



**St. Simon of Cyrene Catholic Parish**  
**November 26, 2023**  
**Solemnity of Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**



*“Oh, Happy Day!”*

*Matthew 25:31-46*

*‘He will put the sheep on his right,  
and the goats on his left.’*

‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?’ And the king will say, ‘Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of the least brothers or sisters of mine, you did for me.’

**Getting to Know Our Parish Patron **St. Simon of Cyrene** Feast Day: Dec. 1st**

This last-minute helper of Jesus during his Passion signifies a broader picture for Black believers in the body of Christ. For Catholics of African descent, this act of holding up Christ figures Simon of Cyrene as the head representing all of Africa and the universal call of its descendants to unite with the redeemer of the world. Just as Adam was the head of humanity in creation and in the Fall, and Jesus the head of salvation through his atonement, Simon signifies all the descendants of Africa scattered throughout the world, who will come to Christ and enter into the Catholic Church. Moreover, this act of carrying the weight of Christ reveals the true intimacy Africans have with the Church. Despite popular belief, Christianity has always had a pivotal role in the continent.

- Efran Menny 07/28/21

**St. Simon of Cyrene Catholic Parish**

**Fr. Larry Dowling, Pastor**  
**denispadre@aol.com**

**Fr. Thadeo Mgimba, Associate Pastor**  
**tmgimba@archchicago.org**

**Deacon Couples: Rev. Mr. William & Gayle Pouncy, Rev. Mr. Greg & Carolyn Shumpert**  
**Operations Director: Cynthia Smith**

**St. Martin de Porres Church**  
*Church of Record*

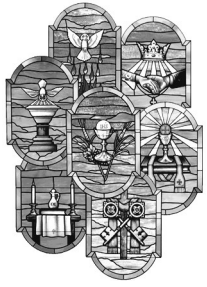
**5112 W. Washington Boulevard**  
**Chicago, IL 60644 Ph: (773) 287-0206**  
**Office Hours Mon. - Fri 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

**Masses: Sunday: 11:00 am; Tuesday: 9:00 am**  
**Thurs: 9 am (Service w/Adoration)**

**St. Agatha Church**

**3147 W. Douglas Boulevard**  
**Chicago, IL 60623 Ph: (773) 522-3050**  
**Office Hours Mon. - Fri. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

**Masses: Sunday: 9:00 a.m Thursday 7:30 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, November 19, 2023

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

Mass Offering	\$4,558.60
GiveCentral	1499.00
*Kolbe House-Special	<u>113.00</u>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$6,170.60</b>

**Thank you for your Generosity!**



#### For whom shall we pray...

Walter Adams, Susie Aldrich, 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, Virginia 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, David Hicks, Veronica Hicks, Jacqueline Hicks, Gwendolyn Hicks, Elia Hinogosa-Cangey, Joesaya Henderson, Kesiea & Melinda, Kim Henderson, Leonard Henderson, Annetta Lewis, Jerron Johns Jr., Sr., Julius Jones, Ashanti Kelly, Jacqueline Kelly, Stanley King, Brian Lares, Jimmy Lee, Sayyid Lestrade, Anthony Lyons, Alexander Madden, Mannette, Larry Mapp Jr., Arelys Marquez, Catherine Martin, Patrick McAnany, Melik McCloud, Latrice McGee, Zaire McNeal 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, Imogene Rhodes, Marvin Register, Sommer Reynolds, Aquila Rogers, Deborah Rutledge, Lorraine Sanford, Elias Scott, Eunice Scripp, Rosa Solano, 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...

The Scriptures for this last Sunday of our church's liturgical year present us with Matthew's Final Judgment scene. It is the story of how we will be judged – or really judge ourselves – through our action and inaction as regards the poor and disenfranchised of our world. I believe this reading should challenge us more to seek ways to look beyond remedying immediate needs and more on how to change systems that create economic and social disparities. I offer an adaptation of our Gospel, my version of The Final Judgment: When God comes in glory, escorted by all the angels of heaven, God will sit upon the royal throne, and all the nations will be assembled before it. Then God will separate them into two groups, as a shepherd separates sheep from goats. The sheep he will place on his right hand, the goats on his left. The king will say to those on his right: "Come, you have my Father's blessing! Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world.

