

SAINT SYMPHOROSA PARISH

A Family Celebrating Faith
6135 S Austin Ave Chicago, IL 60638
773.767.1523 (Phone)
773.767.6135 (Fax)

Blessed are those
servants whom
the master
finds vigilant
on his arrival.

~ Luke 12:37



August 11, 2019
Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



The Gospel of Luke brings us back to the struggle to obey God. Luke tells us “*where your treasure is, there also will your heart be.*” We can ask ourselves: “*where is my heart, what is my treasure.*” Answering that will give us immense knowledge about ourselves and we will also see the direction of our lives.

We can find ourselves like the servant who decides that God is not going to come any time soon and so begins to live a life not in accordance with the word of God. Or we can be prudent servants who know that God can come at any moment and who then strive to be faithful.

The parable of today’s gospel focuses on the unpredictable return of Jesus and our need to be prepared for his return. He’s saying to us, “Ready or not, here I come.” Normally when we think of being ready, we usually think of being prepared for the worst that could happen, such as, locks on the door in case of thieves or life jackets in the event of a boat accident.

The return of Jesus is a certainty. We can never know precisely when he will return or when we will die, but his return is certain. We must constantly watch, being always faithful and ready so that we may be found worthy to share in the heavenly banquet he has prepared for us. So, the question of the parable should not be whether or not Christ is coming again, or when he is coming, or even how he is coming. The point is about being prepared for his coming and ready to receive him whenever he comes, now or later.

In the road of life which we follow, there are many uncertainties and distractions. We don’t know where the

road will take us; we don’t know when it will end. But one thing is certain. At the end of life’s journey; our Lord will be there to meet us, to welcome us into the heavenly kingdom...IF we have prepared ourselves. Preparation cannot be a “sometime” thing. We should be living each moment of our life for Jesus. If we can do that, we will be prepared to greet our Master whenever the time comes.

I read a story from the homily of a priest about a happy family. One of their recreations is trying their luck in the lotto. The father would buy some tickets and give them to his children, including his father, their grandfather, who is 85.

One day, the father bought some again. When the winning numbers were published, lo and behold, one of their ticket numbers won the jackpot of 10 million! And the ticket was in the hand of their grandpa. They were afraid to divulge the news to him because he had a weak heart and might die of excitement.

So, they thought a way of breaking the news gently to him. They invited a priest-friend from the parish, instructing him about their predicament and what to do. The young priest didn’t have second thoughts accepting the invitation... thinking he would get a “*balato*” (share). The priest went to visit the family and later talked with the grandfather. They exchanged pleasantries, shared experiences and when the priest was about to leave, he said casually to the old man, “By the way, grandpa, supposing you win the lotto and win the jackpot prize of 10 million, what will you do with the money?”

“What, 10 million?” replied the grandfather, “That’s a big amount, Father.” “Well,” the grandpa paused for a moment then smiled, “Father, here’s what I’ll do. I’ll give 5 million to my children and grandchildren... and donate 5 million to you!” The priest was so surprised and overjoyed that he collapsed and died of heart attack!

This story illustrates how unexpected death can happen. Hence Jesus in today’s gospel reminds us to be prepared. “*Be on guard,*” Jesus says, “*the Son of Man will come when you least expect Him,*” (Luke 12:40).

God communicates with us every day if we have the ears to hear. Sometimes God communicates with us in unexpected ways. Are you open to God speaking to you? Jesus said in the Gospel, “*You too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.*” (Luke 12:40)

~Fr. Idzi



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 August is for Families, Schools of Human Growth.

That families, through their life of prayer and love, become ever more clearly “schools of true human growth.”

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

Magdalan 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

Sacrament of Penance

Monday - Saturday
after the 8am Mass

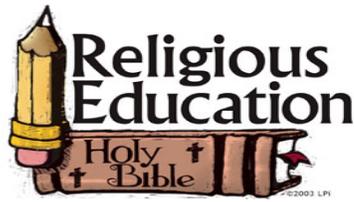
Parish Office

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

www.stsymphorosa.org
symphorosa@comcast.net

Parish School

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



REGISTRATION 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR

The St. Symphorosa Religious Education program will be taking registrations for new and current students for the 2019-2020 school year. Registration will be available on the following dates and times in the school:

- Saturday, August 17, 20199am - 4pm
- Saturday, August 24, 20199am - 4pm
- Tuesday, August 27, 2019 4pm - 7pm

Please Note: Establishing a lifelong sacramental life in Jesus Christ takes time. For this reason the Archdiocese of Chicago implemented a policy of a two year timeframe for sacramental preparation. Children looking to receive First Holy Communion and Confirmation must be enrolled for *two consecutive* years of religious education to receive said sacrament.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact our Religious Education Coordinator, Mrs. Judy Banasiak at 773.767.1523 ext. 226.

