



ST. SYMPHOROSA PARISH

A Family Celebrating Faith

Sunday, October 29, 2017

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.

Margaret Bartusiak
Rosemarie Brazionas
Celeste Gagel Bybee
Adela Caveda
Dennis Patrick Clifford
Harriet Doroba
Pat Doyle

Anthony J. Farinella
James B. Fox
Ambrose J. Francone
Evelyn Gall
Gregg Gasior
Joseph Geraci
Kenneth H. Gortowski
Charlotte L. Hinkle
Catherine B. Horky
Michael Hubalik
Joanna Catherine Stalmack Jackson

Bernice F. Kaczowski
Eileen M. Kaleta
Jessica Kall
David Kloppman
Paul Kosiba
Loretta B. Kulaga
Angeline Leber
Sophie Loiacano
Loretta Manning
Thomas F. Markham
Angeline J Mateja
Lauren McKee
Carmella Melone

Domenica Mirasole
Richard Montwill
Stanley Moscinski
Geno Muscolino, Sr.
Pearl Naumann
Robert Naumann
Robert John Neumann
Richard F. Newtoff
Loretta Paciga
Mike Petruzzi
Filion H. Pikowski
Val Pikus
Audrey Pronobis
Mary Rita Puffer
Lottie Pyter
John M. Schroeder
William Schultz
Anna Sekula
Rita Skiba
Helen J. Soltys
William A. Sullivan
Victoria Synoga
Arlene Totos
Christine H. Valentine
Grazia Vigneri
Lauren T. Vitrano
Margaret Walsh
Marlene Waynauskas
Maryann Whitehead
Jerry Zorek

REFLECTION FOR THE 30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



In today's Gospel Jesus states clearly that some laws are more important than others. When a scholar of the Law asks him which is the most important commandment of the law (meaning of the Torah, the first five books of the Bible), He gives a double answer: not one but two commandments paired together to form a single most important commandment of the Law because you can't have one without the other: **love of God and love of neighbor**, God with all your heart, soul and mind, and your neighbor as yourself.

These are not new commandments; Jesus is quoting Deuteronomy and Leviticus. What is new is that he says that together they constitute the foundation not only of the other 611, but indeed of the entire Old Testament.

Jesus' bringing these two commandments together is a great advance, but you know there is a big problem here. Most people think that this is the greatest commandment of all. But it's not.

What does our text say? The greatest commandment "of the Law" meaning of the Old Testament. And after all, loving our neighbor as ourselves may or may not be all that much — a lot of people don't love themselves much at all. Look at how they treat their bodies. Look at all the self-destructive choices they make!

The first half of this commandment will stand — love God with all your heart, soul and mind. But Jesus will revise the second half when he gives us what is in effect the Greatest Commandment of the New Testament: **"love one another as I have loved you."** Not just as we love ourselves, which is at best limited, but rather to

love others more than we love ourselves, to love others as Jesus loves us, which is unlimited, sacrificial and to the death. ***"No greater love is there than to lay down one's life for others."*** That's the mystery of the cross. It's also the revolution of tenderness to which Pope Francis calls us today.

Today we deal with many controversial topics rooted in many kinds of laws having to do with morality, social policy, human rights, decisions of our government and rules of our Church, but as we see, while they each have a claim on us, they are not all equally important.

Indeed, beyond a certain point unjust laws become unenforceable and otherwise lose their binding force, even though they remain on the books.

Today Jesus is saying that the love of God and neighbor must be the foundation of all other laws — moral, social, religious and governmental. As we shall see as the New Testament continues to unfold, unjust moral, social, religious and governmental laws will lead to rejection of God in the person of the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity, whom they were supposed to love with all their heart, soul and mind, and to the crucifixion of an innocent man whom they were supposed to love at least as much as they love themselves.

In today's Gospel passage, when Jesus gives the answer to a question that the scholar didn't ask, He makes clear that the second-greatest commandment is very important.

