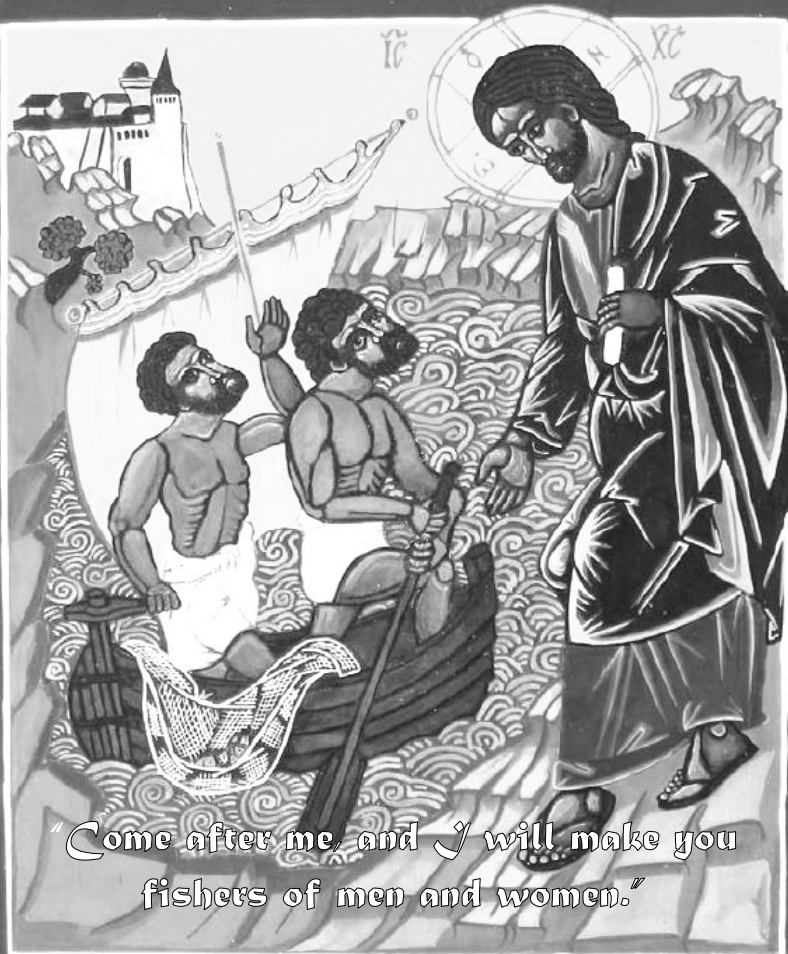




St. Agatha - St. Martin de Porres Parish
January 22, 2023
Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



*"Come after me, and I will make you
fishers of men and women."*

Church Staff

Pastor: Fr. Larry Dowling
denispadre@aol.com
Associate Pastor: Fr. Thadeo Mгимba
tmгимba@archchicago.org
Operations Director : 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
Reception/Pantry (StA):
Refoncia McGowan
Interim Parish Secretary (SMdeP):
Carol Johnson
Building Engineer: Roger Lozano
Assisting Pastor w/ the DRE:
Marvin McCurry
Custodian: Frank Clark
Housekeeper (SMdeP):
Scarlett Evans-Perez
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: stmartindepordes@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/

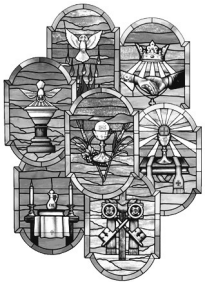
Church Office Hours

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, January 15, 2023

<u>St. Agatha</u>	
Mass Offering	\$2,027.50
GiveCentral	<u>1245.00</u>
TOTAL	\$3,272.50

<u>St. Martin de Porres</u>	
Mass Offering	\$2,668.00
Special Kolbe House:	<u>129.00</u>
TOTAL	\$2,797.00

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, 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 Gruszczyk, Bill Hainey, Nathaniel W. Hall, Mary Harrell, Diane Harris, Jasmine Harris, Jennifer Harris, Johnny Harris, Lejerrion Harris, Leatrice 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 brothers and sisters, today's Gospel, connected in a wonderful way to our First Reading from the Prophet Isaiah, has Jesus fully engaging his ministry. Matthew's Gospel refers to the prophecy of Isaiah: "the people who sit in darkness have seen a great light, on those dwelling in a land overshadowed by death, a light has arisen." Jesus continues to echo John the Baptist's cry, "Repent!," but adds "for the Kingdom of God is at hand!" But what does this mean? Later on in the Gospel Jesus shares parables – the man discovering a treasure in his field, the widow finding a lost coin, the pearl of great price – to raise up the great value and excitement in pursuing the Kingdom of God, both in this life and the next. Other parables like the sower and the seed and the weeds and the wheat highlight different aspects of the faith journey where some will embrace the journey of faith fully or not.