+ For I was hungry and you fed me, then you worked with others to transform national and international policy so that one day soon no one would need to go hungry; you worked with others to save and respect the environment, to conserve energy, to limit deforestation and to maximize the potential that future generations will be fed; you worked to guarantee the rights of workers to be able to provide sustenance for themselves and their families.

+ For I was thirsty and you gave me a drink, then you worked with others to help dig wells, and hold governments and corporations accountable for removing pollutants from all water supplies and guaranteeing the free flow of rivers wherever there was need; you worked to help those thirsting for justice, for freedom, for peace to achieve those goals through nonviolent means.

+For I was a stranger and you welcomed me, then you worked with others to welcome orphans into nurturing families, to welcome immigrants searching for a home, helped change the laws so they could have a realistic path toward becoming citizens; you helped Hurricane and tsunami victims seeking refuge from the storm, then worked with others to make sure the homeless of your own city would be trained for jobs and given the opportunity for decent and affordable housing; you worked with others to create resources for women struggling with their ability to carry a child to term; you worked to break down the walls created by racism, sexism, militarism, antisemitism, Islamophobia, homophobia and arrogant nationalism.

+ For I was naked and you clothed me, then you worked with others to make sure everyone, no matter what race or ethnicity or economic class, had a chance to move beyond the nakedness of ignorance to realize their God-given potential and offer their God-given gifts to society through quality education and job-training; and you worked to remove the nakedness of ignorance from those caught up in sins that create boundaries and limit human potential and creativity.

+ For I was ill and you comforted me, then you worked with others to create a health system for everyone which paid for preventative care and guaranteed respectful and thorough healthcare for everyone;

+ For I was in prison and you came to visit me, then you worked with others to organize prison reform so that those in prison might be rehabilitated, and you worked to set up a system to reintegrate nonviolent ex-offenders back into society; you worked with others within schools to create an atmosphere where nonviolent resolution of conflict is the norm and where abuse of drugs, alcohol or another human being are not tolerated; you worked with others to free people from the prison of addiction, alcoholism, and mental illness."

Then the just will ask him: "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you or see you thirsty and give you drink? When did we welcome you away from home or clothe you in your nakedness? When did we visit you when you were ill or in prison?"

The king will answer them: "I assure you, as often as you did it for the least of your brothers or sisters, you did it for me."

**Gentle Peace! Fr. Larry**

**UNITY MASS Feast of St. Simon of Cyrene  
Sunday, December 3rd 10:00 a.m. SMdeP**

**Next Sunday, December 3, 2023  
First Sunday of Advent  
Readings: Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7  
1 Corinthians 1: 3-9**

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

11/22/23	Thanksgiving Mass - 7:00pm	St. Agatha
11/26/23	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thad
12/03/23	Unity Mass -	St. Martin de Porres
12/10/23	TBA	Fr. Thad
12/17/23	Fr. Thad	Fr. Mike Knotek
12/24/23	Fr. Larry	10:00 a.m. St. Agatha
12/31/23	Fr. Thad	Fr. Larry

**Prepare the Way of the Lord...  
in your heart!**

**Advent is only one week away!**

**Join us for two events to help you  
prepare:**

- ♦ **Saturday, December 2nd, Advent Morning of Reflection Our Lady of Sorrows 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.**
- ♦ **Saturday, December 9th Westside Reconciliation Service 11:00 - 12:00 p.m. St. Martin de Porres**

**Our Parish 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, November 26, 2023**



- † In Loving Memory of John "Goo" Llorens  
From Your Loving Family
- † In Loving Memory of Anika M. Hawkins "50th"  
From Mother, Phyllis Lee
- † In Loving Memory of Harold Davies Jr.  
From Phyllis Lee
- † In Loving Memory of Victor Guarino  
from wife, Jean Guarino
- † In Loving Memory of Nicolás Delgado  
From Barbara Marquez

Prayers for Anthony and Renae Wallin and 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



**Church Staff**

**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**

**Music Director: Dennis Smith (StA / SMdeP)  
Choir Director: Antonio Anderson (StA / SMdeP)**

**Websites & Social Media Admin:  
Emily Dillon, Kevin Dillon**

**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