## **St. Agatha - St. Martin de Porres Parish** Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time September 4, 2022



Church Staff

Pastor: Fr. Larry Dowling denispadre@aol.com Associate Pastor: Fr. Thadeo Mgimba tmgimba@archchicago.org **Operations Director (StA): Cynthia Smith,** cdsmith@archchicago.org **Unified Parish Operations Director: TBA** Music Director: Dennis Smith (StA) **Daryl Petty (SMdeP)** Deacon Couple: Rev. Mr. William & Gayle Pouncy Deacon Couple: Rev. Mr. Greg & Carolyn Shumpert Deacon Couple: Rev. Mr. Bruce & Sandra McElrath **Reception/Pantry (StA): Refoncia McGowan Building Engineer: Roger Lozano** Assisting the Pastor w/ the DRE: Marvin McCurry Interim Parish Secretary (SMdeP): Carol Johnson **Custodian: Frank Clark** Housekeeper (SMdeP): Scarlett Evans-Perez **Religious Education Director: TBA** Websites & Social Media Admin: Emily Dillon (SMdeP) DiMarkco Chandler (StA)

Whoever does not carry his or her own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

St. Martin de Porres Church 5112 W. Washington Boulevard Chicago, IL. 60644 Phone: (773) 287-0206 Website: www.stmartindeporresparish.com Email: stmartindeporres@archchicago.org Facebook: St. Martin de Porres Parish Chicago Instagram: @stmartindeporresparish Twitter: @StMartinParish

> Church Office Hours Monday thru Friday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Masses: Sunday: 10:00 am Tuesday: 9:00 am Thursday: 9:00 am (Servíce & Adoratíon) St. Agatha Church 3147 W. Douglas Boulevard Chicago, IL. 60623 Phone: (773) 522-3050 Website: www.st-agatha-chicago.org Email: stagatha@archchicago.org www.facebook.com/st.agathachicago/

> Church Office Hours Monday - Fríday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Masses: Sunday: 8:00, 10:30 a.m. Thursday 7:30 a.m.

## **Sacramental Information**



**Baptism:** Please call the church office for appointment at least two months prior to date. A prep class is required. Parents should contact Deacon William Pouncy.

**RCIA:** Adults Seeking Baptism and/or Making a Profession in the Catholic Christian Faith should contact Deacon Greg Shumpert.

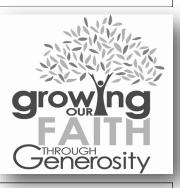
**Marriage:** Please contact the parish office before setting your date. The Church asks that couples be parish members for at least 6 months before setting a data. Participation in Pro Cons and a Promorital Inventory required.

setting a date. Participation in Pre-Cana and a Premarital Inventory required. **Funerals:** Please contact the parish office before going to see a Funeral Director. We will accommodate the needs of your family to help you through the loss and healing.

**Ministry to Sick and Shut-In/ Anointing of the Sick/ Home Visitation/Receiving Communion at Home:** If you or a loved one is in need of a minister from St. Agatha-St. Martin de Porres to visit for Communion, Anointing of the Sick or any other pastoral need, please contact the church office as soon as the need arises. Fr. Larry, Fr. Thad or one of the Care Ministers will gladly visit in a time of need.

**Hospital Stays:** If you or a loved one is going into the hospital, <u>please</u> notify the office in order that a priest or care minister can call or visit the hospitalized person and be support to the family.

| Your Stewardship of Treasure for the Mission of Jesus Christ |                             |            |
|--|-----------------------------|------------|
| Sunday, August 28, 2022                                      |                             |            |
| St. Agatha   | <u>St. Martin de Porres</u> |            |
| Mass Offering \$2364.20                                      | Mass Offering               | \$2208.00  |
| GiveCentral <u>1365.00</u>                                   | Special: Kolbe House        | 48.00      |
| \$ 3,729.20  | Assumption of Mary          | 20.00      |
|  |                             | \$2,276.00 |
| Thank you for your generosity!                               |                             |            |



## Thank you for your generosity!



For whom shall we pray... Anthony Adams, Walter Adams, Bertha Anderson, Kristina Anderson, Jewel Austin, Ted Bergh, Hildegarde Bezdicek, Hazel Bills, Christopher Browne, Melvin Clark, Sandra Coffey, Ernestine Cottrell, William Crown, Jermaine Curtis, Natalie Daves, Tylesia Day, Shelma Dillon, Elnora Dorsey, Carter Evans, Joyce Evans, Norene Evans, Hildred Fuller, Zenobia Fuller, Danny Gardner, Shirley Gardner, Callie Gee, Pamela D. Gee, Marian Graham, Kia Gray, Stan Gruszeczki, Bill Hainey, Nathaniel