For Jesus, the Kingdom of God is expressed throughout his whole life. He presents a blueprint for fully embracing the fullness of God's plan for each and all of us: humility, generosity, unconditional love and sacrifice, encouragement to walk through the chaos of life with God as companion and willing to accompany others as the presence of God's love to help them through the chaos and together to know the joy of living a full life grounded in faith, hope and love. Jesus knows early on that he will need companions, disciples who he will eventually call friends. He knows that his ministry will likely be short because of the radical deeply rooted love he extends to absolutely everyone. It is a love that supports, affirms, forgives, reflects radical mercy, heals, casts out demons, a love that challenges those who abuse their power, especially those who claim religious and political authority.

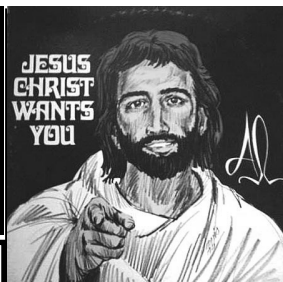
The account of the call of the first 4 disciples – Peter, James, John and Andrew – seems to indicate a simple encounter and these disciples immediate willingness to leave their livelihood and their families. More likely, Jesus spent some time with them, getting to know them and they getting to know him, ultimately seeing in Jesus a heart and spirit that touched them deeply and compelled them to freely make this life-changing decision.

Our call to follow Jesus happens every day if we are open to accepting His call. What it requires of us is an openness to a dialogue with Jesus, speaking from our heart about our hopes and dreams, fears and struggles and Jesus in turn sharing His heart, his hopes and dreams, fears and struggles and how He embraces all of these because of the love that God the Father has for Him and that God the Father has for each of us as well. This encounter energizes us to seek to plumb the depths of the reality and mystery of such humble, generous and unconditional love.

We all need companions on the journey, people freely offering their support to us as we walk the journey of faith. And there are many who need our accompaniment. This requires daily encounters with Jesus and encounters with others, not just those we are familiar with, but those who cross our physical path, but also those who cross the borders of our consciousness, those who are in need, those hungering to know the brotherly or sisterly love of a fellow human being. Such love requires us to stretch ourselves, to be open to go places where there are those people struggling and in need of knowing that someone cares. My hope is that we will continue to answer God's call by being willing to be stretched. Clearly, that is what happened in the disciples' encounter with Jesus... and that Jesus longs will happen with us.

Gentle Peace! Fr. Larry

Next Sunday, January 29, 2023
Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Readings: Zep 2:3; 3:12-13
1Cor 1: 26-31
Matthew 5: 1-12a



**CALLING ALL
DISCIPLES OF
JESUS CHRIST !**

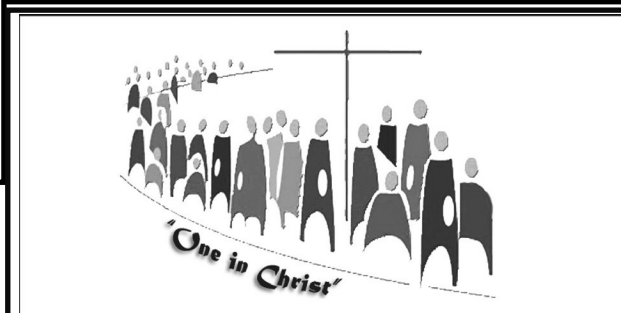
**Join Us for our
First Annual
Unified Parish**

MINISTRY FAIR

Saturday, January 28, 2023
Purcell Hall

Celebrant Mass Schedule
St. Agatha St. Martin de Porres

01/22/23	Fr. Thad	Fr. Larry
01/29/23	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thad
02/05/23	Unity Mass	St. Agatha 10:00 a.m.
02/12/23	Fr. Thad	Fr. Larry
02/19/23	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thad



Mark Your Calendars !

PARISH UNITY MASS

Sunday, February 5, 2023
St. Agatha Church
10:00 a.m. (only Mass that day)
Reception Afterward
Unity on the Feast of St. Agatha

St. Martin de Porres Credit Union
Located in Purcell Hall

4300 W. Washington Blvd.
773-626-0776

Open Saturdays: 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Purcell Hall Rental Information

Contact the Parish Office

Charitable Hands Ministry

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

Mass Intentions for this Week
Sunday, January 22, 2023

Safe Travels for Roger and Martha Villalba

Isabel Marquez, from Legion of Mary

Blaze, Foster, Scott, Vaughn, and Muhammad Family
From the Johnson Family

**We encourage our parishioners to pray for their
loved ones, living and deceased, by offering a Mass
Intention.**

Donation is \$10

MARDI GRAS IS COMING !

Saturday, February 18, 2023

Purcell Hall

***Get your tickets NOW thru
Grady Anderson Aux
Members or the Church Offices***

JOIN US !!!

Parish Women's Faith Sharing

Every Wednesday 10:00 - 11:00 am

Dial in at (267) 807-9533

Access code: 386562#