



ST. SYMPHOROSA PARISH

A Family Celebrating Faith

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

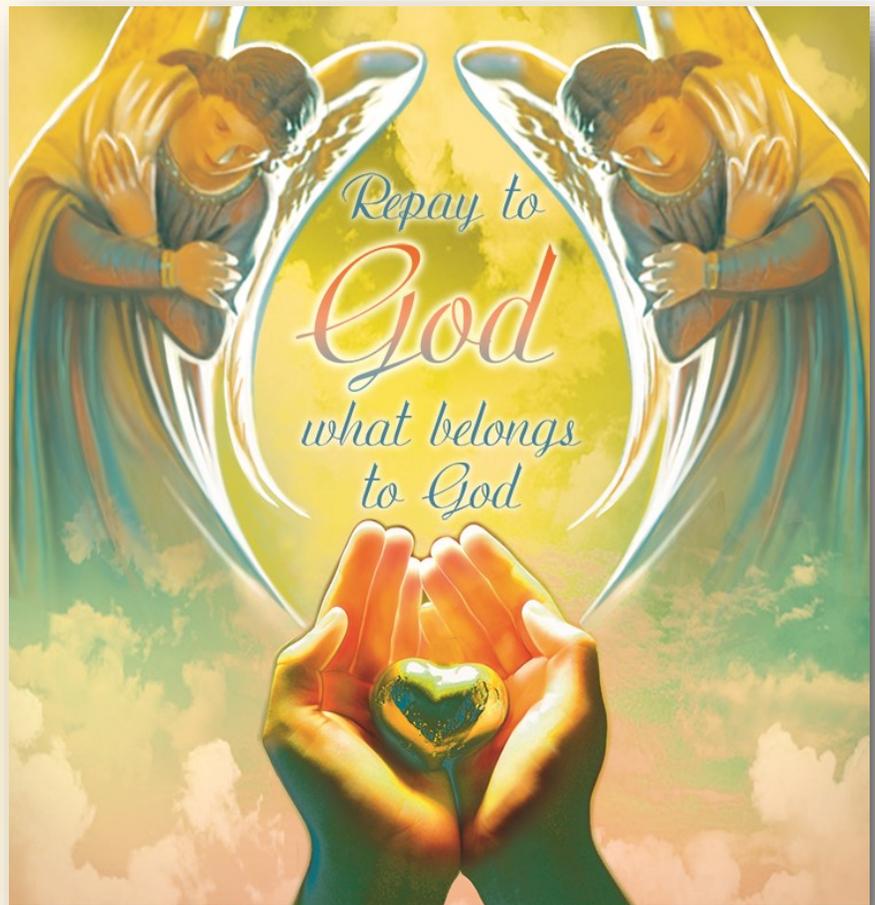
Weekdays: 8:00 am

Monday through Saturday

Holy Days:

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

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



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

Infant Baptism: Second & Fourth Sunday at 1:00pm

Parent Preparation Session: First Thursday of the
Month at 7:00pm. Please contact the Parish Office
for details.

Sacrament of the Sick and Communion Calls: Please
contact our Parish Office to make arrangements.

Marriages: Arrangements must be made at least 6
months prior to the proposed date of your wedding.
Please contact the Parish Office for further details.

New Parishioners: Welcome to our Parish! We are
so happy to have you join us. To register, please
come to our Parish Office.

REFLECTION FOR THE 29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



“Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?” they ask. Jesus, *knowing their malice*, responds, “...Show me the coin that pays the census tax.” He holds up the coin and says, “whose image is this and whose inscription?” [Mt. 22:15-21]

We all know the rest of the story. They failed again. Not only did they fail, but also “they marveled” at this response. They couldn’t argue with him anymore...at least not for now. Even the Serpent left the garden for a time...only to come back again with more trickery up his sleeve.

