

MARCH 31, 2019 FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

On **March 29, 2019** the sacrament of Confirmation
was bestowed upon the following students of St. Symphorosa School and the
Religious Education Program at the hands of the
Most Reverend Andrew P. Wypych.

Daniel Nicholas Alcazar
Ashton Anthony of Padua Anda
Maya Cecilia Aponte
Anthony Michael Archer
Avila Guadalupe Haley
Nathaniel Thomas Aquinas Budz
Gabriela Catherine of Siena Carreon
Elizabeth Joan of Arc Cervantes
Ricardo Joseph Cervantes
Michael Patrick Daly
Maria Anastasia Escot
Jack Patrick Falvey
David Joseph Gamiz
Daniel Joseph Gamiz
Daniel Michael Gonzalez
Felix Jerome Gonzalez
Victoria Maria Goretti Granado
Olivia Dymphna Herrera

Vivianna Guadalupe Herrera
Katelyn Rebecca Kamradt
Joseph Joseph Kappel
Gregory Francis of Assisi Kisielewski
Christine Francis of Assisi Klejka
Damian Sebastian Kowalski
Sara Anne Kowalski
Damian Francis Kuczek
Domenico Francis of Assisi Lepore
Kayla Francis of Assisi Ligue
Luke Albert Lowery
Lilliana Catherine of Siena Loye
Noe Juan Diego Luevano
Mia Joan of Arc Madrigal
Patrick Dominic Marrella
Joselyn Mary Martinez
Liliana Cecilia Mendez
Jonathan Juan Diego Napoles

Aidan John O'Connell
Veronica Francis of Assisi Ponce
Jessica Rene Goupil Popiela
Tyler Gerald Ptaszkowski
Emily Genevieve Risley
Esteban John Vianney Rodriguez
Angelina Cecilia Rozanski
Isaac Michael Ruiz
Jocelyn Marie Almandine Salazar
Daniel Sebastian Sanchez
Sydney Gianna Beretta Molla Santiago
Gia Antonia Mesina Sarno
Nayeli Monica Scott
Yurivbeth Anna Vargas
Sergio Joseph Velasco
Samara Guadalupe Villarruel
Noe Solanus Casey Zacarias

ST. SYMPHOROSA PARISH

A Family Celebrating Faith
6135 S Austin Ave Chicago, IL 60638

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT



The parable Jesus tells in today's Gospel is unique to the Gospel of Luke. Jesus has been teaching the crowds as he journeys to Jerusalem. As he teaches, the Pharisees and scribes complain and challenge Jesus because he is welcoming sinners at his table. Today we hear the third of three parables that Jesus tells in response to his critics. These three familiar parables—the lost sheep, the lost coin, and today's parable of the prodigal son—invite us to consider the depth of God's mercy and love.

The Pharisees taught a scrupulous observance of Jewish Law. In their interpretation and practice, observant Jews who shared table fellowship with sinners would be made unclean. Like Jesus, the Pharisees hoped to lead sinners back to God. The Pharisees, however, required that sinners first become ritually clean—observant of the Pharisees' interpretation of Jewish Law—before sharing table fellowship. This appears to be one of the major differences between the Pharisees and Jesus. Jesus reaches out to sinners while they are still sinners, inviting them to conversion through fellowship with him. Jesus is God acting among us; by befriending us, he is inviting us to return to friendship with God. Through friendship with Jesus, our sins are forgiven and we, in turn, bear fruit for God. Recall last Sunday's Gospel and the barren fig tree.

Our familiarity with today's parable risks dulling us to its tremendously powerful message. We call this the parable of the lost son or the prodigal son. Any focus on the younger son, however, must also be balanced by an examination of the unusual behavior

of the father.

First, we must imagine our first response to the audacity of a son who asks for his inheritance before his father has died. Indignation would certainly be a justifiable response to such a request. Yet the father in this parable agrees to honor the son's request and divides his property among his two sons. How might we describe such a father? Foolish comes to mind, but so does trusting. Without property of his own, the father must rely upon his sons to provide for his well-being.