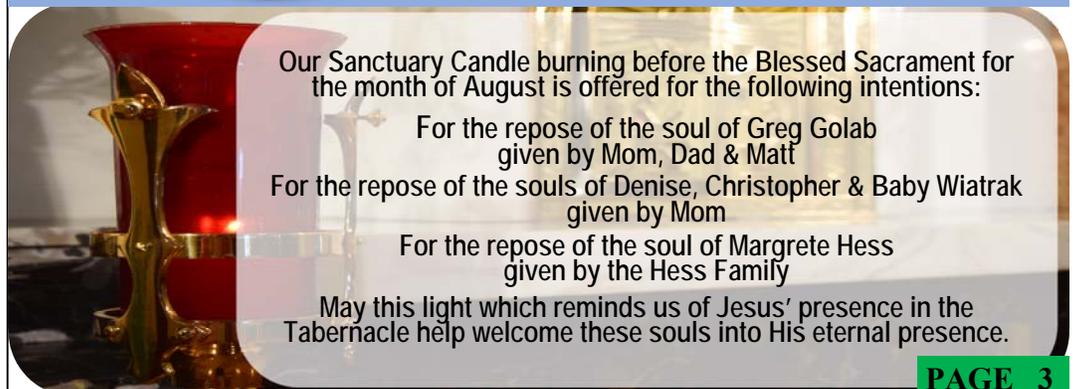
St. Symphorosa Parish Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)



In the month of August as we celebrate the Blessed Virgin Mary's final journey to God in her glorious Assumption, let us ask for her motherly intercession to draw souls to the Sacred Heart of her Son.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a journey too – of conversion to God and what he intends for us. RCIA is the process by which persons who were never baptized, or were baptized in another Christian tradition, become members of the Church, a people on pilgrimage to our Heavenly Father.

For more information on the RCIA Program here at St. Symphorosa, please contact our Parish Office at 773-767-1523.



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

For the repose of the soul of Greg Golab
given by Mom, Dad & Matt

For the repose of the souls of Denise, Christopher & Baby Wiatrak
given by Mom

For the repose of the soul of Margrete Hess
given by the Hess Family

May this light which reminds us of Jesus' presence in the Tabernacle help welcome these souls into His eternal presence.



THE FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Thursday, August 15th, 2019

Mass will be celebrated at 7:30am, 9:30am and 7pm

We ask you to please bring flowers and herbs for a special blessing during all Masses on this day.

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is considered the oldest yet most recent feast days of our Blessed Mother and is considered a holy day of obligation.

There is a record in the Church that dates back to the 5th century of the celebration of the "Memory of Mary" Homilies can be found going back to the 6th century mostly in the Eastern Churches but by the 13th century you see the Western Churches celebrating the feast day as well. From at least the 5th or 6th century you see this feast celebrated under many different names – Commemoration, Dormition, Passing, Assumption – today it is celebrated as a solemnity.

It wasn't until 1950, when Pope Pius XII in the Apostolic Constitution, Munificentissimus Deus, that the Assumption of Mary was proclaimed a dogma of the Church using the following words: "The Immaculate Mother of God, the ever-virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul into heaven."

Traditionally on the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary many people bring herbs and flowers to Mass with them for a special blessing to be given. This custom, received into the Rituale Romanum, represents a clear example of the genuine evangelization of pre-Christian rites and beliefs. This blessing came to be associated with the Blessed Virgin Mary mostly due to the biblical images applied to her. Mary was seen in terms of a sweet-smelling flower due to her virtue and bearing the blessed fruit of Jesus.

The Assumption points out the destiny of our human body and turns our eyes to the true life beyond the grave. At mass on Thursday, please ask Mary for the grace to keep your mind fixed on the destiny of our human body and the true life beyond the grave so that you may one day be united with her and be brought to the glory of the Resurrection.

Stewardship Offerings for the weekend of August 4, 2019
Weekly Budget (Est.): \$9,000.00
Contributions: \$6,257.250
Envelopes: 257
Thank you for your support & generosity!

Split the Pot
August 4, 2019
Received this week: \$271.00
Winning envelope: #2405
Reminder: A minimum of \$5.00 is required to participate.



