



St. Simon of Cyrene Catholic Parish
January 7, 2024
The Epiphany of the Lord



“Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance. You shall be radiant at what you see, your heart shall throb and overflow, for the riches of the sea shall be emptied out before you, the wealth of nations shall be brought to you.” **Isaiah 60: 1-6**

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 **cdsmith@archchicago.org**

Website: www.stsimonofcyrene.org

St. Martin de Porres Church
Church of Record

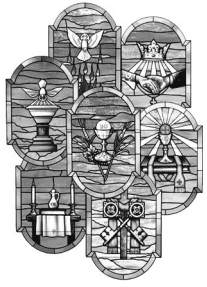
5112 W. Washington Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60644 Ph: (773) 287-0206
Office Hours Mon. - Fri 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

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, December 31, 2023

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

Mass Offering for	\$5,816.00
GiveCentral	3280.00
Christmas Collection	1371.00
*Christmas Collection for December 24	1550.00
Kolbe House-Special	55.00
Total:	\$12,072.00

Thank you for your Generosity!



For whom shall we pray...

Walter Adams, Susie Aldrich, Bertha Anderson, Jewel Austin, Kyle Becnel, Hildegard Bezdicek, Hazel Bills, Diondee Brown-Whitfield, Margaret Brown, Christopher Browne, DiMarkco Chandler, Frank Clark, Dorothy Cobb, 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, Zenobia Fuller, Danny Gardner, Shea Gardner, Callie Gee, Pamela D. Gee, Yvonne Gibson, Patricia Graham, Marian Graham, Kia Gray, Stan Gruszeczki, Bill Hainey, Nathaniel W. Hall, Mary Harrell, Diane Harris, Jasmine Harris, Jennifer Harris, Lejerrion Harris, Leatrice Harris, Maryann Harris, Tony Harris, Darryl Hicks, Veronica 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, 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, 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...

Our Christmas Season culminates in the universal church's celebration of the Feast of Epiphany. In a recent one-day layover in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, I realized that Epiphany is the day they celebrate as their Christmas in the Ethiopian Orthodox Church. Of course, there is great regard for the Holy Family in Northern Africa, Egypt in particular, regarded as the temporary home for the Holy Family, forced to leave their home in Nazareth under threat of death for their newborn son.

The story of the magi, the three wise men who shared a common dream of a great king for all nations who would be born in Bethlehem, is the story of the Christian journey. The journey is fraught with danger, traveling to a distant place, unsure of the exact destination, needing to stop for direction, following a singular sign in the heavens, ultimately encountering others who share the same dream. They pursue the dream, not to 'get something out of it,' but compelled out of a desire to pay homage to the manifestation of the dream, to offer their gifts in service to the realization of the dream. Along the way, they must stop for directions – unusual for us men to admit we need to do. They have no GPS, but pursue the true GPS – God's Personal Savior.

When they encounter the Child and his mother, they find themselves in awe of discovering the pearl of great price, knowing in the depths of their being that they have found a true treasure, reflected in the loving and beckoning gaze of a fragile, precious little child within whom dwells the fullness of the Godhead. They cannot help but kneel in reverence and offer everything they have in service of His purpose.

The Feast of Epiphany invites us, in this new Year of Our Lord 2024, to pursue more frequent and deeper encounters with the Lord, to dream big dreams that the Lord invites us to dream, to imagine new possibilities for service to God's unique plan for each of us individually, and for all of us collectively as the parish family of St. Simon of Cyrene.

God's greatest desire is for us to open ourselves to a deeper and more constant relationship with Him and His Son. God longs for us to accept God's love, to allow it to fill us, sustain us, strengthen us, embolden us to share that love as fully as we can with those closest to us and especially with those in need who cross our physical paths or who cross the borders of our consciousness who need, in some way, to feel that someone, that you, that God, through you, cares for them.

The Magi's encounter with Jesus causes them to take a different path home. May our encounters with Jesus in this New Year, cause us to follow more meaningful paths that one day will ultimately lead us all to our eternal home.

Gentle peace and Blessed New Year! Fr. Larry

Next Sunday, January 14, 2024
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Readings: 1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19
1 Corinthians 6: 13c- 15a, 17-20
John 1:35-42

Celebrant Mass Schedule
St. Agatha St. Martin de Porres

01/07/24	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thad
01/14/24	Fr. Thad	Fr. Larry
01/21/24	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thad
01/28/24	Fr. Thad	Fr. Larry
02/04/24	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thad
02/11/24	Fr. Thad	Fr. Larry
02/18/24	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thad



January 8th
Baptism of the Lord

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

Church Staff

Parish Secretary (SMdeP): Carol Johnson
Reception/Pantry (StA): Refoncia McGowan
Building Engineer: Roger Lozano
Maintenance: Andrew Griffin
Interim DRE: Marvin McCurry
Custodian: Frank Clark
Housekeeper SMdeP: Scarlett Evans-Perez
Music Director: Dennis Smith
Choir Director: Antonio Anderson
Website/ Social Media: Emily Dillon, Kevin Dillon

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.

Religious Education and Formation Classes

St. Martin De Porres site at 10:00am.Sundays.
 Register by calling the parish office.. To receive First Holy Communion or Confirmation, children must complete two years of Religious Education.

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RCIA classes for adults wishing to become Catholic or are Catholic and have not been confirmed can register by calling the Parish Office and talk with Fr. Larry or Fr. Thad

Take a Minute to Pray for a Young Person

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of your children and youth all around the world. You have created them in your own image and likeness. Help us to guide, affirm and love them so they are equipped to make healthy choices for their lives. Help the children experience your great love for them deep in their hearts. Send your spirit upon them to comfort, heal, protect and enlighten all their decisions. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.



Mass Intentions for this Week
Sunday, January 7, 2024



† In Loving Memory of James Lee Jones
 from the Johnson and Blaze Family

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

† In loving memory of Tommy and Bradley Trifone
 from Mary Trifone

We encourage our parishioners to pray for their loved ones living and deceased, by offering a Mass intention. Donation \$10