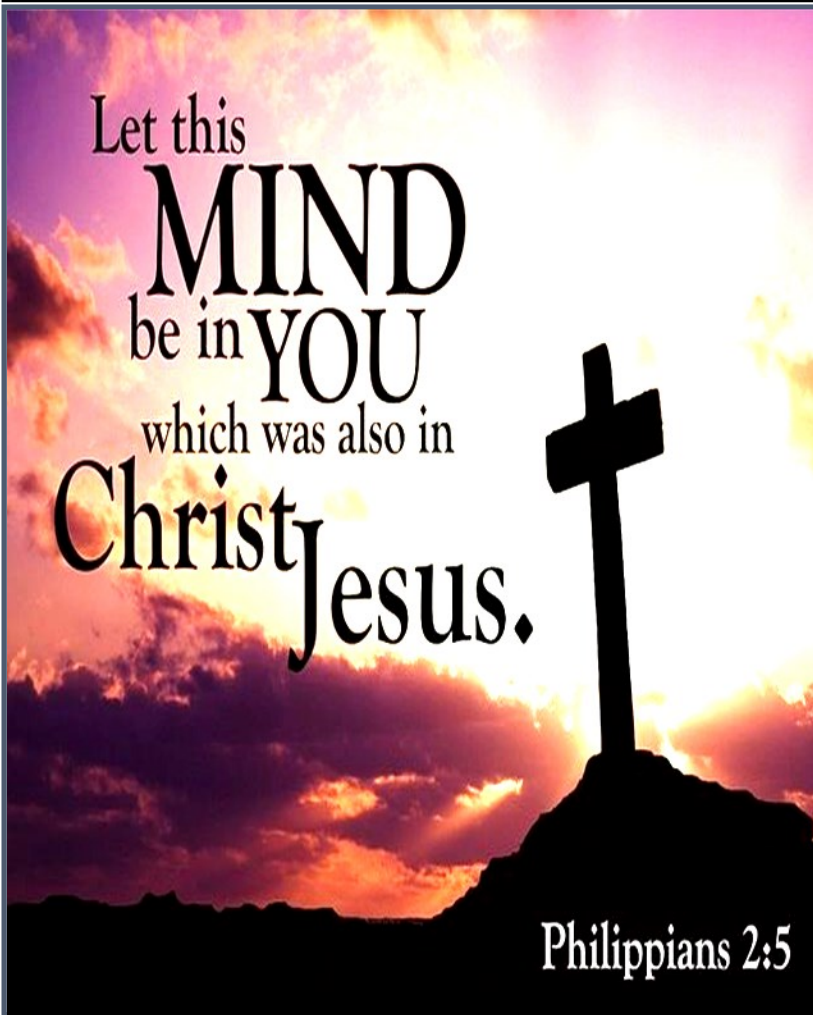




**St. Simon of Cyrene Catholic Parish**  
**October 01, 2023**  
**Twenty-Six Sunday in Ordinary Time**



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](http://www.stmartindepordesparish.com)  
**Email:** [smartindepordes@archchicago.org](mailto: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](http://www.st-agatha-chicago.org)  
**Email:** [stagatha@archchicago.org](mailto:stagatha@archchicago.org)  
[www.facebook.com/st.agathachicago/](http://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, September 24, 2023

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

Mass Offering	\$4,893.76
GiveCentral	1185.00
*Universal Offertory for August	1675.00
Kolbe House-Special	25.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$7,778.76</b>

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 Gruszczki, 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, 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, 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, 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 no such thing as a perfect human being. Never was, never will be. Many of may respond, “well, of course Jesus is the one exception in all of human history.” Yet, if Jesus was born into human flesh, we have to believe and indeed know that Jesus suffered temptation. Like all of us, he had to experience pain, loss, frustration, doubt, anger, joy, peace, and every human emotion. And, yes, even sexual attraction! We also know that, over time, Jesus developed ways to overcome or subdue some of those emotions, expressing them in prayer to the Father in heaven, and sometimes with his disciples and others. Sometimes we refer to these moments of sharing as self-emptying, a sort of vulnerability to allow others into our inner life and, in turn, accepting their invitation into seeking to understand their struggles, pains, hopes and dreams. Jesus had to resist the human impulse to ‘hold things in,’ instead being open and honest about his feelings and all of the knowledge and wisdom he had acquired in study, listening to and questioning his parents and others who would model for him openness, kindness, vulnerability and generosity.

Listen to this portion of our Second Reading (Phil 2: 7-11):

*“Have in you the same attitude that is also in Christ Jesus, Who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”*

Though Jesus, God’s son, was perfectly blameless, he took upon himself the mixed nature of human beings. He showed once and for all the mysterious reason why good people suffer, as he suffered.

Like Jesus, we all have the choice to empty ourselves of those things that are harmful to ourselves and harmful to others. We have the choice to allow the kindness, compassion, humility, and generosity to fill us and overcome any selfishness that deprives others of the unique gifts God gave to each of us, fulfilling our unique purpose in God’s plan for humankind. That’s why Jesus is so critical of those Jewish authorities who continue to take advantage of the poor and pass judgment on people rather than, like the tax collectors and prostitutes, change their life’s path because Jesus has shown them a way to find joy in life by claiming their divine/human nature and living life in humility, kindness and generosity.

**Gentle peace! Fr. Larry**

**Next Sunday, October 8, 2023**  
**Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Readings: Isaiah 5:1-7**  
**Philippians 4:6-9**  
**Matthew 21:33-43**

**Celebrant Mass Schedule**  
**St. Agatha                      St. Martin de Porres**

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

**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!*

**DAY OF**  
 PRAYER & TRAINING

*for Ministries*

**OCTOBER 14, 2023**  
 9:30AM-1:15PM

THEME: OUR IDENTITY AND TRANSFORMATION AS WE PARTICIPATE IN THE MISSION OF CHRIST

PRESENTER: MARK KWAKU NIMO, D. MIN.

LOCATION: ST. AGATHA CHURCH

**ST. SIMON OF CYRENE PARISH**

3147 W Douglas Blvd, Chicago, IL 60623  
 773-522-3050

**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 01, 2023**



**In Memory of Renadar Curtis**  
**From the Curtis Family**



**In Memory of Esterlinda Alanis**  
**From the Alanis and Madrigal Family**

**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