This gospel about paying taxes to Caesar is the first of a set of three passages in which Matthew describes how hostile religious leaders of his day attempt to trap Jesus with trick questions. The incident about paying taxes together with the following exchanges about the resurrection and about the greatest commandment indicate a growing conflict which will eventually result in Jesus’ execution under the Roman government.

After offering some flattering remarks about Jesus being a truthful man who teaches the way of God, the Pharisees lay their trap by asking “Is it lawful to pay the census tax to Caesar or not?”

If Jesus replies that the tax should be paid, he will lose the esteem of the majority of his fellow Jews, oppressed as they are by a foreign, pagan government and army. If he rejects payment of the tax, he will be arrested and executed for instigating a rebellion.

Jesus, recognizing the malicious intent of the questioners, asks them for a Roman coin that would be used to pay the tax. When they produce the coin with Caesar’s image on it, he says to

them: “Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God.” They are reminded that they themselves have God’s image impressed on them, and must repay to God what belongs to God -- that is, their entire being.

“Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God.” What does this imply? ‘Caesar or God?’ or ‘Caesar and God?’

Actually, we all have a dual citizenship - we are citizens of our country where we are born; we also have spiritual citizenship by virtue of our new spiritual birth. So we have to play a dual role as citizens of our earthly state and also as citizens of the heavenly kingdom.

There is no dilemma between state and God. A good Christian is also to be a good good citizen. But it is always to be kept in our mind that the Lord, our God should be the priority, who is the Almighty and is above all earthly rulers, even the Gentiles.

In today's gospel, rather than engage in a superficial dispute over separation of church and state, Jesus reasserts the absolute claim of Jewish monotheism, namely, that all earthly powers are subject to God's sovereignty and out of a snippet of political crossfire comes the reminder of just how much we owe and to whom. Caesar was owed that which bore his name and his image, a coin. God is owed that which bears His name and His image, our own very selves. Can we give ourselves to God, all that is ours without holding back anything? And this is the Good News of today.

To be a Christian disciple in our time and place means to actualize God’s

presence and rule as Jesus did in His historical time and place. This means that a disciple ought to know what’s really going on, without illusion. Although it may not happen in the extreme circumstances of Mt 10:16-25, it is hard to avoid the life implication that a disciple of Jesus at some point will be faced with the moral necessity of speaking the truth in an adversarial confrontation, regardless of the consequences.

The assurance that Christ keeps His promise to be “God with us” ought to save us from being intimidated, even if it’s just writing a “letter to the editor” about a controversial issue. And with a little work on our part, we may even be able “to teach the way of God in accordance with the truth” with some of the poetic flair and wit of Christ. That special presence of Christ’s spirit would be a nice gift to pray for in this Sunday’s liturgy.

A true Christian is at one and the same time a good citizen of his country, and a good citizen of the kingdom of heaven. He will fail neither in his duty to God nor to his fellow men and women.

Our first and deepest loyalty is to God.

To God alone we render worship, but in other things we gladly acknowledge the secular powers, praying that they will rule wisely and justly.

~Fr. Idzi



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



**Altar & Rosary Society
Fall Bake Sale This Weekend!**



October 15, 2017
Received this week:
\$ 434.00

Envelopes Entered: 83

This week's winner is envelope # 7278

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



**Offerings for the weekend of
October 15, 2017**

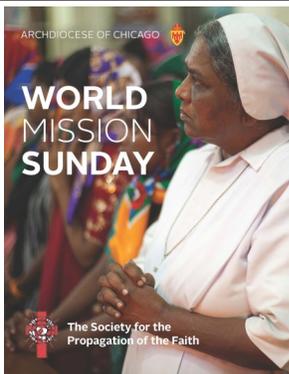
Weekly Budget (Est.) 9,000.00

Contributions: 6109.66

of Envelopes: 285

E-Giving: \$4,124.00 was collected in 202 transactions from 8/29/17-10/1/17.

Thank you for your generosity and continued support!



