



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> - EMAIL: st.simonofcyrene@archchicago.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.

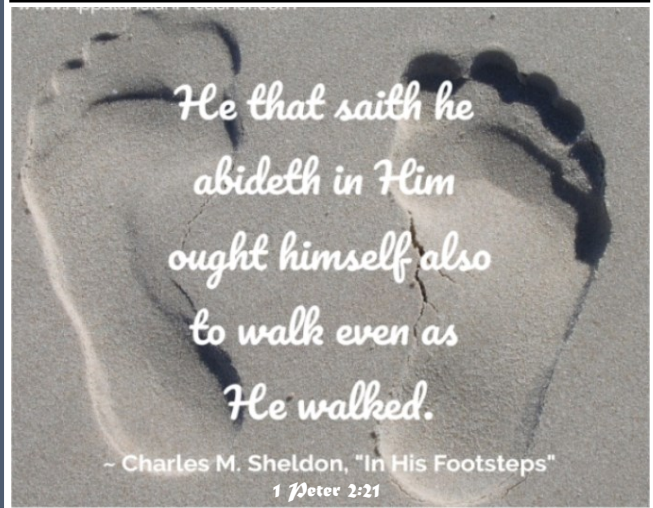
Reconciliation is available upon request.

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.

OCTOBER 27, 2024 THIRTIETH 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 Pouncy, **Director of Charity and Outreach**]

Deacon Couple: Rev. Mr. Greg & Carolyn Shumpert
[Deacon Shumpert, **Director of Evangelization**]

Parish Operations Director: Yvonne Coffey

Parish Administrative Assistant: Carol Johnson

Parish Secretary: Refoncia McGowan

Director of Religious Education: Marvin McCurry

Housekeeper: Scarlett Evans-Perez

Music Director: Dennis Smith

Musician: Calvin Smith

Choir Director: Antonio Anderson

Outreach Ministry: Derek Brown

Outreach Ministry: Heather Johnson

Websites & Social Media: Emily Dillon

Sunday Collections for October 20, 2024

Sunday Contributions	\$3314.58
Give Central	1506.00
Kolbe House-Special	187.00
Total	\$5007.58

Universal Offertory-Sept. 2024 \$1,610.00

Thanks for your generosity!





For Whom Shall We Pray...

Walter Adams, Susie Aldrich, Bertha Anderson, Jewel Austin, Cheryl Baker, Gia Brown-Baxter, Geraldine Baylor, Kyle Becnel, Hildegard Bezdicek, Hazel Bills, Margaret Brown, Christopher Browne, Carlos Chino Chapa, DiMarkco Chandler, Sandra Coffey, William Crown, Jermaine Curtis, Natalie Davis, Tylesia Day, Shelma Dillon, Elnora Dorsey, Mary Ann Evans, Carter Evans, Joyce Evans, Norene Evans, Zenobia Fuller, Enochs Galloway, Anna Garcia, Manuel MeMe Garcia, 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, David Hicks, Gwendolyn Hicks, Jacqueline Hicks, Veronica Hicks, Joesaya Henderson, Kesiea & Melinda, Kim Henderson, Leonard Henderson, Jerron Johns Jr., Joyce Ann Johnson, Sr., Julius Jones, Virginia Jones, Corine Jourdan, Ashanti Kelly, Jacqueline Kelly, Brian Lares, Jimmy Lee, Sayyid Lestrade, Melvin Lightford, Anthony Lyons, Alexander Madden, Martin Mannette, Dolores Mapp, Larry Mapp Jr., Arellys Marquez, Catherine Martin, Martina Mgimba, Melik McCloud, Latrice McGee, Carmella Miller, Connie Montoya, Arlene Moore, Ezekiel Clement Msembe, Tamma Norals, LaVita Norris, Clara Orlando, Michael Parham, Luvenia Parker, Emma Peradas, Gordon Perry, Jan F. Peters, Sylvia Peters, Burke Pledage Jr., Essie Pledage, Queenie Randle, Marvin Register, Sommer Reynolds, Ed Ricks, Aquila Rogers, Deborah Rutledge, Lorraine Sanford, Eunice Scripp, Lazaro Alexander Singh, Linda Smith, Rosa Solano, Brenda D. Taylor, Jose Teran, Clarice Thomas, Michael Triplett Sr., Richard Spearman, Terri Triplett, Deano Tretter, Joseph Tretter Sr, Charese Troupe, Clarence Walker, Joan Watkins, Shirley West, Diondai Whitfield, Walter Whitlow, Tyler Williams, Armonie Witherspoon, Beverly Wright,

