



St. Simon of Cyrene Catholic Parish
August 6, 2023
Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord



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)

**"This is my Son, my beloved,
 with whom I am well pleased."
 We ourselves heard this voice come from
 heaven while we were with him on the holy
 mountain... You will do well to be attentive
 to it, as to a lamp shining in a dark place,
 until day dawns and the morning star rises in
 your hearts. 2 Peter 1:17-19**

St. Martin de Porres Church
 5112 W. Washington Boulevard
 Chicago, IL 60644

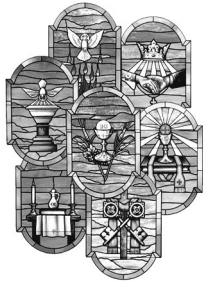
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 Email: smartindeporres@archchicago.org
 Facebook: St. Martin de Porres Parish Chicago
 Instagram: @stmartindeporresparish
 Twitter: @StMartinParish

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.
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 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, July 30, 2023

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

Mass Offering	\$4,221.00
GiveCentral	1025.00
Kolbe House-Special	2.00
Total:	\$5,248.00

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 Gruszczeni, 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, Jacquaeline 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 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, Armonie Witherspoon, Beverly Wright, Flora Yancy

From the Desk of Fr. Larry...

I recently read a book titled, "Rest is Resistance." In the book, the author reminds us that we live in a culture which treats most people as a commodity. Businesses want to drain every ounce of time and productivity out of their employees to increase their profits. Our nation's history of slavery exemplifies this, as human beings were forced to work from before sunrise to after sunset in cotton fields, then feeding them just enough and allowing them to sleep just enough to enable them to work the next day. It was even worse during the post-emancipation era as Black men and women's bodies were totally drained of their life-energy, easily discarded because of a steady supply of Black men who were often arrested under trumped-up charges and found their way into working plantations and mines to pay off court fines. The system continues on in the constant and deliberate flow of Black bodies in the very lucrative racialized policing-to-court-to-prison system.

In today's Gospel for the Feast of the Transfiguration, we encounter Jesus on the mountaintop with his homeboys Peter, James and John. Transfigured into His Divine identity as the Beloved Son of God and accompanied by Moses and the Prophet Elijah, they're quite a sight. Peter can't just sit in the moment and enjoy this awesome vision. No, he needs to 'DO SOMETHING.' He rushes around, saying, "We need to build three tents, one for Jesus and for each of his two guests!" Peter fails to realize that this is a time to just be present to the awe and beauty of the moment.

Like many of us, he is conditioned to be busy all the time. He fails to realize, like many of us, that we are first and foremost human BE-ings, not human DO-ings. We fail to realize that we are all precious children of God, that God first loved us into BE-ing, then gave us the gift of work to add our unique God-given value to the world. What the Scriptures are instructing us to do this Sunday is to find more time to just 'BE'. We need to take time to BE in the presence of the moment, in the presence of every sensation that we are experiencing, in the presence of God's creation around us and aware of the presence of God within us, guiding us to faithful do-ing in His name.

Conditioned by a world and a capitalist system that requires our attention, our distraction, to make more money for that system, we Christians have to resist the forces that treat us as commodities, the distractions of materialism, media and others that divert us from taking the time to be with our families, our neighbors, our communities.

I quote from one of my favorite spiritual writers, Henri Nouwen: "The trick, as in most things, is balance. Knowing when to "do" and when and how to just "be." Learning to take our calling and our work seriously, but not too seriously! To let go of our needs to control, to listen for the voice of God so that our actions aren't merely the proverbial running around like a chicken with its head cut off but, instead, are true acts of discipleship that flow from a being that is formed in the awe and wonder of God's gracious love for us." Just 'Being' takes practice. Life-giving rest requires resistance and practiced rejection of a culture that treats us like commodities, always being open to the direction of the God who seeks only that which is life-giving for us and, through us, life-giving to each other.

Gentle peace! Fr. Larry

Next Sunday, August 13, 2023
Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Readings: 1Kings 19:9a, 11-13a
Romans 9:1-5
Matthew 14:22-33

Celebrant Mass Schedule
St. Agatha St. Martin de Porres

08/13/23	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thad
08/20/23	Unity Mass - 10:00am at St. Agatha	
08/27/23	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thad
09/03/23	Fr. Thad	Fr. Larry
09/10/23	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thad
09/17/23	Fr. Thad	Fr. Larry

- AUGUST SCHEDULE OF EVENTS -
(Please mark your calendar)

St. Simon of Cyrene Parish Annual Picnic
 Sunday, August 13, 12:30pm - Evans Field
 1798 Thatcher Ave., River Grove, IL

Black Catholic Deacons of Chicago Sunrise Prayer Service
 Saturday, August 26, 6:30am
 Oakwood Beach, 41st Street and Lakeshore Dr.

St. Martin de Porres Credit Union Members Annual Meeting
 Sunday, August 27, immediately following 11:00am Mass
 In Kipp School Lower Hall - Potential New Members are Welcome!

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 6, 2023



In Loving Memory of Ronald Anthony Smith
 From wife, Clarice and Children

In Loving Memory of my Dear Friends, Shirley Fisher and Judy Anderson, from Clarice Smith

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. Donation \$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
Back-to-School
UNITY MASS
Sunday, August 20th
10:00 a.m.

On the Boulevard across from
St. Agatha Church
Food, Fellowship, School Supplies