

**90TH ANNIVERSARY  
CELEBRATION OF  
SAINT SYMPHOROSA PARISH**



**MAY ALMIGHTY GOD  
CONTINUE TO BLESS OUR  
FAITH COMMUNITY!**

# REFLECTION FOR THE 27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



*The kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that will produce its fruit." Matthew 21,43*

Today's Gospel follows directly after last Sunday's Gospel in which Jesus was questioned by Jewish religious leaders about the source of his teaching authority. After refusing to answer their questions, Jesus tells the parable of the two sons and then criticizes the priests and elders for their lack of belief in John the Baptist.

In today's Gospel, Jesus once again speaks to the priests and elders with a parable. In this parable, the landowner leases his vineyard to tenants and sends his servants to collect the portion of the harvest that the tenants owe to him. Several times the servants are sent to collect payment, and each time they are beaten and killed by the tenants. Finally, the landowner sends his son to collect his rent. The tenants, believing that they will inherit the vineyard if the landowner dies without an heir, plot together and kill the landowner's son.

After telling the parable, Jesus questions the chief priests and elders about what the landowner will do to the wicked tenants. They all agree that the landowner will kill the wicked tenants and give the land to new tenants who will pay the rent.

To understand who the Wicked Tenants were in the Parable that Jesus gave, it is necessary to know who Jesus was speaking to. When Jesus gave the Parable of the Wicked Tenants, He was prophetically addressing the chief priests and the Pharisees who were present. This truth is supported by the details that are found in

the different Gospels on the subject of the Passion of Jesus where we learn that it was the chief priests and the Pharisees who condemned Jesus to death.

The vineyard represents Israel, the chosen people of God that had been freed from captivity, led to the land of promises and received endless blessings from the Lord. The landowner is the Lord God who owns the chosen people. They are His people.

God never retaliated, never returned evil for evil. He was not vindictive in taking the vineyard from the Jews and giving it to the Gentiles. The tenants brought it on themselves. God never gave up on His people. Just as the rain ensures that the earth becomes fruitful, so God persists until He gets a response.

The parable shows us that there is only one way to overcome evil, and that is with good. What happens in the story is both nasty and ugly. However, while there is much evil in the story, evil does not have the last say. In the end good triumphs. If we do what we can and put our trust in God, then Saint Paul assures us that *"the piece of God, which is so much greater than we can understand will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus."*

The Christian community is the vineyard Christ planted and tended with such care that He gave his life for it. He looks to us, His followers, the tenants of His vineyard, to produce the fruits of justice, love, and peace. It's a great privilege and a great challenge too.

The prayer of our liturgy today is that we will receive the grace to open our

hearts to the prophetic voice of Jesus and become a people who produce abundant good fruit in accord with God's will.

~Fr. Idzi



## PRAYER FOR OUR 90TH PARISH ANNIVERSARY

**O God, almighty Father, who planted our seeds of faith 90 years ago, we thank you for the witness and work of generations past. We praise you for the faith we have inherited. Grant, we beseech you, the grace and strength to continue to nurture the faith in our time and to pass it on to the coming generations.**

**Under the protection of our patrons, St. Symphorosa and her Seven Sons & the Blessed Virgin Mary, may all we do begin with your Divine inspiration and be for the honor and glory of your name.**

**Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, for ever and ever.**

**Amen.**



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

# Congratulations

This weekend we celebrate our 90th Anniversary as a Parish Faith Community! In 1927, Fr. J. Leo Sharp, Pastor, founded this parish with a vision for a vibrant faith community where people would gather to worship God, work, learn and pray together, and celebrate as a family of faith. Throughout our 90 years, this faith community has been a very special part of many lives. We truly thank God for each and every one of you!

On this very special weekend, I would like to offer my congratulations and best wishes to our parishioners on this milestone anniversary. I would also like to take the opportunity to welcome the many guests that will visit our parish. Finally, I would like to extend a special word to those who have been part of our faith community and are returning to celebrate with us! Welcome home! We are proud and honored that you have joined us and hope you will continue to return home for future visits. Our doors and hearts are always open to you!

Congratulations once again. May our Lord Jesus Christ continue to bless St. Symphorosa Parish—A Family Celebrating Faith! God Bless You!