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

On Sunday, November 3rd, 2024, Bishop Joseph Perry will join us for our Unity Mass at St. Martin de Porres Church. We have invited Bishop Perry to confirm our six students from the Religious Education Class of 2024: Kailah Ellison, Zerik Hernandez, Mariah Sims, Patrick Ezeanyim, Jaliyah Lecoure, and Jaison Yarbar. These students are all in their freshman year of high school and are fourteen years old. Personally, I would like to congratulate them and wish them the best on this journey of following Christ.

Dear Sisters and Brothers, the sacraments of Baptism, the Eucharist, and Confirmation are officially recognized by the Catholic Church as sacraments of Christian initiation. Although they are administered separately at different times today, they remain united in their essence and function. The sacrament of Confirmation completes the grace of Baptism for its recipients. Those who receive this sacrament are perfectly bound to the Church and are enriched by the special strength of the Holy Spirit. They become witnesses of Christ, soldiers of Christ, and defenders of the faith, empowered by the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The imparting of the gift of the Holy Spirit to those receiving the sacrament of Confirmation is done through the laying on of hands and anointing with perfumed oil, called Chrism, by the Bishop. Certainly, the sacrament of Confirmation perpetuates the grace of Pentecost in the Church (cf. Catechism of the Catholic Church, #1288, p. 326). Therefore, as the Church community of St. Simon of Cyrene, we are proud of these young men and women who are about to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit and become witnesses and soldiers of Christ. We pray for them, that they may faithfully believe what they profess in the Creed, demonstrate their Catholic faith through their lives, and teach others to defend our faith through their words and actions.

May God bless you, Kailah, Zerik, Mariah, Patrick, Jaliyah, and Jaison. Peace be with you all.

Brother Thad

**SERMON: THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
(CYCLE B)**

In the time of the early Church, when a pagan woman prayed, especially in Egypt and North Africa, she would go to the window on the east side of the building. At dawn, when she got up, the woman would face the rising sun and pray, Kyrie, eleison, "Lord, have mercy," in Greek.

When people marched in procession in the streets of Alexandria, great crowds would gather and join in singing to the sun-god. With high volume, the people would sing, again and again, Kyrie, eleison.

When the emperor or one of his princes would visit a city, someone would stand at his right hand with a bag of money, in coins. And the emperor, as he moved along, down the street, would throw out coins to the people. As they rushed forward, you know what people would shout? Kyrie, eleison.

Now you know why the Gospel records that the blind man came up to Jesus and said, eleison emou, "Have mercy on me." It's the same idea.

We come to Christ, and we beg for his mercy. Over and over again, we sing Kyrie, eleison; we implore him to answer us, because he is our sun, our light, our glory. He is the king, the master, the sovereign. He is the source of lasting wealth, of genuine riches, of enduring happiness. To him, we pray Kyrie, eleison.

Jesus said to the blind man, "Your faith has healed you." He says that to us. We trust in him, and he responds by making us well. After that, with that man who was blind, we follow Jesus on his journey. Everything in the Gospel is there for a reason. Everything recorded there is to help us believe, to help us live, to bring us to eternal life.

Scripture today says that Jesus is a high priest who received his office from his Father. Before God, he is our representative, our mediator, our priest. Think of that when you pray. Think of Jesus, risen and glorious, ever interceding for us. In this perspective, we are not praying to Jesus. No, rather, he is praying with us; and we are praying with him to the Father.

We acclaim Jesus Christ with words such as Kyrie, eleison, Alleluia, Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ. Having done that, we join him and together come to God our Father.

