



St. Simon of Cyrene Catholic Parish
July 23, 2023
Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



The Spirit helps us in our weakness.
 For we do not know what to pray for
 as we ought, but the Spirit himself
 intercedes for us with groanings
 too deep for words.

Romans 8:26

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
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 Chicago, IL 60644

Phone: (773) 287-0206
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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)

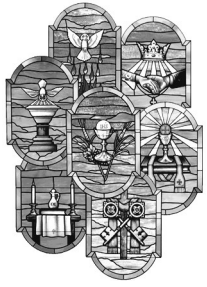
St. Agatha Church

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, July 16, 2023

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

Mass Offering: To Be Announced

GiveCentral: To Be Announced

Kolbe-Special: To Be Announced

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 Gruszczyk, Bill Hainey, Nathaniel W. Hall, Mary Harrell, Diane Harris, Jasmine Harris, Jennifer Harris, Johnny Harris, Lejerrion Harris, Leatrice 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, Ashanti Kelly, Jacqueline Kelly, Brian Lares, Jimmy Lee, Sayyid Lestrade, Shannon Long, Anthony Lyons, Alexander Madden, Keith Mahaffey, Latoya Mahaffey, Ronnie Mahaffey, John Mannette, 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, Sommer Reynolds, Phyllis Riley, Aquila Rogers, 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...

Last week we heard Jesus describe the kingdom of heaven through the parable of the sower and the seed. In essence, the parable tells us that God, the sower of seed, is reckless, throwing seed in places where no sane farmer would try to plant seed. God is willing to share His love anywhere and everywhere! After all, He let His Son be born in a poor family in a dirty, smelly stable!

Today, Jesus shares more parables, trying to describe the kingdom of heaven in practical down-to-earth stories that the people of his day could relate to. The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed, only to be invaded by an enemy who sowed weeds in the same field. It is like a woman who added yeast and water to her flour, which expands and creates enough bread to feed her family and the poor. It is like one who planted a tiny mustard seed, amazed it would grow into a large tree, providing sustenance, even a home for the birds!

My friends, any of us can craft a parable expressing our vision for the emergence of the kingdom of heaven, the revelation, acceptance and sharing of God's love and mercy in the world. Look at the 'end product' of every parable: something new, surprising, unexpected happens. Resurrection, reparation and a new reality emerges for individuals, families, communities and for all creation.

Here's a few of my own parables: + The kingdom of heaven is like a man who was imprisoned on false charges who, despite his plight, resolves that on his release he will rebuild his life, connect with his family and help others returning from prison to achieve their God-given potential.

+ The kingdom of heaven is like a white woman who has carried prejudice against Black people in her heart her whole life. Blinded in an accident, she is befriended by a Black woman who she does not know is Black. On discovering years into their relationship that her friend is Black, she is overcome with emotion and remorse at her past attitudes and realizes that the treasure of friendship transcends the false narratives and pre-conditioning of racism in white society.

+ The kingdom of heaven is like the young man whose father was not present in his life because he saw his top priority as growing in material wealth, falsely believing that this was his best expression of love for his family. The young man discovers a friend, a mentor, who loves him for who he is, encouraging him to cherish relationships above all else, and along the way discovers his God-given purpose of supporting and nurturing other young men through his strength, vulnerability, humility and kindness.

+ The kingdom is heaven is like two congregations who, diminished in numbers and resources, joins together in faith, trusting that God has a plan to revive the faith on the west side of Chicago. Although material resources are limited, they come together, sharing resources of hope, creativity, a desire to bond with one another, trusting this will multiply into other resources to guarantee the growth of the kingdom of heaven on the west side.

My friends, what is your parable of what could be, your heartfelt expression of what the unfolding of the kingdom of heaven is like? Hopefully we can all imagine and express our vision for the potential flourishing of God's love in the world. + The kingdom of heaven is like a disciple of Jesus Christ who carries the seeds of God's love within them every day and humbly and generously scatters them wherever life's journey takes them, trusting that heaven find a home in the hearts of others.

Gentle peace! Fr. Larry

Next Sunday, July 30, 2023
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Readings: 1Kings 3: 5, 7-12
Romans 8:28-30
Matthew 13:44-52

Celebrant Mass Schedule
St. Agatha St. Martin de Porres

07/30/23	Fr. Thad	Fr. Larry
08/06/23	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thad
08/13/23	Fr. Thad	Fr. Larry
08/20/23	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thad
08/27/23	Fr. Thad	Fr. Larry
09/03/23	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thad

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. 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!



Mass Intentions for this Week
Sunday, July 23, 2023



In Loving Memory of Alejandro Pachecko
From Grace Panchecko

Happy Heavenly Birthday to Apolinar Marquez
From the Marquez Family

Happy Blessed Birthday to James Collier
From Wife Carolyn Collier

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

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

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

Black Catholic Deacons of Chicago

These Streets Are Holy

Saturday, August 26, 2023

Sunrise Prayer Service: 6:30 – 8 a.m., Oakwood Beach
 41st Street and Lakeshore Drive, Chicago

Peace Fellowship Breakfast: 9 – 10 a.m., Our Lady of Africa Church
 613 E. Oakwood Blvd., Chicago

Peace Symposium: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m., Our Lady of Africa Church

Since 2010, on the shores of Lake Michigan, the BCDC has hosted annual sunrise services to pray for the protection of our children. The BCDC prays for non-violence in our hearts, schools, families and streets.

Note: In the event of heavy rain, the prayer service will be moved to Our Lady of Africa Church. For more information, contact Deacon Gill, 773-933-0027 or deacongill@sbcglobal.net.