The younger son takes his inheritance and leaves home. The older son remains, continuing to provide for the father and the household. Having been disgraced by the younger son, the father spends some time watching the road for the return of the lost son. When he eventually sees his wayward son returning, the father not only welcomes him but also runs out to greet him and then honors him with a party. We say that this father is loving and forgiving. Yet these adjectives only begin to describe the depth of love and mercy that characterize the father.

We find no surprise in the anger of the older son. Yet the father appears sad and even confused by the older son's indignation. He says in reply that they should celebrate because the lost son had returned. The father is filled with gratitude and love for the older son's faithfulness. This love is in no way diminished by the father's rejoicing at the return of the younger son. Yet the older son's jealousy reveals his limited understanding of

the depth of his father's love.

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is traditionally called Laetare Sunday. Laetare is a Latin word that means "rejoice." Today's Gospel describes the reason for our joy: God's great love for us has been revealed in Jesus. Through his Passion, Death, and Resurrection, Christ has reconciled us with God and one another.

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As we consider all three of the readings together, we can see that God invites us to a new life in this time of Lent. We are invited to repent (which is a religious sounding word for saying we should recognize the stupid things that we do in our lives that cause us to be away from our inner spiritual home!) and to turn away from sin. We are invited to consider that we are truly a new creation. We are invited to live from the strength of Jesus Christ within us. And finally, if we do all this, we might even recognize that we have come to a new land and live in a new way and can give thanks to the Lord.

~Fr. Idzi



March 17, 2019



Received this week:
\$368.00
Winning envelope:
#3208

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

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



**Offerings for the weekend of
March 17, 2019**

Contributions: \$5,436.85
Envelopes: 248

Thank you for your support & generosity!



**Dates: February 18 to
March 10, 2019**

Transactions: 113

Amount: \$2,958.00

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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

Magdalen 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
[sympborosa@comcast.net](mailto:symphorosa@comcast.net)

Parish School

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



St. Symphorosa Altar & Rosary News



The Altar and Rosary Mass will be celebrated on Sunday, April 7th at the 9:30am Mass.

On Tuesday, April 9th the Altar and Rosary society will be hosting a Pie & Ice Cream social during their regular meeting from noon to 2pm. Bingo will also be played at this meeting.

The Altar and Rosary banquet will be held on Tuesday, June 4th if this year at the Mayfield on Archer Avenue. Requested donation is \$25 and all are invited, you need not be a member to attend the banquet. Please contact Arlene Scaletta with any questions at 773.585.0914.



St. Symphorosa Boy Scout Troop 1439

Invites you to their

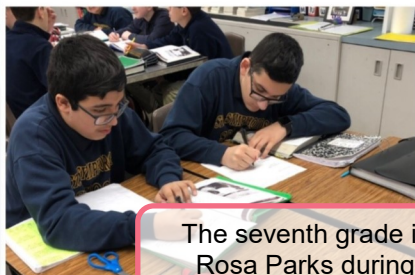
"All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast"

Sunday, April 7th, 2019
8:30am - 1pm

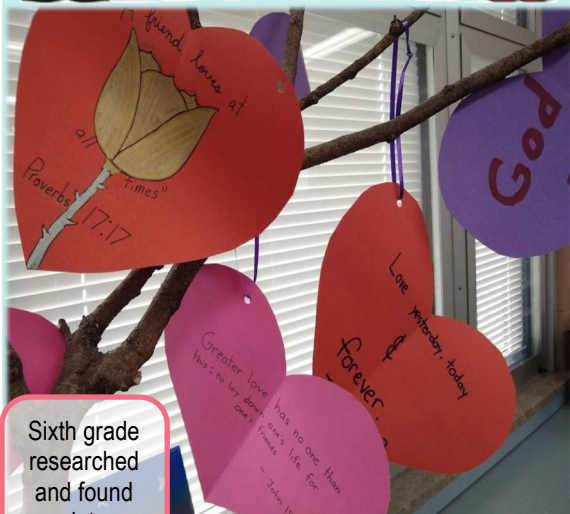
St. Symphorosa I Hall
5952 W 62nd St.
Chicago, IL 60638