This is why the Mass is the prayer of Christ. This is why the Liturgy of the Hours, lauds and vespers, is the prayer of Christ. This is why the sacraments are the prayer of Christ. As a whole, the liturgy brings us together, as one people, directed to God our Father, through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ.

The Church will always remain, even as a remnant, even as a few people, even as a nucleus of life, to survive to the next generation. The history of God's people is our history. Whether the Church is small or large, weak or strong, few or many, it is the same Church, age after age, built on solid ground. It is Christ among us who keeps the Church alive, Christ our life, our sun, our glory, forever and ever.

—*Father Michael Gilligan*

**Are Christians and Non-Christians
Equal Before God?**

The Bible seems pretty clear about this question. We can read for ourselves the answer. The real question is: Do we accept the answer? The world doesn't see the difference at times. Sadly, there are some within the church who can't tell the difference either.

Let's start with a scripture. Galatians 6:10 reads, "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith." Can we not see a subtle difference? We are to prefer one another. Why? Because our Savior sees a difference!

In Matthew 12:47-50, it reads, "Then one said to Him, 'Look, Your mother and Your brothers are standing outside, seeking to speak with You.' But He answered and said to the one who told Him, 'Who is My mother and who are My brothers?' And He stretched out His hand toward His disciples and said, 'Here are My mother and My brothers! For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother and sister and mother.'" Jesus is plain, isn't He? How about this one? "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven" (Matthew 7:21).

Back to the question that makes our title, DO NON-CHRISTIANS AND CHRISTIANS STAND ON EQUAL FOOTING WITH GOD? Yes and no. Yes, if you are asking about the love of God. He loves all people (John 3:16). No, if you are speaking of salvation and being an eternal heir. The bottom line is this: If you can know you are saved (and you can know [1John 5:13]), then you can also know what saves or doesn't save others. If not, how do you know who to evangelize? The very act of sharing the gospel with someone is to admit you believe they need to hear it. When we can't tell the difference between the world and Christians, we must be closer to the world than we would care to admit!

If a person refuses to comply with God's commands, are we to accept them as blood-washed brothers and sisters in Christ? Are we to see them as something different than God sees them? I hope we study and understand this subject as so much depends on it.

Next Sunday, November 3, 2024
 Thirty-First Sunday In Ordinary Time
 Readings: Deuteronomy 6:2-6
 Hebrews 7:23-28
 Mark 12:-28b-34

Celebrant Mass Schedule

St. Agatha

St. Martin de Porres

10/27/24 F. Knotek

Fr. Thad

11/03/24 Confirmation Unity Mass - 10:00 a.m.
 at St. Martin de Porres - Celebrant: Bishop J. Perry

St. Simon of Cyrene Parish

Parish Council Members

Chair: Keynin Seabrook
Vice Chair: Mark Henderson
Secretary: Remy Spearman

Commissions

Spiritual Life:

Angela Wilson, Remy Spearman

Evangelization Commission:

Mark Henderson, Mia Cornelius

Life Long Education and Faith Formation:

Laquita Porter, Stacey Jasper

Parish Leadership:

Carolyn Shumpert, Michael Wilson

Human Concerns Commission:

Stella Palmer, Jan Peters

Parish Life:

Michael Wilson, Keynin Seabrook

Social Justice:

Tanya Ball, Portia Parker

Finance Council Committee

Co-Chair: Carolyn Parks

Co-Chair: Philippe Beauzile

Secretary: Linda Vick

Council Members: Lavetta Beauzile,

Mark Boone, Kathy Davis, Janice Ode Gray,

Diane Levy, Paul Morris

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 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.

**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, October 27, 2024

† In Loving Memory of Henry C. Foster
 From the Foster and Ferguson Family

† Happy Heavenly Birthday to Aubrey Moss
 From the Moss and Johnson Family

† Happy Heavenly Birthday to Nelly Modelo
 From Jo Ann Harris

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. Simon of Cyrene Parish
 Church Sites Rectory Office Hours - 773.287.0206**

St. Agatha: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday
 9:00am - 2:00pm

Tuesday 8:00am - 12:00 noon

Friday, open upon demand

St. Martin de Porres: Monday - Friday
 8:00am - 3:30pm