

ST. MARTIN DE PORRES

BLESSED BE GOD FOREVER!

Pastor Addisalem T. Mekonnen
Email: fathermekonnen@gmail.com
Deacon Melvin Burton, Jr.
Second Sunday of Advent
December 10, 2023

AND JESUS SAID



**"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened,
and I will give you rest."**

2340 West Lehigh Avenue Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19132

(215) 228-8330 Phone - (215) 221-6516 Fax

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

www.feb29rac.podbean.com [YouTube/smdpphiladelphia.com](https://www.youtube.com/smdpphiladelphia.com)

Sunday Mass at 10:00 am is available on LIVESTREAM

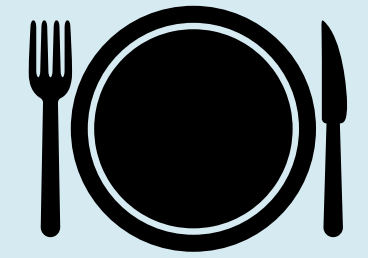
Dir. of Parish Services - Mr. James E. Andrews

Business Manager- Mr. John Duffner

Bookkeeper - Ms. Elaine Eptalivo

Secretary - Ms. Elsie Banks

Advent Season



Food for thought from Fr. Mekonnen

How do we bring comfort to Jesus ?

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In the first reading of Isaiah, we hear God's devotion to His beloved people as He says to us "Comfort, give comfort to my people," (40:1). It is God Himself who comforts us, in our human weakness, whether it is physical or spiritual, as He reveals Himself as the Good Shepherd who "feeds his flock; in his arms he gathers the lambs, carrying them in his bosom, and leading the ewes with care." (40:11). It is easy to see and hear how we as lambs are in need of God's comfort, but is it possible to comfort God as well ? God calls us to have a true devotion to Him alone, and this act in itself brings comfort to our Blessed Lord. St John the Baptist is the voice in the wilderness that reveals his true devotion to God by faithfully preaching "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." We experience comfort in times of loneliness and joy whenever we hear the voice of our family members or friends because we believe they have a sincere love for us. Jesus is Divine Word made flesh, and although Israel are ignorant of God's presence. Nevertheless St John the Baptist receives Jesus with a living faith that welcomes the King of Heaven by preaching the good news which is a spiritual work of mercy. I invited you to practice one of the spiritual or corporal works of mercy in preparation for Christmas during this advent season. Take one strip of paper with you after Mass and write down that act of mercy you practiced during the advent season and bring it back on Christmas evening or day. That strip of paper will be sowed onto a blanket and wrapped around the baby Jesus statue. Those acts of mercy is the concrete manner in which we comfort Jesus by seeing His real presence in each other. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (Part Three: Life in Christ).

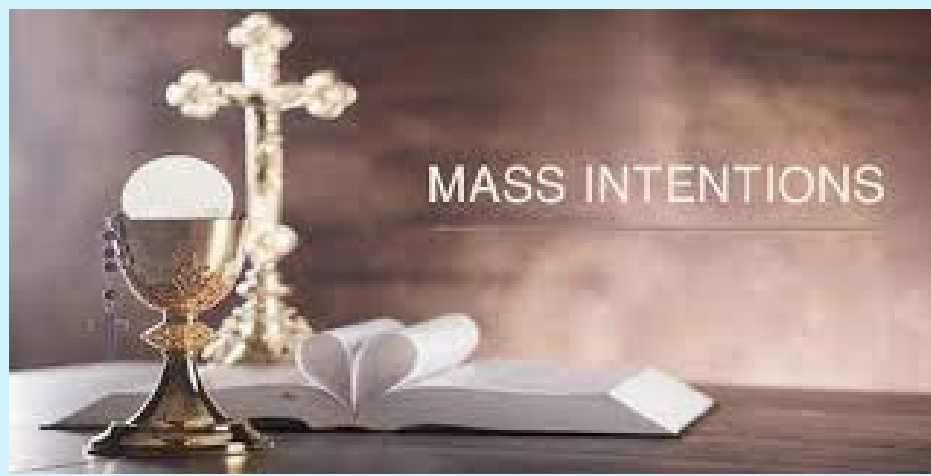
The Corporal Works of Mercy

1. Feed the hungry
2. Give drink to the thirsty
3. Clothe the naked
4. Shelter the homeless
5. Visit the sick
6. Visit the imprisoned
7. Bury the dead

