

# Saint Martin de Porres Catholic Church

*In the Kingdom of North Philadelphia*

*"The Kingdom of God is among you." Luke 17:21*

Reverend Stephen D. Thorne, Pastor

frsthorne@gmail.com

Birthday of Saint John the Baptist  
June 24, 2018



Psalm 139 - From Mass today

2340 West Lehigh Avenue Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19132  
(215) 228-8330 Phone - (215) 221-6516 Fax  
[www.smdpphiladelphia.com](http://www.smdpphiladelphia.com)

*Smile...  
our Mass is recorded with video and audio!*

**Church Office Hours:**

**Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday**  
**9:00 am – 5:00 pm**  
**(215) 228-8330**

**Church Staff:**

*Sister Lynn Marie Ralph, SBS  
Director of Religious Education  
[srlmralph@gmail.com](mailto:srlmralph@gmail.com)*

*Sister Mary Norbert Moline, SBS  
Ministry of Care and Outreach*

*Mrs. Mary Cook, Parish Social Minister  
Social Ministry Office / 215-225-2127*

*Mr. Paul Haggerty, Pastoral Associate*

*Mrs. Elaine Potalivo, Secretary*

*Mrs. Tonya Dorsey, Minister of Music*

*Mr. Melvin Burton, Jr., Diaconate  
Candidate*

*Mr. Jamey Francis Moses, Seminarian*

**Saint Martin de Porres Catholic School**

*'An Independence Mission School'  
(215) 223-6872*

*Sister Meaghan Patterson, SSJ  
School Principal*

*Sister Nancy Fitzgerald, SSJ  
Director of Alumni and Special Programs*

***On a Spiritual Note***

Today's feast is the birthday of St. John the Baptist. So, why does St. John the Baptist get this celebration on a Sunday: Sundays are usually reserved only for celebrations of the Lord. Besides, we usually celebrate the death dates of saints, not their birthdays. So, why?

John the Baptist is one-of-a-kind, in two ways. He is unique in his mission in life, and he is unique in his personal ways.

John is the bridge between the Old Testament (everything before Jesus) and the New Testament (Jesus). His family was very Jewish: his father belonged to the priestly division of Abijah, and his mother was descended from Aaron. His father learned about his coming while he was serving as priest in the Temple! It does not get any more Jewish than that!

And yet, John was also the forerunner of Jesus. His entire mission was to prepare the way for Jesus, "whose sandal strap he was not worthy to untie." (Luke 3:16) When Jesus was passing by, John would point to him, and tell people, "Look! There is the Lamb of God!" He encouraged his own disciples to leave him and become disciples of Jesus. (John 1:35-37) John always pointed away from himself and toward Jesus.

That is where he is a good model for us. He pointed away from himself. He even said about Jesus, "He must increase, I must decrease." (John 3:30)

While we sometimes would like to be the Messiah and save everyone (if only they would do as I say), John insisted that he was not the Messiah, only his messenger. We should get in line!

## Mass Schedule and Intentions

12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
June 24, 10 am  
*For the Church Family*

Tuesday, June 26, 8 am  
*Sister Irene Renshaw, SSJ*

Wednesday, June 27, 8 am  
*John Reilly*

Thursday, June 28, 8 am  
*Sister Mary McGrath, SSJ*

*Consider coming to Daily Mass! The time changes to 8 am in the Summer. This is a beautiful and simple way to begin your day! See you at 8am in the Rectory Chapel.*



***Congratulations to KhaLesha Williams, Merion Mercy Academy and Jordan Wright, Malvern Prep. Both earned Distinguished Honors on their recent report cards.***

*Thank you to all who are supporting the White Sunday Special Collection. Each member is asked to donate an additional \$100. We will use this money to make repairs to our buildings. We will celebrate "White Sunday" on September 9.  
Thanks for your support!*

**Calling all Elders... join us for 'Elders Bible Camp' beginning on July 10. See the insert in today's bulletin or Sister Lynn Marie or Sister Mary Norbert for more details**

### *Let us pray for the Sick...*

We pray for all in our Church Family who are sick and those who care for them: Annie Andrews, Arlene Berkley, Harold Bond, Dorothy Bradley, Andre Carter, Janice Whitmore Carter, Kivia Carter, Lamont Chase, Helen Clowney, Mario Coleman, Donna Collier, Ella Combs, Danielle Daniels, John Davis, George Ellington, Frances Floyd, Janice Floyd, Renee Turner Freckleton, Patricia Freeman, Charing Garnett, Mary Ann Gill, Martina Granger, Jeffrey Gray, Vainida Hampton, Lynette Ford-Havens, Henry Hoffman, Harry W. Hubbard, Jeffrey Johnson, Gus Johnson, Mamie Keitt, Harold Lavender, Marie Lawrencin, Mary Livingston, Tiffani Livsey, Hazel Marsh, Donna Moorhead, Marva Murray, Erma Patterson, Norma Plenty, James Porter, Kevin Reaves, Andre Roberts, Elias Robinson, Ira Robinson, Gloria Russell, Doris Simmons, Maxine Turner, Audrey Victor, William Victor, Mary Ann Wallace, Lisa Williams, Mary Jean Williams, Thomas Williams.

*If you are in the hospital, please call the Church Office: 215- 228-8330*

Jubilee Year! 1993-2018  
Theme: "The best is yet to come"



We offer our prayers and support to Melvin and Monica Burton as Melvin continues to journey toward ordination. Melvin will be serving at Women of Hope for the Summer in addition to being with us on Sunday.

Also, we offer our prayers and support to our seminarian Jamey Moses, who has been assigned for the Summer to Saint Margaret Parish in Narberth, PA. Please keep Jamey and the people of Saint Margaret in prayer.