Today is World Mission Sunday, a day that leads us to the heart of our Christian faith! Your generosity on World Mission Sunday supports the work of priests, religious, and lay leaders in the mission diocese who accompany those most in need. Let this celebration of World Mission also be a day to honor the many ways we commit to missionary discipleship.

As Psalm 104 says: **"Send forth your spirit and renew the face of the earth!"**



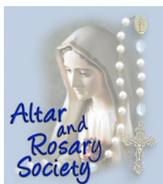
All Souls Day

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.

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.



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

**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.



A Special Heartfelt Thanks!

Our parish church is certainly a beautiful space for us to gather in prayer and thanksgiving! Did you know there are three special ladies who work very hard each week to clean our church? I would like to thank Arlene Wilus, Margaret Scanlon and Kathy Pacino for their dedicated service. We so appreciate all that you do!



If you are interested in joining these ladies, please meet them after mass on Tuesday mornings. Extra hands and energy are always welcome!

~Fr. Idzi

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!



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.



St. Vincent de Paul BUNDLE WEEKEND IS HERE!

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.

There will be a Special Collection Next Weekend (October 28/29) to support the Humanitarian Efforts in Mexico and Puerto Rico! Thank you for your support!

A Note from Fr. Ted...

Dear Friends,

First of all, please accept my congratulations once again on the 90th Anniversary! It was so wonderful to celebrate with you that day.

I must extend my apologies that I was not able to join you in the Sharp Center for the reception however, I was still feeling the lingering effects from surgery I had that previous week.

Please know that you are in my prayers and I ask that you keep me in yours as well. I will be in touch very soon.

Sending you all my best,

Fr. Ted Bojczuk



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.



St. Symphorosa Parish has been asked by some of our neighborhood parishioners to advise of the following local meeting:

MIDWAY DEFECTIVE WINDOW RECIPIENTS, NFP cordially invites all members of the Midway Community to a Meet & Greet on Monday, October 23 2017 from 6:30pm—8:30pm at West Lawn Park, 4233 West 65th Street, Chicago, IL. Pastries, snacks and light refreshments will be served. This meeting is compliments of Alderman Marty Quinn, 13th Ward.

“Key” Campus Improvements Are Coming!

In the coming weeks/months numerous campus upgrades will be initiated. As you may have noticed, the tuck-pointing project has already begun on the north wall of the Church. This project will provide a much needed barrier for moisture in our Church, primarily impacting the altar area. (These funds will be coming from the TTWCI Campaign...thank you to everyone who continues to contribute).

In addition, some of the entrance and exit doors/ locks throughout our campus are in a serious need for repair and/or replacement. Over time, doors have been damaged, closed improperly or “propped” open which leads to further destruction of our parish property. In addition, throughout the years, keys have been “over distributed” with many keys becoming lost or unaccounted for. As a result of these issues, building security has been difficult to maintain and utility costs have been challenging to control. Frequently, unauthorized personnel are able to utilize our facilities, creating ongoing maintenance/expense issues.

The parish goal is to make “our” St. Symphorosa Campus more secure, energy efficient, safe and respectful of the financial resources that you have provided. Therefore, the following campus improvements will continue to be implemented over the coming months:

- New (re-keyed) exterior door locks—strategically implemented over the coming months for all campus buildings;

- Improved security lighting between buildings;
- Replacement of hand towels with hand dryer units, thus significantly reducing recent plumbing problems;
- Improved interior LED lighting in all buildings;
- Expanded use of motion sensor lighting;
- New exterior doors to replace old/doors that are damaged and beyond further repair;
- New/upgraded fire panels in the I Building and Sharp Building;
- Expanded use of computer controlled settings for temperature monitoring/control—additional thermostats;
- Building security cameras will be added to provide interior/exterior security surveillance.

