



St. Simon of Cyrene Catholic Parish
May 5, 2024
Sixth Sunday of Easter



**Love is total
and constant
self-giving
in concrete
deeds.**
Love forgives.

**“Pardoning
offences
becomes the
clearest
expression of
merciful love,
and for us
Christians it is an
imperative from
which
we cannot excuse
ourselves.”**

- Pope Francis

Misericordiae vultus n. 9

-Catholics striving for Holiness



**DWELL
IN
MY LOVE!**

**“Love one another deeply,
from the heart”.**

1 Peter 1:22



QuotePic

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.

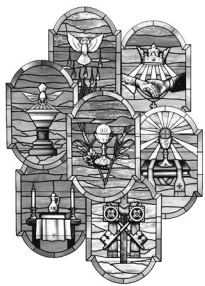
Masses: Sunday: 11:00 am; Tuesday: 9:00 am
Thurs: 9 am (Service w/Adoration)

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.

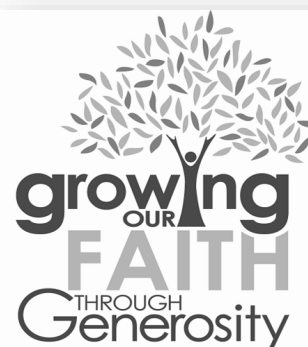
Hospital Stays: If you or a loved one is going into the hospital, please notify the office in order that a priest or care minister can call or visit the patient and be support to the family.

Your Stewardship of Treasure for the Mission of Jesus Christ Sunday, April 28, 2024

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

Mass Offering	\$4,007.00
GiveCentral -tba	.00
Kolbe House-Special	<u>60.00</u>
Total:	\$4,067.00

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, 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, Bill Hainey, Nathaniel W. Hall, Mary Harrell, Leutrice Harris, Tony Harris, Darryl Hicks, Gwendolyn Hicks, Jacqueline Hicks, Veronica 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, Dolores Mapp, Larry Mapp Jr., Arelys Marquez, Catherine Martin, Marilyn Martin, Patrick McAnany, Melik McCloud, Latrice McGee, Martina Mgimba, 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 Pledage, 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...

“Love one another!” This is Jesus’ call to his disciples in today’s reading from the Gospel of John. At first, we interpret this as, ‘Love those you are close to, those in your family, congregation, ethnic, racial, gender orientation, economic group. “One another,” for most of us would not include certain people, certain groups, especially those we disagree with or even hate.

The real challenge of today’s Gospel is to do what Jesus asks of all of us: “To love Everyone!” Our first reaction might be, “What? Are you kidding Jesus? Love everyone? Even those who are a thorn in my side, those who have hurt me, those who hold very different opinions than I do?” Jesus’ response, according to the Scriptures is “Yes! Love everyone!”

I think of particular situations, like the shooting of Black parishioners engaged in Bible study at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Atlanta where nine people were killed, and one was injured, during a Bible study. The response from family members was one of forgiveness for the young man who committed the crime. This was not in any way saying the young man shouldn’t be held accountable for his actions by the law. It was, however, an expression of faith by those who offered forgiveness to say that their hatred for this individual would accomplish anything other than carrying the pain and preventing them from living their lives as God would have them do. For me, such forgiveness does not come naturally to us as human beings. It has to emerge from something greater, something deeper. That, my friends, is the Holy Spirit, that Spirit of healing that emerges from within us in that place where God resides or, as the Scriptures for Sunday tell us, the place where Jesus ‘remains’ or dwells in us.

Our belief is that God is never far from us, that God is ever close. Sadly, we do not often recognize this closeness because we are caught up in our own agendas and fail to connect with God who is always present to advise us, accompany us, encourage us, never in any coercive or manipulative way, but always and only seeking to help us be the best person God created us to become.

The ability to love everyone – at a minimum, pray for everyone, requires an acceptance that ALL people are precious children of God, that no one, absolutely no one, is exempt from the love of God. Our task, our invitation, is to resist the forces that try to convince us that we are better, holier, truer to our faith, those forces that often appeal to our fears rather than raise up our common humanity and dignity before God.

As disciples of Jesus, we need the Holy Spirit to guide us and strengthen us to resist those urges to label others in order to make us some way feel superior. These are often the forces that seek to control us, pitting us against each other, in order to retain their power, privilege and social status. Our invitation: Open ourselves to let the Christ who dwells in us more fully into our lives. Perhaps in our daily prayer say, “Lord, I invite you to be a greater part of my life, to guide me where I need guidance, to be my constant companion throughout this day.”

Gentle Peace! Fr. Larry

Next Sunday, May 12, 2024
Seventh Sunday of Easter
Readings: Acts 1:15-17, 20a, 20c-26
1 John 4:-11-16
John 17:11b-19

Celebrant Mass Schedule
St. Agatha St. Martin de Porres

05/05/24	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thad
05/12/24	Fr. Thad	Fr. Larry
05/19/24	PENTECOST	Unity Mass SMdeP
05/26/24	Fr. Thad	Fr. Larry
06/02/24	Fr. Larry	Fr. Thad

Mark Your Calendar !!!

Music Inc.
Spring Community Concert
Saturday, May 11, 2024
St. Agatha Church, 2:00pm-3:30pm

St. Simon of Cyrene Men's Group
Annual Mother's Day Dinner
Saturday, May 11, 2024
Purcell Hall - 4300 W. Washington Blvd.
4:00pm - 9:00pm

- Sign-up sheets are available at both Church Locations -

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: 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

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.

Prayer for Healing for Victims of Domestic Abuse

Lord, I adore you and give you thanks for creating me to be just who I am. You created me to enjoy the fullness of life, Your life in me. Heal me of any incidents of abuse in my life or in the lives of my children that have made us feel unworthy or inferior. Heal us of all experiences of abuse in our home that have made us feel guilty and ashamed, that has caused us to reject ourselves and to lose hope. Surround me with Your light, Jesus, and penetrate the very depths of my being with that light. Let there remain no areas of darkness in me or in my children, but transform our whole being with the healing light of Your love. Open me completely to receive Your love, Jesus. AMEN.

Domestic Violence Services: Catholic Charities Chicago. Community Casework and Counseling. 1800 N. Hermitage Chicago, IL 60622 - Intake: (312) 655-7700
National Domestic Violence Hotline:
1-800-799 SAFE (7233)

Mass Intentions for this Week
Sunday, May 5, 2024

† In Loving Memory of Betty Cortesa Clark
From the Cottrell, Clark and Ellison Family

† In Loving Memory of Stanly Gruszczeni
From James and Carolyn Collier and Jamie Collier-Vanzant

† In Loving Memory of Rev. Francis Scanlan
From St. Martin de Porres Credit Union

† In Loving Memory Emily Jane Mason
From Goddaughter Jan Peters

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