



St. Agatha - St. Martin de Porres Parish
Third Sunday of Advent
Gaudete Sunday December 11, 2022



Be strong, fear not! Here is your God, he comes with divine recompense he comes to save you. Then will the eyes of the blind be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared; then will the lame leap like a stag, then the tongue of the mute will sing. *Isaiah 35:4*

Church Staff

Pastor: Fr. Larry Dowling
 denispadre@aol.com
Associate Pastor: Fr. Thadeo Mгимба
 tmгимба@archchicago.org
Operations Director (interim): Cynthia Smith, cdsmith@archchicago.org
Music Director: Dennis Smith (StA)
 Daryl Petty (SMdeP)
Deacon Couples:
 Rev. Mr William & Gayle Pouncy
 Rev. Mr Greg & Carolyn Shumpert
 Rev. Mr Bruce & Sandra McElrath

Reception/Pantry (StA):
 Ms. 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. Martin de Porres Church
 5112 W. Washington Boulevard
 Chicago, IL 60644

Phone: (773) 287-0206
Website: www.stmartindepordesparish.com
Email: smartindepordes@archchicago.org
Facebook: St. Martin de Porres Parish Chicago
Instagram: @stmartindepordesparish
Twitter: @StMartinParish

Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Masses: Sunday 11:00 am
Tuesday: 9:00 am
Thursday: 9:00 am (Service & Adoration)

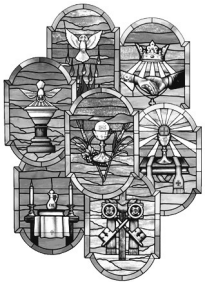
St. Agatha Church

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 Dcn 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, please notify the office in order that a priest or care minister can call or visit the patient and be support to the family.

Your Stewardship of Treasure for the Mission of Jesus Christ Sunday, December 4, 2022

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|-------------------|---------------|
| <u>St. Agatha</u> | |
| Mass Offering | \$5134.41 |
| GiveCentral | 1032.00 |
| Thanksgiving | <u>294.00</u> |
| | \$6,460.41 |

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|-----------------------------|--------------|
| <u>St. Martin de Porres</u> | |
| Mass Offering | \$3962.00 |
| Special: Kolbe House | <u>28.00</u> |
| | \$3,990.00 |

Thank you for your generosity!



For whom shall we pray...

Anthony Adams, Walter Adams, Bertha Anderson, Kristina Anderson, Jewel Austin, Kyle Becnel, Hildegard Bezdicek, Hazel Bills, Christopher Browne, Diondee Brown-Whitfield, Sandra Coffey, Ernestine Cottrell, William Crown, Jermaine Curtis, Jeanette Dandurand, Natalie Davis, Tylesia Day, Shelma Dillon, Elnora Dorsey, Carter Evans, Joyce Evans, Norene Evans, Hildred Fuller, Zenobia Fuller, Danny Gardner, Shea Gardner, Callie Gee, Pamela D. Gee, Yvonne Gibson, Marian Graham, Kia Gray, Stan Gruszczyki, 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, Kesiea & Melinda, Kim Henderson, Leonard Henderson, Jerron Johns Jr., Sr., Julius Jones, Jacqueline Kelly, Brian Lares, Jimmy Lee, Sayyid Lestrade, 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, 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 sisters and brothers, this Third Sunday of Advent, is traditionally referred to a Gaudete Sunday, that is, Joy Sunday. In the midst of our Advent journey of reflection and preparation for the Lord to be born more deeply into our lives, we reflect on the joy that we experience in having a relationship with Jesus Christ and a community of his disciples who support us on our journey... and we reflect on and hopefully feel the joy that He has in us as we offer our lives in loving service to others.

The Reading from the Prophet Isaiah speaks of new life. I encourage you to sit with this reading and to feel the joy that it can elicit in you. These are the first lines... "The desert and the parched land will exult; the steppe will rejoice and bloom. They will bloom with abundant flowers, and rejoice with joyful song." Is 35:1. The Gospel focuses us on the last days of John the Baptist, now imprisoned by Herod and soon to face beheading. Even though John has dedicated his life to prepare the way for Jesus, perhaps in his despair and uncertainty wants to be assured that Jesus is the One and that his life has not been in vain. The response back to John from Jesus is wonderfully captured in an Advent poem by theologian John Shea in his book "Starlight." Listen to what John's disciples convey back to him after talking with Jesus:

"The disciples of John returned on the night of Herod's birthday. The music and laughter of the celebration twisted down the stairs to the dungeon beneath the earth. They talked to John through the bars. They could barely make him out in the shadows. "We saw a blind woman staring at her hand, first the palm, then the back, over and over again, twisting it like a diamond in the sun, weeping all the time and saying, "I can see through tears! I can see through tears!" We saw a lame man bounce his granddaughter on his knee. We saw a leper kiss her husband. We saw a deaf boy snap his fingers next to his ear and jump. We saw a dead girl wake and stretch and eat breakfast. The poor we saw were not poor. They paused. Although there was no light in the dungeon, there was a glow around John. It softened the fierceness of his face yet took no strength away."