W. Hall, Mary Harrell, Diane Harris, Jasmine Harris, Jennifer Harris, Johnny Harris, Lejerrion Harris, Leutrice Harris, Maryann Harris, Tony Harris, Lucy Henry, Veronica Hicks, Elia Hinogosa -Cangey, Joesaya Henderson, Yvonne Gibson, Kesiea & Melinda, Kim Henderson, Leonard Henderson, Jerron Johns Jr., Sr., Julius Jones, Jacquiline Kelly, Laurita Lockhart, Alexander Madden, Keith Mahaffey, John Mannette, Larry Mapp Jr., Patrick McAnany, Melik McCloud, Sofia McFarland, Robert McGee, Latrice McGee, Carmella Miller, Connie Montoya, Arlene Moore, Josh Morrow, LaVita Norris, Clara Orlando, Mariano Palacios, Michael Parham, Luvenia Parker, Emma Peradas, Gordon Perry, Jan F. Peters, Sylvia Peters, Essie Pledage, Queenie Randle, Elberta Raschke, Lucy Redmond, Imogene Rhodes, Marvin Register, Phyllis Riley, Deborah Rutledge, Lorraine Sanford, Eunice Scripp, Rosa Solano, Brenda D. Taylor, Clarice Thomas, Michael Triplett Sr., Terri Triplett, Deano Tretter, Joseph Tretter Sr, Charese Troupe, Clarence Walker, Shirley West, Walter Whitlow, Armonie Witherspoon, Beverly Wright, Flora Yancy.

## From the Desk of Fr. Larry...

My brothers and sisters, the challenge from Jesus in the very first sentence of today's Gospel can shock and disturb us: "If anyone comes to me without hating his or her father and mother, wife or husband and children, brothers and sisters, and even their own life, he or she cannot be my disciples." Woah, Jesus! I was taught never to use the word hate as a child. In fact, that was a wash-your-mouth-out-with-soap word if ever uttered regarding another person.

Of course, we know Jesus is challenging the people who are following him, rich and poor, to a greater understanding of faithfulness to God and a much broader understanding of who is considered family.

For the rich, who it is assumed Jesus is speaking to, their 'family' may be limited to those in the same socio-economic class, to those who are like-minded. They may be caught up in status and growing wealth. Jesus' words challenge us to move beyond our selfish individualism to instead connect with Him to raise up and share our unique individuality to benefit those closest to us and beyond to those in the human family who have a greater need.

There is a bit more clarity in the words of Jesus following this first shocker: "Whoever does not carry his or her own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple." If the cross of Jesus is the source of repair and redemption for others, the cross for us must be the sacrifices/cost of offering our lives – our time, talent and treasure – for the benefit of others, helping them with immediate needs and helping them move toward self-sufficiency and the ability, in turn, to help others in need.

There is, of course, a cost to authentic discipleship. Jesus touches this in the parables he presents. Before we give ourselves wholeheartedly to be a people of compassion and mercy, we need to assess the cost and whether we can fully commit ourselves to stand in solidarity with the poor, the disenfranchised, the immigrant, refugee and asylum seeker, the homeless, the returning citizen, and to all who are discriminated against because of sexism, racism and every other 'ism' that diminishes and often destroys the God-given potential for good found in every member of the human family.

This weekend we celebrate Labor Day and the gift of work that allows us to support our families and others, work that at its best utilizes our unique gifts and talents and offers us a sense of self-worth and accomplishment. There are still many employers who exploit their employees by not paying them what they are worth and, in some cases, not paying even minimum wage or overtime.

Some workers continue to face harsh working conditions, sexual harassment, and are taken advantage of because of their immigration status or criminal history. As disciples of Jesus, it is incumbent upon all of us to fight for all of those seeking employment and to defend the dignity rights of those who are working. **Gentle Peace! Fr. Larry** 

St. Agatha - St. Martin de Porres Catholic Parish "Walking in Faith, Moving Forward with Christ" *"be church after church!"*  Next Sunday September 11th 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14 1Timothy 1: 12-17 Luke 15: 1-32