~Fr. Idzi

## 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

## **Blessing of Our Animals**

On Sunday, October 1st, Fr. Idzi and Fr. Norm blessed over 130 animals during this annual tradition at St. Symphorosa. There were dogs and puppies, cats and a basket of sweet kittens, a rabbit and even a ferret named Sebastian! In addition, many pets were able to enjoy a special treat from the "Fido to Go" Food Truck and even take a chance at the raffle table!



## **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 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

## Southwest Chicago PADS

We are once again collecting new and gently used jeans for Southwest Chicago PADS on 71st & Kedzie. All donations can be dropped in the containers placed in the back of our church.

Thank you very much for your continued support. Please direct any questions to our parish office.

Our Second Collection this weekend will be to support the Building & Maintenance Fund.

Thank you for your support!

### FAMILY MASS

Next weekend, we are pleased to welcome all to our 4th Grade Family Mass on Sunday, October 15th at 9:30am.

### Did You Know.....

Our St. Symphorosa Super Club will celebrate their 50th Anniversary in January of 2018?

Call the Parish Office to find out more about how you can join this energetic and fun loving group!

COME JOIN OUR

## BIBLE Study

Come join us on Thursday evenings at 7:00pm in the Parish Office Conference Room.

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.

October is the month of the Holy Rosary. Join us on Monday evenings from 6pm—7:30pm in church for Rosary For Peace.

**October 1, 2017**

**Received this week: \$490.00**

**Envelopes Entered: 91**

**This week's winner is envelope # 1894**

**Our lucky winner can stop by the Parish Office to pick up their check. Be sure to bring your photo ID.**

**Offerings for the weekend of October 1, 2017**

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

**Contributions: 7,816.40**

**# of Envelopes: 381**

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

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Thank you to all who supported the Comboni Fathers Mission Collection last weekend. \$1,948.16 was generously donated!

### Our Parish History

As we reach our 90th Anniversary weekend and our "Who We Are" series concludes, we take the time to focus on the sixth and seventh pastor of our parish community.

Cardinal Francis George officially named Fr. Ted Bojczuk the sixth pastor of St. Symphorosa Parish in July, 2007. During Fr. Ted's pastorate at St. Symphorosa Parish, a time of religious unrest, along with ongoing economic and political uncertainty, Fr. Ted continued to seek the legacy and vision of those pastors who came before him. His kind heart and gentle spirit was felt throughout all aspects of the parish. During his tenure here at St. Symphorosa, he was a true example of a shepherd who cared deeply for the members of his flock. Due to Fr. Ted's strong belief and commitment to continue to move our parish forward into the future, the Parish Transformation Team was introduced. Since its inception in 2013, this new initiative continues to instill a re-

newed sense of energy into our parish community.

On July 1, 2016, Cardinal Blase J. Cupich, appointed Fr. Idzi Stacherzszak as our Parish Administrator. On July 1, 2017, we officially welcomed Fr. Idzi as the seventh pastor of St. Symphorosa Parish. In the short time that Fr. Idzi has been our Pastor, his energy and hard work is felt in every aspect of our parish community. Fr. Idzi is a solid leader with a strong vision, dedication, support and commitment to our parish faith community. Under Fr. Idzi's leadership, we will continue to fulfill the vision that Fr. Sharp had ninety years ago of a vibrant community where people gather to worship God, work and learn together, and celebrate as family of faith.

May Almighty God continue to bless our parish community for many years to come!

Happy 90th Anniversary St. Symphorosa!





*Everyone can help bring about a culture of mercy, based on the rediscovery of encounter with others, a culture in which no one looks at another with indifference or*

*turns away from the suffering of our brothers and sisters.” -Pope Francis*

The Dream Act of 2017, S. 1615, was recently introduced in the Senate. If passed into law, this bipartisan bill would protect immigrant youth. This includes the 780,000 young people who received temporary relief and employment eligibility through the recently rescinded DACA program.

**ACTION:** The Catholic Church believes in protecting the dignity of every human person and has long supported DREAMERS. Ask your legislators to co-sponsor the Dream Act of 2017, by visiting the USCCB website [www.JusticeforImmigrants.org](http://www.JusticeforImmigrants.org).



