

# **Saint Martin de Porres Catholic Church**

**“Blessed be God forever ! ”**

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

**Reverend Addisalem T. Mekonnen**

***Parochial Administrator: fathermekonnen@gmail.com***

**Deacon Melvin Burton, Jr.**

**December 5, 2021**

**Second Sunday of Advent in the  
Year of St. Joseph**

**2340 West Lehigh Avenue Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19132  
(215) 228-8330 Phone - (215) 221-6516 Fax**

**[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...*

### **What is the perfect gift for Jesus ?**

We all have some idea of what the perfect Christmas gift would be for our family, friends, and coworkers. Sometimes we get little hints here and there, perhaps months or weeks in advance, of what our family members really want for Christmas. That gift maybe expensive, cheap or something we could make with our own hands. It may be a mystery to know what someone wants whenever we think to ourselves this person already has everything they could possibly want, so it is even impossible for me to find the perfect gift.

God created the universe, angels, and humanity so what type of gift would be most pleasing to God the Almighty? This gift could not be something that is expensive because then the poor are excluded. The gift cannot be something that is cheap because then it would be insulting to the King of the Universe. The gift must be valuable of course, but not according to the standards of the world since the spirit of the world opposes the Spirit of God. The gift has to be personable because God is so personable that He wills for us to call Him Abba, Father. The gift has to be something we can't possibly regift and give to others.

That gift is our sins. Sounds ridiculous when you first think about it. How can sin be considered a gift since it is exactly what offends God and if the sin is serious it has the power to separate us from God. God hates only sin, but never the sinner. No one says I love covid-19 and so God can't love our sin, but He does desire to heal us from the wounds we experience by loving our

sins. Whenever we go to confession we are going to the Divine Doctor who wants to know what is ailing our spiritual health because that condition be it good or bad will be permeant when we die. We at least know whenever someone dies from a terminal illness that their physical suffering is over, but Jesus looks straight into the soul even though we more often than not forgot we even have a soul. God sees everything so He can see all the symptoms of sin which are guilt, fear, shame, depression and restlessness in our heart.

We all know that when an animal is seriously wounded it will need medical help or else it will most likely not live. The animal won't trust anyone to heal it, so it becomes aggressive thinking to itself that in order to survive it has depend only on itself. It is whenever we place our trust in Jesus that we are able to examine our conscience through the light of the Holy Spirit. The light of the Holy Spirit will help us to see our sins and then confess those sins in the sacrament of confession. Whenever we feel sorrow for sins we are then experiencing the grace of repentance and so the precious Blood of Jesus cleanses us of our sins after we hear the prayer of absolution. Every time we try to repent from our sinful way of living we are empowered to love Jesus in a new and powerful way. It takes real faith to accept the gift of God's mercy in the sacrament of reconciliation because not only are we reunited to God but also to each other as Church Family.

**In J.M.J., Fr.Mekonnen**

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

Sunday, December 5, 2021  
Church Family

Monday, November 6, 2021  
Francis W. Rafferty

Tuesday, November 7, 2021  
Celeste Gerhub

Wednesday, December 8, 2021 – 9:30 A.M.  
Baraba Thim

Thursday, December 9, 2021  
David Bourke

Friday, December 10, 2021  
Celeste Gerhub

## BIBLE STUDY WITH DEACON BURTON



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*

**ST. MARTIN DE PORRES STUDENT EXCELS AT MSGR. BONNER ARCHBISHOP PRENDERGAST HIGH SCHOOL** Our parish recently received notification of the performance of our high school students for the first quarter of the 2021-22 school year. We are particularly proud of those students who have demonstrated academic excellence. **Joshua Brooks, Class of 2022 received Second Honors!**

### 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 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, Renee Turner, Vicente Velazquez, Audrey Victor, William Victor, Tyanna Wallace Lisa Williams, Mary Jean Williams, Sylvia Williams, Augustus Johnson, Cheryl Wright.*

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. JOSEPH ROSARY ONLINE WEDNESDAY 6:30PM**

**ZOOM Meeting# 282 564 5789**

**Mobile #(16465588656) (2825645789) Adoration & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament**

# **REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. INTERFAITH PRAYER SERVICE**

**Date: January 17, 2022**

**Time: 6 p.m.**

**Location: Miraculous Medal Shrine  
500 East Cheltenham Ave  
Philadelphia, PA 19144**



People fail to get along because they fear each other; they fear each other because they don't know each other; they don't know each other because they have not communicated with each other.

Our Speakers:

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**MOST REVEREND  
NELSON J. PÉREZ, D.D.  
ARCHBISHOP**



**PASTOR  
DONALD D. MOORE  
MT. CARMEL BAPTIST**



**RABBI  
SUE LEVI ELWELL  
WASHINGTON  
HEBREW  
CONGREGATION**



**AMIR  
QASIM RASHAD  
UNITED MUSLIM  
MASJID**



**Office for Black Catholics  
ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA**

