



St. Simon of Cyrene Parish

5112 W. Washington Boulevard, Chicago, IL 60644
St. Martin Church - 773 287-0206
3147 W. Douglas Boulevard, Chicago, IL 60623
St. Agatha Church - 773 522-3050
WEBSITE: <http://www.stsimonofcyrene.org>



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.

AUGUST 25, 2024 TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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
Administrative Assistant: Carol Johnson
Secretary: Refoncia McGowan
Office Administrator: David Wolfe
Dir. of Religious Educ.: Marvin McCurry
Housekeeper: Scarlett Evans-Perez
Maintenance: Kevin Johnson
Music Director: Dennis Smith
Musician: Calvin Smith
Choir Director: Antonio Anderson
Out Reach Ministry: Derek Brown
Out Reach Ministry: Heather Johnson
Websites & Social Media: Emily Dillon

Sunday Collections for August 18, 2024

Sunday Contributions	\$3,519.25
Give Central	1390 .00
Kolbe House-Special	113.00
Total	\$5,022.25

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, Diana Foster, Zenobia Fuller, Enochs Galloway, 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, 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, Brian Lares, Jimmy Lee, Sayyid Lestrade, Melvin Lightford, Anthony Lyons, Alexander Madden, Mannette, Dolores Mapp, Larry Mapp Jr., Arelys Marquez, Catherine Martin, Melik McCloud, Latrice McGee, Carmella Miller, Connie Montoya, Arlene Moore, LaVita Norris, Clara Orlando, Mariano Palacios, Michael Parham, Luvenia Parker, Emma Peradas, Scarlett Evans Perez, Gordon Perry, Jan F. Peters, Sylvia Peters, Essie Pledage, Queenie Randle, 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, Tyler Williams, Armonie Witherspoon, Beverly Wright, Flora Yancy

By Faith

The book of the Hebrew chapter 11:1-11, is a powerful reading that defines and explicates the question of faith. It defines and explains how faith has been working in the life of some people to produce in them an abundant and fruitful results. Indeed, it is in Hebrew 11:1 that faith is firstly defined as *“the confident assurance that something we want is going to happen.”* This confident assurance is an individual high level of trust that bring into actions what is not yet seen by the naked eyes. This high level of trust or confident assurance is the gift of God to a believer; and it is a principle operating factor in the life of everyone who believes.

The book of Hebrew chapter 11:4-11 lists the names of men and women who lived their faith committedly and strongly. The names of Abel who obeyed God, Enoch who trusted God, Noah who heard God’s warning, Abraham who left his home and went far away to another land, Sarah who became a mother in her old age, Jacob who blessed Joseph’s two sons as he stood and prayed, Joseph who spoke of God bringing the people of Israel out of Egypt, Moses who refused to be treated as a grandson of the king but chose to share ill-treatment with God’s people etc., are just few heroic and faith filled biblical names. These men and women of faith lived their faith devotedly and left the good things of this world to follow the ways of God.

To follow the ways of God is a journey and a gift of faith that awakens us to embrace our faith lovingly and deny the empty promises of Satan that hinders us from being holy like God. Certainly, God has made us for him, he has made us to be his people and that he may be our God. He loves us, cares for us and desires that all of us may come to the knowledge of his truth regardless of our sinfulness.

Now even though man due to his sinfulness finds himself far away from God and sometimes broken in his nature, but God through his mighty power continues to invite him to his reign and give him mercy instead of justice that he deserves. Through his mercy and grace, through the precious blood of his Son, Jesus Christ, God makes every hill of problem of man to be low, and enlighten with his goodness and kindness every valley of darkness that cover man’s world. And to this end, man becomes a highly favored creature of God and therefore, becomes important to God because God does everything to bring him back to his fold even when he loses his faith. God loves man. God loves you. And you are important to God.

So today I call upon you to join me and proclaim that by faith let’s build a deep trust in God like Abraham, by faith let’s be obedient to God’s commands like Noah, by faith let’s be courageous and perseverant like Moses, by faith let’s be in communion with God like Jacob and by faith let’s be a blessing to others like Joseph. By faith God has set a stage for us to *“keep our eyes on Jesus, our leader and instructor.”* [Heb 12:2]. **God bless you.**

Brother Thad

SERMON: TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (CYCLE B)

Why do we read the Old Testament? Why do we go back to read such ancient writings, from so long ago? We do this because the experience of God's people then is also the experience of God's people today. Their God is our God. Their life is our life.

