

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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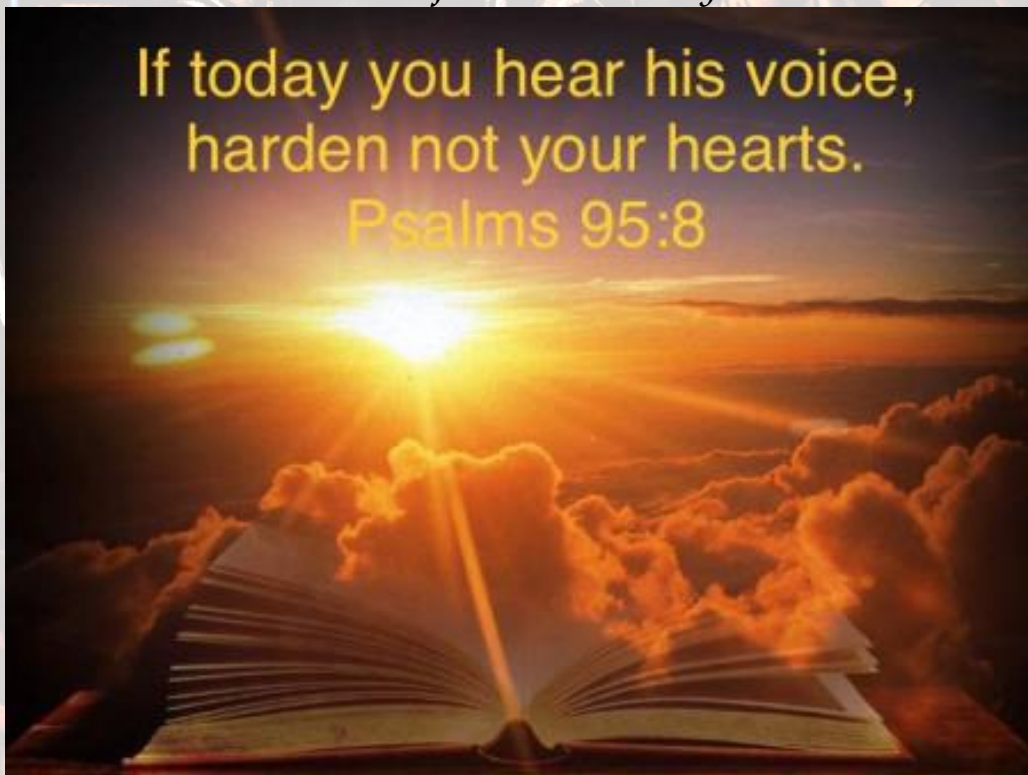
Deacon Melvin Burton, Jr.

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - September 6, 2020

Psalm from Mass today

**If today you hear his voice,
harden not your hearts.**

Psalms 95:8



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On a Spiritual Note...

Today's readings talk to us about the two dimensions of the Church: all of us together in the bond of love; and the role authority plays in that bond. The whole reason God created the universe, the reason he created us, is to draw us into the intimate life of love in the Trinity of Father, Son and Holy Spirit. An old song says, "Love makes the world go 'round:" that's God. That is the reason for everything. So simple. That is why Jesus, in completing his physical mission on earth, gave us the Church to continue his mission: to BE the presence, the guide, the teacher, the cradle, the home, the experience of love on earth. An old hymn says, "Where love is, there is God." Or, as Jesus himself puts it, "...where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." (Matthew 18:20) Of course, it is not always so simple to make it real in life. Why? Sin! Sometimes we wander from the path; sometimes we are selfish instead of being loving; sometimes we go way off and lose our way. Sometimes we even tell ourselves that what we know is wrong, - is right, and we lead others down that path with us. So Jesus put people in charge to be our shepherds, our teachers, our "enforcers." When Jesus says, "Amen, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven," (Matthew 18:18), he is clearly talking to the leaders, the authorities. Sometimes in today's Church, we feel free to judge our leaders, Pope, bishops, priests. We may not like their personality, we may not like their approach: but we must always remember, their authority is from God, and we cannot play with it. Look at today's first reading (Ezekiel 33:7-9), and see how serious the responsibility of religious leaders is before God. They are there to define our boundaries, just as any loving parent. A loving parent teaches truth, and insists on it; a loving parent teaches right from wrong, and insists we live the right way; a loving parent watches, guides, nurtures and nourishes, but also punishes, corrects and holds accountable. Jesus made his Church a community of love: he filled in all the gaps.

Mass Schedule and Intentions

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, September 5, 2020, 5:00 pm

Special Intention

Sunday, September 6, 2020, 10:00 am

Special Intention

Monday, September 7 8:00 am

Debbie Lefkowitz

Tuesday, September 8, 8:00 am

Nativity of Our Lady

Eugene Hamill

Wednesday, September 9, 8:00 am

Feast of Saint Peter Claver

Jack McDonald

Thursday, September 10, 8:00 am

John Reilly

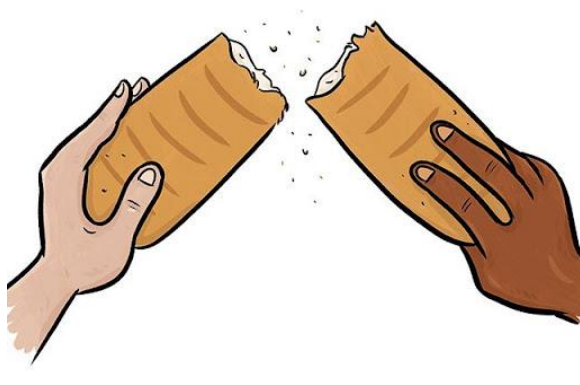
Friday, September 11, 8:00 am

Jack Schrumm

Happy Feast Day to the Knights of Peter Claver and Ladies Auxiliary



Please share your blessings and bring a canned good to Mass with you and leave it at the Shrine of Saint Martin de Porres. This will help us help others!



Congratulations to **Khalah Williams**, who graduated from Gwynedd Mercy University. We offer her prayers and best wishes!

Have you completed your Census?



If you would like your home blessed, please call the Church Office, (215) 228-8330

**Check out the
GOOD NEWS in the
Black Catholic Community...**
www.nbccongress.org

The Men's Ministry will meet next Sunday, September 13, 8:45 am.
All men are welcome!

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, William Ward, Tyanna Wallace, Lisa Williams, Mary Jean Williams, Sylvia Williams, Cheryl Wright.**



May God bless all students, teachers, administrators, staff and parents as we begin another academic year!