Reflect for a moment on the Ten Commandments: out of the ten, the first three are about "loving your God", and the latter seven are about "loving

your neighbor". Why are there more than twice as many commands about "loving your neighbor" than there are about "loving your God"? It's not because loving your neighbor is twice as important as loving your God. More likely, it because loving your neighbor is twice as difficult as loving your God. The English writer, G. K. Chesterton, once observed that **"The Bible tells us to love our neighbors, and also to love our enemies; probably because they are generally the same people!"**

Just before the consecration in the Fourth Eucharistic Prayer we pray, "Having loved His Own who were in the World, Jesus Loved them to the very end." He gave us his Body and Blood. He gave us His life. And He said, "Follow me. Love as I love."

Which commandment is the greatest? "Don't search scripture for a particular commandment," Jesus responds. Instead combine the Shema Israel, **"Love the Lord with your whole mind, your whole heart and your whole soul,"** with the law of love in *Leviticus*, "Love your neighbor as yourself." This is a lifestyle, not a commandment. It is easy to love certain people because they are lovable. But not so easy to love others, who are clearly and obviously flawed. But that is the real test of love.

We pray today that we might love God so deeply that we will have no choice but to bring God's love to those around us.

~Fr. Idzi



**Today's responsorial psalm is:
I will always thank the Lord, I will always praise God's name!**

Parish Staff

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

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

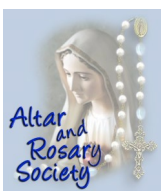
Our School

Address: 6125 S. Austin Avenue
773-585-6888

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

Altar & Rosary members will gather in front of Mary's Altar on Sunday, November 5th for the 9:30am mass. After mass, a brief prayer service will be held.



In lieu of a meeting, we will hold our 12th annual Salad Luncheon. If you bring a salad, there is no cost to you. If you don't bring a salad, the cost is \$7.00. Past luncheons have included green salad, pasta salad, cole slaw, potato salad, jello salad. There is something for everyone. The luncheon will be held in the Social Hall of the Sharp Center on Tuesday, November 7th from 12:00pm—2:00pm. Come join us for some great food and fellowship. All members of our parish are invited to attend.



All Souls Day

Each year during the month of November we especially commemorate the memory of our loved ones who have gone before us to their eternal rest.

On **Thursday, November 2, 2017 at 7:00pm**, we will gather as a faith community to celebrate a **Memorial Liturgy** for all of the deceased members of our parish, family and friends. All are invited to attend. In a special way, we will remember all those who have been buried from St. Symphorosa Parish since last All Soul's Day.

In addition, as is our tradition here at St. Symphorosa, a Memorial Photo Board will be displayed in our church throughout the month of November. If you would like to submit a photograph of a deceased loved one for this memorial, please submit your photo in an envelope and drop it in the collection basket or to our parish office by Tuesday, October 31st at noon. Photos can also be emailed to our parish office at symphorosa@comcast.net. Please remember to put your name, address and phone number on the photograph if you wish for it to be returned.



On Tuesday, December 12th, the Super Club will host their annual Christmas Party at Mayfield Banquet, 6072 S. Archer. Cost is \$27.00 per person and includes Family Style Dinner, Dessert, Open Bar and Entertainment. Payment must be made by November 9, 2017. Checks should be made payable to: St. Symphorosa Senior Club. Questions? Please contact Alberta Kwiatkowski at 708-354-1608.



All Saints Day is a solemn holy day of the Catholic Church that is celebrated annually on November 1. This day is dedicated to the saints of the Church, that is, those who have attained heaven. All Saints Day was formally started by Pope Boniface IV, who consecrated the Pantheon at Rome to the Virgin Mary and all Martyrs in 609 AD.

All Saints Day is a **Holy Day of Obligation**. Masses will be celebrated on **Wednesday, November 1st at 7:30am, 9:30am and 7:00pm**.

Come Paint With Us!!!

Sunday, November 12, 2017

2:00pm – 4:30pm

St. Symphorosa I Hall

6148 S. Mason Avenue, Chicago, IL

***Cost is \$35.00 per person and includes canvas, paints, supplies and instructions.**

No experience necessary.