- You heard how Joshua gathered the people together at Shechem. The people who were conquered, the Amorites, decided to worship the God of Israel. This is a matter of history. They assembled in ranks, heard the Word, and made a decision. You do the same thing. You assemble in ranks. You hear the Word. And you make a decision. This too is a matter of history, your history. We know our past and our present; we choose our future. It is the experience of the Church. We are saved, together with other people.
- The Church does not have all the answers. We know that. Jesus Christ spoke the truth, surely; yet his message is not always clear, in the present generation. We know that too. And yet, we make a decision. With Peter, we say, "Lord, you have the words of everlasting life." Where else would we go? What else can we do?
- With Joshua, the people decided to remain together as a nation, as one body. With Peter, the disciples also make a decision for Christ. That's the point of the Gospel. It is not the Hellenic, Stoic household code of life that is decisive but Christ and the Church. With both Joshua and Peter, the option to leave is real. In both cases, the choice to believe is real.
- Why, then, do we believe? In a certain way, it is because together we decide to believe, whenever we profess our faith, whenever we say the Creed, whenever we sing Amen, in response to the Eucharistic Prayer. It is the experience of the Church that we are saved with other people.
- The Second Vatican Council taught plainly that God could have saved us as individuals. God could have made it a matter of personal choice. In fact, say the bishops of the Council, God does not save us in that way. The decision we make for faith is a decision we make together.
- Make a decision; then; choose life, that you may live. You and your children's children. This is why we read the Old Testament. This is why we study the New Testament. This is why both Testaments are true: they bring us to believe, to decide, to live.

Give thanks to God the Father, then, for everything, through Jesus Christ our Lord, now and always and forever and ever.

—Father Michael Gilligan

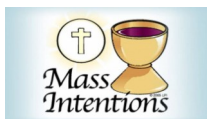
Next Sunday, September 01, 2024
 Twenty-Second Sunday In Ordinary Time
 Readings: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8
 James 1:17-18, 21b-22,27
 Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Celebrant Mass Schedule

<u>St. Agatha</u>	<u>St. Martin de Porres</u>
8/25/24 Fr. Mike Knotek	Fr. Thad
9/01/24 Fr, Tetwigs	Fr. Thad
9/08/24 Fr. Thad	Fr. Mike Knotek
9/15/24 Fr. Thad Dcn. Greg (Preaching)	Fr. Thad Dcn. Pouncy (Preaching)
9/22/24 Fr. Mike Knotek	Fr. Thad

Mass Intentions for this Week

Sunday, August 25, 2024



† In Loving Memory of Deacon Anthony Llorens Sr.
 and Happy Heavenly Birthday to Lillian LeCoure
 From the Llorens Family

† In Loving Memory of Joselito Modelo Sr.
 From Joann Harris

† Happy Heavenly Birthday to Charlene Szczepanski
 From Adrienne Curtis

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

**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

God will come to us in the
 difficult, stormy times.



**Trusting God in the
 Storms of Life**

The Storms of life are part of God's sanctification plan, revealing your heart, and growing you into His image. Do not let the difficult storms become bigger than the promises of Jesus. He promises to be with you through any storm that He allows in your life (Isa.43.2).

According to some, God's always present in difficult times, even if it seems like he's not. Some say the God disciplines us through circumstances, and some of which comes from our sin. Others say that God allows people to experience failure, pain, and struggle so that they can grow stronger in their faith.

The Bible teaches us that there are three kinds of storms in life: storms that we bring on ourselves, storms that God caused, and storms that other people causes. There's also loss, disease, and heartache, which can all come into our lives and turn them upside down. But God has given us an anchor in these types of storms too: hope in His Son Jesus Christ who will be with us through every storm and promises eternal life to those who place their faith in him.

"Allow the Storms of Life propel you to trust God as your refuge and deliverer"

