

# **Saint Martin de Porres Catholic Church**

**“Blessed be God forever ! ”**

**“The Kingdom of God is among you.” Luke 17:21**

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**Deacon Melvin Burton, Jr.**

**October 17, 2021**

**Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time in the**

**Year of St. Joseph**



**The Cross of Christ has Wings**

**2340 West Lehigh Avenue Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19132**

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**[www.smdpphiladelphia.com](http://www.smdpphiladelphia.com) [www.facebook.com/SMDPPHILLY/](https://www.facebook.com/SMDPPHILLY/)**

**[www.feb29rac.podbean.com](http://www.feb29rac.podbean.com) [SMDP Philadelphia/youtube](https://www.youtube.com/SMDPPhiladelphia/)**

**Sunday Mass at 10:00 am is available on LIVESTREAM**

*Dear Church Family...*

**To whom or what do you place your Trust?**

I can remember as a kid being ridiculed with my brothers for not wearing name brand sneakers and clothing. I can also remember the respect and esteem we would receive if we did have some name brand gear on. Worldly wisdom equates greatness with something external and cheap, namely, purchasing or worse stealing some expensive popular attire. Michael Jordan was and still is considered the greatest basketball player to ever play the game.

Mike Lee suggests it was the shoes that gave MJ that ability of greatness. Whenever anyone sees the Nike logo on any apparel it is considered by consumers to be trustworthy in quality and effective in helping any athlete excel in their respective sport. It is more unlikely than not if someone asked MJ how his sneakers are superior to others that he would be able to give an explanation that is solely scientific. Michael Jordan achieved greatness in his sport through hard work and sacrifice, so he did experience plenty of crosses all along the way. Michael Jordan articulated these crosses in own words "I've missed more than 9,000 shots in my career. I've lost almost 300 games. 26 games, I've been trusted to take the game winning shot and missed. I've failed over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed." I wonder how many people wanted a photo op when Jordan was losing a game horribly.

The ambitious apostles John and James were filled with worldly wisdom so they desired greatly to look the part. They wanted to sit at the right and left of our Blessed Lord when He entered His glorious kingdom. They trusted themselves and so they took this opportunity to be the first to make this request before any of the other apostles. Worldly wisdom teaches that power and greatness reside only in the will without the cross. Therefore, just like Mike Lee these two apostles are thinking greatness is all

about externals rather than what is going on in the inside.

Jesus schools all of us like He did for the apostles by teaching us about the wisdom of the cross. Our Blessed Lord does not promote trust in ourself, others or the wisdom of the world to achieve greatness. The logo is the Cross of Christ, but it is more visible interiorly than exteriorly. The cross of Christ brings the world to hold every disciple of Christ in contempt and not in glory. It is good to have desires for greatness because that is why God our Heavenly Father created us but without trust in Jesus it is impossible. Jesus placed His trust in obeying the will of His Heavenly Father which is entering into the Paschal Mystery. Whenever Jesus mentioned His baptism and the cup He must drink it is in reference to His Passion. Anyone can wear a cross, say some prayers, read a few passages in the Holy Bible and participate in other forms of piety, whenever God gives you a deep sense of peace while doing those expressions of faith. Our greatness resides in bearing witness to Jesus by faithfully carrying our crosses while trying to express our faith from the inside and the outside by constantly turning towards Jesus with trust. Our trust in Jesus must be tested and even if we fail multiple times we must never lose hope but instead try again. It is easy to say we trust in Jesus when we don't have a cross to carry but the challenge is to trust in Him when we have many crosses to carry with help of His real presence within us. Jesus is the only Greatness that is eternal. God the Father called Him to reveal His greatness in the context of Calvary and His glorious resurrection. Jesus has placed His trust in you by giving you a piece of His Holy Cross so how will you respond ?

In J.M.J  
Fr.Mekonnen



## 7:00 AM Mass in Rectory Schedule & Intentions

Sunday, October 17, 2021  
Church Family

Monday, October 18, 2021  
Donald Newby

Tuesday, October 19, 2021  
Mrs. Olveri

Wednesday, October 20, 2021  
Jessica Kosluk

Thursday, October 21, 2021  
Sr. Rose Andrea Loughery, .S.S.J

Friday, October 22, 2021  
Pat Kennedy

## BIBLE STUDY



THURSDAY 6:30 PM

**NEW LOG IN...**

**Meeting ID: 570 117 8316**

**Phone# +6468769923,,5701178316**

**If you are sick or in the hospital, please contact the Church Office, 215.228.8330 for a visit.**

**If anyone is in need of food, please contact Deacon Burton or call the Church Office, 215.228.8330**

## Archdiocese of Philadelphia Invites you to a discussion on Police and Community Relationship

Saturday, October 23, 2021 @ 2:30 p.m.