**Tickets are advanced purchase only.*

Tickets will be sold after all masses on the weekend of October 28/29 and November 4/5. Hope you can join us!

PLEASE NOTE!

Effective November 1, our school will no longer participate in the Chip Bag Brigade sponsored by Terracycle.

Thank you so much for your continued support of our school.

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED



In a special way, all of our Veteran's will be recognized during our weekend masses on November 11th & 12th. All are invited and encouraged to attend.

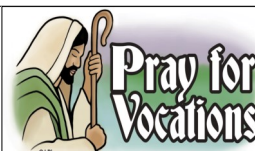


Love of our neighbor is included in the love of God.

-St Thomas Aquinas

Don't Miss the **DEADLINE!**

Due to the upcoming Veteran's Day holiday, our bulletin publishers have changed our deadline. Therefore, all articles for the November 12th bulletin must be submitted no later than Thursday, November 2nd at 5:00pm. Thank you for your understanding and flexibility!





October 22, 2017

Received this week:
\$ 475.00

Envelopes Entered: 90

This week's winner is envelope #
207

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



Sunday, October 29 we celebrate **Priesthood Sunday**. It is a day set aside to honor the priesthood in the United States and a day to reflect upon and affirm the important role of priesthood in the life of the Church.

Today is a special day to thank, pray for, and support our priests, especially Fr. Idzi and Fr. Norm from our own parish community. We thank them for saying yes to following in Jesus' footsteps and for caring for all of the people of God.

God Bless Fr. Idzi and Fr. Norm!



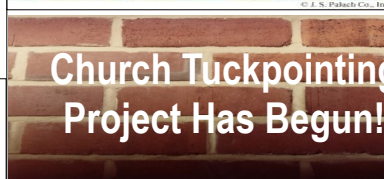
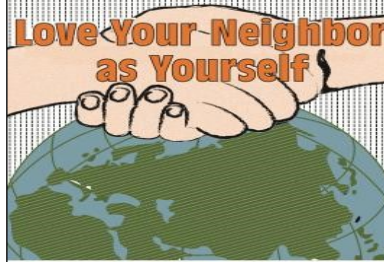
Offerings for the weekend of
October 22, 2017

Weekly Budget (Est.) 9,000.00

Contributions: \$8,080.36

of Envelopes: 293

Thank you for your generosity!



We are very pleased that our Church Tuckpointing Project is underway! The vast majority of work will involve the brickwork behind the north wall (altar) of the church. This project will last for a few weeks and, as of this time, will have minimal impact on our parishioners. There may be some minor parking inconveniences in the space between the Sharp Center and the I-Building.

Thank you, in advance, for your patience and understanding as we complete this much needed project on our parish church

"Be sure that you first preach by
the way you live."

~St. Charles Borromeo

Dear Fr. Idzi,

Warm greetings from Fr. Chris Aleti. It was nice being with you in the parish of St. Symphorosa. I am delighted with the reception of the community and the parishioners.

May God bless you in your ministry!

I stand to say thank you for receiving me and the help you gave me.

Blessings of St. Francis of
Assisi upon you!

Fr. Chris Aleti
Comboni Fathers



Special thanks to Ethan and Jacob Delk who are working very hard to refinish all of the crucifixes in our school rooms as part of our their Confirmation service project.

Job well done gentlemen!



The St. Symphorosa Parish Transformation Team is very excited to announce the rollout of a new email communication tool for our parish family and neighbors.

Here's how it works:

- Each week, an email will be sent out providing detailed information on parish events and upcoming programs;
- Emails will be sent only to those who subscribe to this email communication tool.

Subscribers can opt out at any time –there is no obligation to participate;

- Subscriber email information will not be given to any other sources. This data remains confidential.

If you are interested in subscribing and receiving these email updates, please log onto <http://eepurl.com/cZLtQD>. You will be asked to enter your email address, first and last name and birthday. It's that easy!

