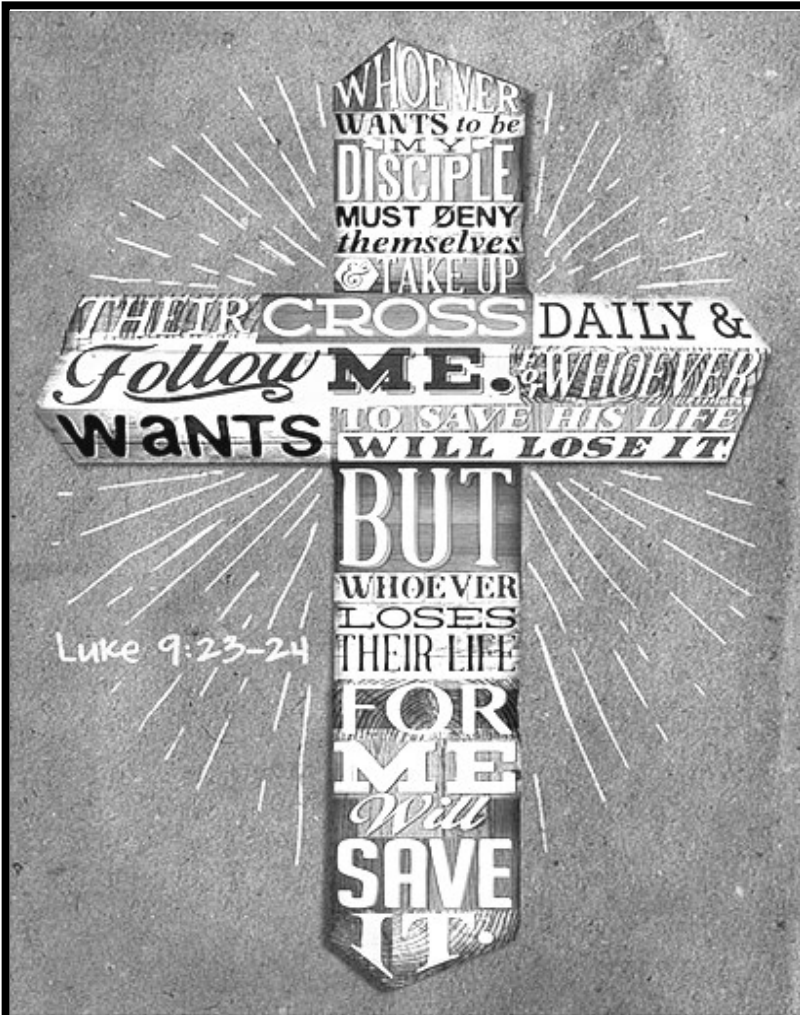




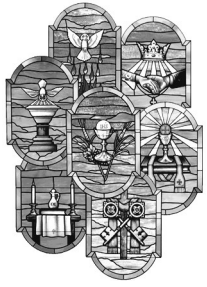
**St. Simon of Cyrene Catholic Parish**  
**July 2, 2023**  
**Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**



**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)  
 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, June 25, 2023

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

Mass Offering	\$2,326.00
GiveCentral	2115.00
*Universal Offertory for May	1900.00
Kolbe-Special	1.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$6,342.00</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, Ana Garcia, 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, Latoya Mahaffey, Ronnie Mahaffey, John Mannelle, 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 Pledge, 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., Richard Spearman, 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...**

I find it interesting when I hear talk about the ‘hospitality industry.’ We know all too well that the hospitality industry exists to make a lot of money for a small group of individuals in our society. Granted, the industry employs a lot of individuals, yet often they pay minimum wage and, in the case of undocumented immigrants, pay less than minimum wage. There is a human cost as well, as families struggle to survive every day, often working long hours under difficult working conditions.

For those who control the ‘hospitality industry,’ both workers and consumers are commodities first, human beings second. A few years ago, I saw an actual ad for an employment firm that had people from different service professions in a vending machine for them to choose from!

In contrast, the Scriptures for today focus us on hospitality that is life-giving, not just for the receiver, but for those who extend hospitality with humility and generosity. Our first reading recounts the beautiful story of the childless couple who extend a place to stay, food and refreshment to the prophet Elisha. Elisha is touched by their generosity and seeks a way to respond to their gesture. He discovers that the couple has been unable to have children and tells the woman that she will have a child by the time he returns in a year. Extending life-giving hospitality to the prophet results in the miraculous gift of new life blessing this couple.

In the Gospel, Jesus makes this bold statement, "Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me." At first hearing, we might say, ‘but shouldn’t I love my mother or father or spouse above anyone else’? What Jesus is getting at is reminding us of the Source of our life, the One who breathed spirit and life into us, into our parents and spouse, and everyone else we hold dear. Shouldn’t our Creator be the One we should love first? When I rise every morning, I give thanks for another day, but pretty quickly reflect on the Source of creation itself, the One who initiated the ‘Big Bang’, creating the immense universe, the galaxies, stars and planets, seas and land, birds and animals... and little ole me! That alone gives me every reason to direct my attention, my focus, my love on the God who did all this! And, as I learn about this God in Whom I believe wholeheartedly, I realize the unique love He has for us as human beings. This love is unconditional, eternal, ever life-giving, ever offering forgiveness because He longs for us to follow the unique path and purpose we have been created for. That leads us to love those who are near and dear to us in life-giving ways. God should be first. God hopes He will be first, because He has so much to offer us that will enrich all our relationships. This is the heart of hospitality: If we welcome God and God’s love first in our hearts, then God will give us all we need to offer our best selves to every other relationship in our lives.

**Gentle peace! Fr. Larry**

**P.S. This Tuesday we celebrate Independence Day - for some. We honor the tapestry of freed and enslaved peoples and the indigenous peoples whose laws inspired the founders. We still have much work to do to achieve the original vision. Let us pause each day to appreciate the true freedom we experience in knowing and loving God.**

**Next Sunday, July 9, 2023**  
**Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Readings: Zechariah 9:9-10**  
**Romans 8:9, 11-13**  
**Matthew 11:25-30**

**Celebrant Mass Schedule**  
**St. Agatha                      St. Martin de Porres**

<b>07/09/23</b>	<b>Fr. Thad</b>	<b>Fr. Thad</b>
<b>07/16/23</b>	<b>Fr. Larry</b>	<b>Fr. Thad</b>
<b>07/23/23</b>	<b>Fr. Thad</b>	<b>Fr. Larry</b>
<b>07/30/23</b>	<b>Fr. Larry</b>	<b>Fr. Thad</b>
<b>08/06/23</b>	<b>Fr. Thad</b>	<b>Fr. Larry</b>
<b>08/13/23</b>	<b>Fr. Larry</b>	<b>Fr. Thad</b>

**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.



**Mass Intentions for this Week**  
**Sunday, July 2, 2023**



In Loving Memory of Irma Wesson  
 From the Eucharistic Ministers

Happy Heavenly Birthday to Isabel Marquez  
 From the Marquez Family

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

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

**LIFE LINE HEALTH SCREENING**

**Friday, July 21, 2023**

**St. Agatha Church Site**

**4 Screenings for \$149**

**Carotid Artery Disease**

**Atrial Fibrillation**

**Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm**

**Peripheral Arterial Disease**

**To Make an Appointment,**

**Call 1-800-640-6307**

**Or visit [LLSA.SOCIAL/HC](http://LLSA.SOCIAL/HC)**

*Freedom in Christ*



*"If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed." John 8:36 NIV.*

*Busyblessedwomen.com*