



St. Simon of Cyrene Catholic Parish
October 22, 2023
Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time



heartlight.org



We always
 thank God
 for all of
 you,
 mentioning
 you in our
 prayers.

- 1 Thessalonians 1:2 -

**... unceasingly calling to mind your work of faith
 and labor of love and endurance in hope of our
 Lord Jesus Christ, before our God and
 Father, knowing, brothers and sisters loved by
 God, how you were chosen."**

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
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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 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, October 15, 2023

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

Mass Offering	\$5,785.75
GiveCentral	1090.00
Kolbe House-Special	289.00
Total:	\$7,164.75

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, Diondee Brown-Whitfield, Margaret Brown, Christopher Browne, DiMarkco Chandler, Frank Clark, 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, 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, Jacqueline Kelly, Brian Lares, Jimmy Lee, Sayyid Lestrade, 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, 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, Imogene Rhodes, Marvin Register, Sommer Reynolds, Aquila Rogers, Deborah Rutledge, Lorraine Sanford, Eunice Scripp, Rosa Solano, Regina Taitis Sr., Brenda D. Taylor, Arthur Thames, Clarice Thomas, Jose Torres, 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, there is a lively debate in our society between science and religion. There are those in secular circles who make science a religion, saying that all existence can be explained through mathematical equations; for them, there is no place for a God who created such a universe. There are those in religious circles at the extremes who want to totally disregard science and explain everything through the eyes of faith and a literal interpretation of the bible. Some even believe that the earth is only 10,000 years old, so they deny the Big Bang Theory – not the tv show – and the theory of evolution.

There are those scientists who do believe in God and some religious people who acknowledge the importance of science. As Catholic Christians, we believe that faith and science complement each other. We have no problem with believing what science tells us that the universe being 4.5 billion years old; at the same time, we can believe that, in the evolution of human beings, God breathed God's Spirit into human beings and granted us free will.

Now you may ask what this has to do with today's Scriptures? In the Gospel, some of the religious leaders are plotting to have Jesus killed. Trying to throw him off guard, they ask him if it's against God to pay the tax to Caesar. If he says 'no', then they can accuse him in front of their Roman occupiers. Jesus knows what they're up to, so he responds 'Give to God the things that are Gods and give to Caesar the things that are Caesars.' He knows that, in the final analysis, ALL things belong to God. Even though Caesar's tax may be unfair, Jesus acknowledges that, realistically, life in this world will always carry these ambiguities, this coexistence of good and evil in the world. We do not need to accept this evil in our lives and, wherever we can, we need to work to eradicate this evil. One current example: We can rail against the heartless so-called Catholic Governor of Texas as he sends bus after bus of men, women and children seeking asylum to Chicago. We may not be able to do anything about the inhumane politicizing of these fellow human beings, but we can respond with hospitality and compassion as they arrive at our doors here in Chicago.

This dynamic of good and evil is also present in each one of us. We seek to do all the right things in living our lives, yet at the same time struggle with the temptations of the world. Our faith teaches us that the Spirit of God dwells in each of us. Some of us may say, "There's no way that God lives in me because of the bad things I do, the sins that I continue to commit."

I like Jesuit John Foley's perspective on this: What if God were a great friend? In fact, how would it be if God were a companion who truly and actually accepts you and forgives you completely whenever you need it? We ourselves are "those things that belong to God" that Jesus spoke of. "Belong," not in a possessive way, but in the way felt by people who love and are loved. That might be how we "belong." If this were so, why wouldn't we want to give ourselves to God, and then also to bring our God-filled selves to Caesar's palaces and to the dirty roads outside them and show everyone what Jesus is all about? Which realm should we live in?"

Gentle peace! Fr. Larry

Next Sunday, October 29, 2023
 Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Readings: Exodus 22:20-26
 1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10
 Matthew 22:34-40

Celebrant Mass Schedule
St. Agatha St. Martin de Porres

10/29/23	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thad
11/05/23	UNITY MASS 10:00 a.m. SMdeP	
11/12/23	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thad
11/19/23	Fr. Thad	Fr. Larry
11/26/23	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thad
12/03/23	Fr. Thad	Fr. Larry

- Mark Your Calendar - Week of October 22, 2023 -

Legion of Mary - Meeting at St. Martin de Porres
 Monday, October 23, 9- 7:00pm

Food Pantry at St. Agatha
 Tuesday, October 24 - 9:00am - 11:00am

Food Pantry at St. Martin de Porres
 Wednesday and Thursday, October 25-26, 10:am -12 noon

Thursday, October 26, Mass at St. Agatha -7:30am
 Thursday, October 26, Communion Service and Adoration
 at St. Martin de Porres - 9:00am

Liturgy Committee Meeting, Thursday, October 26,
 at St. Agatha, 6:00pm

North Lawndale Historical Society "Celebrating Jazz"
 Saturday, October 28, 1:00pm at St. Agatha

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. Simon 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!



Mass Intentions for this Week
Sunday, October 22, 2023



Happy Heavenly Birthday to Clytie Collier
 From James and Carolyn Collier

In Loving Memory of Berta Lightford
 From your Loving Children and Grandchildren

Happy Blessed Birthday to Curtis Chamberlain
 From James and Carolyn Collier

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

UNITY MASS NOVEMBER 5, 2023 10:00 a.m. St. Martin de Porres

Celebrating the Feast of our church patron saint St. Martin de Porres
AND Remembering Our Loved Ones Who Passed on Since November 1, 2022
 Do you have a loved one *who died in the past year since November 1, 2022*
 who you would like us to remember at Mass on this Sunday? If so, please call
 the parish office or fill out the Remembrance Form in the back of Church.