

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.

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time - August 2, 2020

"They all ate and were satisfied"

Matthew 14 - The Gospel from Mass today.



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On a Spiritual Note...

God takes care of his people: God takes care of us. He is always looking after us, even fussing over us. Today's readings are full of images of God's care. In the **Book of Isaiah**, the first reading, he is inviting us to a banquet. Throughout the Bible, heaven is frequently pictured as a banquet. God feeds us. He fed the Israelites manna in the desert; Jesus fed large crowds with a few pieces of bread and a few fish; Jesus feeds us with the Eucharist constantly.

Today's responsorial psalm, **Psalm 145**, reminds us: "The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs." And today's Gospel is that tender story of the feeding of the five thousand people with a little bread and a few fish.

He answers all our needs. Think back: think of times when you just did not know what to do: what happened? Think of the times you had troubles: family problems; job problems; school problems; legal problems; neighbor problems. Was God there? At the time, you might have asked, "Where is he?" But look back: how did it end? Did you learn anything? Did some good come out of it that you overlooked at the time? Can you recognize the hand of God now that you are looking?

How is the coronavirus pandemic affecting you? We are all suffering, but did that suffering lead you to anything good? Something you learned about yourself, or about someone else? Some kindness you found yourself performing, that you would not have expected?

Where is God when something terrible, evil, ugly happens to us or someone we love? Think back: how did you come through it? Did it give you some insight, some new way of thinking, that would not have happened otherwise?

And, of course, there is the ultimate question: Does God really take care of us if he lets us die? If he lets someone I love with all my heart die? This one is hard, but we have to look at the really big picture. Listen to Saint Paul in the

second reading: "What will separate us from the love of Christ?...For I am convinced that neither, death, nor life...nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:35,38-39) God has the big picture all the time: death, ever since Jesus conquered it, is only the doorway to life with our God.

All is well: The Lord answers all our needs.

Mass Schedule and Intentions

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, August 1, 2020, 5:00 pm
For the Church Family

Sunday, August 2, 2020, 10:00 am
Special Intention

Monday, August 3, 8:00 am
Agnes Belisario

Tuesday, August 4, 8:00 am
Feast of Saint John Vianney
John Reilly

Wednesday, August 5, 8:00 am
Joyce Honer

Thursday, August 6, 8:00 am
Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord
Special Intention

Friday, August 7, 8:00 am
Anthony Petraitto

*This week, we are blessed to have
Women's Bible Study with
Sr. Lynn Marie*

Thursday, August 6, 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*

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.

Home Blessings



If any parishioner would like their home blessed by one of the priests or deacon, please call the Church Office and we would be happy to visit you.

Masks must be worn by all.

Please call: (215) 228.8330



Last Sunday, we distributed 77 bags of food for those in need. THANK YOU to all who served in this ministry!

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, 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 Giovetsis, 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.**

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

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The Four Marks of the Church - I



One



Holy



Catholic



Apostolic

Please support the Mission Collection today. This year our collection will go to the ministry of the Carmelites of Mary Immaculate in India. Read about the great work being done in the insert in today's bulletin.

May God bless your generosity.

