

ST. SYMPHOROSA PARISH



A Family Celebrating Faith

6135 S. Austin Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60638
773-767-1523 (phone) | 773-767-6135 (fax)

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
Magdalan 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

THIRD SUNDAY

OF
Advent

As the earth brings forth its plants,
and a garden makes its growth spring up,
so will the Lord God make justice and praise
spring up before all the nations.

Isaiah 61:11



DECEMBER 17, 2017

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.

Dear Parishioners & Friends,

As we prepare for Christmas in just one week, I have included a special Christmas Ritual for the Christmas Eve (Vigil) Supper in lieu of my weekly article.

May our Loving God continue to bless you with many blessings and abundant gifts.

~Fr. Idzi

CHRISTMAS RITUAL FOR THE CHRISTMAS EVE (VIGIL) SUPPER

LEADER: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. At this most solemn moment, let us praise God, our Father, for that holy night which we now commemorate, in which His Son, Jesus Christ, was born of the Virgin Mary. Let us relive that blessed happening as narrated in the Gospel.

A READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE (2, 1-14)

In those days a decree was sent out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. So all went to be enrolled to his own town. And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to have child, and she gave birth to her firstborn Son. She wrapped Him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Now there were shepherds in that region living in the fields and keeping the night watch over their flock. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were struck with great fear. The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all people. For today in the City of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord. And this will be a sign for you; you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger".

And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests".

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD.

ALL: PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST!

COMMUNAL PRAYER

LEADER: Christ, who came from heaven for our salvation, we now beseech: Lord, fill us with your love and peace.

ALL: LORD FILL US WITH YOUR LOVE AND PEACE.

LEADER: Lord Jesus, bestow on our family the gifts of love, harmony and peace.

ALL: LORD FILL US WITH YOUR LOVE AND PEACE.

LEADER: Lord Jesus, bestow joy and happiness also on our neighbors, friends and relatives.

ALL: LORD FILL US WITH YOUR LOVE AND PEACE.

LEADER: Lord Jesus, bring joy to all the abandoned, lonely, sick and unhappy people and strengthen them with the Good News of Salvation.

ALL: LORD FILL US WITH YOUR LOVE AND PEACE.

LEADER: Lord Jesus, grant eternal rest to all our departed relatives, acquaintances, and those near and dear to us. (you may mention names)

ALL: LORD FILL US WITH YOUR LOVE AND PEACE.

LEADER: Filled with gratitude that the Son of God became man so that we could become children of God, let us call out to God in the words of the Lord's Prayer. OUR FATHER....

LEADER: Almighty, Eternal God, through the coming of your only begotten son you manifested yourself in new light. Grant that your Son, who by being born of the virgin took upon Himself our human nature, may have us participate in the Kingdom of His grace. Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Amen.

SINGING OF A CAROL: e.g. "Silent Night"
SHARING OF THE CHRISTMAS WAFER (Oplatek)
SINGING OF CAROLS
HANDING OUT OF PRESENTS
FINAL PRAYER: Hail Mary

WE WISH EVERYONE A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS!



OPLATKI CHRISTMAS WAFERS

Oplatki is \$3.00 per package which includes three white and one pink wafer.

This year, in addition to being sold in our parish office, Oplatki will also be sold after all of the masses in the Gathering Space beginning in the First Week of Advent.

Please see our December 3rd bulletin for Fr. Idzi's special article on the History & Tradition of Oplatki.



Advent Reconciliation Service

Prepare the Way of the Lord....

Monday, December 18, 2017
7:00pm in Church

Prepare for the Christmas Season by celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation



Retired Fund for Religious
Sunday,
December 10, 2017

\$2,498.00

Thank you for your continued support!

Christmas Mass Schedule



Christmas Eve, December 24, 2017

4:00pm (Family Mass)
10:00pm (Carols begin at 9:30pm)

Christmas Day, December 25, 2017

7:30am
9:30am
11:30am



Mass Times



This year, the fourth Sunday of Advent falls on Sunday, December 24, 2017. Please note that we will follow the regular Sunday mass schedule (5:00pm Saturday, 7:30am, 9:30am and 11:30am on Sunday)



HELP NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to lend a helping hand in the cleaning of our church in preparation for Christmas. Please consider joining us on Thursday morning, December 21st immediately following the 8:00am mass. Please bring your buckets and rags and lend a hand in making our church shine!

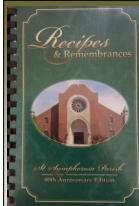
~Fr. Idzi

Annual Christmas House Blessing

As we enter this very special time of year, if you would like your house blessed as part of your Family Christmas tradition, please contact our parish office at 773-767-1523 to schedule a suitable date & time.