Cost is \$7 per person and \$5 for children ages 3-11yrs old

extra! extra! Class News

The seventh grade is working on studying Rosa Parks during Black History Month



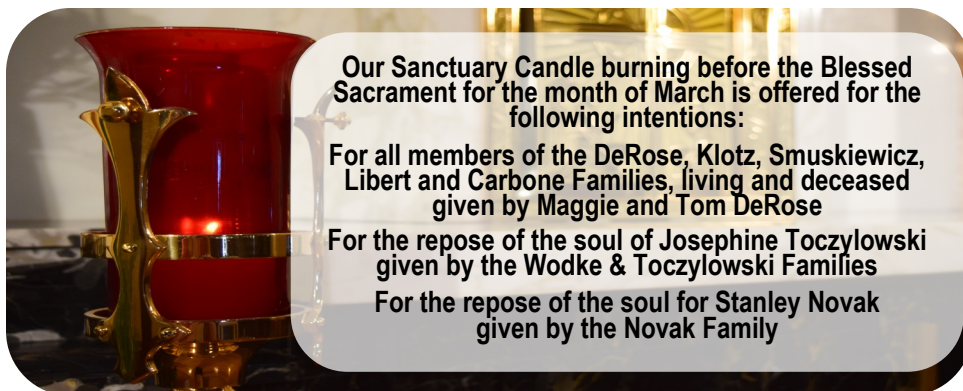
Sixth grade researched and found scripture passages about love, which they copied onto hearts and added to the prayer space.



Fifth graders standing under their cloud booklets during the study of weather in science class.



On February 9th the eighth graders took part in a Confirmation retreat. It was led by Sister Mary Beth who is the director of vocations for the Felician Sisters.



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

For all members of the DeRose, Klotz, Smuskiewicz, Libert and Carbone Families, living and deceased given by Maggie and Tom DeRose

For the repose of the soul of Josephine Toczykowski given by the Wodke & Toczykowski Families

For the repose of the soul for Stanley Novak given by the Novak Family



STATIONS of the CROSS

Please join us every Friday during Lent as we celebrate the Stations of the Cross at 7pm in the church.

+ Daily Lenten Reflections

April 1, 2019

Make a Note

Readings: Isa 65:17-21; John 4:43-54

Scripture: Jesus said to him, "Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will not believe."
(John 4:48)

April 2, 2019

A Little Unwell

Readings: Ezek 47:1-9, 12; John 5:1-16

Scripture: When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been ill for a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be well?" (John 5:6)

April 3, 2019

Peaks and Valleys

Readings: Isa 49:8-15; John 5:17-30

Scripture: I will cut a road through all my mountains, and make my highways level. (Isa 49:11)

April 4, 2019

Straight Talk

Readings: Exod 32:7-14; John 5:31-47

Scripture: The Lord said to Moses, "I see how stiff-necked this people is." (Exod 32:9)

April 5, 2019

One Hundred Kinds of Crazy

Readings: Wis 2:1a, 12-22; John 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Scripture: Let us see whether his words be true; let us find out what will happen to him. (Wis 2:17)

April 6, 2019

Seeds of Hatred

Readings: Jer 11:18-20; John 7:40-53

Scripture: So a division occurred in the crowd because of him. (John 7:43)

April 7, 2019

Sticks and Stones

Readings: Isa 43:16-21; Phil 3:8-14; John 8:1-11

Scripture: Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you? (John 8:10)

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 Date

May 2

Appointment available between 8:30am to 10:30am

Please call 773.585.6888 or email rbanden@stsymphorosaschool.org to schedule an appointment



E-Giving (Electronic Giving)

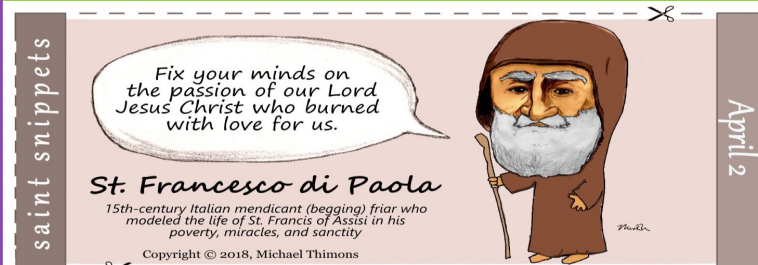
One Stop. One Source. One Solution.

