

## St. Agatha - St. Martin de Porres Parish Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time October 16, 2022



Church Staff

Pastor: Fr. Larry Dowling denispadre@aol.com Associate Pastor: Fr. Thadeo Mgimba tmgimba@archchicago.org Operations Director (interim): Cynthia Smith, cdsmith@archchicago.org 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

> 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 - Fríday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Masses: Sunday: 11:00 am Tuesday: 9:00 am (Servíce & Adoratíon) The Lord said, "Pay attention to what the dishonest judge says. Will not God then secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him day and night? I tell you, he will see to it that justice is done for them speedily. Luke 18:8

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)

> 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 - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Masses: Sunday: 9:00 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 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, October 9, 2022		
St. Agatha	St. Martin de Porres	
Mass Offering \$1984.00	Mass Offering \$4161.00	growinc
<b>GiveCentral</b> <u>1145.00</u>	Special: Kolbe House 8.00	OUR
\$3,129.00	\$4,169.00	
Thank you for your generosity!		Generosity



## For whom shall we pray...

Anthony Adams, Walter Adams, Bertha Anderson, Kristina Anderson, Jewel Austin, Kyle Becnel, Ted Bergh, Hildegarde Bezdicek, Hazel Bills, Christopher Browne, Sandra Coffey, Ernestine Cottrell, William Crown, Jermaine Curtis, Jeanette Dandurand, 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, brian Lares, Laurita Lockhart, Anthony Lyons, Alexander Madden, Keith Mahaffey, John Mannette, Larry Mapp Jr., Arelys Marquez, Isabel Marquez, Catherine Martin, 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, Fr. Francis Scanlan, 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 friends, the Scriptures for today focus us on the virtue of persistence, especially when it involves doing the right thing for an individual or a group of people. In the First Reading from the Book of Exodus, Joshua is about to engage battle with the forces of Amalek. God uses Moses to channel the Divine will to empower Joshua, but Moses must keep his arms raised to assure victory and, with any of us, his arms grow tired and he requires Aaron and Hur to support his arms in keeping them raised. Team work. Persistence. Unfaltering focus. All are in play in this moment.

Jesus uses the parable of the persistent widow and the unjust judge to get the point across to us. If the widow's constant nagging can wear the unjust judge down to finally do what is right – as judges are supposed to do – then will not God serve justice more readily when He witnesses our persistence and passion?

God knows the persistence, resilience, righteous suffering of the African American people and the battle for equal economic and social rights. It is a testament to the inner strength and deep faith that continues to bolster the fight for racial equality and the end to systemic racism.

A few years ago, I joined a group of community members fighting for justice reform as we met with the Chief Judge. One statement he made which was so true: "How sad it is that good people have to fight so hard for what is truly just and respectful of the dignity of every human being!" It is the sad reality of our political system. There is an incredible amount of hurt and pain in our world caused by inequity, injustice, discrimination, greed and the hunger for unbridled power. Most often it hurts the poorest of the poor and ultimately hurts us all.

So in what ways do each of us need to strengthen our persistence, patience and resolve to build a more just society. First we must recognize and acknowledge God's constancy and persistence in pursuing us to accept and embrace the transformative and life-giving power of his love. It's interesting that some scholars will sometimes cast the persistent widow as God himself and us as the unjust judge. Are we doing justice to God's love and faithfulness to us? Interesting question.

God is always pursuing us. God never abandons us; but we can all too easily abandon or ignore God in our lives. I continue to admire parents who are persistent in finding ways to care for their children and provide the best for them. I admire the parents who have endured great trials to flee poverty and violence in their own countries to seek safety and welcome here in the U.S. What can we learn from them? I believe there is a lot. Jesus is inviting our persistence and passion for justice for ourselves, our families and for those suffering in the human family. Do we have faith in God that we can make a difference? Do we ave hope that things can change? Do we have the love to put that faith and hope in God and in one another into action? **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, October 23 30th Sunday Ordinary Time

Readings: Sir 35: 12-14, 16-18 2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 16-18 Luke 18: 9-14

