



# ST. SYMPHOROSA PARISH

*A Family Celebrating Faith*

6135 S. Austin Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60638  
773-767-1523 (phone) 773-767-6135 (fax)  
www.stsymphorosa.org  
symphorosa@comcast.net (email)

## 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

## Sacrament of Penance:

Monday through Saturday  
after 8:00 am Mass

OCTOBER 15, 2017 | TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ON THIS MOUNTAIN THE LORD OF HOSTS  
WILL PROVIDE FOR ALL PEOPLES  
A FEAST OF RICH FOOD AND CHOICE WINES,  
JUICY, RICH FOOD AND PURE, CHOICE WINES.

~ ISAIAH 25:6



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# REFLECTION FOR THE 28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



In St. Matthew's Gospel we hear: *"The servants went out into the by-roads and rounded up everyone they met, the bad as well as the good. This filled the wedding hall with banquetters. When the king came in to meet the guests, however he caught sight of a man not properly dressed for a wedding feast."*

In the gospel of today, Jesus the master of parables uses the parable of the wedding feast to teach us that God invites us all to His kingdom for a banquet. The first lesson it bears is the fact that out of the quest for the mundane many of us like the first invitees have rejected God's invitation. The reason is simple! We are too busy to come to His mountain, there is no time for prayer, but we have time for the mundane. The consequences include suffering, pain, starvation, poverty, damnation, etc.

This gospel refers to those of our brothers and sisters who have silenced the voice of God in their hearts, in their lives; who live in this world as if God does not exist, and they will never die. In the rest of today's Gospel, we see that the king ordered his servants to invite to the feast whomever they found on the main roads.

The point of it all is that we come to God's party, His banquet life, not because we have earned a right to be there, not because we can buy an invitation, not because our friends have good political influence with Him, **but simply because** He gives us entrance out of His free generosity. The enjoyment of life comes to us from God's free choice and totally because of His sheer generosity.

God has given us life and He wants us to enjoy ourselves in this life. By giving us life He is throwing a banquet for us, a feast of rich food and choice wines, juicy, rich and pure. He knows that we will make mistakes and so He is prepared to reconcile us in the death and resurrection of His only Son. Ultimately, when at the end of our lives we are judged by God, He will see our humanity in the humanity of His Son.

He will judge us in that way. But that means that we have to come to God's banquet table of life properly dressed, dressed that is in the wedding garment offered us by His Son. It means removing our old clothes of self-sufficiency, independency, and grand isolation. It means putting on the wedding garment of acceptance, acceptance of ourselves in the limitations and imperfections we have, acceptance of our need for forgiveness, acceptance of the gift of His Son offered to us by God our Father. Our destiny is there. But the consequence of our life rests in our own decisions.

What will be the sum total of our life's decisions when we die? What grand decision will they all add up to? To know the answer to that question we have only to examine the pattern of our daily living and our willingness to receive the gifts of God, the gifts of life and the gifts of others that come to us in this life.

Probably it is difficult for us to understand why the king expelled a man who was not dressed in a wedding garment. Shouldn't the king have taken into account the fact that people invited from the crossroads would not be festively dressed, would not be prepared for a wedding feast?

But Jesus wants to use this harsh image to warn that it is not enough simply to attend the feast, we must be prepared for it. In the Bible, someone's **'garment'** very often refers to the person's virtue, moral goodness, or a good personal trait. Jesus says that the servants invited both the good and the bad. The bad people who responded to the king's invitation had time to change their lives and be converted. However, the man who was kicked out, had done nothing to change himself, to be converted. He did not do anything to be worthy to stand before the king at the feast of His son.

Conversion is an important and urgent task for each of us. You cannot put it off for later, in your old age. Conversion is the beginning of true faith, a living relationship with Jesus who redeemed us on the Cross. Our Savior wants us to accept the gift of His salvation, His love. What's more, He gives us the grace and power to be open to His gift.

Perhaps today we can pray that our hearts will always be open to hear the invitation and to respond to it. And we can work at loving others in the same way that God loves us!

May God Bless You!

~Fr. Idzi



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



90th Anniversary Celebration  
Saturday, October 7, 2017

St. Symphorosa Parish presents...

# BINGO

**WHERE:**  
St. Symphorosa Sharp Center  
62<sup>nd</sup> Street & Mason Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60638

**TIME:**  
Sunday, October 15, 2017  
Doors open at noon.  
Games begin at 1:30pm

**PRICE:**  
\$20 at the door includes one set of game cards. Additional cards may be purchased for \$15.00

**DETAILS:**  
14 Games – Pays \$50 each  
Special Game 8 – Pays \$100 minimum  
\$300 Coverall

Must be 18 years of age or older to participate

## Spring Flower Bulbs

It's that time of year again....time to plant our Spring Flower bulbs before the weather turns too cold and blustery.

We are asking members of our parish family to consider donating a "bag of bulbs" to help beautify our parish grounds. Bulbs can be dropped off at the parish office during regular business hours before Friday, October 20th. Please include your name with your donation.

