

FEBRUARY 24, 2019 SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

*Love your enemies,
do good to those who
hate you,
bless those who curse you,
pray for those who
mistreat you.*

Luke 6:27



ST. SYMPHOROSA PARISH

A Family Celebrating Faith

6135 S Austin Ave Chicago, IL 60638

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



This Sunday we hear some of the most difficult teachings of our Lord, Jesus Christ. But first, let us reflect a bit about our faith. At the very basis of our faith is a belief in God. Today more and more people don't believe in God at all. Even many people who would call themselves Catholics say that they do not believe in a God. That is difficult to imagine, perhaps, but it is documented in at least one opinion poll. Let us assume for a moment that all of us here believe in God.

We who believe in God also believe that God created the heavens and the earth and all that is in them. We have our own distinctive creation stories in our Bible, the Holy Scriptures. We believe that God has sent His Son, Jesus Christ, fully human and fully divine, to be our Savior. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting.

This short statement of what we believe, our Creed, is really important today. We want to continue to understand more profoundly what we believe. Only in the context of this belief do the teachings of Jesus make sense. We accept the teachings of Jesus first of all because He is God our Savior.

Jesus teaches us how to be faithful to God. He also teaches us a wisdom tradition. We must be careful here and not think that Jesus teaches us only human wisdom. On the other hand, divine teaching reveals to us the best of human wisdom. The danger with thinking of the teachings of Jesus as simply human wisdom is that people can begin to discard his teachings, thinking that we have better wisdom today because we live in a different age, we have a deeper understanding

of human psychology, we are more aware of the diversity of the human family and for lots of other reasons.

At the heart of the teachings of Jesus that we hear today are two teachings that are so important in our lives: forgiveness and acceptance of mistreatment. Jesus tells us "love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you." These teachings are so against our modern ways of thinking! Yes these same teachings would revolutionize our present world if we all lived them. The challenge is not to think to ourselves: "Nobody lives that way." Rather, we can be thinking: "How can I live this way because Jesus has invited me to live this way."

We see these teachings today in the story of David's relationship with King Saul. We also see this today clearly in the Gospel reading. In the reading from the First Letter to the Corinthians, Saint Paul tells us that we bear the image of the first man and we can bear the image of Jesus Christ.

Truly we are called to love everyone. The only way to prove that we love everyone is in showing that we love our enemies. It is not easy to love someone who has harmed us or who has harmed someone we love very much. Yet, our Lord asks us to live this pardon each and every day of our life. Others may think that we are crazy, but we must learn to live forgiveness.

Let us pray today that our hearts might truly be open to forgiveness and to the acceptance of being treated badly. Let us love all of our enemies: the enemies of our country, the enemies of our

families, our personal enemies, the enemies of our Church and whatever enemy there is. Let us love the outcasts, the lepers of our times: anyone that we would not want to live with on a regular basis! Let us learn to do good for all of these enemies. Let us bless them and pray for them. What a world we can create together if we walk this path with our Lord Jesus Christ! In our celebration of the Holy Mass today, may God give us strength! Let us remember this phrase from today's Gospel: "For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you."

(Christ in the Desert)



Lenten Parish Mission

*"Come to Inherit
the Kingdom"*

March 11 - 13, 2019

7pm in the Church

Fr. Pawel Komperda

Father Pawel Komperda is a native of Zakopane in Poland. After relocating to Chicago at the age of 12 his family settled on the Southwest side, where he attended St. Bruno Parish. He was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago in 2006 after completing his studies at Archbishop Quigley Preparatory Seminary, St. Joseph College Seminary and Mundelein Seminary. Since his ordination he served at Prince of Peace Parish in Lake Villa, St. Thecla Parish in Chicago, St. Joseph College Seminary at Loyola University as Formation Director, Director of Liturgy and the Pastoral Formation Program. Currently, he is the Associate Pastor at Incarnation Parish in Crestwood. Also, he serves as an Adjunct Spiritual Director at Mundelein Seminary, Coordinator for the Polish Charismatic Renewal in Chicago, Chaplain of the Polish Highlanders of America - Bustryk and Zab Lodges, and as a Confessor to the Missionary Benedictine Sisters in Oak Forest and the Albertine Sisters in Crestwood. He also teaches in the Catechetical Certification Program for Polonia.



