



St. Simon of Cyrene Parish

5112 W. Washington Boulevard, Chicago, IL 60644

St. Martin Church

PHONE: 773 287-0206

3147 W. Douglas Boulevard, Chicago, IL 60623 - St. Agatha Church

PHONE: 773 522-3050



Mass Times

Sunday:

St. Agatha Church, 9:00am

St. Martin de Porres Church, 11:00am

Weekdays:

St. Agatha Church, Thursday, 7:30am

St. Martin de Porres Church

Tuesday, 9:00am and Thursday 9:00 am

SACRAMENTS

Baptism: The Parish has set calendar dates for the baptism of babies and small children. Parents should contact the Deacon William Pouncy.

R.C.I.A. Adults seeking Baptism or to make their Profession of Faith and other sacraments should contact the Director of Religious Education to register.

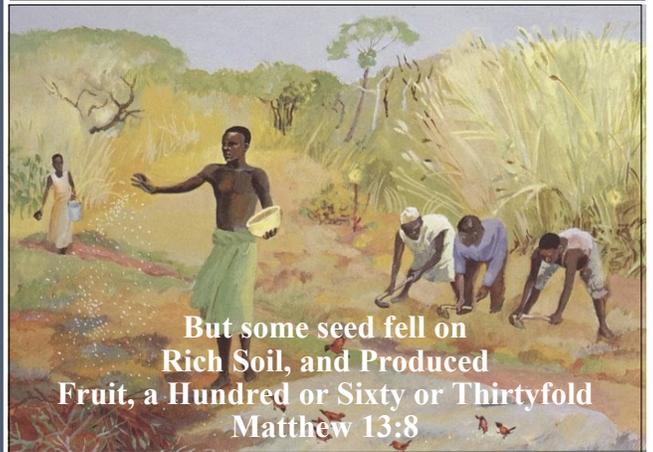
Reconciliation is available upon request.

Marriages: Couples must contact the Pastor six to twelve months prior to a proposed wedding date. Attendance at a Pre-Cana Session will be required.

Ministry to Sick and Shut-In: If a member of the church is in a hospital, nursing home or homebound, please call the parish office if they would like to receive the Eucharist.

Funerals: Please contact the Pastor before making arrangements for funerals of church members.

JULY 14, 2024 FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



But some seed fell on
Rich Soil, and Produced

Fruit, a Hundred or Sixty or Thirtyfold
Matthew 13:8

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.

Parish Staff

Pastor: Fr. Thadeo Mgimba

Deacon Couple: Rev. Mr. William & Gayle Pouncy

Deacon Couple: Rev. Mr. Greg & Carolyn Shumpert

Parish Secretary: Carol Johnson

Receptionist: Refoncia McGowan

Interim DRE: Marvin McCurry

Building Engineer: Roger Lozano

Housekeeper: Scarlett Evans-Perez

Custodian: Frank Clark

Maintenance: Kevin Johnson

Music Director: Dennis Smith

Choir Director: Antonio Anderson

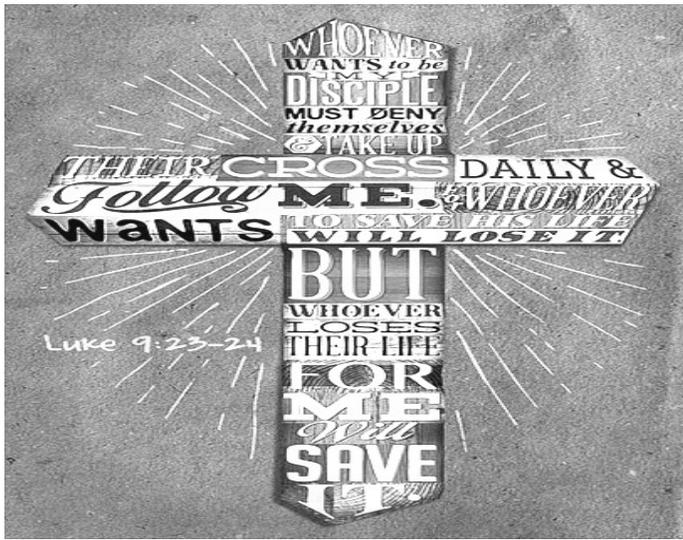
Websites & Social Media: Emily Dillon

Sunday Collections for July 7, 2024

Contributions	\$4,702.00
Kolbe House	27.00
Give Central: To be reported later	0.00
Total	\$4,729.00

Thanks for your generosity!





For Whom Shall We Pray...

Walter Adams, Susie Aldrich, Bertha Anderson, Jewel Austin, Geraldine Baylor, Kyle Becnel, Hildegard Bezdicek, Hazel Bills, 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, Leatrice Harris, Tony Harris, Harlem Daniel Hayes, 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, 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, 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, Armonie Witherspoon, Beverly Wright, Flora Yancy

Moving forward with the Lord on our side

Can you be a witness of your faith in Jesus Christ?

In the month of April, I visited my home country Tanzania. The first Sunday I was given an opportunity to preside an early Sunday mass at 6:30am in my home Parish. Even though my home parish Church is small, however, it was packed to the fullest until there were no seats left; some even stood or sat outside of the Church.

My heart was filled with a "good jealousy" and wished our Church, St. Simon of Cyrene, could be the same, be filled up to its capacity every Sunday. I wondered, "what are they doing to make this Church flourish like a garden of roses? Why are they flourish, and why are we declining? Why are they increasing in number, and we are decreasing in number? I wondered while thinking we are both believing in the same God and recite the same creed every Sunday. Why?

While there might be many reasons to the why of my questions, however, one thing that I learned was that the Church in Africa is flourishing because of the small Christian Communities. Most of the Parishes are divided into small Christian communities that are locally organized to promote domestic faith from the grass-root level.