Questions? Contact our parish office and a member of our Transformation Team will be in touch.

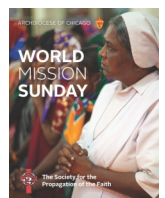


Stay tuned for
more info in
next week's
bulletin!

Offerings for
World Mission
Sunday were
\$874.56.

Thank you for
your support and
generosity.

May God Bless You!



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

Sacrament of Penance: Monday through Saturday after 8:00 am Mass

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.

Congratulations

I am pleased to announce that, on Sunday, October 29, 2017, Monica Wodke, a life-long parishioner here at St. Symphorosa will receive the Christifideles Award at Holy

Name Cathedral from His Eminence, Cardinal Blase J. Cupich.

Christifideles Awards are given to Catholic laypeople who have, by participating in parish life, demonstrated the personal and ministerial renewal called for by the papal exhortation Christifideles Laici, calling the laity to the "vocation of responsibility for the church's life springing from the gift and mission of their baptism."

Monica has been active in parish life here at St. Symphorosa for many years. She has served our parish as a Eucharistic Minister, Parish Pastoral Council and Adult Choir member as well as a Religious Education catechist. Currently, she is a Lector, Cantor, member of our parish Liturgy Committee and the Team Lead for our Parish Transformation Team since its' introduction over four years ago.

Monica embraces all, friend and stranger alike, with an infectious enthusiasm and willingly shares her love of Christ and the Church through words and actions. Through her lifelong involvement at the parish, Monica is a true witness of loving service to the faith community at St. Symphorosa. Monica has used her talents to deepen the life of the Church in this parish and we are grateful for her.

We pray for God's blessing to be abundant upon her and for her to continue to radiate with the love of God here at St. Symphorosa.

~Fr. Idzi



We are very pleased to announce that the sale of our St. Symphorosa Parish Recipe Books will begin on Sunday, November 19th at our 4th Annual Holiday Extravaganza. They will make perfect stocking stuffers for the upcoming holidays!

We are very proud to feature 150 recipes from our parishioners kitchens! Cost per book is \$10.00.

Thank You

The Altar & Rosary Society is pleased to announce that their bake sale last weekend yielded a whopping **\$1,150.00**. A giant thank you to all the members who baked and those who helped with the set up, sales and clean up. Without all of your help, this would not have been possible. Also, a big thank you to everyone who purchased some of the terrific goodies. The \$1,150.00 will be used for some of the church expenses.

October 9, 2017

Dear Fr. Stacherczak,

Greetings, once again, from Maternity BVM.

Things are moving along here at Maternity BVM. The spirit in the parish is good.

I wish to send a big "Thank You" to you and to the parishioners of St. Symphorosa for supporting Maternity BVM, and for your most recent sharing offerings of \$273.00. How extremely generous and how helpful to our Parish! Please know that we pray for your parish oftentimes during weekday masses and one Sunday Mass each month.

If there is anything that I can do, please never hesitate to give me a call. Until then, may God continue to bless you and the good people of St. Symphorosa.

Sincerely,

Rev. Oswaldo Guillen



4th Annual Holiday Extravaganza Luncheon, Vendor and Craft Fair Sunday, November 19, 2017 Sharp Center – Social Hall

Luncheon Tickets: \$15.00 for Adults and \$14.00 for Seniors
Includes: Roasted Chicken, Roast Beef, Potato, Dumplings, Sauerkraut
Mixed Vegetables, Dessert and Coffee/Tea

Tickets will be sold after all masses on weekend of November 4/5 and 11/12.



Weekday and Weekend Mass Intentions are available for those 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.



