



**St. Agatha - St. Martin de Porres Parish**  
**January 8, 2023**  
**The Epiphany of the Lord**



***“They prostrated themselves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.”***

**Matt 2: 9-11**

**Church Staff**

**Pastor: Fr. Larry Dowling [denispadre@aol.com](mailto:denispadre@aol.com)**

**Associate Pastor: Fr. Thadeo Mгимба  
[tmgimba@archchicago.org](mailto:tmgimba@archchicago.org)**

**Operations Director : Cynthia Smith,  
[cdsmith@archchicago.org](mailto: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](http://www.stmartindepordesparish.com)**

**Email: [stmartindepordes@archchicago.org](mailto:stmartindepordes@archchicago.org)**

**Facebook: St. Martin de Porres Parish Chicago**

**Instagram: [@stmartindepordesparish](https://www.instagram.com/stmartindepordesparish)**

**Twitter: [@StMartinParish](https://twitter.com/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](http://www.st-agatha-chicago.org)**

**Email: [stagatha@archchicago.org](mailto:stagatha@archchicago.org)**

**[www.facebook.com/st.agathachicago/](https://www.facebook.com/st.agathachicago/)**

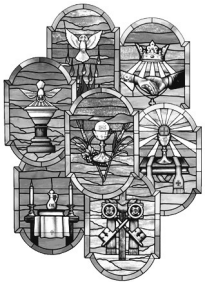
***Church Office Hours***

***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 1, 2023

<u>St. Agatha</u>	
Mass Offering	\$3,958.00
GiveCentral	745.00
Christmas	<u>850.00</u>
	\$5,553.00

<u>St. Martin de Porres</u>	
Mass Offering	\$4,134.00
Christmas	311.00
Special Kolbe House:	<u>130.00</u>
	\$,4575.00

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 friends, this coming Sunday marks the culmination of the Universal Church's celebration of the Christmas Season. The Feast we celebrate is the Feast of the Three Kings, the Epiphany of the Messiah to all peoples and nations. Our Gospel story recounts the visit of the Three Kings. They are drawn to the Christ Child by a common vision and guided by a star which draws them together to journey to Bethlehem to offer witness and worship to the newborn Christ.

There is a richness to this story: Companions seeking direction to where the newborn King of the Jews prophesied in the Scriptures has been born in flesh into human history. They seek wisdom from 'the locals', the advisors of King Herod, as to what the prophecies predict about where He has been born. They find their way to Bethlehem to the place where Jesus, Mary and Joseph are staying until Mary is strong enough to travel back to their home in Nazareth. They pay him the homage due a king and offer him symbolic gifts of gold for a king, frankincense, honoring his divinity and myrrh anticipating his death for the life of the world.

Herod had told them to return to him to let him know if and where they found him. But, transformed by their encounter with the infant Son of God, they are moved to 'take a different way back home.' Once we encounter and be transformed by the presence of Christ, how can we ever continue on the same path we were on?

There is also a greater message in this Feast. Jesus Christ has been born in flesh and spirit to save the Chosen people, the Jews; but as Jesus will himself discover, His mission and message goes far beyond the Jewish people. Indeed, as the 3 kings from nations far and wide symbolize, Jesus will be a light for all nations. This is wonderfully expressed in our First Reading from Isaiah: Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples; but upon you the LORD shines, and over you appears his glory. Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance. Raise your eyes and look about; they all gather and come to you: your sons come from afar, and your daughters in the arms of their nurses. Then you shall be radiant at what you see, your heart shall throb and overflow, for the riches of the sea shall be emptied out before you, the wealth of nations shall be brought to you.

As we enter further into this New Year, I invite you to open your heart to ponder the reality that the Jesus Christ you call your personal Savior is also Savior to every other person, rich and poor, immigrant and citizen, black, brown, white or every other shade of humankind. This should challenge all of us to set aside all prejudice and discrimination and open our hearts and minds to greater compassion and care for ALL God's people!

**Gentle Peace! Fr. Larry**

### **PLEASE !**

Mail in or drop off your Sunday Tithe or Call the Parish Operations Director at (773) 522-3050 x 223 to sign up for Give Central. **Thanks!**

**Children's  
Liturgy of the  
Word  
1st, 2nd and 3rd  
Sunday of Each  
Month St. Martin  
de Porres**



**Next Sunday, January 15, 2023**  
**Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Readings: Isaiah 49: 3, 5-6**  
**1 Cor 1: 1-3**  
**John 1: 29-34**

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

**Celebrant Mass Schedule**

	<b>St. Agatha</b>	<b>St. Martin de Porres</b>
01/08/23	Fr. Thad	Fr. Larry
01/15/23	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thad
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.	

**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

**Mass Intentions for this Week**  
**Sunday, January 8, 2023**

Tommy and Bradley Trifone

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



**A Slave to True Freedom  
 in God's Love**  
*(a prayer in the spirit of  
 Blessed Augustus Tolton)*

**Gracious God, God of Moses,  
 of Harriet Tubman, God of salvation  
 found in Jesus Christ:**

**In true freedom you call me daily,  
 in each moment, in every breath,  
 to surrender to the transformative  
 and empowering gift of Your all-  
 embracing, ever life-giving love.**

**Lord, release me from  
 my enslavement  
 to ego, to the need for control,  
 to unforgiveness and hatred,  
 to apathy and indifference,  
 to prestige and power-over,  
 to prejudice, racism, and sexism,  
 to fear of speaking truth to power.**

**Center me, ground me, root me  
 in humble and generous  
 servanthood to Your gracious will.  
 Send me forth to minister where I am  
 needed; and, when I find myself  
 wanting, allow me to humbly invite  
 and accept the ministry of others.**

**May my every word,  
 my every action this day  
 be worthy of Your blessing.  
 Loving God, let it be so! Amen!**

*Fr. Larry Dowling*