

Saint Martin de Porres Catholic Church

“Blessed be God forever ! ”

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

Reverend Addisalem T. Mekonnen

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Deacon Melvin Burton, Jr.

October 31, 2021

**Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time in the
Year of St. Joseph**



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www.smdpphiladelphia.com www.facebook.com/SMDPPHILLY/

www.feb29rac.podbean.com SMDP Philadelphia/youtube

Sunday Mass at 10:00 am is available on LIVESTREAM

Dear Church Family...

Do you know what our mission statement is as a beloved disciple of Christ?

29 Jesus answered, “The first is: ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one!’ 30 You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. 31 The second is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” Mark 12:29-31

In the English language we have only one word for love, but in the ancient Greek they have four separate words for love. In English we use the same word “love” to articulate our relationship with a person, object and activity. Therefore, I think whenever it is said, many people use the word “love” in vain or it just becomes ambiguous and therefore loses its intensity of expression. Eros (ἔρως): refers to romantic love felt towards one’s spouse. This Greek term is where the word “erotic” is derived from. The word "Eros" is not actually used in either the Old or New Testaments.

Philia (φιλία): refers to feelings one has towards close friends: “brotherly love.” This word was used in the New Testament to describe Jesus’ love for his disciples (John 20:2) and for Lazarus (John 11:3). Agape (ἀγάπη): it is a selfless sacrificial kind of love in which someone lays down his life for someone else, be it his friend or foe. Storge (στοργή): This Greek word refers to love we have for our parents, siblings, our children and other members of our family.

Jesus is Divine Love Incarnate because He is the eternal Son of God in the flesh. Jesus reveals to us the divine definition of Love not by mere vocabulary words, but by actions in the context of a relationship. The love we express towards God does not exclude our neighbor, but includes our neighbor in a manner that makes them both distinct and yet inseparable. We are commanded to love God with our whole being. We are commanded to love our neighbor as we love

ourselves, meaning there are limitations. That means we cannot give what we don’t have so God must be our primary motivation in loving our neighbor. Whenever we see our neighbor suffering or rejoicing, we are able to see with eyes of faith the hidden Jesus. We should not forget that the hidden Jesus lives in us as much as He does in our neighbor.

God is Love, but His love is both infinitely powerful and mysterious. Powerful because our Blessed Lord conquered suffering and death. Mysterious because we were commanded by God to love Him with our whole being even though to love is a free act of the will. God expresses the fullness of His love in willing for us to be with Him in Heaven for all eternity. Therefore, we are called to love our neighbor by desiring for them to also enter the kingdom of heaven. If we desire anything less means we are either immature in our faith or we don’t believe that God can give us the grace to love as Christ loves.

Our Blessed Mother witnessed the most violent and painful death a human being could experience when her Son experienced His Passion. Whenever we watch the news, we learn about innocent and vulnerable people dying all the time. Their loved ones mourn because of the love they have for them, but just imagine if their love for them had a power that could overcome death. Jesus tasted our death in order that we may consume Him as He is, which is Eternal Life. Death is no longer stronger than Love because of the Risen Christ. This agape Love is rooted in God the Most Holy Trinity. Therefore it is our mission to let everyone know how much God loves humanity by talking about our Lord’s Passion and Resurrection. Every time we die to our own definition and expression of love we are resurrected in Christ to bear witness to the Ascension of Love.

In J.M.J
Fr.Mekonnen

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

Sunday, October 31, 2021
Church Family

Monday, November 1, 2021
Rose Mary Campbell

Tuesday, November 2, 2021
Lee Gardella

Wednesday, November 3, 2021
Kay Lafferty

Thursday, November 4, 2021
Sr. Anita Daniel McLaughlin, S.S.J.

Friday, November 5, 2021
Frank Kelly

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

Join Father Mekonnen....

**St. JOSEPH ROSARY ONLINE
WEDNESDAY 6:30PM**

ZOOM Meeting# 282 564 5789

Mobile #(16465588656) (2825645789)

**Adoration & Benediction of the
Blessed Sacrament**

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, Donna Collier, Ella Combs, Danielle Daniels, John Davis, Stephanie Durrell, Barbara Dunn, George Ellington, Sharon Faison, Shirley Fields, Janice Floyd, Charing Garnett, Paul Giovetis, 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, Renee Turner, Vicente Velazquez, Audrey Victor, William Victor, Tyanna Wallace Lisa Williams, Mary Jean Williams, Sylvia Williams, Augustus Johnson.

LEGION OF MARY



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.



St. Martin de Porres Mass & Sacrament of Confirmation

Office for Black Catholic Apostolate



**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7
2:00 P.M.**

**CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF
SAINTS PETER & PAUL
1723 RACE STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103**



**Archbishop
Nelson J. Perez
Principal Celebrant**



All are welcome