SPRED Information Night

We invite you to consider an opportunity to be a part of SPRED (special religious development). You would be doing something beautiful for people who are with developmental, intellectual, or learning challenges.

We are looking for parishioners who are open to share and grow in faith with others. You will be a friend to one of our special friends with special needs. Training will be provided. There will be an information night for parents and interested men and women on **Tuesday, August 20th at 6:30 pm**. We will meet in our SPRED meeting room located in the "I" building.



Need A Laugh???

Then Save the Date

Comedy, Comedy, Comedy

Sunday, September 22, 2019

2:00 pm—4:30 pm

St. Rene Church's Flannery Hall

Come join St. Rene Church for an afternoon of delight with comedian VITO ZATTO

Expect a fun-filled afternoon

More information coming soon

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



MARRIED IN 1969?

Join us to celebrate 50 years of marriage at the Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass!

The Golden Wedding Anniversary Mass will be celebrated by Cardinal Cupich on Sunday, September 8, 2019 at 2:45 p.m. The Mass will be held at St. John Brebeuf in Niles, Illinois.

To register, please contact your local parish, or register online at bit.ly/goldenweddingchicago.

We hope to see you there!



CATECHISTS NEEDED

Can You Help?

Although we are in the middle of summer and the thought of starting a new Religious Education school year may seem a bit premature, it is never too soon to begin planning for our wonderful students who are in need of individuals that are willing to share their faith.

We are looking for individuals who love their faith and want to make a difference in a child's faith formation. I believe we have people in our parish who are willing to bring the Word of God to children who cannot attend a Catholic School. Won't you please help us by volunteering as a catechist so that we can continue to accept all of the children who come to us?

For those, who are a little afraid of teaching, be aware that the Archdiocese of Chicago offers classes for new catechists to help prepare you to teach.

We are in need of three teachers for the coming year. **PLEASE HELP!!!**

If you are interested, please call the rectory at 773.767.1523 ext. 226. If I am not in the office, leave your name and phone number and I will return your call.

Enjoy the rest of the summer.

Judy Banasiak, Coordinator of Religious Education

“Renew My Church” Prayer:

Lord Jesus you speak to us today,
as you spoke to holy men and women
who have gone before us.

In every age and in our own time,
you call to us and say: “Renew My Church.”

Pour out the gift of your Holy Spirit upon us,
and so enable us
to hear you clearly

to listen to each other attentively

to imagine our future boldly

to discern your direction wisely

to persevere in your holy will courageously

to stay together in charity

to surrender our own plans readily

to embrace the greater good

to hand on your gifts to future generations.

May we remain in the holy company of
the Blessed Virgin Mary, the apostles,
and all the saints.

May their example and presence
inspire us with patient confidence
in the work of your grace.

We ask this of you who live and reign
with the Father
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God,
forever and ever. Amen



We're Stepping Out To

Get our “Kicks on Route 66!”

Presented and organized by *Foran Funeral Home*, this is an all day tour taking in the sights and attractions on the historic Route 66. You will travel downstate and visit the towns of:

Wilmington seeing the Gemini Giant, Sinclair Dinosaur, Eagle Hotel and Mar Hotel

Brairwood a coal mining town

Gardner with it's 2 cell Jail & horse drawn Streetcar Diner

Dwight's Oughton Carriage House & the Windmill

O'Dell's Standard Oil Station

and finally to **Pontiac** where you will have a chance to tour the Illinois Marketplace, War Museum, Pontiac-Oakland Museum and Gliding Arts Museum.

Lunch will be at Edinger's Filling Station and then a trolley tour to see the city's murals, swinging bridges and Old City Hall. On the way back there will be a stop for dinner at White Fence Farm!

When: **Thursday, August 22, 2019**

Bus leaves at 8am Returning at 7:30pm

Please meet in the Foran Funeral Parking lot at 7300 W Archer Ave

Price is **\$60** per person (this includes tour, lunch & dinner)

Call by **August 15, 2019** to book your reservation (seating is limited)
for this amazing trip to 708.458.0208.

Ask for Sharon Jeninga & Dee Kountis

JOIN US....

