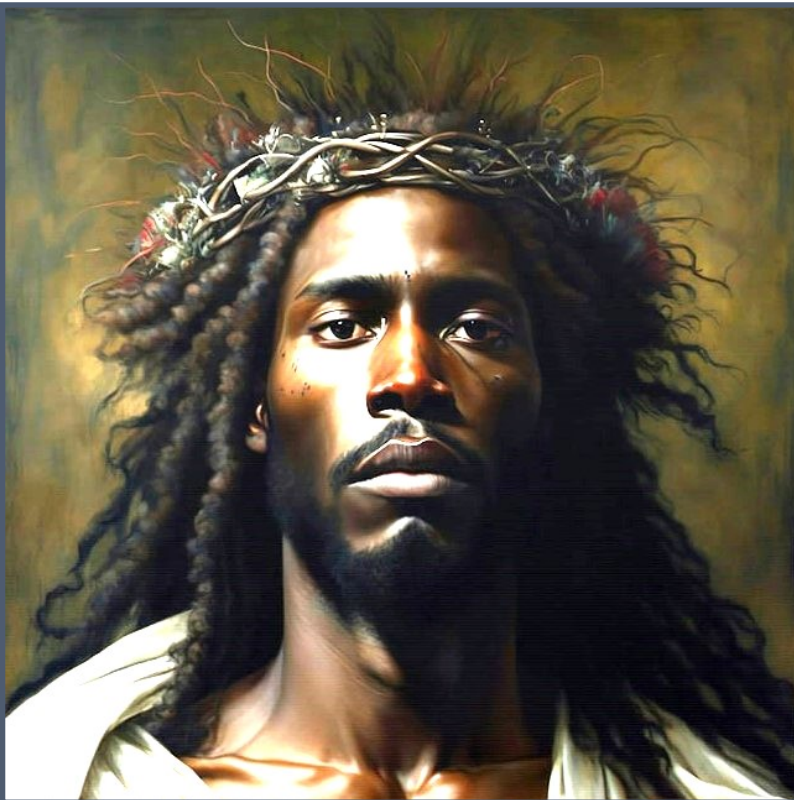




St. Simon of Cyrene Catholic Parish
August 27, 2023
Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary



"Who do YOU say that I am?"

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.stmartindeporresparish.com
Email: smartindeporres@archchicago.org
Facebook: St. Martin de Porres Parish Chicago
Instagram: @stmartindeporresparish
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)

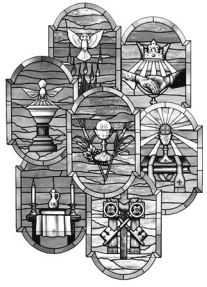
St. Agatha Church

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.



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, August 20, 2023

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

Mass Offering	\$2,393.00
GiveCentral	1475.00
Kolbe House-Special	30.00
Total:	\$3,898.00

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, DiMarkco Chandler, 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, Leatrice Harris, Maryann Harris, Tony Harris, Darryl Hicks, Davis 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 Mannelle, Larry Mapp Jr., Arelys Marquez, Catherine Martin, Patrick McAnany, Melik McCloud, Sofia McFarland, Robert McGee, Latrice McGee, Carmella Miller, Connie Montoya, Arlene Moore, 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, 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, Natoya Williams, Armonie Witherspoon, Beverly Wright, Flora Yancy

From the Desk of Fr. Larry...

My brothers and sisters, in the Gospel today, Jesus poses a question to his apostles: "Who do others say that I am?" The disciples have no problem repeating the rumors they have heard. "Some say you are John the Baptist, back from the dead; some Elijah the Prophet reincarnated; or maybe Jeremiah or one of the other prophets." Today if asked the question, we might say, "Others believe Jesus was a great prophet, some a holy man, others a wonder worker." But then Jesus asks the harder question to his disciples AND to each of us: "Who do YOU say that I am?"

My friends, we might stumble with this question, especially if we were face-to-face with Jesus himself. This question is a question about our own faith, our own belief in God and, by extension, that Jesus is the Son of God. Keep in mind our last few weeks of Scripture Readings where Jesus cures people and casts out demons, saying to those he is responding to, "Your faith has saved you." At first we may say to ourselves, "But Jesus is the one who saves. Why does our own faith matter?" A good question!

When Jesus asks his disciples this question, they are early in their understanding of who Jesus is and what faith in Him means. It takes them time to fully understand Who Jesus is and what authentic lived faith in Him both requires and offers. You see, Jesus desires first that we accept His love and the love of the Father. He desires our faith in the gift of their Holy Spirit. He desires our full attention because He loves us unconditionally, with all our goodness and with all our faults and failings. He desires that we accept this life-giving love without question because He offers it to us without question. We need not try to bargain for it. It's always there to accept and to accept fully in our lives.

Our problem, my friends, is that we are hesitant to give ourselves fully to this sacred, life-giving love, because it seems that we are somehow giving up control over our lives. The reality is that we do this every day, giving ourselves to things, people, ideas, prejudices, addictions and other distractions that offer a sense of gratification or happiness, but in the end are temporary and fleeting.

We are made to be in relationship. We are not islands in this world, although technology, poverty, systemic racism and disease has contributed a lot to our isolation. We need each other, so why not connect with the One who created us all, each of us unique, never to be duplicated, each with a purpose in this world? We need each other, so why not cling to the One who can be an anchor and guide Who will not lead us astray? We need each other, so why not put all our faith in the One Who will love us through and throughout our lives, and one day into eternal life? Jesus loves us and, as every encounter with those seeking to be free from dis-ease or despair, or free from the demons or dis-ease that plagued a loved one, Jesus looks to our faith, to our acceptance of His love, to our belief that He is indeed the Son of the Most High to offer us all we need to fulfill our God-given potential and purpose!

Gentle peace! Fr. Larry

Next Sunday, September 3, 2023
Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Readings: Jeremiah 20:7-9
Romans 12:1-2
Matthew 16:21-27

Celebrant Mass Schedule		
	St. Agatha	St. Martin de Porres
09/03/23	Fr. Thad	Fr. Larry
09/10/23	Fr. Thad	Fr. Thad
09/17/23	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thad
09/24/23	Fr. Thad	Fr. Larry
10/01/23	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thad
10/08/23	Fr. Thad	Fr. Larry



TODAY!!! Sunday, August 27
St. Martin de Porres Credit Union
- Members Annual Meeting -
Immediately following 11:00am Mass
KIPP School Lower Hall
(across from the St. Martin Rectory Parking Lot)
Current and New Members are Welcome
From both Sites!

St. Simon of Cyrene Grady Anderson Auxiliary Presents
Groovin' on a Saturday Evening
Featuring Jazz Lady Robin Watson
Join us for an evening of music, fellowship, and fun
in a tribute concert to jazz pioneers
"Ella Fitzgerald and Louis Armstrong"
Date: Saturday, September 16, 2023
Where: St. Agatha Catholic Church
3147 W Douglas Blvd - Time: 5:00 pm – 9pm
Tickets: \$25.00 each – Includes light refreshments
Event Details: Guests must be 21 years of age
This event is BYOB - Pop and Set-ups will be sold
There will be a 50/50 raffle. Tickets will be available at
both church sites – St. Agatha and St. Martin de Porres
We look forward to seeing you!

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!

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, August 27, 2023
Prayers for Anthony & Renae Wallin
Caryn & Mike Kondrat, From Linda Wallin
 We encourage our parishioners to pray for their loved ones, living and deceased, by offering a Mass Intention donation.