



St. Simon of Cyrene Catholic Parish
April 7, 2024
Second Sunday of Easter
Divine Mercy Sunday



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.

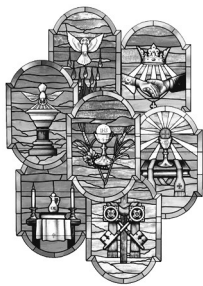
Masses: Sunday: 11:00 am; Tuesday: 9:00 am
Thurs: 9 am (Service w/Adoration)

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 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.

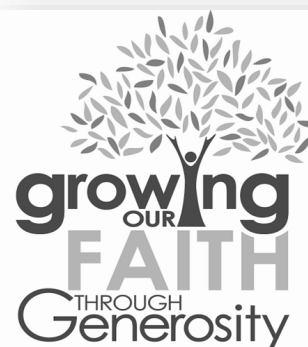
Hospital Stays: If you or a loved one is going into the hospital, please notify the office in order that a priest or care minister can call or visit the patient and be support to the family.

Your Stewardship of Treasure for the Mission of Jesus Christ Sunday, March 31, 2024

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

Mass Offering	\$5,263.00
Easter Collections	2002.00
GiveCentral	865.00
Holy Thursday	207.00
Good Friday	118.00
Kolbe Special	10.00
Total:	\$8,465.00

Thank you for your Generosity!



For whom shall we pray...

Walter Adams, Susie Aldrich, Bertha Anderson, Jewel Austin, Geraldine Baylor, 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 Gruszczyk, Bill Hainey, Nathaniel W. Hall, Mary Harrell, Leutrice Harris, Tony Harris, Darryl Hicks, Veronica Hicks, Gwendolyn Hicks, Elia Hinogosa-Cangey, Joesaya Henderson, Kesiea & Melinda, Kim Henderson, Leonard Henderson, Jerron Johns Jr., Joyce Ann Johnson, Sr., Julius Jones, Corine Jourdan, Ashanti Kelly, Jacqueline Kelly, Stanley King, Brian Lares, Jimmy Lee, Sayyid Lestrade, Anthony Lyons, Alexander Madden, Mannette, Larry Mapp Jr., Arelys Marquez, Catherine Martin, Marilyn Martin, Patrick McAnany, Melik McCloud, Latrice McGee, Carmella Miller, Sebastian Mitchell, 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, Marvin Register, Sommer Reynolds, Ed Ricks, Aquila Rogers, Deborah Rutledge, Lorraine Sanford, Eunice Scripp, Lazaro Alexander Singh, Rosa Solano, Candace Span, Brenda D. Taylor, Jose Teran, 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...

My dear friends, life can be full of disappointments and doubts. We place our trust totally in someone, even when we don't necessarily like the risks they take to connect with the poor and disenfranchised, or the ways they speak truth to power, yet we admire them and are attracted to them even still.

This is the story of "Doubting Thomas" or Thomas, Te'oma in Aramaic, meaning 'twin', or as he is called in this Gospel Didymus, which means the same in Greek. Thomas has been a doubter, but a close disciple of Jesus. A very practical man, this Thomas was.

Remember, he gave a practical but gloomy response when Jesus wanted to go back to Judea after Lazarus died. None of the disciples wanted to go there, because they knew the leaders had tried to stone Jesus (John 10:24-30). At that point Jesus gave some high-minded talk about how much they would learn by going, but Thomas ignored these reasoning. His sarcastic reply is a perfect picture of him: "Alright, let us also go die with him" (John 11:16).

Later, just before the passion, Jesus will say, "Where I am going you know the way." This was really a spiritual statement about going to the Father, but Thomas took it literally (John 14:3-6). He gives a very matter of fact response but rooted in emotion. In summary he says, "You're talking in secrets! We can't follow you if don't say where you are going! Help us." Thomas then watches the One he placed all his hope in suffer and die a horrendous death on the cross.

So, after Jesus' Resurrection, when Jesus appears to His disciples and Thomas is not present, and then Thomas is told that Jesus appeared to them, Thomas must have been cautiously joyful, and was not, having lost this Man who he so deeply loved, willing to place his hope in the his bother disciples witness, essentially says, "No, I cannot bear disappointment that this is an illusion! I need to see Him and place by fingers in His wounds. A practical man throughout his life, Thomas needed proof that what the apostles had described was real. He loved Jesus so much that he could not bear disappointment unless he touched Jesus. And so Jesus appears, embraces Thomas and loves him, encouraging him to believe in the wonders of God without question. Thomas, then, says "My Lord and my God!"

My friends, Thomas, the Twin, is in all of us. We are his twin. Many of us have placed our hope in someone and been disappointed, maybe even shaken to the core by our disappointment. It is okay to question God as long as we still believe. God is always working within us to help us deepen our faith in the Him, the Father and their Holy Spirit. May we be open more and more to the love of God that seeks to guide us through life, especially through those times of disappointment and loss.

Gentle Peace! Fr. Larry

Next Sunday, April 14, 2024
 Third Sunday of Easter
 Readings: Acts 3: 13-15, 17-19
 1 John 2: 5a
 Luke 24: 35-48

Celebrant Mass Schedule
St. Agatha St. Martin de Porres

4/07/24	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thulani Magwaza
4/14/24	Fr. Mike Knotek	Fr. Larry
4/21/24	Fr. Larry	Fr. Brian Walker
4/28/24	Fr. Rukuratwa Kiiguta	Fr. Larry
5/05/24	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thad
5/12/24	Fr. Thad	Fr. Larry

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.

Ministry Meetings
All are Welcome!

Health and Wellness Ministry Meetings
 Today, April 7 and Sunday, April 14, 2024
 at St. Agatha Church, 10:30a.m.

Couples Ministry Meeting
 Sunday, April 21, 2024
 at St. Agatha Church, 10:30a.m.

ST. SIMON OF CYRENE
MEN'S GROUP
PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Come start your day with a cup of Inspiration & Fellowship!



Saturday,
April 13, 2024
7:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Tickets \$10.00

Purchase tickets from any Men's Group member!
 All proceeds benefit the church!

Purcell Hall
4300 W. Washington Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60624



PANCAKES
SAUSAGE
BACON
EGGS
JUICE
COFFEE

- Mark Your Calendar -

St. Martin de Porres Parish Federal Credit Union
Annual Meeting
Sunday, April 14, 2024
Immediately following Mass
at Kipp School Lower Hall - All are Welcome!

Church Staff

Parish Secretary (SMdeP): Carol Johnson
Reception/Pantry (StA): Refoncia McGowan
Building Engineer: Roger Lozano
Maintenance: Kevin Johnson
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

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

Mass Intentions for this Week
Sunday, April 7, 2024



† In Loving Memory of John Branch Jr.
 From Carolyn Collier

† In Loving Memory and Happy Heavenly Birthday to
 Versie Lewis, from Son Terrence and Family

† In Loving Memory of Tommie and Bradley Trifone
 From Mary Trifone

Prayers of Health and Peace to Lazaro A. Singh
 From Barbara Marquez

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