St. Symphorosa Parish
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)





We Remember and Celebrate

Mass Intentions

Monday, October 30, 2017

8:00 am †Nickolas Alderfer—Gram & Grandpa
Health, Jack Ruby—Mary Kolimas

Tuesday, October 31, 2017

8:00am Rita Mae Sullivan—Sullivan Family
Jeanette Sochacki—Walter Sochacki
John Julius Sochacki—Walter Sochacki
† Jean Kraujalis—Kraujalis Family
† Leon Kozicki—Kraujalis Family

Wednesday, November 1, 2017—All Saints Day

7:30am †Tom Ciukaj—Family
†Kathy Arvetis—Husband

9:30am For All Parishioners (27)

7:00pm For All Parishioners (28)

Thursday, November 2, 2017—All Soul's Day

8:00am For All Parishioners (29)
7:00pm † For All Deceased Parishioners of St. Symphorosa

Friday, November 3, 2017

8:00 am †Michael & James Gurgone—Family
†Msgr. John P. McNamara—Friends

Saturday, November 4, 2017

8:00 am For All Parishioners (30)
5:00pm †Margaret Bruno—Linda & Pat
†Felix & Victoria Synoga—Family
John Turek—Janina
† Janet Molnar—Family
†Blanche Marcukaitus
Malgorzata Stoch—Janina Stoch (Mom)
Jozef Stoch—Janina Stoch (Mom)

Sunday, November 5, 2017 –31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 am Leonard Tribuani—Phil Tribuani
† Maria Gawelda—Niece
† Martin Tisonczyk—Mother In Law
† Mrs. Anderson—Henry, Julia, Laila & Ashley
9:30 am †John Dragosetti—Rosaria
Mielnicki Family—Family
† Ted Grzenia—Barb Grzenia
11:30am †Laurette & Ted Krusinski—Nancy & Douglas Janda
†Raymond Keller, Sr.—Family
† Kevin McHugh—St. Symphorosa Athletic Association
†Anita Davitt—Patrick Davitt
†Richard Montwill—Art, Bess & Diane Smagala



Rae Ann Arends, Donna R. Azzaline, Baby AJ, Toni Bartz, Virginia Blazeniak, Dorothy Bogumil, Fr. Ted Bojczuk, 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, Kaye Fenlon, Kay FrancoGary Forbort, John Gaca, Ken Gattas, Bernard A. Gercius, Nincy Giron, Carol Golab, Gary Gorlen, Karen Gricus,

Kathy Guzman, Erica Heilmann, Heather Hradek, Joe Infantino, Denise & Richard Jandura, Carol Kennelly, Jean Kibler, Adalbert Kouba, Patricia Kubik, Mark Kukulski, Claudia Kwilosz, James Lapsansky, Donna Lauritzen, Virginia Macias, Lu Mackey, Ed Mallo, Anna Marie Matkey, John Martini, Lori McCarthy, Gen Nagle, Helen Naughton, Marge Novak, Joe Paciga, David Paul, Katherine Pecoraro, Baby Alexander Joseph Pentz, Carolyn M. Pysac, Lu Rackey, Sister Mary Rita, Ann Robertson, John A. Rosenthal, Larry Rosenstiehl, Fr. John Rudnik, Ben Sajdak, William Schrimpl, Dorothy Sniezewski, Marilyn Sobczak, Special Intention, John Stachon, Michael Straube, Terry Styka & Family, James Suchy, Chalida Svastisalee, Loretta A. Thomas, Jim & Mary Thorpe, Joan Witcher, Chester Wodarczyk, Steve Wojcik, Pamela Wojdyla, Larry & Marianne Wysocki, and Michelle



For the freedom that we all enjoy....Our thanks go to the men and women serving in all branches of the military. We salute you! May God continue to bless you and keep you safe from harm. Amen.

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 Johaniwicz, 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



Wedding Banns

II-Charlene Wisniewski & Peter Cortez
II-Lauren Dyrcon & Joshua Haluska

Congratulations to our new baptized and welcome into St. Symphorosa and the Body of Christ!



Ava Lynn Sekulski
Child of Andrew & Kelly
Marguerite Virginia Trejo
Child of Michael & Jayme
Keith Anthony Kinney, Jr.
Child of Keith & Julia

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.



Pat Doyle
William A. Sullivan
Arlene Totos