku Fest 2020. Haiku Fest began in Chicago and presents poetry readings, workshops, competitions, and awards programs. Haiku Fest accepts submissions from poets between 8 and 14 years old.

"Haiku" is a traditional form of Japanese poetry. Haiku poems consist of three lines. The first and last lines of a Haiku have five syllables and the middle line has seven syllables.

Below is the Haiku poem written by Adrian Sanchez:

**cookies are good. Right?
especially with cold milk
milk and cookies rule**



FUNDRAISING DAY

Let's make some dough together!

20% OF ALL PROCEEDS GO DIRECTLY TO ST. SYMPHOROSA

----- CARRY OUT • DELIVERY -----

Please verbally mention the fundraiser, present a hard copy or online version of this flyer when paying for your order.

Not valid with any other offer or promotional coupon.

4 Easy Steps to Order Online

1. Visit HomeRunInnPizza.com
2. Choose Order Online
3. Choose the Archer Home Run Inn Pizzeria
Select carryout or delivery
4. Click Fundraiser from menu & add to order

HOME RUN INN ARCHER

6221 S. Archer Ave.
Chicago, IL 60638
(773) 581-9696

DATE Wednesday, May 20, 2020

TIME 11:00am—8:30pm

www.HomeRunInnPizza.com

*The distribution of promotional materials on Home Run Inn premises is prohibited

COVID-19 Parish News

During this time, we would like to inform all parishioners within our parish of a few important things.

As per a Cardinal Decree, all public Masses are suspended until further notice. During this timeframe, our priests are still offering daily Masses in the intention of all those affected by the current state of affairs. During these private Masses they are also continuing to pray for those intentions which had been requested each day.

With the "Stay-at-Home" order given by Governor Pritzker, our church and parish office are now closed. Calls have been forwarded and will be answered by our secretary, Mrs. Maggie Barry, during this time. May everyone stay safe and healthy during this time. God Bless!



Join us for Sunday Mass from Holy Name Cathedral

Holy Name Cathedral in Chicago, Illinois, will be livestreaming every Sunday for the many faithful to join in and participate in the Mass. Masses are available to watch anytime beginning at 4pm on Saturday's at the provided links. The livestream is also available on the Holy Name Cathedral facebook page.

<https://radiotv.archchicago.org/television/broadcast-masses>

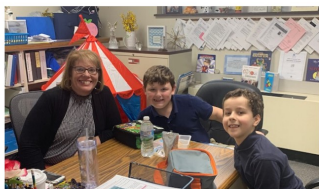
[YouTube.com/catholicchicago](https://www.youtube.com/catholicchicago)



**ST. SYMPHOROSA
CATHOLIC SCHOOL**
*Building their Future, Celebrating Faith,
Family, and Academic Excellence.*

St. Symphorosa School
6125 S. Austin Ave.
Chicago, IL 60638

Stewards of God's Gifts



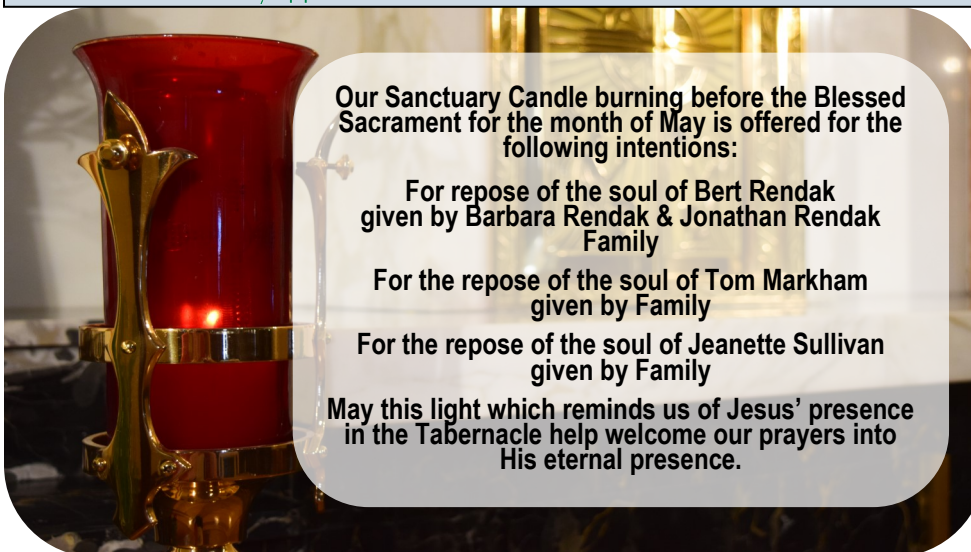
Now Enrolling Preschool (3 yr olds) through 8th Grade

Ph: 773.585.6888 Fx: 773.585.8411

www.stsymsschool.org

relevant
CHICAGO radio
950 AM / 930 AM / 1270 AM
www.relevantradio.com/app

Listen in to Relevant Radio for Daily
Rosary at 7pm, Daily Mass at 7:30pm and
Sunday Morning Mass celebrated at 9am.



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

For repose of the soul of Bert Rendak
given by Barbara Rendak & Jonathan Rendak
Family

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

For the repose of the soul of Jeanette Sullivan
given by Family

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



**E-Giving
(Electronic
Giving)**
**One Stop.
One Source.
One Solution.**

Did you know e-giving is compatible with any computer, smartphone or tablet? You can create an online account and give a single donation or even schedule a series of donations, based on your budget, directly from your checking account or by using your debit or credit card.