The faithful all around the world are invited to join with Pope Francis for his special intention. Won't you join in?

he intention for the month of February is Human Trafficking.

For a generous welcome of the victims of human trafficking, of enforced prostitution, and of violence.

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

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



Let's Make Some Dough Together

**Thank You for Supporting
St. Symphorosa School**

**20% of all proceeds go
directly to your organization!**

Dine In – Carry Out

Not valid with any other offer or promotional coupon.
Please present a hard copy or electronic version of this flyer when paying for your order.

Date: Monday, February 25, 2019
Time: 11:00 a.m. – 9:30 p.m.
Location: Home Run Inn Pizza

Home Run Inn - Archer

**6221 S. Archer Ave.
773-581-9696**

Dine In – Carry Out

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



Weekly Budget (Est.): \$9,000.00
**Offerings for the weekend of
February 17, 2019**

Contributions: \$6,199.85
Envelopes: 275

Thank you for your support & generosity!



February 17, 2019

Received this week: \$325.00
Winning envelope: #481

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



**It's Girl Scout
Cookie Time!!**

Girls Scouts will be selling
cookies in the gathering space
of our Church on March 2-3,
and March 9-10. Cookies will
be sold after the 5pm, 9:30am
and 11:30am Masses.

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



COME, FOLLOW ME... and share the Word

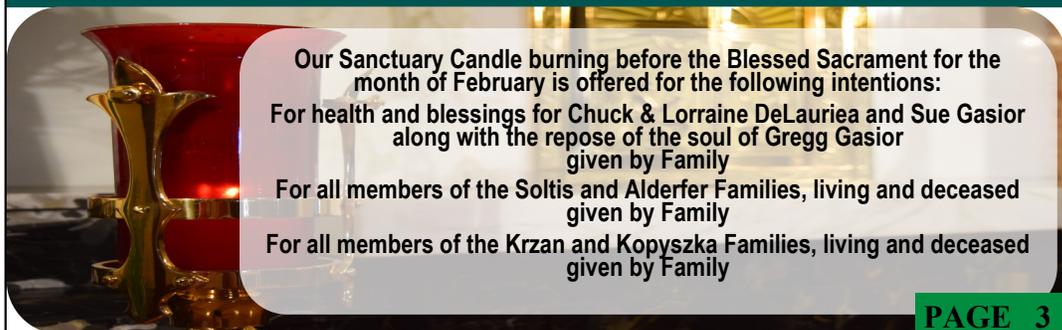
2019 Annual Catholic Appeal

This weekend, our parish will be conducting the Annual Catholic Appeal in-pew Commitment Weekend. Please remember that the Annual Catholic Appeal is much different than a one-time special collection. It is a pledge campaign where you can make a gift payable in installments.

The Annual Catholic Appeal theme, **"Come, Follow Me...and Share the Word,"** was selected to remind us to continue to answer Jesus' call to follow Him in thought, word and deed by providing the necessary contribution to fund ministries and services to share God's love with many others in our Parish and our Archdiocese.

Each pledge makes a difference! All parishes communities participate in the campaign and the gifts of many enable our parishes, school, and ministries to deliver needed services. Thank you for your prayerful consideration and generous response.

~Fr. Idzi Stacherczak



Our Sanctuary Candle burning before the Blessed Sacrament for the month of February is offered for the following intentions:
For health and blessings for Chuck & Lorraine DeLauriea and Sue Gasior along with the repose of the soul of Gregg Gasior given by Family
For all members of the Soltis and Alderfer Families, living and deceased given by Family
For all members of the Krzan and Kopyszka Families, living and deceased given by Family