Creating donations has never been easier! Since 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:
giving.ncsservices.org/stsymphorosa

Visit the above website or you can visit our Parish Website at "stsymphorosa.org" and select the "Give" tab and follow the directions. It's simple!

If you have any questions, please contact the parish office and we will be glad to give you assistance.



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 March is for Christians Communities.

That Christian communities, especially those who are persecuted, feel that they are close to Christ and have their rights respected.

Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, April 1, 2019

8:00am Health and all the Lord's Blessings for Mitchell Kehoe
(Mary Kolimas)

Tuesday, April 2, 2019

St. Francis of Paola

8:00am †For the departed souls cared for by
Antonina Swiatlowska

Wednesday, April 3, 2019

8:00am †John and Irene Simonelic (John Simonelic Family)

Thursday, April 4, 2019

St. Isidore

8:00am †Lerma Magbanau Coronado
(St. Vincent de Paul Society)

Friday, April 5, 2019

St. Vincent Ferrer

8:00am Health and birthday blessings for Crellah Paez Hortillas
(Family)
†Michael and James Gurgone (Family)

Saturday, April 6, 2019

8:00am †Kathy Arvetis (Husband)
5:00pm †Nick Bouzios (Janina)
†Jack Pastwa (Lane Family)

Sunday, April 7, 2019

7:30am †Howard and Addie Hoff (Clara Wiatrak)
†Deceased Members of the Schramm Family
(Mary Shilney)
†Lorraine O'Connor (Sister)
†Donald Zochowski, Jr. (Mary Shilney)
9:30am †James Gurgone (Family)
†Margaret McCarthy (St. Symphorosa Super Club)
†Thomas Murray (Tara & Len Scheveck)
†Josephine Lauricella (Altar & Rosary Society)
11:30am †Patricia Vanhess (Theresa Korkosz)

LATIN MASS

will be celebrated on
SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2019
at the 11:30am Mass.

Please join us following
Mass for coffee, tea and
some baked goods
in the Social Hall of the
Sharp Center, located at
5940 W 62nd Street in
Chicago.



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
Coltyn 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.



Lent is a call not just to "give up something" but more important to
"give something for the poor." Wherever you live in the parish, there
are poor families within walking distance of your home. When in need,
they ring the rectory bell. They are, in effect, ringing your doorbell.

**Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call the Society of
St. Vincent de Paul so that together we can help the suffering and poor.**

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

SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

Sgt. Jaime A. Acosta, USMC	Staff Sgt. Andrew Gaco, USAF
Sgt. Ted Bartelmey	Sgt. Michael Hough, US Army
CS-1 Joel Battung	Anthony Johaniewicz, US Navy
1st Sgt. Chas. Berglund, USMC	Lance Corp. Tim Lisenko, USMC
Sgt. Naveen Bobba, USMC	Trevor Lutz, US Army
Sgt. Arthur A. Boruch, National Guard	Corporal Zachary Maderak, USMC
Hospitalman Blythe A. Cisneros, USN	Pvt1st Class Daniel Morales, US Army
Airman Carlos Cisneros, USAF	SPC Alex Ramos
Sgt. Frank Cisneros, USMC	Staff Sgt. Abel Sandoval, USMC
Corpsman Nicholas J. Cundari-USN	Sgt. 1st Class Kristina Stuhlmacher
Captain Kevin Dobbyn, US Army	1LT Zachary White, IL Army NG
Sgt. John Flores, IL National Guard	

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.

Antionette "Toni" Meskinis Bartz

David Chikerotis

Elena Puente