Our online E-Giving URL address is:

<https://giving.ncsservices.org/App/Giving/stsymphorosa>

Visit the above website or you can visit our Parish Website at "stsymphorosa.org" and click on the "Donate" tab. Please follow the directions online. It's simple! If you have any questions, please contact the parish office at **773.767.1523** and we will be glad assist you.



Due to the recent suspension of all public Masses stewardship and split the pot information will not be available.

We ask all parishioners, if they desire, to please mail in their weekly contribution, bring them by the office, or consider making a one time donation on our e-giving site.

We thank you all for your continued support and pray that we all stay healthy and strong during this time.

RED RIBBON PROJECT

Show Your Support!

To say that these are trying times would be a tremendous understatement. However, the Transformation Team is coordinating a project for all of our community to work together, while still observing all of the social

distancing restrictions!

Accordingly, you are invited to show your love and support for our Parish Faith Community by participating in our new "I Love St. Sym's Red Ribbon Project". Each Parish family can receive and secure a red plastic bow to a tree, post or front porch! The goal will be to color our neighborhood with this symbol to express the love we all have for our Church!

To obtain a "no cost" ribbon, please contact the Transformation Team at (773) 814-6116 or send an email request to:

symsribbonproject@gmail.com.

Upon notification, a red ribbon will be delivered to your mailbox within four (4) days. If you need assistance in displaying your ribbon, we will be glad to help.

Now the best part... Once displayed, we invite you to take a picture of yourself and family next to the ribbon. Be creative! Then forward a copy of the photo to the email above or simply drop a copy of your "Cool" picture of Sym's support into the mail slot of the Parish Office. Photos will be posted on social media, our website or included in the Parish Bulletin...

Thank you to those who have shared their St. Sym's pride by displaying a Red Ribbon and sending in their photos!



Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, May 16, 2020

5:00pm †Andy Schramm (*Mary Shilney*)
 †Dorothy Bogumil (*Claire Moran*)
 †Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)

Sunday, May 17, 2020

7:30am †Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)
 9:30am Health & birthday blessings for Teresa Koziar
 (*Fr. Idzi and Family*)
 Health & all the Lord's blessings for Fr. Idzi on the 45th
 Anniversary of his ordination (*Family*)
 11:30am Health & all the Lord's blessings for Judith Webber
 (*Mary Trendle*)

Monday, May 18, 2020

Saint John I, Pope

8:00am †Virginia Rich (*Barbara Rendak*)

Tuesday, May 19, 2020

8:00am †Marilyn Polit (*Karen Crosser*)

Wednesday, May 20, 2020

Saint Bernardine of Siena, Priest

8:00am †Josephine Monaco (*Nancy Markham*)

Thursday, May 21, 2020

Saint Christopher Magallanes and Companions

8:00am For all Parishioners, Living and Deceased (29)

Friday, May 22, 2020

Saint Rita of Cascia

8:00am †Eleanor Bluiss (*Kathy Calcagno*)

Saturday, May 23, 2020

8:00am For all Parishioners, Living and Deceased (30)
 5:00pm †Greg Golab (*Mom & Dad*)
 †Carmen Ramirez (*Nancy Markham*)
 †Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)
 †Pedro H. Alvarez (*Family*)

Sunday, May 24, 2020

The Ascension of the Lord

7:30am †Janet & Steve Molnar (*Hohm Family*)
 †Beatrice Lucio (*Friend Ray*)
 9:30am †Bert Rendak (*Barbara Rendak*)
 †James Sullivan & Maria Alvarez
 (*Sullivan & Alvarez Family*)
 11:30am For all Parishioners, Living and Deceased (31)



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 May is for Deacons.

We pray that deacons, faithful to their service to the Word and the poor, may be an invigorating symbol for the entire Church.



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

Kim Argires
 Ignatius Battiato
 Mary Bieser
 Fr. Ted Bojczuk
 Lydia Brown
 Pat Carmody
 Michael Clifford
 Norma De Stefano
 Chris Doherty
 Juan Figueroa
 Carol Gress
 Suzann Gunter
 Kathy Haars
 Catherine Hier
 Megan High
 Heather Hradek
 Denise M. Jandura
 Rich S. Jandura
 Joan Juris
 Pete Kats
 Lee Karpinski
 Dennis Kline
 Walter Kokoszka, Sr.
 Claudia Kwilosz
 Norman Kwilosz
 James Lapsansky
 Maryann Larson

Donna Lauritzen
 Domenico Lepore
 Debbie Lipien
 Maria & Martinez Family
 John Martini
 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
 Elliana Sterk
 Brian Styka
 Terry Styka
 Mary Thorpe
 George Trendle
 Judith Webber
 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 Johaniewicz, 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



In the Gospel today, Jesus says to us: *"If you love me, you will keep my commandments... Whoever loves me will be loved by my Father and I will love him and reveal myself to him."*

When we give to the poor, God indeed pours his love, peace and joy into our hearts, into our lives and through us into the hearts of those who are poor.

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



Lord Jesus, you healed those who were sick and cared for any who were suffering. Be with us now as we pray for all those who may be affected by the Coronavirus.