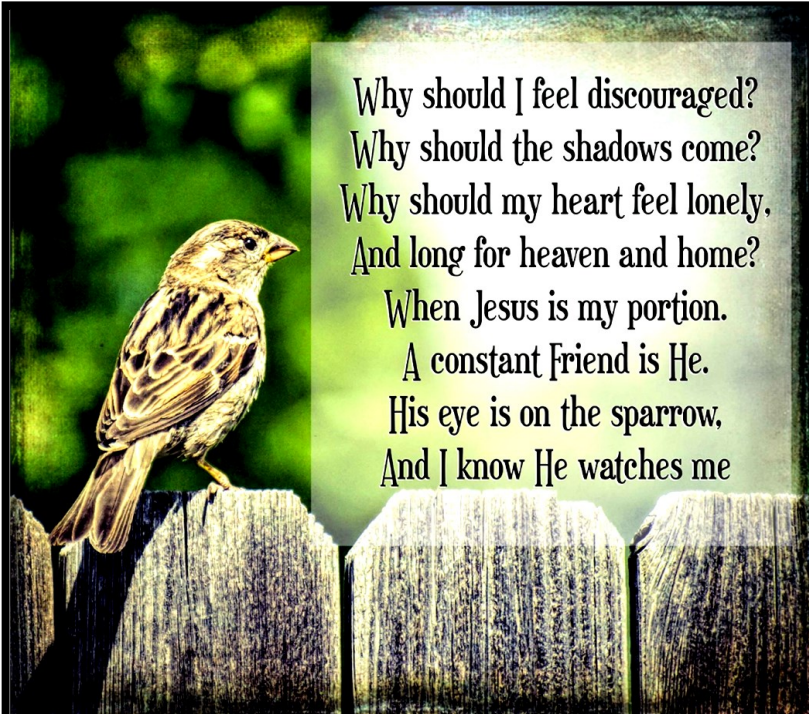




St. Simon of Cyrene Catholic Parish
June 25, 2023
Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time



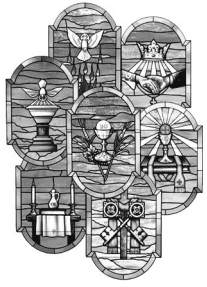
Why should I feel discouraged?
 Why should the shadows come?
 Why should my heart feel lonely,
 And long for heaven and home?
 When Jesus is my portion.
 A constant friend is He.
 His eye is on the sparrow,
 And I know He watches me



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: 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 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 18, 2023

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

Mass Offering	\$4,027.50
GiveCentral	1223.61
Kolbe-Special	<u>175.00</u>
Total:	\$5,426.11

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 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 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...

My friends, reflect for a moment on this statement: **Each of us is created to be a place where God's love can dwell. We are created to be a place where God's love can dwell.**

In today's Gospel Jesus tells us that God values every creature, every human being, in fact, ALL of creation. After all, God created us out of Divine love, and Divine love is always life-giving, both to the receiver, and through the receiver to others loved by God. If God created us, He must have a purpose for each and all of us. God gives us free choice: just as God freely created us and freely gave us His only Son to die for us, so God continues to offer us so much to help us recognize our true purpose and live that out as fully as we can in our lives.

My friends, our world scoffs at the notion of an eternal, lifegiving, unconditionally loving, ever-forgiving God. At the same time, it creates other gods for us to worship, gods that attract us with false promises of prosperity, instant gratification, power over others, gods that help us anesthetize ourselves to our daily problems and the immensity of the problems and pain in our world, gods that benefit those with economic, political and religious power to the immense detriment of others, especially the poor.

Jesus' final words to his apostles in the Gospel are clear: "Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father. But whoever denies me before others, I will deny before my heavenly Father." To make it even clearer: Those of us who claim the true God as our only God and strive to reject the false gods of our culture have Jesus offering testimony on our behalf to the Father. But those who deny God, those who claim to be self-made men or women, those who step on others to get to the top, those who are generous to the poor, to various causes, who do so only because it makes them look good before others, those who give generously to our churches and, in turn, use those contributions to control what the pastor can or cannot say from the pulpit, all of these ultimately deny that God, and instead themselves, claim the highest relationship in their life, Jesus will say to the Father, "I do not know them. They have never acknowledged you or me in their hearts as Creator and Redeemer."

My brothers and sisters, the fact is that we will never be truly human unless the greatest value in each of our lives is to receive the love of God and to carry it to the people around us. What this means for me is that I need to make more time to sit in the presence of the Lord, to simply 'be', to bathe in the grace and love that God longs for me to accept in my life. Like any relationship, it takes time, especially if our lives have been preoccupied by other gods who manifest themselves in the 7 deadly sins: Lust, Gluttony, Greed, Sloth, Wrath, Envy and Pride. God created us. It naturally follows from this belief that God values each of us. The question for all of us is: "Do you value God and your relationship with His Son Jesus Christ?" If so, how much? Enough to recommit yourself to follow Him faithfully trusting, unlike any other false god, that He will be faithful to you? That's the question of the day and really every day. What is your answer?

Gentle peace! Fr. Larry

Next Sunday, July 2, 2023
Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Readings: 2Kings 4:8-11, 14-16a
Romans 6:3-4, 8-11
Matthew 10:37-42

Celebrant Mass Schedule
St. Agatha St. Martin de Porres

07/02/23	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thad
07/09/23	Fr. Thad	Fr. Thad
07/16/23	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thad
07/23/23	Fr. Thad	Fr. Larry
07/30/23	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thad
08/06/23	Fr. Thad	Fr. Larry

TODAY !!!

St. Simon of Cyrene Catholic Parish
Community Picnic
Immediately following 10:00am Unity Mass
On the Boulevard across from
St. Agatha Church



Mass Intentions for this Week
Sunday, June 25, 2023



Happy Heavenly Birthday to Jeffie Lee Sanders
From Carolyn and James Collier

In Loving Memory of Will A. Riley Sr.
From the Riley Family

Prayers for Anthony & Renae Wallin Caryn & Mike Kondrat,
from Linda Wallin

Wishing my Loving Grandson, Cinque Muhammad Jr. a
Happy 17th Birthday, From Johnson and Muhammad Family

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

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.

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

*I Can Do
 All things
 THROUGH
 CHRIST
 who gives me
 STRENGTH.*
 — PHILIPPIANS 4:13