



St. Simon of Cyrene Catholic Parish
August 20, 2023
Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Welcome
to Our Guests!**



*"Jesus said to her in reply,
 "O woman, great is your faith!
 Let it be done for you as you wish."
 And the woman's daughter was healed
 from that hour."
 Matthew 15:27-28*

Church Staff

Pastor: Fr. Larry Dowling
 denispadre@aol.com
Associate Pastor: Fr. Thadeo Mгимба
 tmgimba@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)

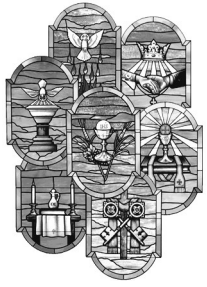
St. Agatha Church

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.



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, August 13, 2023

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

Mass Offering	\$5,679.00
GiveCentral	940.00
Kolbe House-Special	95.00
Total:	\$6,714.00

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, 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, 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, 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...

It may shock you, but Jesus' religion was not Christianity or the original Christian Church that became the Catholic – meaning universal – church. No Jesus was a Jew, specifically a Jewish Rabbi. He grew up in a Jewish family, totally immersed in Jewish culture. He was likely exposed to the extreme prejudice against the Canaanite community. There had been years of animosity between Jews and Canaanites. As Jesus was growing as a human being into His full identity, He assumed His mission was solely to the Jewish community, especially to address the Jewish hierarchy who had strayed from God, focused on self-interest, power and power-over the Jewish faithful, already poor and oppressed by their Roman occupiers. What made it worse was those Jewish leaders seeking to build and preserve power, formed an alliance with the Roman occupiers. Sound familiar compared to today's culture?

In today's Gospel, Jesus is dining with his disciples and fellow Jews when a Canaanite woman interrupts their dinner, pleading on behalf of her daughter who is possessed by a demon. His disciples encourage Jesus to send her away. However, he responds to them, and perhaps her standing at a distance, that His mission is only to the 'lost sheep of Israel.' The courageous woman bows to Him and counters Jesus by again pleading her cause, not for her but for her daughter. Jesus still pushes back, seemingly calling her a 'dog' in his response. The woman again pushes Him again, "Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters." Pretty bold, huh?!

This causes Jesus to open his heart beyond His kinspeople to see that everyone, longed for and needed what He felt was His mission only to the Jews. He responds with respect and affirmation of this woman's faith in Him, her love of her daughter, and her hope that He could do something to again make her daughter and her family whole.

My friends, even Jesus had to grow into His realization of His unique purpose and mission, just like everyone of us must do. Our belief is that Jesus was conceived and born into the world as 'one like us, but without (original) sin. It doesn't mean that he didn't carry some of the prejudices that the Jewish community carried against Canaanites and other religious groups. Like racism in our own time, the stereotypes, judgments, abuses, the sense of inferiority and superiority over 500 years have become a part of our physical DNA; so it was likely true of the Jews in regard to Canaanites and vice versa. The only thing that can change that behavior is compassion, openness, kindness and a generosity of spirit. It took this Canaanite woman to help Jesus see that and ultimately enlarge the scope of His mission to encompass ALL God's people.

So what's the challenge and the Good News for us? I believe the challenge is to open ourselves to recognize our own prejudices, to think about why we believe negative things about others and perhaps, even more clearly, why we want to believe these things. The effects of trauma can be passed on to future generations through our DNA. It's a proven fact. There is historical trauma, generational trauma, the trauma caused by senseless violence, the actions of others and our own actions. The Good News is that Jesus, like us, had to have His eyes opened to see beyond any of those unconscious prejudices he carried in His DNA in order to change the trajectory of His life and mission to be the Savior, not just for the lost sheep of Israel, but for us all. We can do the same and Jesus can help us if we allow Him to do so.

Gentle Peace! Fr. Larry

Next Sunday, August 27, 2023
Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
Readings: Isaiah 22:19-23
Romans 11:33-36
Matthew 16:13-20

Celebrant Mass Schedule
St. Agatha St. Martin de Porres

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
09/24/23	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thad
10/01/23	Fr. Thad	Fr. Larry

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

TODAY!!!

St. Simon of Cyrene
Back-to-School Unity Mass - St. Agatha
On the Boulevard — Food, Fellowship, School Supplies

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
 - KIPP School Lower Hall (across from the Rectory Parking Lot)
 Current and New Members are Welcome from both Sites!



Mass Intentions for this Week
Sunday, August 20, 2023



For Our St. Simon of Cyrene Parish
Parishioners, Family and Friends

We encourage our parishioners to pray for their loved ones, living and deceased, by offering a Mass Intention. Donation \$10

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.

- Golden Age Group -

Food, Fellowship, Info for Seniors
Other Activities
Every 3rd Monday 12:00 - 2:30 p.m.
Monday, August 21st at St. Agatha Site
Transportation provided for
St. Martin Seniors
RSVP to Ms. McGowan (773) 522-3050

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