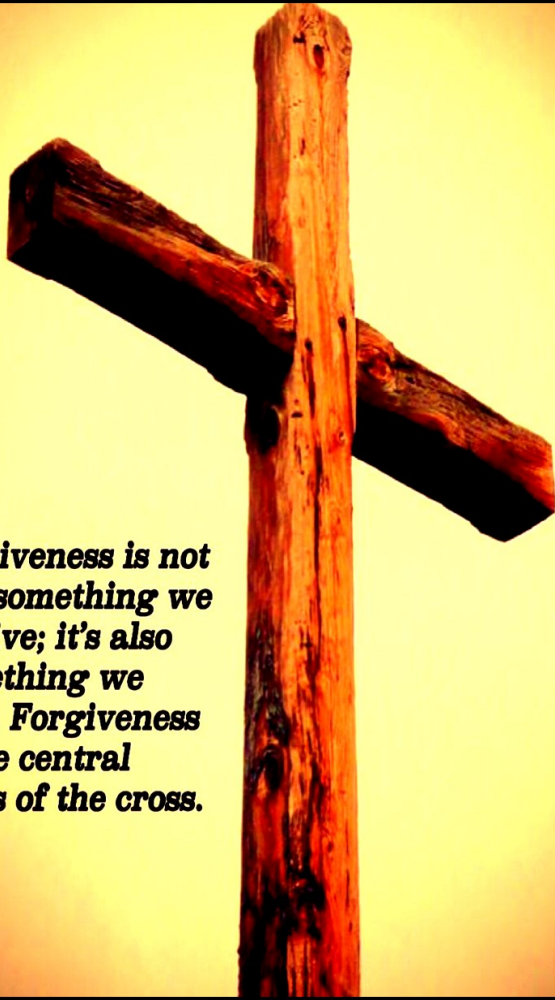




St. Simon of Cyrene Catholic Parish
September 17, 2023
Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Forgiveness is not just something we receive; it's also something we give. Forgiveness is the central focus of the cross.

Church Staff

Pastor: Fr. Larry Dowling
denispadre@aol.com
Associate Pastor: Fr. Thadeo Mgimba
tmgimba@archchicago.org
Operations Director: Cynthia Smith,
cdsmith@archchicago.org
Music Director:
Dennis Smith (StA / SMdeP)
Deacon Couples:
Rev. Mr. William & Gayle Pouncy
Rev. Mr. Greg & Carolyn Shumpert
Reception/Pantry (StA):
Refoncia McGowan
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: smartindepordes@archchicago.org

Facebook: St. Martin de Porres Parish Chicago

Instagram: @stmartindepordesparish

Twitter: @StMartinParish

Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 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

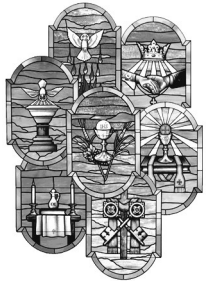
www.facebook.com/st.agathachicago/

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, September 10, 2023

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

Mass Offering	\$3,597.00
GiveCentral	1005.00
Kolbe House-Special	40.00
Total:	\$4,642.00

Thank you for your Generosity!



For whom shall we pray...

Anthony Adams, Walter Adams, Bertha Anderson, Kristina Anderson, Roseanne Andrews, Jewel Austin, Kyle Becnel, Hildegard Bezdicek, Hazel Bills, Diondee Brown-Whitfield, Margaret Brown, Christopher Browne, 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, 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, Jacquiline 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 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, Natoya Williams, Armonie Witherspoon, Beverly Wright, Flora Yancy

From the Desk of Fr. Larry...

My friends, if I asked you what the core message that Jesus is seeking to convey throughout the Gospels, what would you say? Many of us would likely respond, "To conform our lives to be like Jesus." That is not a wrong answer, but it begs the question, "Can any of us even come close to the person Jesus ultimately grew into at the end of his life?" Since Jesus was God, then the answer is 'no.' In reality all of us are unique to this world. There was never anyone like us in the past and there will never be anyone like us when our earthly existence ends. Jesus was unique to Himself and had to grow into His full self-knowledge as the only begotten Son of God. He did that in constant conversation with God His Father, through study of the Scriptures and through His lived experience. This is the path provided for us as well to become the best unique-person-who-ever-was, is, and will be!

So, back to the core message of Sunday's Gospel: the central theme of the entire Gospel is forgiveness! At first, we might question this since we often have a narrow understanding of forgiveness. We often interpret forgiveness as something that helps two or more people deal with conflict and reach some form of reconciliation to be able to move on.

I personally like the literal interpretation of forgiveness – that is, to-give-in-to-new-possibilities of relating and moving ahead into the future. Forgiveness is not just about "I'm sorry" and "I forgive you," but involves a new commitment to prevent conflict in the future and to repair any harm done in the past.

When we sin, Scripture tells us that God immediately forgives us – of course, to be effective, we need to accept that freely given forgiveness from God. The reality is that God knows that we make mistakes; it's part of the free-will package given us at conception. But God's deepest desire is that nothing impede us from continuing to pursue and realize our God-given unique purpose in the world. Note that in most healing stories, Jesus physically heals the person, but also often says, "Your sins are forgiven." The purpose is to let the person know that the God who brings physical wholeness also offers emotional and spiritual wholeness.

This is why, when we anoint people who are ill or dying that the Sacrament invites a healing of spirit to maximize the effects of physical healing or, in the case of someone who is dying, to free their spirit of any impediment that would resist them letting go in the moment of passing and falling into the eternal embrace of our loving God. How many times does God give us opportunities to change? The number is infinite. How many times do we give others – or ourselves – the opportunity to change for the better? Hopefully these are endless as well!

Gentle peace! Fr. Larry

Next Sunday, September 24, 2023
Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Readings: Isaiah 55:6-9
Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a
Matthew 20:1-16a

Celebrant Mass Schedule
St. Agatha St. Martin de Porres

09/24/23	Fr. Thad	Fr. Larry
10/01/23	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thad
10/08/23	Fr. Thad	Fr. Larry
10/15/23	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thad
10/22/23	Fr. Thad	Fr. Larry
10/29/23	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thad

- Golden Age Group -

Food, Fellowship, Info for Seniors
Other Activities
Every 3rd Monday 12:00 - 2:30 p.m.
Monday, September 18th at St. Agatha Site
Transportation provided for
St. Martin Seniors
RSVP to Ms. McGowan (773) 522-3050

Women's Faith Sharing
Wednesday, September 20th
10:00am - 11:00am
Call - In (267) 807-9533
Code 386562#



Mass Intentions for this Week
Sunday, September 17, 2023



In Loving Memory of Victor Guarino
From wife, Jean Guarino

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 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!

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.



FEED THE HUNGRY

FOOD PANTRY

St. Martin de Porres
Wednesday & Thursday
10:00 a.m. to Noon

St. Agatha
Tuesday
9:00 - 11:00 a.m.