These upgrades, among others, will be implemented to ensure that our parish maintains a safe and secure environment on a 24/7 basis. Our parishioners, groups, organizations, children and neighbors will be confident that our campus is as secure and safe as possible. At the same time, we need to ensure that we manage our facilities in a fiscally responsible process to utilize our financial resources wisely. We are hopeful that all of our parishioners appreciate the ongoing improvements, as we wrap up 2017 and move into the new year!

~Ken Hilliard, Operations Director



School News

We are excited and blessed to be back in school!

In **Preschool**, the children got to meet all their fellow classmates and teachers, and learn class rules and routines. They had a lot of new experiences and are excited to see what's in store for the rest of the school year.

Kindergarteners have also met some new friends...from the SuperKids program. The class is learning letters, sounds, and some challenging vocabulary words like prompt, concoction, organize and fork-in-the-road. Good listening skills are necessary as they listen for sounds at the beginnings and ends of words. These skills are vital for following directions and completing classroom work as well. In Religion, they learned about the many wonderful gifts from God, and have had discussions about water, light, land and animals. The children shared home rules and they have learned school rules as part of Social Studies. They also discovered ways to show kindness to others, especially at school, as they work to earn Viking Virtue Vouchers. In Science, the class learned about Panda Scientists and how they have to ask questions, observe, and measure pandas, then record the information that they gather. They discovered that a scientist doesn't always work in a lab, but many are in the field. Math class has the children using manipulatives to represent, count and write numbers 0 – 5. They are also working on one-to-one correspondence, comparing these numbers and determining which groups are greater than and less than. There is valuable learning going on each and every day in Kindergarten.

First graders are also working hard with the SuperKids reading program. They have practiced addition and subtraction concepts in Math class, and the children are currently working on more adding and subtracting strategies. In Science, they have discussed science tools and safety. First graders are looking forward to their field trip to the Beverly Arts Center to see the play, "The Tortoise and the Hare".

In **second grade** the class is learning about what makes Jesus human, but also how he is Divine. They are practicing their fluency and comprehension skills through the SuperKids program of textbooks, magazine articles, and chapter books. The children are working on their writing skills by learning how to write their own autobiographies. During Math class the first graders are studying place values, in Science the focus is on plant parts, and in Social Studies they are learning about types of communities.

In Religion, the **third graders** were excited to learn about Jesus' childhood, and that his childhood probably had many similarities to theirs. Math time has been spent practicing addition and subtraction with and without regrouping. In Social Studies, the students explored and learned about different kinds of maps and the globe. Third graders recently hosted a Sunday Mass, and they did a wonderful job in Church.

The **fourth grade** is sharpening their inferencing skills as they read The City of Ember, as well as pulling out the five elements of literacy from the story. They are also reviewing parts of speech when they identify simple predicates and subjects in sentences. In Religion, the fourth grade began learning about the Beatitudes. The children have also started working in rotations.

Fifth graders are exploring the sacraments in Religion, and are using the Smartboard to reinforce both spelling and math skills through inter-

active games. The class is growing mini grass lawns in Science, as well as dissecting celery to discover the vascular tubes inside. They have reviewed geography terms and skills in Social Studies and looked at what America is like. In English the class is immersed in argumentative writing. Also, they have been working on changing the language of the Aspire rubric to make it into more kid friendly terminology, and examining the parts of a sentence to make sure that they are writing it correctly. In Math, the fifth graders are working with place value, exponents, multiplication patterns and multiplying by one and two digits. They are working hard in Reading class by comparing and contrasting genres as well as characterization and theme identification.

In the **sixth grade**, discussions are held in Religion that talk about how God revealed Himself to us, and the class is examining the Bible and all of the books it holds. During Science, the students are busy with animal and plant cell labs and illustrating samples from the microscope. Using sale papers, they have planned a healthy meal that included "shopping" for needed items under a budget. The class was surprised when they examined food labels and calculated the amount of sugar the product contained. During reading class the children have explored the themes of their summer novel The Mixed Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler, as well as categorized vocabulary according to its use in the story. They worked with the laptops to answer questions about the author and the Metropolitan Art Museum. In Social Studies sixth grade reviewed geography terms by labeling the Velcro classroom map. Now they will begin studying culture. Integers, absolute value, factors, rational numbers and problem solving fills up Math class, and during English they are working on reflective narrative writing. They are also translating and rewriting the Aspire rubric.