One of the lessons of Advent for me is in the exact words that Jesus addresses to John's disciples: "Go and tell John what you hear and see!" The lesson is that John's disciples do not encounter Christ in the synagogue or temple, in the places of power. Instead Jesus is most present among the poor, the disenfranchised, on the fringes of society. This means that, if we really want to encounter Jesus, we are most likely to find him – and find our truest selves - with those who are, in the eyes of the rich and powerful, the powerless who they can use and abuse and ignore. This should assure us that, when at times we may feel powerless, Christ is there for us. It should also challenge us to seek out those who struggle every day to make ends meet, to provide for themselves and their families. This is where we find true joy – in knowing we are not alone and that we can best encounter Jesus in our daily lives, far away from the centers of power, and often close to home in our communities and wherever the Lord takes us. JOY – j-O-Y – Jesus, Others, and You. May you and your loved ones know JOY in every moment of your day!

Gentle Peace! Fr. Larry

OPPORTUNITIES TO CELEBRATE THIS ADVENT SEASON TOGETHER

**Masses: Tuesdays 9:00 a.m. SMdeP, Thurs-
days 7:30 a.m. StA**

**Adoration/ Benediction Thursdays 9:00 a.m.
SMdeP**

Wednesday Prayer Together on ZOOM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83120205574?>



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**Westside Catholic
Advent**

RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Wednesday, December 21 7:00 p.m.

Our Lady of Sorrows Basilica

Next Sunday, December 18, 2022
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Readings: Isaiah 7: 10-14
Romans 1: 1-7
Matthew 1: 18-24



| Celebrant Mass Schedule | | |
|--------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| | St. Agatha | St. Martin de Porres |
| 12/11/22 | Fr. Larry | Fr. Thad |
| 12/18/22 | Fr. Thad | Fr. Larry |
| 12/24/22 | St. Martin de Porres - Fr. Larry 4:00 Pageant/Carols - 5:00 Mass | |
| 12/25/22 | St. Agatha | Fr. Thad |

Saturday, December 24, 2022
St. Martin de Porres
4:00 p.m. Pageant, Carols
5:00 p.m. Mass
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Sunday, December 25th
10:00 a.m. St. Agatha

St. Martin de Porres Credit Union
Located in Purcell Hall
 4300 W. Washington Blvd.
 773-626-0776
 Open Saturdays: 10:30a.m.-1:30p.m.

Purcell Hall Rental Information
 Contact the Parish Office

Charitable Hands Ministry
 Deacon William Pouncy and Liz Becnel
 Call Deacon Pouncy (312) 841-3974

THANK YOU !!! TO ALL OF YOU WHO HAVE BEEN MAILING IN YOUR SUNDAY OFFERINGS OR MAKING THEM ONLINE! AND, OF COURSE, OUR SUNDAY ATTENDEES!

Mass Intentions for this Week
Sunday, December 11, 2022

Frank G. Davis Sr. and Frank G. Davis Jr.
 Jeffrey L. Davis
 Diondee Brown-Whitfield, from the Hicks Family
 Safe Travels for Roger and Martha Villalba

We encourage our parishioners to pray for their loved ones, living and deceased, by offering a Mass Intention.
Donation is \$10

All Seniors are Welcome to Golden Age Group
Food, Fellowship, Info for Seniors, Other Activities

Every 3rd Monday 12:00 - 2:30 p.m.
Monday, December 19 St. Agatha Site
Transportation provided for St. Martin Seniors
RSVP to Ms McGowan (773) 522-3050



JOIN US !!! Parish Women's Faith Sharing
 Every Wednesday 10:00 - 11:00 am
Dial in at (267) 807-9533
 Access code: 386562#



Children's Liturgy of the Word

1st, 2nd and 3rd Sunday of Each Month

Prepare the way of the Lord !