JANUARY SCHOOL NEWS



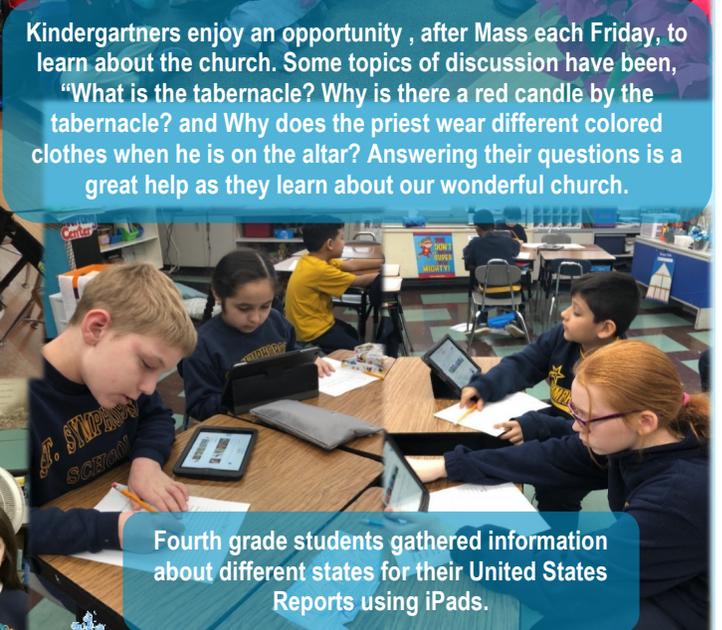
In Preschool Gym, we learned about balance by placing balls on plates and walking around! We have so much fun with Mr. Brenner!



Kindergartners enjoy an opportunity, after Mass each Friday, to learn about the church. Some topics of discussion have been, "What is the tabernacle? Why is there a red candle by the tabernacle? and Why does the priest wear different colored clothes when he is on the altar? Answering their questions is a great help as they learn about our wonderful church.



Second graders researched animals and made dioramas of the animal habitats.



Fourth grade students gathered information about different states for their United States Reports using iPads.



Sixth graders created representations of the ten plagues of the Exodus, as part of their study of Moses.



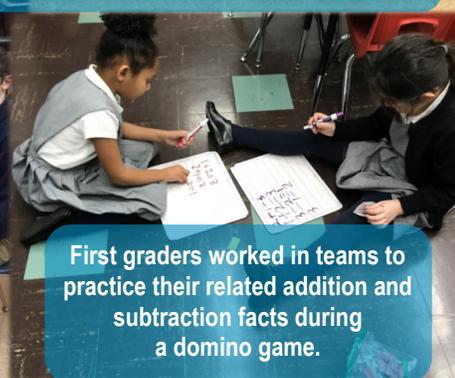
7th & 8th grade spent 20 days doing Random Acts of Kindness. For each act, the students added a post-it note around the gift they brought into the world!



Third graders thank all the priests, staff, faculty, parents and volunteers who help us make St. Symphorosa School the best!



Eighth graders preparing for Confirmation



First graders worked in teams to practice their related addition and subtraction facts during a domino game.



Fifth graders enjoying Parent Association treat during Catholic Schools Week.

**LAST
CHANCE**



Pączki Time!

This year, Shrove Tuesday (Fat Tuesday) will be celebrated on Tuesday, March 5th.

Place your order for fresh, delicious Pączki by completing the order form below. A member of our Parish Transformation Team will be in the back of church after the weekend masses throughout the month of February to accept orders. In addition, orders/payment may also be dropped off at the Parish Office in an envelope marked "Pączki Order". All orders are due no later than Monday, February 25th.

Pre-ordered Paczki may be picked up in the gathering space of the church after all masses on March 2/3.

NAME: _____ PHONE #: _____

FILLING	4 for \$5.00	½ dozen for \$7.50	Dozen for \$14.00	Total
STRAWBERRY				
RASPBERRY				
APRICOT				
ROSE HIP				
SUBTOTAL	\$	\$	\$	\$

All orders must include payment. Checks and cash only. Please make checks payable to St. Symphorosa Transformation Team.

Thank you for your support!

ST. SYMPHOROSA ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY BAKE SALE

The members of the Altar & Rosary Society will be selling baked goods in the gathering space of our church on Saturday, March 16th and Sunday, March 17th after all weekend Masses. As always all proceeds from this event will benefit the needs of our church.

Your ongoing generosity and continued support is greatly appreciated!