The **seventh grade** has reviewed the five themes of geography, began their study of the thirteen colonies, and started working on current events in Social Studies. They are excited to explore a STEM project in English. This activity has the students working in groups to develop a new backpack. They are researching everything that goes into production and will create their own backpack. A presentation to the class is also required. In Science the class is working with water conservation and completed a webquest to further understand the topic, plus they have done work in a water cohesion lab. During Religion, the students have been learning about Scripture and Tradition and how they work within the faith. In Reading the class enjoyed the story "The Monsters are Due on Maple Street", and focused on plot structure. They also analyzed a Twilight Zone episode and compared it to their thoughts from when they initially read the play. Math class brings the addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of integers, problem solving and rational numbers.

The **eighth graders** are exploring many wonderful stories and essays, and they are covering concepts such as compare/contrast, characterization, theme, and summarizing in Reading class. Religion centers around the Ten Commandments, Sacraments, conscience formation, and preparation for Confirmation. Their Math includes integers, sets of real numbers, scientific notation, and exponents, and in Social Studies the children have reviewed geography and embarked on the study of "A Divided Nation"; pre-civil war. Their Science class is studying Fungus, Protists and Bacteria, and during English the students are working on narrative writing by writing three different essays. The eighth grade is looking forward to taking part in the upcoming Stock Market class.

Effective November 1, 2017 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.

**PLEASE
NOTE!**



We are excited to announce that the Sale of our St. Symphorosa Parish Recipe Books will begin on Sunday, November 19th. This book includes 150 recipes for our parishioners and will cost \$10.00 per book.



We Remember and Celebrate

Mass Intentions

Monday, October 23, 2017— St. John of Capistrano

8:00 am † Antonia Fanenella—Husband, Tony

Tuesday, October 24, 2017—St. Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop

8:00am † Melvin Szmkiewicz—Mary Kolimas
† Concha Moreno—Family

Wednesday, October 25, 2017

8:00am † Angeline Mateja—Rose Gurgone

Thursday, October 26, 2017

8:00 am † John Szkodon—Ilona Szkodon
† Karolina & Eugene Szkodon—Ilona Szkodon

Friday, October 27, 2017

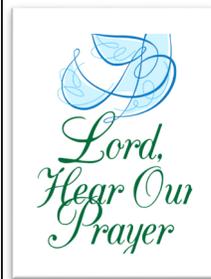
8:00 am † For All Parishioners (25)

Saturday, October 28, 2017—Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 am † For All Parishioners (26)
5:00pm † Frank Knetl—Mary Nevills
† Glenn Nevills—Wife
† Elvira Stiksel—Kurtovich Family
† Greg Golab—Mom
† Stephen Sears—Fitzgerald Family
† Janet Molnar—Family
† Arlene Totos—Maria Lopez
Malgorzata Stoch—Janina Stoch (Mom)

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

7:30 am † Antoinette Tribuani—Phil Tribuani
† Celeste Bybee—Kendall Family
9:30 am † Roberto Rodriguez—Ines Rodriguez
11:30am † Elmer Janda—Harriet
† Richard Montwill—Peter Kallas
† James Mahoney—Family



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, 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



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

Welcome!

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

**Agustin, Angelica, Adrian, Agustin Rodriguez
& Orlando Escobedo**

**The Kinney Family
Keith, Julia & Keith, Jr.**

Antonio Delatorre & Josephine Orozco



Wedding Banns

I-Charlene Wisniewski & Peter Cortez

I-Lauren Dyrcon & Joshua Haluska

The proof of love is in the works. Where love exists, it works great things. But when it ceases to act, it ceases to exist.

~St. Gregory the Great