If you would like to help plant these bulbs, please contact Maggie in the Parish Office. A member of our Parish Transformation Team will be in touch with details.

Thank you!

### 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](mailto:symphorosa@comcast.net). Please remember to put your name, address and phone number on the photograph if you wish for it to be returned.

Please direct all questions to Maggie in our parish office at 773.767.1523. Thank you!

## St. Vincent de Paul BUNDLE WEEKEND

St. Vincent de Paul Bundle Weekend returns once again to St. Symphorosa.

Please consider helping by bundling up usable clothing and household items and bringing them to our parking lot across from the church from 4 – 6 pm on Saturday, October 21 and 7 am – 1 pm on Sunday October 22. All donations are tax deductible.

Thank you to all donors to St. Vincent de Paul.

St. Symphorosa Parish Recipe Books arrive on Sunday November 19th. Cost is \$10.00 per book.

More info to follow soon.....

**October 8, 2017**

**Received this week:**  
**\$456.00**

**Envelopes Entered: 88**

**This week's winner is envelope # 1680**

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

## Church Tuckpointing Project Begins!

We are very pleased to announce that our Church Tuckpointing Project begins this week! 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

~Ken Hilliard  
Operations Director

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**COMING UP**

4th Annual Holiday Extravaganza Luncheon, Vendor & Craft Fair—  
Sunday, November 19th  
More to come in next week's bulletin!

### RAFFLE WINNERS

The Super Club is very excited to announce the following raffle winners for the months of September & October:

September	October
<b>\$100</b> - Christopher Dougherty	<b>\$100</b> —Peg Fonte
<b>\$50</b> —Mary Iuliano	<b>\$50</b> —Patrick Coogan
<b>\$25</b> —Ed O'Donnell	<b>\$25</b> —Betty Magda
<b>\$25</b> —Anita Wollek	<b>\$25</b> —Monica Wodke

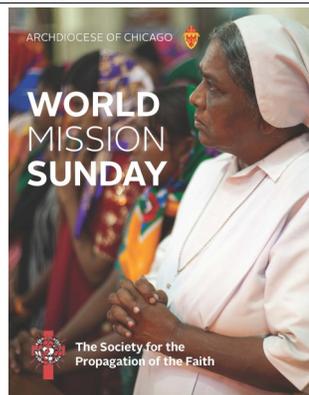
### Offerings for the weekend of October 8, 2017

**Weekly Budget (Est.) 9,000.00**

**Contributions: 7,274.14**  
**# of Envelopes: 299**

**Building & Maintenance Fund Collection**  
**Contributions: \$1,378.61**  
**# of Envelopes: 105**

**Thank you for your generosity and continued support!**



Next week, we will celebrate World Mission Sunday. The entire Catholic Church is invited to support mission dioceses in Africa, Asia, Pacific Islands, and parts of Latin America and Europe, where priests, religious and lay leaders accompany the poorest of the world. Like Renew My Church, *missio ad gentes*, or proclaiming the Gospel to those who do not know Christ, reminds us that we have a responsibility to those outside our parish boundaries, our archdiocese, and even our nations.

For 100 years, Catholic Charities has partnered with parishes, organizations, schools & volunteers to meet the needs of Cook & Lake counties. Today, more than 400 community partners, 300 parish partners, and 15,000 volunteers help us provide the best and most cutting edge programming to answer the needs of the most under-resourced communities. Thank you for helping us make a difference. To see our journey since 1917, please visit our site : [www.ccofchicago100.net](http://www.ccofchicago100.net).



Our Baptism classes are held in the Austin Avenue School Building at 7:00 pm. Baptisms are on Sundays at 1:00pm in Church.

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>BAPTISMS</u>
November	No Class	11/12, 11/26
December	12/7	12/10

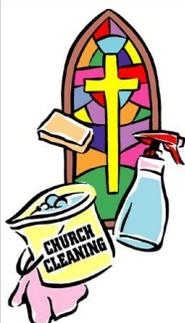
Parents are required to bring their child's birth certificate to the Parish Office in order to register for a class.

## WELCOME

We extend a warm welcome to the new members of our St. Symphorosa Parish Faith Community:

**Michelle Hernandez, Alyssia Hernandez, Mason Henry, Juliyan Hernandez & Andrew Henry**

**Maria Ruiz, Ruben Baltran, Emilio Valencia, Camila Valencia and Nicolette Beltran**



Similar to how we prepare our own homes for special celebrations, we must also prepare our church home in the same manner. Please join me in thanking the following parishioners who gave of their time and muscles to clean our church and make it shine in preparation for our 90th anniversary: **Larry Wisniewski, Tom DeRose, Mary Lou Kolasinski, Bernadette Wodke, Nancy Bayo, Mary Ann Szot, Barb Grzenia and Monica Wodke.**

From the cleaning of our carpeting, to the washing down of each pew, to mopping floors, cleaning glass and much more, as Pastor of St. Symphorosa, I am truly grateful and proud of each of you for your hard work and continued dedication! May God bless you!