Early Elementary Open House for the 2019-2020 Academic Year



Come join us to see our Pre-K and Kindergarten classes in action, tour our school, meet the teachers and learn more about St. Symphorosa!

Open House Dates

February 28, March 28, May 2

Appointment available between 8:30am to 10:30am
Please call 773.585.6888 or email rbanden@stsymphorosaschool.org
to schedule an appointment

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, February 25, 2018

8:00am †Joseph Loduca (*Mary, Amy Mercado*)
 †Elizabeth Bojarski (*Barbara Rendak*)

Tuesday, February 26, 2019

8:00am †Michael Genovese (*Barbara Rendak*)
 †Donald J. Grisko (*Family*)
 †Ann Arundel (*Loving Family*)

Wednesday, February 27, 2019

8:00am Health and all the Lord's Blessings for Tom Prisby
 (*Pat Soltis*)

Thursday, February 28, 2019

8:00am †Jacinta Sadia (*Maria Lopez*)

Friday, March 1, 2019

8:00am Health and all the Lord's Blessings for Kathy Berry
 (*School Children*)
 †Michael & James Gurgone (*Family*)
 †Fr. Pat Henry (*Friends*)

Saturday, March 2, 2019

8:00am †Josephine Wodarczyk (*Barbara Rendak*)
 5:00pm †Joseph Loduca (*Mariola Zajac*)

Sunday, March 3, 2019

7:30am †Wiatrak & Orzech Families (*Clara Wiatrak*)
 †Mary Szlembarski (*Barbara Rendak*)
 †Joseph Filipiak (*Dennis & Cynthia*)
 †Dawn Bodoki-Dennis (*Mom & Dad*)
 9:30am †Margaret McCarthy (*St. Symphorosa Altar & Rosary*)
 †Alfredo Aguilar (*Garza Family*)
 11:30am †Margaret Eckhorn (*Cathy & Pat Carone*)
 †John Ryan (*Cathy & Pat Carone*)
 †Susan Olczak (*Family*)
 †Katie Pecoraro (*Cathy & Pat Carone*)
 †David McNelis (*McNelis Family*)



St. Symphorosa Altar & Rosary News

On Sunday, March 3rd, we will celebrate the first Mass of the year at the 9:30am Mass. We look forward to seeing everyone.

The first meeting of the New Year will be held on Tuesday, March 5, 2019 from 12pm-2pm in the Social Hall of the Sharp Center. There will be a special presenter discussing saving coupons and selling products.

Save the date for the Altar & Rosary Bake Sale. The sale will be held March 16th and 17th in the gathering space of our Church. All proceeds benefit St. Symphorosa Church needs.

*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
 Charles DeLauriea
 Chris Doherty
 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
 Claudia Kwilosz
 Norman Kwilosz
 James Lapsansky
 Donna Lauritzen
 Domenico Lepore
 John Martini
 Lou Mackey

Lori McCarthy
 Kathleen McAuliffe
 Thomas Minnich
 Christine Mosqueda
 Genevieve Nagle
 Bess Oracki
 Ray Oracki
 Baby Alexander J Pentz
 Gi Gi Picciolini
 Marie Pratt
 Ann Robertson
 Fr. John Rudnik
 Joseph Rudnik
 Ben Sajdak
 Gloria Schillings
 Collyn Schmidt
 Kristyn Schmidt
 Marie Simonetti
 James Suchy
 Chalida Svatisalee
 Terry Styka
 James Thorpe
 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.



In today's Gospel Jesus gives us the challenge to: "Love your enemies....Give to everyone who asks of you...Do to others as you would have them do to you...Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

Through out the month of February, your gifts, have helped the Society of St. Vincent de Paul assist many families. Thank You!
 St. Vincent de Paul phone number: (773) 682-3342

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
 Lance Corp. Tim Lisenko, USMC
 Trevor Luiz, US Army
 Corporal Zachary Maderak, USMC
 Pvt1st Class Daniel Morales, US Army
 SPC Alex Ramos
 Staff Sgt. Abel Sandoval, USMC
 Sgt. 1st Class Kristina Stuhlmacher
 1LT Zachary White, IL Army NG

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, March 5th. We will burn them to be used as ashes on Ash Wednesday.