

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

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Deacon Melvin Burton, Jr.

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 18, 2020

October is Respect Life Month

For you created my inmost being;
you knit me together in
my mother's womb.

Psalms 139:13

LIFE IS PRECIOUS

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On a Spiritual Note...

What is God up to? Why does he do what he does? Why does he allow some things to happen that are so evil? We are often puzzled by these questions. Sometimes it may shake our confidence. Is God really in charge? Does God really care? We will not know the complete answers in this life, but there are certain things we do know:

- God sees more than we do. In Isaiah 55:8-9, he declares:

“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the LORD.

“As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

- Jesus repeated this thought when Peter resisted the prediction of the Lord’s Passion and Death:

“Get behind me, Satan. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do.”

(Mark 8:33).

God sees the grand sweep of history, and he weaves his design in and around all the behavior, good and bad, of human beings. For example, King Cyrus of Persia, a pagan who did not know the true God of Israel, gets credit in the Bible for being a servant of God, because he ended the Babylonian Captivity, allowed the Jewish people to return home, and even encouraged the rebuilding of the Temple. Today’s first reading demonstrates how God made Cyrus part of his plan (Isaiah 45:1,4-6).

Another example is the story of Joseph and his brothers, in the Book of Genesis. We remember how Joseph’s brothers sold him into slavery, and he was carried off to Egypt, - all because of their ruthless jealousy. At the end of the story Joseph himself forgives his brothers, and assures them that God turned their evil action into good, because Joseph in Egypt saved many lives from famine (Genesis 37:12-36, and 45:1-8).

Even the Pharisees in today’s Gospel are moving God’s plan along for the salvation of the world.

They are setting the stage for the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus. They have no idea what they are doing! So, think about some event, misfortune, tragedy in your own life, when you were tempted to wonder

why God permitted what he did. As you look back, do you see the hand of God drawing good

out of evil? Was someone affected or touched by God in a way you could not have predicted? It is not a coincidence! God is just like a parent who sees the dangers, evils, and opportunities for good long before a child could, and guides the child’s life. God asks us to trust, trust and trust.

AMEN!

Mass Schedule and Intentions

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, October 17, 2020, 5:00 pm

Special Intention

Sunday, October 18, 2020, 10:00 am

Special Intention

Monday, October 19, 8:00 am

Lewis Family

Tuesday, October 20, 8:00 am

John Reilly

Wednesday, October 21, 8:00 am

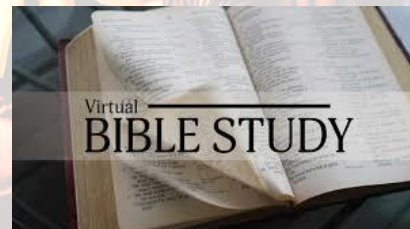
Sr. Mary Elizabeth Cooke, SSJ

Thursday, October 22, 8:00 am

Sr. Maureen James Barr, SSJ

Friday, October 23, 8:00 am

John Reilly



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#

*NEXT Sunday, October 25 after Mass,
we will be offering bags of food for
those in need.*

**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!**



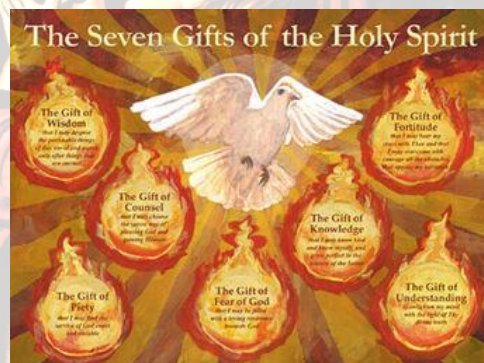
The month of October is the
Month of the Rosary. In
recognition of this great devotion,
we will pray the Rosary before
Mass each Sunday. Come to Mass
early and join us in prayer. If you
need a Rosary, please let one of
the priests or deacon know.

*Special thanks to Father
Mekonnen and Deacon Burton for
coordinating the recent Penance
Service and Day of Recollection.
Also, thank you to ALL who
participated!*

**THANK
YOU!**

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, Arthur Brandt, 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, Noah Michael Freeman, 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, Lisa McLoed, Donna Moorhead, Marva Murray, Erna Patterson, John Perry, Norma Plenty, James Porter, Kevin Reaves, Andre Roberts, Elias Robinson, Ira Robinson, Gloria Russell, Mary Ann Skipper, 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.



*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. Confirmation will be
celebrated on Saturday, November 7,
2020, 1:00 pm in the Cathedral with*

other Parishes. Archbishop Perez will
be the celebrant.



Save the Date!

ST. MARTIN DE
PORRES MASS
AND
CONFIRMATION

with Black Catholic Apostolate Parishes



Saturday,
November 7
at 1:00 PM



Cathedral Basilica of
Saints Peter and Paul
18th & Benjamin Franklin Pkwy
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Archbishop Nelson J. Pérez
Principal Celebrant

*Social distancing will be observed. Masks
are strongly encouraged. All are welcome
to join us in person or via livestream.
More details coming soon.*