~Fr. Idzi

*Thank you*  
**FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

**"You are being enriched in every way for all generosity, which through us produces thanksgiving to God" (II Corinthians 9:11)**

Our 90th Anniversary as a Parish Family was certainly a reason to celebrate! I would like to take the opportunity to personally thank the following donors whose contributions, totaling \$3,415.31, aided in offsetting the expenses of this celebration.

<u>Parish Organizations:</u>	<u>Alumni/Parishioners/Non Parishioners:</u>
Super Club: \$500.00	Mary Ann Wojcik Szot \$ 10.00
Altar & Rosary: \$100.00	Diego Gonzales \$ 5.00
St. Vicent de Paul: \$200.00	Sharon Styczynsky \$ 10.00
Women's Spirituality Group: \$300.00	Ceil Kucinsky, Lyn & Robert
Athletic Association: \$500.00	Duewerth \$ 50.00
Religious Education Program: \$100.00	Monica Wodke \$ 50.00
School Families: (out of uniform day) \$250.31	Linda Kline \$100.00
Transformation Team: \$200.00	Charles & Virginia \$ 90.00
Religious Education Families: \$ 50.00	Linda Bruno \$ 50.00
Parent Association: \$300.00	Janina Turek \$ 50.00
<b>Total: \$2,500.31</b>	Ilona Szkodon \$ 10.00
	<b>Total: \$415.00</b>



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.



I would also like to extend a special thanks to **Mr. & Mrs. Casey Czochoza (CMD Conveyor)** for their generous donation of **\$500.00**. On behalf of our parish family, thank you for your support of our 90th Anniversary Celebration.

Last but certainly not least, I would like to thank **Tom & Maggie DeRose** for their generous donation of the delicious sheet cakes for our dessert as well as **Bernadette and Monica Wodke** for their donation of the hydrangea centerpieces that adorned our tables at the reception in the Sharp Center.

May God continue to bless you for your generosity!

~Fr. Idzi



# We Remember and Celebrate

## Mass Intentions

**Monday, October 16, 2017— St. Hedwig; St. Margaret Mary Alacoque**

8:00 am † For All Parishioners (23)

**Tuesday, October 17, 2017—St. Ignatius of Antioch**

8:00am † Robert Montgomery, Sr.—Wife

**Wednesday, October 18, 2017– St. Luke**

8:00am † Joseph Balestri—Nancy Markham

† Father of Sophia Kowal—Dave Dantzer

**Thursday, October 19, 2017**

**Ss. John de Brébeuf, Isaac Jogues, and Companions**

8:00 am † Leo Kopyszka—Soltis Family

† Bob Kolimas—Mary and Family

† Dolores Grisko—Family

† John Szkodon—Ilona Szkodon

**Friday, October 20, 2017—St. Paul of the Cross**

8:00 am † For All Parishioners (24)

**Saturday, October 21, 2017—Blessed Virgin Mary**

8:00 am † Claude Wiatrak—Clara Wiatrak

† Daniel Tarsa—Soltis Family

† Geri Norbut—Family

5:00pm † Greg Golab—Mom

† Felix & Victoria Synoga—Family

† Joseph Machules—Tom & Dawn Gasior Family

† Roger W. Shadwick—Margie

† Janet Molnar—Family

Malgorzata Stoch—Janina Stoch (Mom)

**Sunday, October 22, 2017—29th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

7:30 am † Nick Bouzios—Janina

9:30 am † Marie Ulmer—Lorraine Siepka

11:30am † Gregg Gasior—St. Symphorosa Parish

† Frank Strzelec—Barbara Ann Rendak

† Elizabeth Bojarski—Barbara Anna Rendak

† Richard Montwill—Peter Kallas

1:00pm Baptisms



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, Pat Doyle, Kaye Fenlon, 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, 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 Sobcjak, John Stachon, Michael Straube, James Suchy, Chalida Svastisalee, Loretta A. Thomas, Jim & Mary Thorpe, Joan Witcher, Chester Wodarczyk, Steve Wojcik, Pamela Wojdyla, Larry & Marianne Wysocki, and Michelle



**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 Johanievicz, 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**

## 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.*

**Michael Petruzzi**

**James B. Fox**

**Lauren T. Vitrano**

*In loving memory*



Congratulations to our newly baptized and welcome to

St. Symphorosa and the Body of Christ!

**Emmanuel Murillo**

Child of Rafael & Yesenia

**Jacob Matthew Cornejo**

Child of Luis & Magda

**Ruth Angela Engelhardt**

Child of Steven & Cariann

**Adrian Amaro & Mateo Eliud Gutierrez**

Children of Gaspar & Vanessa

Let us throw ourselves into the ocean of God's goodness, where every failing will be cancelled and anxiety turned into love.

~St. Paul of the Cross