



# 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](mailto: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.

NOVEMBER 24, 2024

## Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, The King



## 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 & Gail 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 November 17, 2024

Sunday Contributions	\$ 5,077.26
Give Central	2088.00
Fundraising Collection 11/03	50.00
Kolbe House	130.00
	<u>\$7,345.26</u>

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, Mary Bender, Hildegard Bezdicek, Hazel Bills, Margaret Brown, Christopher Browne, Leonard Chhenier, 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, Diana T. Foster, Zenobia Fuller, Enochs Galloway, Anna Garcia, Manuel MeMe Garcia, Danny Gardner, Shea Gardner, Callie Gee, Pamela D. Gee, Yvonne Gibson, Mary Gigger, Patricia Graham, Marian Graham, Kia Gray, Bill Hainey, Nathaniel W. Hall, Mary Harrell, Leatrice Harris, Tony Harris, David Hicks, Gwendolyn Hicks, Jacqueline Hicks, Veronica Hicks, Joesaya Henderson, Kesiea & Melinda, Kim Henderson, Leonard Henderson, Mary Higger, 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, Shannon Long, Anthony Lyons, Alexander Madden, Martin Mannette, Dolores Mapp, Larry Mapp Jr., Arelys Marquez, Catherine Martin, Marilyn 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, Lorenzo Perez, 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, Joyce Winston, Armonie Witherspoon, Beverly Wright, Flora Yancy

## **The Day of Tribulation**

In the Gospel of Mark 13:24-32, Jesus speaks to His disciples about the days of tribulation. He says, *“On those days, He says, the sun will grow dark, the moon will cease to shine, and the stars will fall from the sky [Mk.13:24-2].* These images symbolize a profound darkness that will cover the world and shake the entire universe.

When we imagine days like these, it’s natural to think of confusion, panic, and fear gripping humanity. We are unaccustomed to a world plunged into total darkness and chaos, a world where the order we know disappears, giving way to uncertainty. It is in these moments of fear that we often abandon what is truly valuable and essential, seeking instead to protect our lives and cling to a false sense of security. Yet, Jesus offers us hope: *“Suddenly, the Son of Man will come with power and glory” [Mk. 13:26].*

He will not come alone but will send His angels to gather His chosen ones: those men and women who, despite trials and tribulations, have not abandoned their faith or trust in God. Here, we find a promise of redemption and restoration, a sign that chaos is not the end of the story.

Therefore, even as we face times of confusion and difficulty, let us remember that God remains in control of everything. He will not abandon us because His plan for humanity is one of salvation and eternal love. Our task is to resist allowing the devil to sow confusion and fear in our lives.

Instead, we must hold fast to our faith and trust that God, in His infinite time, wisdom, and power, will guide us through the darkness into the light. What matters is that we remain steadfast and remember that tribulation is not only a test but also an opportunity to demonstrate our fidelity and faith in the Lord.

While others may rush to seek answers or easy solutions, we are called to become the beacons of hope, remembering that Christ’s promise is true: *“He will come with power and glory”* and will make all things new. Let us trust in Him, for victory is already assured for those who persevere and refuse to succumb to fear, placing their confidence in God instead.

God bless you.

**Brother Thad**

## SERMON: CHRIST THE KING (CYCLE B)

In accord with the season of the liturgical year, we look forward to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ, our King, our Master, and our Lord.

- God has made his Son known to us as the Messiah, the Son of Man, that is, as fully human. To us, Christ the King is not known as a dictator, a boss, a tyrant. Christ is known to us as a leader, a teacher, as someone who came not to be served but to serve. The Epistle to the Hebrews says he is like us in all things but sin. But he is also a man who did great things for us and through whom God showed his glory.
  - Who, then, is Christ the King? And what difference does he make? The second reading said he is the faithful witness, the one who lived and died for the truth, who freed us by his blood, who made us priests.
  - You know what a witness is. Consider the man who lost six of his children in a sudden accident on I-94 near Milwaukee. His faith is evident in his words and in his prayer. That man is a witness to truth. That's exactly what Christ the King is: he teaches us by his actions as much as by his sermons. Christ testifies to the power of God.
  - In fact, says Scripture, Christ made us priests. That means that by our baptism, we are rendered worthy of offering worship to God in a unique way. Because we welcome the presence of Christ, because we celebrate the Word of Christ, because we belong to the baptized body of Christ, we can pray in the same way that Christ prays, with heart and soul.
  - Do you doubt this? Hear the words of the Gospel. Christ the King says the whole reason I have come into the world is to testify to the truth. You can think of Christ in a thousand ways. If I were to ask you to describe him, you would have a thousand answers. But here is the answer given by Christ himself. He says he is a witness, a teacher, a prophet. Those are his words. And that is his mission. Not to judge us but to teach us. Not to correct us but to enlighten us. Not to dominate us but to help us live. That is why he said you shall know the truth, and the truth will set you free.
- ◇ In the hymn, What You Gave Us for the Taking, we sing that these our gifts are by Christ made royal. That does not just refer to the bread and wine. It means that Christ renders holy our highest thoughts, our noblest ideals, our best aspirations. He takes them to himself and offers them to the Father.
- ◇ This is why we pray with Christ. This is why we live by his words, which will never pass away. This is why we think of Christ as our mediator with God, our intercessor, our advocate. That's why Jesus Christ is King.