Our Christmas Flower Collection takes place this weekend. Thank you, in advance, for your generosity and support!



We are very excited to announce that our 90th Anniversary Parish Cookbooks have arrived and will be sold in the back of church this weekend and next after all masses. In addition, they will be available for purchase in our Parish Office. The cost is \$10.00 per book. Please consider supporting this effort by purchasing a cookbook.....they make a great stocking stuffer, too!

Feast of our Lady of Guadalupe

This past Tuesday evening, we gathered in our church to pay homage to Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas.

"Viva La Virgen De Guadalupe"



Annual Super Club Christmas Party!





INTERNATIONAL CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30TH

6:00PM–10:00PM

Christmas is the most celebrated holiday in the world. Individuals on every continent celebrate it and more than one hundred countries officially recognize Christmas. A country's Christmas celebration may vary according to that country's traditions. That being said, many traditions and symbols of Christmas are common to many countries.

No matter which country's traditions are in practice, the spirit of the season remains the same. The expression of joy and hope is constant, as is the desire to share and give others from one's own plenty.

On Saturday December 30th, we will gather as a faith community to celebrate our Christmas traditions. This celebration gives us the opportunity to get to know each of our St. Symphorosa brothers and sisters and to gather as one St. Symphorosa Parish Family during this Christmas Season. You are invited to bring a special dish that is unique to your tradition to share with your fellow parishioners and friends. Tea, coffee, cake and other refreshments will be included. Let us gather together to enjoy foods of different countries. (American, Polish, Italian, Mexican, German, Irish, etc.) Good food, good company, music and a special Christmas Blessing by Fr. Idzi. It is not necessary to bring a dish in order to participate. In addition to sharing delicious foods, we will gather to sing carols and look more closely at a variety of Christmas traditions and symbols. There is no charge for this event.

To allow us to plan accordingly, please complete the form below and return it to a member of the Transformation Team in the back of church after mass this weekend or next. These forms can also be returned to the parish office or you can email mwodke@yahoo.com with details of the dish you will bring to share that evening.



Yes, I am planning to attend the International Christmas Celebration on Saturday, December 30th and will bring the following dish(es) to share with members of our Parish Family:

NAME: _____

TELEPHONE #: _____

As menu cards will be printed to identify each dish and its' country of origin, we ask that you please print the name of each dish below:

This dish is from the following country: _____

**Please return this completed form to the back of church, parish office or email mwodke@yahoo.com with details.
 Thank You!**



**Offerings for the
 weekend of
 December 10, 2017**

Weekly Budget (Est.) 9,000.00

Contributions: \$ 7,410.69 Envelopes: 342

**Offerings for the Feast of The Immaculate Conception
 \$1,622.77**



December 10, 2017

**Received this week:
 \$ 491.00**

This week's winner is envelope # 3013

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

Fun Had By All At Our School's Santa's Open House Last Sunday!





Advent In Our Deanery

As we begin our Advent journey, our parish, along with other parishes in our Deanery, will offer opportunities for prayer and fellowship. Please find a list of the parishes in our deanery, along with addresses and details of these programs and events. For more information and a full list of services, please visit the parish website or contact their parish office directly.

St. Symphorosa Parish—6135 S. Austin Ave.
Chicago, IL 60638
(773) 767-1523
www.stsymphorosa.org

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Friday, December 8, 2017

Mass Schedule: 7:30am, 9:30am and 7:00pm

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Tuesday, December 12, 2017 - 7:00pm

Advent Reconciliation Service

Monday, December 18, 2017 - 7:00pm

Christmas Eve December 24, 2017

Mass Schedule: 4:00pm (Family Mass) and 10:00pm
(Carols begin at 9:30pm)

Christmas Day December 25, 2017

Mass Schedule: 7:30am, 9:30am and 11:30am

New Year's Day January 1, 2018

Mass Schedule: 9:30am and 11:30am

St. Daniel Parish—5300 S. Natoma
Chicago, IL 60638
(773) 586-1223
www.stdan.net

Advent Mission (Polish)

Monday, December 11th 12:00pm—6:00pm

Tuesday, December 12th 12:00pm—5:00pm

Wednesday, December 13th 12:00pm—6:00pm

Live Nativity

Sunday, December 17, 2017 8:00am—2:00pm

Parish Penance Service

Monday, December 18, 2017 7:00pm (English & Polish)

St. Stephen Feast Day

Tuesday, December 26, 2017 11:00am and 7:00pm
(Polish)

St. Rene Goupil—6949 W. 63rd Place
Chicago, IL 60638
(773) 229-8523
www.strenechicago.com

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Tuesday, December 12, 2017 - 7:00pm

