

St. Agatha - St. Martin de Porres Parish
February 5, 2023
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Church Staff

Pastor: Fr. Larry Dowling
denispadre@aol.com
Associate Pastor: Fr. Thadeo Mгимба
tmгимба@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: 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/

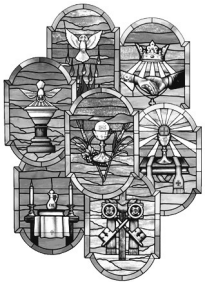
Church Office Hours

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, January 29, 2023

<u>St. Agatha</u>		<u>St. Martin de Porres</u>	
Mass Offering	\$ 1,861.00	Mass Offering	\$2,297.00
GiveCentral	<u>835.00</u>	Special Kolbe House:	<u>27.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 2,696.00	TOTAL	\$2,324.00

Thank you for your generosity!



For whom shall we pray...

Anthony Adams, Walter Adams, Ben Anderson Bertha Anderson, Kristina Anderson, Jewel Austin, Kyle Becnel, Hildegard Bezdicek, Hazel Bills, Christopher Browne, Diondee Brown-Whitfield, Sandra Coffey, Ernestine Cottrell, Conne Covey, 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 Gruszczycki, 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, today we find ourselves sitting on the high hillside near the Sea of Galilee. For a moment I want you to imagine you are sitting on that hillside. We might imagine that Jesus is preaching from the top of that high hill. But if you have been to the site, you realize that the sound is clearer if the speaker stands at the base of the hill, as in an auditorium. This means that everyone sits above Jesus and that Jesus is lower than everyone else. I like to think that his apostles are sitting at that level with him. It is a place of humility for a rabbi, a teacher to stand. Keep this in mind as we often imagine Jesus standing 'above us,' crucified 'above us,' 'above us' now in heaven. This creates a comfortable distance for us, as opposed to having to look down on someone who many are wondering and hoping that He is the long-awaited Messiah!

It is from this lower place that Jesus preaches Good News to the spiritually, emotionally, and materially impoverished from all over Galilee. From here Jesus continues to preach the great Sermon on the Mount. He has just shared the proclamation of the Beatitudes, the blessings that upend what society would say are curses or weaknesses: mourning, hunger, thirst, meekness, seeking peace rather than retribution, enduring ridicule for taking a prophetic stand against the idolatry of anything other than God. Basically, he has said to them: the God you need to cling to is One Who will be there for you through all these things, that God will never abandon you, even if you abandon God.

Jesus now proclaims to them that the Spirit of that same God is within them! God is the light that will guide You. And, guess what? That Light is within each and every one of us! You are the Light of the world! Imagine what it must have felt like for those people – hardened by life, by oppression, by discrimination, subjugation and often humiliation – each and every one of you bear the Light of God within you!

Now many of them may have said to themselves, "But I don't feel that light, that presence within me." Jesus then goes on to say something more: "You are the salt of the earth!" Your lives – each and every one of you - add flavor, seasoning, something special to the world! As salt preserves food, we preserve and promote the presence of God, letting faith, hope and love for our families and each other, show forth to counter the darkness and division that seeks to oppress us.

Again, people might say to themselves or each other, "but I don't feel that I have anything to offer the world."

Then the Gospel tells us that Jesus says, "If you remove from your midst oppression, false accusation and malicious speech; if you bestow your bread on the hungry and satisfy the afflicted; then light shall rise for you in the darkness, and the gloom shall become for you like midday." (Isaiah 58:10) In other words, "if you can reject the oppression you feel, stop pointing at others to accuse for your lot in life, if instead you focus that negativity outward in ways that express you care for others, then that Light will begin to become evident and grow and encourage others to let their light shine until, when we come together as one, that light WILL OVERCOME the darkness of our world.

You are the salt of the earth! You are the light of the world! Know God's great love for you – not for what you do, but for who you are, a person created by God out of love, with a purpose, a mission to add your unique light, your unique flavor to the world!

Gentle peace! Fr. Larry

You are the light of the world!

Next Sunday, February 12, 2023
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Readings: Sirach 15: 15-20
1 Cor 2: 6-10
Matthew 5: 17-37

Celebrant Mass Schedule
St. Agatha St. Martin de Porres

02/05/23	Unity Mass	St. Agatha	10:00 a.m.
02/12/23	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thad	
02/19/23	Fr. Thad	Fr. Larry	
02/26/23	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thad	
03/05/23	Fr. Thad	Fr. Larry	

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, February 5, 2023

In Memory of Charles Brown

In Memory of Constance Covey

Happy Birthday Wishes
From the Hicks Family to

Patricia Graham
Bobbie Hicks (Heavenly Birthday)
Russell Hicks
Brenettia Terry (Heavenly Birthday)

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

Prayer for the Intercession
of St. Agatha

God of infinite compassion and
boundless love, through the ages
You call men and women,

young and old,

to model for us the virtues of
faith, hope and love. You have
given us St. Agatha of Sicily as a
model of such virtue.

She centered her life in You and
You gave her

the strength and resilience
to endure abuse and torture
at the hands of those in power.

Through the intercession of
St. Agatha, virgin and martyr,
strengthen my resolve to live into the
fullness of who you created me to be,
to be your life-giving love to others,
to speak your truth, and to oppose
those forces that would diminish or
destroy the beauty
ever-present and ever-emerging
in me, in others and
in your glorious creation.
I ask this through Christ,
my brother and Savior. Amen.

JOIN US !!!

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