



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: <https://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 4, 2024 EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Awake, you who sleep
Arise from the dead, and

Christ will
give You
light.

Ephesians
5:14

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

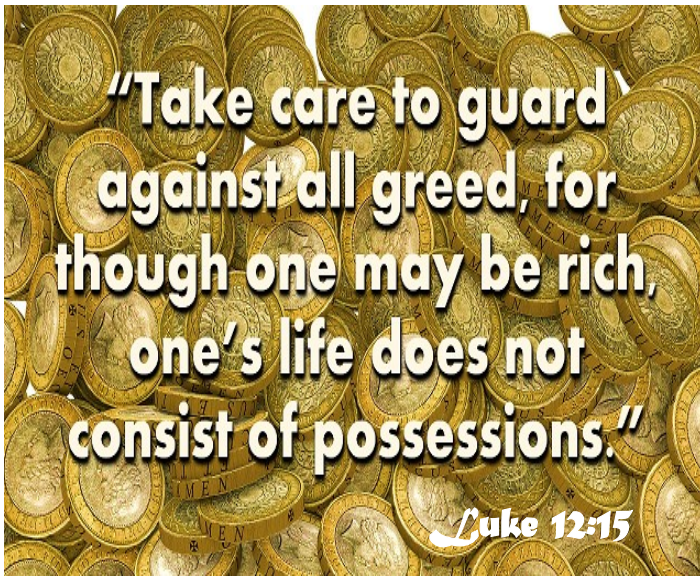
Pastor: Fr. Thadeo Mgimba
Deacon Couple: Rev. Mr. William & Gayle Pouncy
Deacon Couple: Rev. Mr. Greg & Carolyn Shumpert
Parish Secretary: Carol Johnson
Receptionist: Refoncia McGowan
DRE: Marvin McCurry
Building Engineer: Roger Lozano
Housekeeper: Scarlett Evans-Perez
Maintenance: Kevin Johnson
Music Director: Dennis Smith
Choir Director: Antonio Anderson
Websites & Social Media: Emily Dillon

Sunday Collections for July 28, 2024

Sunday Contributions	\$3,395.00
Give Central	1425.00
Kolbe House-Special	72.00
Total	\$4,892.00

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, 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

May God grant you a steadfast heart

In the early days of Christian life, we are taught that it was simply dangerous and unpopular to follow Jesus Christ. Those who chose to be baptized and follow Jesus, were men and women who firmly had chosen what was called "the way". It was a choice of living like Christ and abandoning the luxurious and empty promises of the world. It was a choice that led people not to destruction instead to salvation of the souls. The names of the Apostles, Fathers of the Church, men and women whom today we call them saints are concrete examples of those who chose this unpopular way to follow Christ. Names of St. Peter, St. Paul, St. James, St. Stephen, St. Ignatius of Antioch, St. Agnes, St. Perpetua & Felicity, St. Agatha, and St. Martin de Porres are some of the examples of the dedicated people who exemplify this unpopular choice.

Among the Apostles, the name of St. Paul comes first as somebody who painfully followed Christ. After his conversion, St. Paul realized that to follow Christ was something unpopular and demanded sacrifices and perseverance of hardships, persecutions, insults, betrayals, humility of spirit and trust in our Lord Jesus. It is for this reason that in his second letter to Corinthians, he lists his pains by saying, "Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea; on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers; in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure." [2Cor 11:24-28]

Today, most of us wonder how come a man like St. Paul never gave-up amidst all the pains and sufferings he encountered. The Apostles, the Fathers of the Church, the Saints and Martyrs, also never gave-up following Christ until their death. Undeniably, when we read the lives of all these individuals, we noticed that these individuals were endowed with what we call a steadfast heart; a heart that was firmly rooted in what they believed, a heart that was resolute to the love of God and of the neighbor, and a heart that was trustful to the promises of God.

Now for us too to be a Catholic Christians, is risky and unpopular in our world we are living. For us to come to the mass every Sunday it is unpopular routine. For us to be baptized or receive communion every Sunday, is culturally strange. For us to go to confessions or getting married in the Church, is something unattractive. For us to speak openly about our faith and believe in God and the teaching of the Church, is unfashionable or foolish in the eyes of the secular world. But some of us are still proud and are holding our Catholic faith proudly. Thus, I pray for you and please pray for me that in these trying times, may God grant each one of us a steadfast heart to endure the challenges we are encountering, in this journey of following Jesus Christ. God bless you.

