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

Reverend Addisalem T. Mekonnen
Parochial Vicar/Assistant Pastor: fathermekonnen@gmail.com

Deacon Melvin Burton, Jr.

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time - September 20, 2020
On a Spiritual Note...

Is the owner of the vineyard fair or is he unjust? Most likely, the first instinct all of us have is that he is unjust. He is treating the workers who worked longest and hardest shabbily. He is showing unfair favoritism! He should pay the workers according to their effort. And obviously... But then, don’t we have to admit, we are caught short by the explanation. “I am giving you what we both agreed on.” Oh. And then, “Am I not free to do as I wish with my own money?” Well, yes... And the “zinger,” “Are you envious because I am generous?” Ouch! We thought we had a good case against the owner, but his thoughts were not our thoughts. And since Jesus is telling the story, he means what Isaiah puts into the mouth of God himself: “My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways... As high as the heavens are above the earth, so high are my ways above your ways, and my thoughts above your thoughts.” “Above:” that’s the part that hurts! Isn’t it funny that we all identified with the “all-day-long” workers in the story, and we took their side. Would we have done that if we were the “five o’clock” workers? Hmm. So, think back on the past year (what a year!!) How has God treated you? (If someone did you wrong, don’t blame God, blame evil decisions by people). Anyway, has God treated you justly? Has he ever in this past year treated you with kindness beyond what you deserved? Did you complain? Truthfully, all of us can identify with both sets of workers at different times. Sometimes we do not understand what God is doing, and he asks us to trust him. Sometimes we are overwhelmed by his kindness and generosity.

So, we should just praise him at all times!

Mass Schedule and Intentions

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, September 19, 2020, 5:00 pm
Special Intention

Sunday, September 20, 2020, 10:00 am
Special Intention

Monday, September 21, 8:00 am
Mary Grace and Joanie Lewis
Tuesday, September 22, 8:00 am
Mary Grace Lewis
Wednesday, September 23, 8:00 am
John Reilly
Thursday, September 24, 8:00 am
Donald Newby
Friday, September 25, 8:00 am
Mary Olivere

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!
Virtual Bible Study on ZOOM
THURSDAY, 6:30 pm
Please note the change of day!

Directions:
1) Get your Bible
2) Log onto Zoom
3) Type in the meeting identification #: 812-526-9359
4) One tap mobile /+16465588656,,8125269359#

The Parish Pastoral Council will meet on Sunday, September 27 after Mass in the Church Hall. All members are asked to be present.

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

Please keep our young people in prayer as they prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation in November. Special thanks to Father Mekonnen, Catechists and Parents who are teaching them the Faith.

Let us pray for the Sick...
BE A POLL WORKER

Full Day Shift:
Tuesday, November 3
7:00 a.m. until after the polls close at 8:00 p.m.

Be a champion of DEMOCRACY

Sign up for more information at:

Questions? Visit: