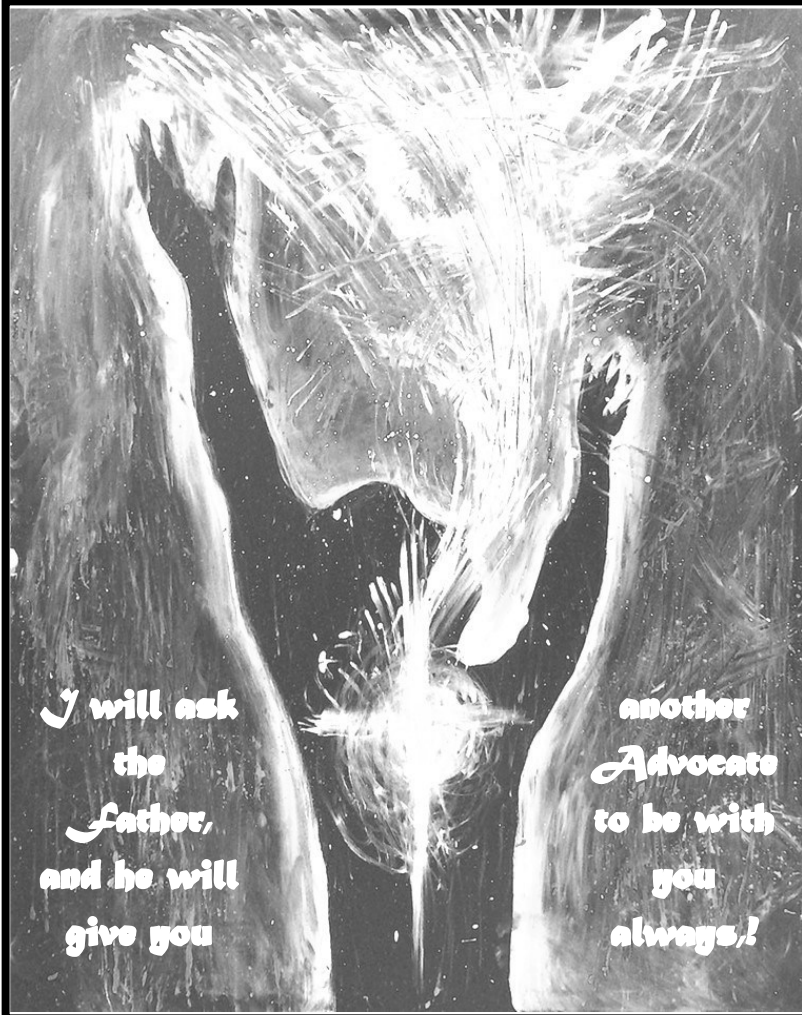




**St. Simon of Cyrene Catholic Parish**  
**May 14, 2023**  
**Sixth Sunday of Easter - Mother's Day**

**Blessed  
 Mother's  
 Day!**



*I will ask  
 the  
 Father,  
 and he will  
 give you*

*another  
 Advocate  
 to be with  
 you  
 always!*

**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)  
 Darryl 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  
**Maintenance:** Andrew Griffin  
**Interim 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)*

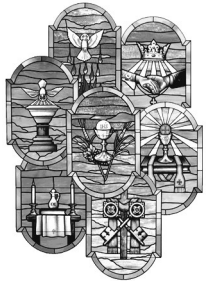
**St. Agatha Church**

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 Den 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, May 7, 2023

#### St. Simon of Cyrene at St. Agatha - St. Martin de Porres

Mass Offering	\$4,907.50
GiveCentral	1563.00
Kolbe-Special	62.00
Easter Collection	20.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,552.50</b>

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, William Crown, Jermaine Curtis, Natalie Davis, Tylesia Day, Shelma Dillon, Elnora Dorsey, Carter Evans, Joyce Evans, Norene Evans, Diana Foster, 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, Darryl Hicks, Veronica Hicks, Jacqueline Hicks, Gwendolyn 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, Shannon Long, Anthony Lyons, Alexander Madden, Keith Mahaffey, John Mannede, Larry Mapp Jr., Arelys 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, Regina Taitis Sr., 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, I love this Sunday's second reading. St. Peter tells us in his First Letter, "Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts. Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope, but do it with gentleness and reverence." We know many people who seem to have little, if any, hope for the future. Sadly, there are many youth in our communities, and others who live each day simply trying to survive, with little thought of ever thriving.

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to be a people of hope, to live hope, to offer hope to others, not just through words, but through actions that reflect joy and hope, even in the midst of poverty and violence.

When I was first ordained 32 years ago, I pledged to God that I would never lose hope. That hope has diminished at times, but I have never totally lost hope.

I remember when we had to close the school at St. Denis where I was pastor, we made the final decision at a parish council meeting on a Sunday morning between Masses. I remember sitting there after the vote, feeling despondent. At one point I said out loud, "This is so difficult to do. It seems that all we have to cling to is faith!" One of the elders on the Council looked at me and said, "And isn't that wonderful?!" After a moment, I looked at her and said to the group, "Yes, I guess it is. We must believe God has a path forward for us."

Over the next few months we decided to concentrate on evangelization, forming teams to go out door-to-door, greet our neighbors, ask if they had a faith community they belonged to, affirmed them if they did and invited them to join us for Mass on Sunday or to other parish events which we had a list of. We would end by asking them if they had anyone that they would like us to pray for at Church on Sunday, and they often did. We would also pray with them there, and then end our conversation by asking if we could do a follow-up with them to keep them informed of parish activities. It took courage for our team to go out. Two-by-two to do this work, but we ended up with 10 teams who were eventually willing to do this. We had other parishioners do follow-up calls. We would start our weekly ministry with prayer as teams, then close by gathering back together to debrief and close in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to bless and help nurture seeds we had planted. In Sunday's Gospel, Jesus tells us that none of us are ever alone, promising us that the Holy Spirit, the Advocate, is always present to give us the words and actions that we need to attract others to come to know Jesus.

Today we celebrate Mother's Day, celebrating those loving and self-sacrificing mothers, grandmothers, guardians and aunts who every day have advocated for us throughout their lives. As we celebrate these women, let us give thanks and ask for their strength and commitment to pass on the faith, to engender hope, to express unconditional love to all who need faith, hope and love in their lives.

**Gentle Peace! Fr. Larry**



**Next Sunday, May 21, 2023**  
**Seventh Sunday of Easter**  
**Readings: Acts 8:5-8, 14-17**  
**1 Peter 3:15-18**  
**John 14:15-21**

<b>Celebrant Mass Schedule</b>		
	<b>St. Agatha</b>	<b>St. Martin de Porres</b>
<b>05/21/23</b>	<b>Fr. Larry</b>	<b>Fr. Thad</b>
<b>05/28/23</b>	<b>Fr. Thad</b>	<b>Fr. Larry</b>
<b>06/04/23</b>	<b>Fr. Larry</b>	<b>Fr. Thad</b>
<b>06/11/23</b>	<b>Fr. Thad</b>	<b>Fr. Larry</b>
<b>06/18/23</b>	<b>Fr. Larry</b>	<b>Fr. Thad</b>
<b>06/25/23</b>	<b>Fr. Thad</b>	<b>Fr. Larry</b>



**Mass Intentions for this Week**  
**Sunday, May 14, 2023**



**In Loving Memory of Jack Hampton**  
**Husband of Dr. Nelvia Brady Hampton**

**In Loving Memory of Lillian Ann Mayfield-Ingram**  
**from the Peters and Clark Family**

**In Honor of St. Martin de Porres and Giving Thanks**  
**for the Villalba Family**

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

**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

*St. Martin Travel and Entertainment Group*  
 We're Back!  
 Meeting at St. Martin de Porres Church Rectory  
 Next Sunday, May 21st at 10:30am  
 (In-between both Mass)  
 Members of St. Agatha and St. Martin de Porres  
 are Welcome to join.

**St. Simon of Cyrene Prayer of Intercession**  
 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 humble strength and willing service. You have given us this noble African, St. Simon of Cyrene, as a model of such virtue, manifested in a life as a husband, father, laborer and willing servant to help bear the burdens of others. He helped bear the cross of Your Son, Our Lord, Brother and Savior, Jesus Christ, in order that Jesus might complete his journey to suffer the cross, conquering death and opening the doors of heaven to all humankind.  
 Through the intercession of St. Simon of Cyrene, strengthen me in my resolve to live the truth of who You created me to be, to love as only to be life-giving to others, to use my unique gifts to help bear the crosses of all innocent victims who suffer injustice inflicted by the greed, arrogance and apathy of others. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.  
*St. Simon of Cyrene, one with Our Savior in bearing His cross, pray for us!*  
*St. Simon of Cyrene, a foundation stone of the Christian Church in Africa, pray for us!*  
*St. Simon of Cyrene, husband, father, laborer, strength for the suffering Christ in our world, pray for us!*

**Our Vision...**  
 Rooted in and propelled by the love of Jesus Christ, we, the people of St. Simon of Cyrene Catholic Parish, one Parish Family with ministry sites at St. Agatha & St. Martin de Porres Churches, profess a life-giving, all-embracing faith, fostering full participation in worship that nourishes us to care for one another and extend our lived faith, relentless hope and life-giving love to our Westside Communities.

*- Golden Age Group -*  
**Food, Fellowship, Info for Seniors**  
**Other Activities**  
**Every 3rd Monday 12:00 - 2:30 p.m.**  
**Monday, May 15th at St. Agatha Site**  
**Transportation provided for**  
**St. Martin Seniors**  
**RSVP to Ms. McGowan (773) 522-3050**