

Saint Martin de Porres Catholic Church

In the Kingdom of North Philadelphia

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

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Deacon Melvin Burton, Jr.

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time - July 26, 2020

*"The Lord was pleased that Solomon made this request.
So God said to him: "Because you have asked for this –
not for a long life for yourself, nor for riches, nor for the life of your enemies,
but for understanding so that you may know what is right"*

1 Kings, First Reading from Mass today



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On a Spiritual Note...

For the past few weeks, Jesus has been teaching by using parables, - stories from everyday life that tell us about the Kingdom of heaven. We have heard about the sower, and the different kinds of soil receiving the seed, which is meant to stand for us receiving the Word of God. Then we heard about the weeds and the wheat; the mustard seed; the yeast. These parables told us about how the Kingdom grows, and about how evil will be uprooted from the Kingdom at the end of time. Today we hear about the treasure, the pearl and the fishnet. These parables teach about how wonderful the Kingdom is, - we see the joy of the man in the first parable, and again the last one reminds us that evil will be uprooted at the end of time. So, the Kingdom of heaven is growing right here in the world; it is wonderful beyond our imagination; and the evil we see here on earth will be eliminated from the Kingdom. But what is that Kingdom? What is it like? Jesus has already given us a picture of the Kingdom, starting right here in our life on earth. Let's retrace our steps here in Matthew's Gospel to the Sermon on the Mount, starting in chapter 5. Jesus teaches a way of life that is radical, - it is still radical in our own time. Look: the poor in spirit are blessed (not what society teaches); blessed happiness is in store for the mourning; the meek are not considered silly, just the opposite; the merciful will not regret it; the clean of heart see God. People who hunger and thirst for justice will be at home, and so will peacemakers. Jesus shows us a new way to deal with anger, with resentment, with marriage. He says that if you love your enemies, you will be happy - because you will have no enemies! The best way to eliminate enemies is to make them friends. We will no longer feel that our very soul is off-track, because our joy will fill us completely. That way of living can start here on earth, and carry us into eternity.

Now, during this week, go back and look at what the parables say, and match them with what we now know about the Kingdom

Thy Kingdom come!

Mass Schedule and Intentions

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, July 25, 2020, 5:00 pm
Special Intention

Sunday, July 26, 2020, 10:00 am
For the Church Family

Monday, July 27, 8:00 am
Special Intention

Tuesday, July 28, 8:00 am
Special Intention

Wednesday, July 29, 8:00 am
Marilyn Boos

Thursday, July 30, 8:00 am
James Burns

AD MAJOREM
DEI GLORIAM
For the Greater Glory of God

Friday, July 31, 8:00 am
Victor Smythe



Bible Study on ZOOM Tues, 6:30 pm

Directions: 1) Get your Bible

2) Log onto Zoom

3) Type in the meeting identification #:

812-526-9359

4) One tap mobile /

+16465588656,,8125269359#



*Come, Holy Spirit,
Fill the hearts of Your faithful
and kindle in us the fire of Your love.
Send forth Your Spirit and we shall be created,
and You shall renew the face of the earth.
Amen.*

If any parishioner needs a bag of food, please see Melody Cooper after Mass or call the Church Office, 215.228.8330



We are preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation, which will be celebrated with other parishes in the Archdiocese at the Cathedral during the Mass in honor of the feast of Saint Martin de Porres in November. If you or your child have not been confirmed, please see Father Thorne.

There will be a meeting of all parents and guardians of children preparing for Confirmation on **Sunday, August 2** after Mass.

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, Kivovia Carter, Lamont Chase, Helen Clowney, Mario Coleman, Donna Collier, Ella Combs, Danielle Daniels, John Davis, Stephanie Durrell, Barbara Dunn, George Ellington, Sharon Faison, Gloria Felder, Shirley Fields, Frances Floyd, Janice Floyd, Delores Ford, Patricia Freeman, Charing Garnett, Mary Ann Gill, Paul Giovetis, Martina Granger, Jeffrey Gray, Kerry Hall, Theresa Hart, Vainida Hampton, Lynette Ford-Havens, Harry W. Hubbard, Jeffrey Johnson, Marie Lawrencin, Mary Livingston, Tiffani Livsey, Hazel Marsh, Yakaisha 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, Renee Turner, Vicente Velazquez, Audrey Victor, William Victor, Mary Ann Wallace, Willam Ward, Tyanna Wallace, Lisa Williams, Mary Jean Williams, Sylvia Williams, Cheryl Wright.**

Get your blessing!



NEXT Sunday, August 2 we will offer a blessing to college students. All young adult parishioners who are going off to college are asked to email Father Thorne (frsthorne@gmail.com) to let him know you will be at Mass.

Together, we can ensure that our community receives the resources it needs.

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"Do not get lost in a sea of despair. Be hopeful, be optimistic. Our struggle is not the struggle of a day, a week, a month, or a year, it is the struggle of a lifetime. Never, ever be afraid to make some noise and get in good trouble, necessary trouble." John Lewis

- A tweet from June 2018

