



St. Simon of Cyrene Catholic Parish
October 29, 2023
Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time



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 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 22, 2023

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

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Mass Offering | \$4,057.00 |
| GiveCentral | 1461.00 |
| *Universal Offertory for September | 1855.00 |
| Kolbe House-Special | <u>2.00</u> |
| Total: | \$7,375.00 |

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, 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, Anetta Hill-Lewis, Jerron Johns Jr., Sr., Julius Jones, Ashanti Kelly, Jacquiline Kelly, Stanley King, 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, Elias Scott, Eunice Scripp, Rosa Solano, Regina Taitis Sr., Brenda D. Taylor, 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...

There is an acronym that I reflect on every once and awhile, centered in the word JOY, J-O-Y. As we know, joy is not the same as happiness. Happiness is the byproduct of our actions or interactions with others or with nature. JOY is a virtue, something that we develop over time as, in the midst of the joys and hardships of life, we choose to be anchored in faith, hope and love to get us through.

I am reminded of the virtue of JOY by parishioners, many of whom have had very difficult lives due to systemic racism and great losses as well from drugs, guns and physical illness that is much more common in poor communities. In the midst of all of these trials, I still see JOY in them. Not happiness because life is still challenging, but JOY in knowing God is present in their lives in prayer, in Scripture, in the Precious Body and Blood of Jesus, and in a supportive faith community.

JOY as an acronym means Jesus, Others, and You! It's interesting how today's Gospel offers us Jesus' version of the Ten Commandments wrapped up nicely in the Two Great Commandments: "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is equal to it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

We form a Holy Trinity – Jesus, Others, and You – when we can embrace true JOY in our lives. Embracing JOY in our lives can only happen if we have a relationship with God in Jesus Christ. When we are able to minimize our egos and more and more reject the temptations of the world, when we can develop and nurture the virtues of humility, kindness and generosity, when we can recognize the unique, wonderful child of God we are and who others are as well, true JOY will grow and flourish in our lives.

In our Gospel, the religious authorities who are trying to trap Jesus think he will raise up only the Jewish Shema from the Book of Deuteronomy: "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength." Orthodox Jews to this day wear a little leather box, called Tefillin, containing a tiny scroll with this verse. To fulfill their religious duty they must pause and recite this verse in homage to God.

In Jesus' response, he honors this by quoting it as the First Great Commandment. But then he catches them again in their attempt to say one is greater than the rest: "You must love your neighbor as you love yourself," or as I like to interpret it sometimes, "You must love your neighbor as God loves YOU!" Jesus has again called out their hypocrisy by saying that these two commandments together are THE greatest Commandment. To honor only ourselves and not honor our neighbor, especially the poor, dishonors God. This is exactly what they were doing. Giving lip service to God, dishonoring and neglecting the poor, and hoarding power for themselves. There clearly is no JOY in them because they feel threatened by Jesus' care and love for ALL people. The Good News for us is that we can claim JOY in our lives by deepening our personal relationship with Jesus Christ who loves us so much that we want to share that love with those closest to us, all in need and, really, all humankind. Take the time to embrace JOY in your life!

Gentle peace! Fr. Larry

Next Sunday, November 5, 2023
Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
Readings: Malachi 1:14b-2:2b,8-10
1 Thessalonians 2:7b-9,13
Matthew 23:1-12

Celebrant Mass Schedule
St. Agatha St. Martin de Porres

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|------------------|
| 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 |
| 12/10/23 | Fr. Larry | Fr. Thad |

- Mark Your Calendar - Week of October 29, 2023 -

“Dream Builders Community Fellowship Dinner” at St. Agatha
Monday, October 30, 6:00pm—8:00pm

“Legion of Mary Meeting” at St. Martin de Porres
Monday, October 30, 7:00pm

Food Pantry at St. Agatha Tuesday, October 31, 9:00am-11:00am

Food Pantry at St. Martin de Porres
Wednesday and Thursday, November 01-02, 10:am -12 noon

Mass at St. Martin de Porres - Tuesday, October 31, 9:00am

Mass at St. Agatha -Thursday, November 02, 7:30am

Communion Service and Adoration at St. Martin de Porres
Thursday, November 02, 9:00am

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! 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, October 29, 2023



† In Loving Memory of Winifrida Nelson Kafugugu
 From Fr. Thadeo Mjimba

† In Loving Memory of Victor Guarino
 From wife, Jean Guarino

Prayers for Anthony and Renae Wallin
 Caryn and Mike Kondrat From Linda Wallin

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.