Our whole life is transformed by him who is our life and our light. He is the living image of God, the final Word spoken in the fullness of time. Our faith may change. Our world may change. Our fortunes may change. But through it all, he is with us in every moment, in every hour, bringing hope for heavy hearts, bringing faith to a world of doubt, bringing light to a dark and dreary life. Jesus Christ is King. Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today, and forever.

—Father Michael Gilligan

## A Thanksgiving Poem

- Paul Laurence Dunbar -

Thou hast, with ever watchful eye,  
Looked down on us with holy  
care, And from thy storehouse in  
the sky Hast scattered plenty  
everywhere.

Then lift we up our songs of praise  
To thee, O Father, good and kind;  
To thee we consecrate our days;  
Be thine the temple of each mind.

With incense sweet our thanks  
ascend; Before thy works our  
powers pall; Though we should  
strive years without end, We could  
not thank thee for them all.



*Count your blessings instead of  
your crosses;*

*Count your gains instead of  
your losses.*

*Count your joys instead of  
your woes;*

*Count your friends instead of  
your foes.*

*Count your smiles instead of  
your tears;*

*Count your courage instead of  
your fears.*

*Count your full years instead of  
your lean;*

*Count your kind deeds instead of  
your mean.*

*Count your health instead of  
your wealth;*

*Count on God instead of yourself.*

~Happy Thanksgiving!



Next Sunday, December 01, 2024  
 First Sunday of Advent  
 Readings: Jeremiah 33:14-16  
 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2  
 Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

**Celebrant Mass Schedule**

**St. Agatha                      St. Martin de Porres**

11/24/24 Fr. Raphael Makhori	Fr. Thad
11/27/24 *Thanksgiving Mass at St. Agatha 5:00pm	
12/01/24 Fr. Thad	Fr. Mike Knotek
12/08/24 TBA	Fr. Thad
12/15/24 Fr. Thad	Fr. Tom Walsh
12/22/24 Fr. Knotek	Fr. Thad



**St. Simon of Cyrene Parish**

*~ Thanksgiving Eve Mass ~*

Wednesday, November 27, 2024  
 St. Agatha Church site - 6:00 P.M.  
 3147 W. Douglas Blvd. Chicago, IL 60623

**Thanksgiving Day Mass: St. Agatha, at 7:30am**

**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

**St. Simon of Cyrene Parish Holiday Schedule**

**St. Agatha and St. Martin de Porres**

**Office hours of operation, during the Holiday Season**

**Dates Closed Thanksgiving Week**

**Thursday and Friday, November 28th and 29th**

**Dates Closed Christmas Week**

**Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday**

**December 24th, 25th, 26th**

**St. Martin de Porres Office only, will be open**

**Friday, December 27th, from 8:00am - 12:00 noon**

**Both sites are closed on Wednesday, January 1, 2025**

**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 - (773) 287-0206

**Charitable Hands Ministry**

Deacon William Pouncy and Liz Becnel

Call Deacon Pouncy - (312) 841-3974



*Mass Intentions for this Week*

**Sunday, November 24, 2024**

† In Loving Memory of

Mr. and Mrs. HESSIE and MOZELL Stewart  
 from St. Martin de Porres Credit Union

† In Loving Memory of

Eddie and Verta Lightford  
 From your Loving Children

† In Loving Memory of Giselle (Bebe) Hernandez

From Mom and Dad, Cristina Varela and Alonso Hernandez

Prayers of Healing for Mary Gigger

From Sister Bernice Thomas

**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