On social media via

Twitter

@StSymphorosa

Facebook

[www.facebook.com/
stsymphorosachurch/](http://www.facebook.com/stsymphorosachurch/)

Instagram

[st.symphorosacatholic](https://www.instagram.com/stsymphorosacatholic)



Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, August 12, 2019

Saint Jane Frances de Chantal

8:00am Health and Birthday Blessings for Alexander Petrosky
(*Rosario Battung*)
†Thaddeus Witowski (*Wife & Family*)
†Frank & Julie Stachnik (*Joan Stachnik*)
†Charlie Hynes (*Family*)

Tuesday, August 13, 2019

Saint Pontian, Pope

Saint Hippolytus, Priest

8:00am Health and Birthday Blessings for Mary Kolimas
(*Arlene Scaletta*)
†Bob T. Soltis (*Soltis Family*)
†Joseph & Laverne Slowinski (*Daughters & Families*)
†Nathan Karpowicz (*Barbara Rendak*)

Wednesday, August 14, 2019

Saint Maximilian Kolbe

8:00am †Joseph Loduca (*John Kapusciaz*)
†Ted Fifer (*Wife*)
†John & Irene Simonelic (*John Simonelic Family*)
†John Kolimas (*Mary Kolimas*)
†Jim Thorpe (*Nancy Markham*)
†Gavino Cordova (*Rosario Battung*)

Thursday, August 15, 2019

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:30am Health and Thanksgiving for the Entire Battung Family
(*Rosario Battung*)
†Robert Soltis (*Nancy Markham*)
†Eugene R. Zdziennicki (*Sister*)
†Richard Merda (*Arlene Scaletta*)
9:30am †Pat Zagorski (*Barbara Rendak*)
7:00pm For All Parishioners, Living and Deceased (39)

Friday, August 16, 2019

Saint Stephen of Hungary

8:00am †Chuck DeLauriea (*Judy & Ed Behm*)

Saturday, August 17, 2019

8:00am For All Parishioners, Living and Deceased (40)
5:00pm For All Parishioners, Living and Deceased (41)

Sunday, August 18, 2019

7:30am †Rita Marie Key (*Dan & Betty Koetzle*)
9:30am †John Dragosetti, George, Marie and Dominic Velcich
(*Rosario Dragosetti*)
†Richard Siepka (*Siepka Family*)
†Linda Sullivan (*James Sullivan Family*)
11:30am †John Stachon (*Family*)
†Cathy & John Ryan (*Cathy & Pat Carone*)



*There are in the end three things that last:
Faith, Hope, and Love, and the greatest of
these is LOVE.*

Ignatius Battiato	Domenico Lepore
Dorothy Bogumil	Rosemary Litwin
Fr. Ted Bojczuk	John Martini
Pat Carmody	Lou Mackey
Michael Clifford	Lori McCarthy
Florence Comiso	Kathleen McAuliffe
Chris Doherty	Thomas Minnich
Juan Figueroa	Christine Mosqueda
Geri Gestaut	Genevieve Nagle
Carol Golab	Ray Oracki
Carol Gress	Baby Alexander J Pentz
Suzann Gunter	Gi Gi Picciolini
Kathy Haars	Marie Pratt
Megan High	Ann Robertson
Dawn Hoyt	Edward Robertson
Heather Hradek	Fr. John Rudnik
Denise M. Jandura	Joseph Rudnik
Rich S. Jandura	Gloria Schillings
Joan Juris	Coltyn Schmidt
Lee Karpinski	Kristyn Schmidt
Dennis Kline	Chalida Svatisalee
Antoinette Kloppman	Terry Styka
Walter Kokoszka, Sr.	Mary Thorpe
Claudia Kwilosz	Nancy Webb
Norman Kwilosz	Barb Ziegler
James Lapsansky	Michelle
Donna Lauritzen	

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.

SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

Sgt. Jaime A. Acosta, USMC	Staff Sgt. Andrew Gaca, USAF
Sgt. Ted Bartelmey	Sgt. Michael Hough, US Army
CS-1 Joel Battung	Anthony Johanievicz, 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	Pvt 1st 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	WO-1 Richard Sobeske, US Army
Captain Kevin Dobbyn, US Army	Sgt. 1st Class Kristina Stuhlmacher
Sgt. John Flores, IL National Guard	1LT Zachary White, IL Army NG



In this Gospel, Jesus says "Sell your belongings and give alms. Provide money bags for yourselves that do not wear out, an inexhaustible treasure in heaven that no thief can reach nor moth destroy."

Please help the Society of St. Vincent de Paul bring respite and hope to the elderly who are not able to find relief from the summer heat, and you will indeed find "an inexhaustible treasure in heaven!"

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



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.

Marion Jensen

PARISH OFFICE

Closed

The Parish Office will be closed this coming Thursday, August 15th in observance of the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We will reopen for regular business hours on Friday, August 16th at 9am.