Danielle M. Outlaw  
Police Commissioner  
City of Philadelphia



Irene Oritseweyinmi Joe  
Law Professor  
UC Davis School of Law

### VIRTUAL EVENT

REGISTER:  
<https://tinyurl.com/nsr4e6s2>



Black Catholic Apostolate  
James E Andrews  
215-587-3541



African Catholic Apostolate  
Sr. Florence Enechukwu, MSHR  
267-282-3487

### 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, Bill Bromley, Andre Carter, Barbara Carter, Janice Whitmore Carter, Lamont Chase, Helen Clowney, Donna Collier, Ella Combs, Danielle Daniels, John Davis, Stephanie Durrell, Barbara Dunn, George Ellington, Sharon Faison, Shirley Fields, Janice Floyd, Charing Garnett, 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, Willaim Patterson, Norma Plenty, James Porter, Kevin Reaves, Andre Roberts, Elias Robinson, Ira Robinson, Gloria Russell, Doris Simmons, Lois Streeter, Taylor Stringer, Larry Tillman, Renee Turner, Vicente Velazquez, Audrey Victor, William Victor, Tyanna Wallace Lisa Williams, Mary Jean Williams, Sylvia Williams, Augustus Johnson.*



## EVANGELII GAUDIUM “Joy of the Gospel” APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION POPE FRANCIS

4. The books of the Old Testament predicted that the joy of salvation would abound in messianic times. The prophet Isaiah exultantly salutes the awaited Messiah: “You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy” (9:3). He exhorts those who dwell on Zion to go forth to meet him with song: “Shout aloud and sing for joy!” (12:6). The prophet tells those who have already seen him from afar to bring the message to others: “Get you up to a high mountain, O herald of good tidings to Zion; lift up your voice with strength, O herald of good tidings to Jerusalem” (40:9). All creation shares in the joy of salvation: “Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth! Break forth, O mountains, into singing! For the Lord has comforted his people, and will have compassion on his suffering ones” (49:13).

Zechariah, looking to the day of the Lord, invites the people to acclaim the king who comes “humble and riding on a donkey”: “Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he” (9:9). Perhaps the most exciting invitation is that of the prophet Zephaniah, who presents God with his people in the midst of a celebration overflowing with the joy of salvation. I find it thrilling to reread this text: “The Lord, your God is in your midst, a warrior who gives you the victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing, as on a day of festival” (3:17). This is the joy which we experience daily, amid the little things of life, as a response to the loving invitation of God our Father: “My child, treat yourself well, according to your means... Do not deprive yourself of the day’s enjoyment” (*Sir* 14:11, 14). What tender paternal love echoes in these words!

5. The Gospel, radiant with the glory of Christ’s cross, constantly invites us to rejoice. A few examples will suffice. “Rejoice!” is the angel’s greeting to Mary (*Lk* 1:28). Mary’s visit to Elizabeth makes John leap for joy in his mother’s womb (cf. *Lk* 1:41). In her song of praise, Mary proclaims: “My spirit rejoices in God my Savior” (*Lk* 1:47). When Jesus begins his ministry, John cries out: “For this reason, my joy has been fulfilled” (*Jn* 3:29). Jesus himself “rejoiced in the Holy Spirit” (*Lk* 10:21). His message brings us joy: “I have said these things to you, so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete” (*Jn* 15:11). Our Christian joy drinks of the wellspring of his brimming heart. He promises his disciples: “You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy” (*Jn* 16:20). He then goes on to say: “But I will see you again and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you” (*Jn* 16:22). The disciples “rejoiced” (*Jn* 20:20) at the sight of the risen Christ. In the Acts of the Apostles we read that the first Christians “ate their food with glad and generous hearts” (2:46). Wherever the disciples went, “there was great joy” (8:8); even amid persecution they continued to be “filled with joy” (13:52). The newly baptized eunuch “went on his way rejoicing” (8:39), while Paul’s jailer “and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God” (16:34). Why should we not also enter into this great stream of joy?



**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be on Saturdays at 11:00 am in Church.**

**The Immaculate Heart of Mary Praesidium meets every Saturday at noon in the rectory. All are welcome.**