Christmas Eve December 24, 2017

Mass Schedule: 4:00pm Children's Mass (preceded by a reenactment of the Christmas Story by our Religious Education Students at 3:30PM) and Midnight Mass preceded by the singing of Christmas Carols beginning at 11:30PM

Christmas Day December 25, 2017

Mass Schedule: 7:30am, 9:30am and 11:30am

New Year's Eve December 31, 2017

Mass Schedule: 4:00pm

New Year's Day January 1, 2018

Mass Schedule: 8:30am and 10:30am

Our Lady of the Snows Parish

4810 S. Leamington, Chicago, IL 60638
(773) 582-2266

www.ourladyofthesnowsparish.org

Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena

December 3—December 11, 2017 7:00pm

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Mass Schedule: December 7, 2017 - 7:00pm (Anticipated Mass) December 8, 2017 8:15am with School Families (English); 7:00pm Tri-lingual (English, Spanish & Polish)

Advent Movie for Youth December 10, 2017

3:00pm—5:00pm

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Tuesday, December 12, 2017

5:00am Mañanitas, 8:15am English Mass and 7:00pm Novena concluding Mass (Spanish)

Movie—Full of Grace December 15, 2017

6:30pm—9:00pm (Discussion following)

School Posadas December 22, 2017 10:00am

Advent Reconciliation Service

December 19, 2017 7:00pm (English & Spanish) 8:00pm (Polish)

Christmas Eve December 24, 2017

Mass Schedule: 5:00pm Family Mass, 10:00pm Polish Mass (Koledy starts at 9:30pm) and Midnight Mass

Christmas Day December 25, 2017

Mass Schedule: 7:30am (Mass of Early Morning), 9:00am (Polish), 10:30am (English) and 12:30pm (Spanish)



We Remember and Celebrate

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 18, 2017—St. Damasus I

8:00 am †Gregg Gasior—St. Symphorosa Parish
†Maureen Campbell—Platt Family

Tuesday, December 19, 2017

8:00 am †Bob Kolimas—Love, Mom
Mary Kolimas Health—Arlene Scaletta
†Gregg Gasior—Sue Gasior

Wednesday, December 20, 2017

8:00 am †Anna & Joseph Kapanowski—Kathy Calcagno
†Angeline Mateja—Family
†Josephine Marciniak—Marciniak Family
†Mimi Marciniak—Marciniak Family

Thursday, December 21, 2017—St. Peter Canisius

8:00 am †Health of Theresa Burger—St. Vincent de Paul Society
†James McCarthy—Platt Family

Friday, December 22, 2017

8:00 am †Edmund Mallo—School Children of St. Symphorosa

Saturday, December 23, 2017—St. John of Kanaty

8:00 am †Robert Neumann—Jaclyn & Jim
5:00 pm †Greg Golab—Mom
†Adele Hojdik—Family
†Edmund, Stanley, Joanne Swiatkowski—Darlene & Jim
†Theresa Pudelek—Family
†Jack Doherty—Family
†Mary Ogarek—Ogarek Family

Sunday, December 24, 2017

7:30 am †Chuck Shilney—Family
†Celeste Bybee—Kendall Family
†Philip Scaletta—Arlene Scaletta
9:30 am †George Verros—Olson Family
†Edmund Mallo—The Kawa Family
†Marie Altosino—Art & Katie Carpenter
11:30am †Ellen, Jack & John O'Leary—Byrne Family
†Lillian Byrne—Byrne Family
†Anita Davitt—Patrick Davitt
†Norman DeFranco—Partners of Dr. John DeFranco
4:00 pm For All Parishioners (35)
10:00 pm For All Parishioners (36)



Rae Ann Arends, Donna R. Azzaline, 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 Franco, Gary 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, Patricia Kubik, Mark Kukulski, Claudia Kwilosz, Norman Kwilosz James Lapsansky, Donna Lauritzen, Virginia Macias, Lu Mackey, Anna Marie Matkey, John Martini, Lori McCarthy, Gen Nagle, Helen Naughton, Marge Novak, Joe Paciga, David Paul, Baby Alexander Joseph Pentz, Lu Rackey, Sister Mary Rita, Ann Robertson, John A. Rosenthal, Larry Rosenstiehl, Fr. John Rudnik, Carmen Ruiz, Ben Sajdak, William Schrimpl, 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
Corpsman Nicholas J. Cundari-USN
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 Johaniewicz, 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
1LT Zachary White, IL Army NG



Wedding Banns

Il-Jennifer Biamonte & Michael Keating

Responsorial Psalm

*Remember Your Mercies,
O Lord*



In loving memory

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.

*Joseph Kieser
Janis Fletcher*