Brother Thad

SERMON: EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (CYCLE B)

I have a question for you. What do we live for? And what is life? God's people in the desert sought the same things we do: life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness. They were hungry; they wanted to survive. And so, you know it well, God provided for his people. He sent them manna, bread, in the morning. The people would go out to gather it. In the evening, God sent them quail to eat. The flakes on the ground came from the morning dew. So the Scripture says, "The Lord gave them bread from heaven." This act of God, this great deed on our behalf, this miracle is now continued in a new and wondrous way, more effective and more lasting

- Like God's people of the Old Testament, we can easily be mistaken and misled. St. Paul says our old self deteriorates through illusion and desire. Illusion is the need to be thought well of, by other people. It is the need to look good. Our national religion, says the local newspaper, is dieting; and diet books are our hymnals. We want to be attractive, all of us. St. Paul would call that illusion. He also spoke of desire. Dean Ornish, one expert in weight loss, says that "the real epidemic in our culture is spiritual heart disease. Dr. Ornish says he is referring to the loneliness, isolation, and alienation that is all around us. Many people, he says use food "to numb the pain and get through the day." St. Paul would call this desire
- Why are you here today? Why do people come to the Eucharist? What's going on? Jesus Christ says you are looking for him because you have eaten your fill of the loaves of bread, because you have been nourished somehow. He says you are not here because you have seen signs, that is, because you have faith. Is there not some truth in this? Do not people pray sometimes because they want some material or physical benefit? Do not people come to church hoping that God will do something for them or for someone they care about? This is not wrong or evil. But Jesus Christ is calling us to something even better: to see signs, to celebrate the vision of faith, to turn over our whole being to God. That's what he wants, and that's what he teaches.
- Notice that Jesus Christ avoids the crowds. He doesn't push his religion on people. Notice that he was asked questions and that he answered the questions. The Gospel records not a lecture but a dialogue. It is the same today. Jesus Christ speaks to you, and you answer him. So it is, say many Church documents, that the most important parts to sing in the Mass are those things that are dialogues. This is why we sing "The word of the Lord" and "Thanks be to God." This is why we sing "The peace of the Lord be with you always" and "And with your spirit." This is why we sing the prayer of the faithful, the Universal Prayer, the petitions at the end of the Liturgy of the Word. These are elements of dialogue, reflecting our communal response to the words of Jesus Christ, as in today's Gospel. It could not be otherwise.

We pray, then, together: O God, you gave us manna, when once we wandered in sin. You turned our mind from our anger; your life and your love entered in. In fire and flames and thunder, you promised we would be wise. Your Word was food for our spirit; your law, it was life for our eyes.

—*Father Michael Gilligan*

Next Sunday, August 11, 2024
Nineteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time
Readings: 1 Kings 19: 4-8
Ephesians 4: 30-52
John 6: 41-51

Celebrant Mass Schedule

<u>St. Agatha</u>	<u>St. Martin de Porres</u>
8/04/24 Fr. Thad	Fr. Rich Hynes
8/11/24 Fr. Thad	Fr. Mike Knotek
8/18/24 Fr. Thad Dcn. Greg (Preaching)	Fr. Thad Dcn. Pouncy (Preaching)
8/25/24 Fr. Knotek	Fr. Thad

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO 

Save the date

**KNOW THY
NEIGHBOR:
CONNECTING
WITH CHICAGO'S
CATHOLIC
CAMPAIGN FOR
HUMAN
DEVELOPMENT**

Join us for conversation with CCHD Grantees, appetizers and an open bar!

September 13, 2024 | 6 – 8 p.m.
Old St. Mary's Church

RSVP here: bit.ly/CCHDneighbor.

TODAY'S PRAYER

Thank You, Lord, for this day and for life and for my many blessings. I believe in Your goodness with all my heart. So I am asking You to go before me today, being my guide should situations make me wonder which way to turn. As each hour passes on this day, Lord, bless me with Your strength, Your joy and please keep me under Your watchful eye the entire day, ever ready to help me and to offer me comfort. In Jesus' name. Amen.

**St. Martin de Porres Credit Union
Located in Purcell Hall**

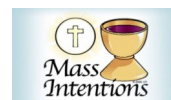
4300 W. Washington Blvd. - 773-626-0776
Open Saturdays: 10:30a.m.-1:30p.m.

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, August 4, 2024



† In Loving Memory and Honor of
Grady Anderson Auxiliary Members
From Reva Wilson

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