

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
Deacon Melvin Burton, Jr.**

November 3rd, 2019

The Feast of Saint of Saint Martin de Porres



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Our Church Staff:

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Deacon Melvin J. Burton, Jr.
Church Deacon

Mrs. Elsie Banks
Secretary & Asst. DRE

Mrs. Mary Cook
Social Minister: (215) 225-2127

Mrs. Tonya Dorsey
Minister of Music

Sister Mary Norbert Moline, SBS
Ministry of Care

Mr. Paul Haggerty
Pastoral Associate

Mrs. Elaine Potalivo
Administrative Support

Sister Lynn Marie Ralph, SBS
Director of Religious Education

Church Office Hours:

Tuesday – Thursday

9:00 am – 5:00 PM

After hours for emergencies: (215) 228-8330

Saint Martín de Porres Catholic School

Sister Meaghan Patterson, SSJ - Principal
(215) 223-6872

Saint Martín de Porres Convent

(215) 229-0769

On a Spiritual Note ...

Jesus wanted Zacchaeus. It was not so much the other way around: yes, Zacchaeus was curious about Jesus, and the Gospel tells us he wanted to “see who Jesus was,” but that was all. Jesus takes the initiative by calling to Zacchaeus. Jesus declares that salvation has come to his house, wants to stay at his house, and Jesus says that Zacchaeus is a descendant of Abraham. All Zacchaeus had done was climb a tree!

That is the beauty of the way Luke pictures Jesus for us: that is the way Luke tells us what God is like. In the story of the Prodigal Son, it is the father who watches each day for the “no-good” son to appear on the horizon; and when he does, it is the father who runs to him, kisses him, and throws a celebration. And then when the other son, the faithful one, is hurt and angry, it is the father who comes out to him and talks heart-to-heart. In this story, Jesus is telling us that this is what God the Father feels about us. Imagine!

The picture is very clear. God would not have created you or me unless he loved us very much before we were even conceived!!! And even when we sin, and forget his love, and act as though he were not there, he never gives up on us, like the father of the prodigal son. He rebukes us, but forgives us, and keeps nudging us back to his embrace.

This is the God Saint Martin de Porres, our patron saint, whom we are celebrating today, believed in. Martin took God’s love so seriously that he wanted to spread it everywhere, and so he is the patron of universal brotherhood and sisterhood. He is the patron of racial harmony. Martin just could not imagine leaving anyone out of God’s embrace.

What an awesome God we have!!! What an awesome patron saint he has given us!

Mass Schedule and Intentions

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 3, 10:00 am

For the Church Family, Living and Deceased

Tuesday, November 5, 7:00 am

Sr. Inez Patricia Campbell, SSJ

Wednesday, November 6, 7:00 am

Margaret and Bill Staedtler

Thursday, November 7, 7:00 am

Janice Buus

Our monthly community meeting will take place this Wednesday, Nov. 6 at 6:30 pm in the School. We will welcome leaders from the

22nd Police District as our speakers.

Please invite your neighbors.

Rite of Christian Initiation



As of now, we do NOT have anyone registered for these classes. Having a strong RCIA program is a sign of a growing Church. Please prayerfully invite your family and friends to consider joining our Church.

(RCIA) is a spiritual journey in preparation toward becoming fully initiated into the Catholic Church. If you would like to take this spiritual journey toward becoming a Catholic then please contact Sister Lynn Marie. If you are already Catholic but have not received the Sacraments of Holy Eucharist and Confirmation, I invite you to contact me as well. If you have any questions or

concerns, I can be reached at: 215.288.8330 or srlmralph@gmail.com

November is the month of the Holy Souls when we remember our loved ones who have passed away.

Please bring a picture of your family member and place it at the Shrine of Saint Martin de Porres.



Let us pray for the Sick...

We pray for all in our Church Family who are sick and those who care for them: Harold Bond, Muriel Booker, Dorothy Bradley, Christopher Browne, Andre Carter, Janice Whitmore Carter, Kivia Carter, Lamont Chase, Helen Clowney, Mario Coleman, Donna Collier, Ella Combs, Danielle Daniels, John Davis, Barbara Dunn, George Ellington, Sharon Faison, Gloria Felder, Shirley Fields, Frances Floyd, Janice Floyd, Delores Ford, Patricia Freeman, Charing Garnett, Mary Ann Gill, Paul Giovetsis, Martina Granger, Jeffrey Gray, Kerry Hall, Vainida Hampton, Lynette Ford-Havens, Harry W. Hubbard, Jeffrey Johnson, Mamie Keitt, Marie Lawrencin, Mary Livingston, Tiffani Livsey, Hazel Marsh, Donna Moorhead, Marva Murray, Erma Patterson, John Perry, Norma Plenty, James Porter, Kevin Reaves, Andre Roberts, Elias Robinson, Ira Robinson, Gloria Russell, Bucky Shimp, Doris Simmons, Lois Streeter, Taylor Stringer, Larry Tillman, Vicente Velazquez, Audrey Victor, William Victor, Mary Ann Wallace, Tyanna Wallace, Lisa Williams, Mary Jean Williams, Sylvia Williams.

If you are in the hospital, please call the Church Office so we can visit you:

215- 228-8330

The Parish Finance Council will meet on
Sunday, November 24 after Mass. All

members are expected to attend.

*Archbishop Charles Chaput will celebrate Mass in honor of
St. Martin de Porres on **Thursday, Nov. 7** at the Cathedral
Basilica of SS. Peter and Paul.*

*Sponsored by the Archdiocese's Office for Black Catholics,
the liturgy will be preceded by a choral
prelude at 6:30 p.m. from the
Mercy Career and Technical High School Gospel Choir.*

*The Philadelphia Catholic Gospel Choir, under the direction of
Tonya Dorsey, will sing during the Mass.*

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*The annual liturgy will mark Black Catholic History Month,
inaugurated in 1990 by the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus of
the U.S. November was designated for this observance due to the
feast days of two African saints: St. Augustine of Hippo on Nov. 13,
and St. Martin de Porres on Nov. 3.*

*Born in 16th-century Peru, St. Martin de Porres was the son of a
Spanish nobleman and a freed Panamanian woman. Rejected by his
father due to his dark skin, de Porres grew up in poverty with his
mother and sister, becoming a barber's apprentice during his
adolescence. He eventually entered the Dominican order, where he
became known for his piety, humility and generosity, as well as his
devotion to the Eucharist and abstinence from meat.
Canonized in 1962, St. Martin de Porres is invoked as a patron saint
of social justice, race relations and interracial marriages,
as well as radio, barbers and hairdressers.*