Every Saturday morning, members of the small Christian community meet to pray as a domestic Church, read scripture and after the scripture reading, every participant regardless of life's stage, is allowed to give a personal witness of how the scripture speaks to them. In other words, they do Lectio Divina at first place and later discusses the affairs of their community every Saturday.

Now, these meetings in small Christian Communities, allow individuals to share their journey of faith and give testimony about how God has been working in their lives or how he has been helping them grow in their Christian or sacramental lives. As a result, many people have turned to become witnesses, many have moved from being followers to witnesses. Still, many have renewed their faith simply by becoming part of this movement of living one's Christian life committedly by being comfortable to share their faith with or to others, that is, to talk about the goodness of the Lord publicly.

Indeed, by becoming part of the renewal movement, becoming part of the giving testimony of one's faith and by solidifying the small Christian communities, the Church in Africa has grown to become a vibrant prosperous Church.

Well in 1965 the Vatican Council II, issued a **Decree on the Church's Missionary Activity [Ad Gentes Divinus]** and in its article #11, it stated, "*All Christians by the examples of their lives and the witness of the world, wherever they live, have an obligation to manifest the new man which they put on in baptism, and reveal the power of the Holy Spirit by whom they were strengthened at confirmation, so that others, seeing their good works, may glorify the Father.*" Indeed, this article suggest that, it is through Christian's good works, that others may see God in us glorify Him. Therefore, I urge all of us to strive to transform ourselves from being followers to witness of our faith, to strive to manifest the new man or woman that we became after our baptism and to strive to allow God to be seen by others in our life. So I urge you to be a witness to your faith, share the gift of faith you received through baptism and let God be seen in your life. Peace be with you.

Brother Thad

SERMON: FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (CYCLE B)

Do you remember the last time you packed for a trip, a long journey? You had to think of several things. What's the weather to be like? Will I need a heavy jacket? How many changes of clothes do I need? Many people ask those questions before they begin their trip. And when they are at last on their way, questions run through their mind. Did I pack my ticket? Did I forget my medicine? Where did I leave my glasses? Now, wait a moment. Try to imagine how much more difficult your packing would be, if you had no idea where you were going, if you had no idea how long you would be gone.

- In today's Gospel, Jesus Christ sent his disciples out on mission, on just that kind of journey. Imagine the surprise of the disciples when Jesus tells them to leave most of their possessions behind. This was an urgent mission; and it was passed on to us, because our Teacher, Jesus Christ, tells us to undertake a similar mission.
- St. Paul describes the mission of Jesus as having three steps. First, God chose us, his people, before the world began. God chose us to be holy, God-like, and loving. Second, through Jesus Christ, by God's plan, we have been redeemed, forgiven, and empowered. Third, God's plan is that we will bring all things together, with Jesus Christ as our head.
- So, Jesus could say, "Peace I give you, Peace I leave you, peace no heart can hold. Joy that knows no rest or ending, joy till now untold." The peace of Christ is the beginning of our calling, the rationale for our journey, the meaning of our mission.
- People confined to a hospital bed, people shut in at home, people unable to walk outside—yes, even those people have the same mission. By their witness, by their prayers, by their suffering, they speak eloquently to the world of the power of the Lord. That witness can be more convincing than any sermon, more beautiful than any public talk, more persuasive than any spoken word.
- Jesus sent the disciples out two by two. They were not meant to be alone. And when Jesus sends you out into the world, you are not alone, either. This is why there is a sponsor at baptism. This is why the Rite of Christian Initiation involves other people. This is why your witness to the world must always have the support of at least one other person.
- Your message may be rejected. And your message may be accepted, if not now, perhaps someday later on. But the important thing is that you accept your calling, to evangelization, to witness, to testifying to the truth.
- We pray, then, to the Lord Jesus Christ: "We will wait and share your promise in the gift you give. Till you come again in glory, in your word, we live."

Fr. Michael Gilligan

Next Sunday, July 21, 2024
Sixteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time
Readings: Jeremiah 23:1-6
Ephesians 2: 13-18
Mark: 6: 30-34

Celebrant Mass Schedule

St. Agatha

St. Martin de Porres

7/14/24 Fr. Thad

Fr. Tom Walsh

7/21/24 Fr. Thad
 Dcn. Greg (Preaching)

Fr. Thad
 Dcn. Pouncy (Preaching)

7/28/24 Fr. Tetwigs, R.

Fr. Thad

In Journey of the Mind to God

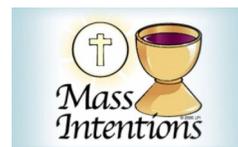
St. Bonaventure wrote: "I propose the following speculations to be free for those willing to magnify, admire and even take a taste of God, intimating, that too little or nothing is the proposed, exterior gaze [speculum], unless the mirror [speculum] of our mind has been wiped and polished. Exert yourself, therefore, man of God, before [prius ad] the sting of conscience bites again, and before you raise your eyes towards the rays of wisdom glittering in His reflections [speculis], lest by chance from the sight [speculatione] itself of the rays you fall into the more grave pit of shadows."

Prayer of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Mass Intentions for this Week

Sunday, July 14, 2024



St. Simon of Cyrene Parishioners and Families

We encourage our parishioners to pray for their loved ones, living and deceased, by offering a Mass Intention. Donation for Mass is \$10.00

God is good... All the time...

All the time... God is good!

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

BAPTISMS FOR SMALL CHILDREN

If you need the Sacrament of Baptism for Babies and small children, **call the Parish Office** during weekday business hours.

Deacon William Pouncy or **Deacon Greg Shumpert** will contact you. There will be a meeting for Parents & Godparents after we set the date for the new date for Baptism. Baptism will be held every 2nd and 4th Saturday or Sunday after Mass.