Our 2nd Annual Painting Party returns to St. Sym’s this November. More info to follow next week!



### 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!



St. Rita High School welcomes prospective students and their families to an Open House on Sunday, October 22nd from 12pm –2pm with a Family Mass (optional) being held at 11:30am. For more information, contact 773-925-RITA.



Learn more about Mount Carmel’s outstanding college prep program for boys of all learning levels and tour our renovated 21st century classrooms by attending an Open House on Sunday, October 29th from 11am—2pm or Sunday, November 19th from 11am-2pm at 6410 S. Dante in Chicago. Contact the school at 773-324-1020 for more info.



Prospective students and families are invited to an Open House at Nazareth Academy in LaGrange Park on Thursday, October 19th from 6:30pm—8:30pm (with a presentation at 7pm) or on Sunday, November 5th from 12:30pm—3:30pm (with presentations at 1pm and 2pm). For more information, please contact 708-387-8505.



Mother McAuley will host an Open House for prospective students and their families on Thursday, October 24th from 6pm—8pm. Presentations are at 6:15pm and 6:45pm with a Financial Aid presentation at 7:45pm. For more information, contact 773-881-7722.



### Pep Rally Shows St. Sym’s School Pride!

On Friday afternoon, September 29th, our school children gathered on to cheer on their favorite team.....St. Symphorosa Vikings as they prepared for their Homecoming Game on Sunday, October 1st.



### Feast of St. Michael the Archangel

On Friday, September 29th at the 8:00am morning mass, our school children gathered to celebrate the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel. This is an annual tradition here at St. Symphorosa. During this liturgy, first responders were honored and thanked for all they do to keep us safe.



### Bulletin Deadline

Please note: All articles must be submitted no later than Monday morning at 9:00am for the following week’s bulletin. Please call the parish office for more information.



St. Symphorosa Parish Recipe Books arrive on Sunday November 19th. Cost is \$10.00 per book. More info to follow soon.....



# We Remember and Celebrate

## Mass Intentions

**Monday, October 9, 2017**

**St. Denis and Companions; St. John Leonardi**

8:00 am † Chuck Shilney-Family  
† Michael & Anna Krzan—Soltis Family

**Tuesday, October 10, 2017**

8:00am † Claude Wiatrak—Clara Wiatrak  
† Brigitte Janvrin—Children  
† Arlene Totos—Mary Kolimas

**Wednesday, October 11, 2017—St. John XXIII**

8:00am † John & Irene Simonelli—Simonelli Family

**Thursday, October 12, 2017**

8:00 am † Lottie, Stanley & Joanne Swiatkowski—Darlene & Jim  
† John Szkodon—Ilona Szkodon

**Friday, October 13, 2017**

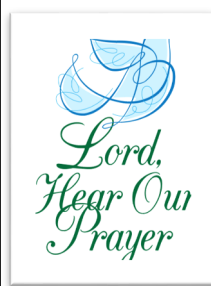
8:00 am † Frank Pirtz—Jim & Darlene  
† Stanley Karbarz—Family

**Saturday, October 14, 2017— St. Callistus; Blessed Virgin Mary**

8:00 am † Malgorzata Stoch—Janina Stoch (Mom)  
1:00pm Quinceanera—Kimberly Mendoza  
5:00pm † Mary Kozlowski—Friend, Mary  
† Stephen Sears—Woulfe Family  
† Janet Molnar—Family  
† Blanche Marcukaitis  
† Charlene DePasquale—Rita Cernik & Family

**Sunday, October 15, 2017—28th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

7:30 am † John Smith—Barbara O'Hara  
9:30 am † Marge Walsh—Marge & Rich Marcello  
† Veronica DeVereux—Rup & Rybowicz Mortuary Services  
Health of Stevie Siepka  
11:30am † Richard Montwill—Peter Kallas



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...

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 October is for Workers and the Unemployed.

***That all workers may receive respect and protection of their rights, and that the unemployed may receive the opportunity to contribute to common good.***

## WELCOME

We proudly welcome  
**Marissa Mandarin and Sean Gerich**  
to our St. Symphorosa Parish Faith Community

Intense love does not measure, it just gives.

~Mother Teresa