The Spiritual Works of Mercy

1. Admonish the sinner
2. Instruct the ignorant (This and the next work are extremely pertinent categories today, when so many people are confused by what the Church teaches on contraception, abortion, homosexuality, etc.)
3. Counsel the doubtful
4. Comfort the sorrowful
5. Bear wrongs patiently

7:00 AM Mass in Rectory Schedule & Intentions



Begin your day with Mass

Sunday, December 10, 2023
in the Church

“For the People of the Church”

Tuesday, December 12, 2023
Eugene Bush

Thursday, December 14, 2023
David Kabich

Friday, December 15, 2023
Joseph Moore

Saturday, December 16, 2023
Sis Shay

If you would like to have Masses offered for a loved one or friend, living or deceased, please call the office. The stipend is \$10 per Mass intention.



Knights of Peter Claver
Council 187
Invites everyone after Mass
December 10th
Continental breakfast
Church Hall

ROMAN CHANCES

**All money and stubs must be
returned by December 10, 2023**

to

Ms. Yvonne Gray

Bible Study with Deacon Burton

**Name, Title & Symbols
of the Holy Spirit**



THURSDAY 6:30 PM

Meeting ID: 570 117 8316

Phone# +6468769923, 5701178316

burtonmel417@gmail.com

**How does the Bible, written over 2000 years ago,
apply to our daily life in 2023? Join Deacon on Thursdays to find out!**



The power of prayer!

Let us pray for the Sick.

We pray for all in our Church Family who are

SICK AND THOSE WHO CARE FOR THEM:

**JENAI BALLARD, CHERYL BELL, MURIEL BOOKER,
LUCILE BROWN, ANDRE CARTER, BARBARA CARTER, JANICE
WHITMORE-CARTER, GERALD CARTER, MARSHA COOPER,
MELODY COOPER, MARY COOPER, HELEN DIRKSON, RITA
FELDER, JANICE FLOYD, THERESA HART, LYNETTE FORD-
HAVENS, HARRY W. HUBBARD, AUGUSTUS JOHNSON, MARIE
LAWRENCIN, HAZEL MARSH, YAKAISHA MARSH, JAMES MASON,
LISA MCLOED, WILLIAM PATTERSON, CLARENCE PRESTON, ALMA
ROSS, LOIS STREETER, TAMIKA TENDER, RENEE TURNER,
VICENTE VELAZQUEZ, AUDREY VICTOR, JANICE WHITMORE, LISA
WILLIAMS, MARY JEAN WILLIAMS, SHARON WILLIAMS, SYLVIA
WILLIAMS**

Please contact the church office to add or remove loved ones from
our Prayer list. 215.228.8330



**St. Martin de Porres
CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

AN INDEPENDENCE MISSION SCHOOL

Now accepting applications for the 2024-2025
school year! There are also a limited number of
seats available for the current school year.

<https://imsphila.org/admissions/how-to-apply/>



Saturday -11:00 a.m. Mass

**Sundays - 9:15 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation
or by appointment**

All are Welcome!

Welcome to Saint Martin de Porres Church. Based in North Philadelphia, we are a Catholic Church of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. We are one diverse spiritual community called to follow Jesus Christ. “God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life” - John 3:16.



The essential aim of the Legion of Mary is the sanctification of its members through prayer, the sacraments and devotion to Mary and the Trinity, and of the whole world through the apostolate of the Legion.

Saturdays 12:00 p.m. LEGION OF MARY

**ROSARY ONLINE - FRIDAY 6:30 PM
ZOOM Meeting # 282 564 5789
Mobile # (16465588656) (2825645789)
Adoration & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament**



When we pray the Rosary, we put ourselves and our intentions into God's hands. As we pray, we can let go of any worries we may have and we can choose to completely trust in God, knowing that He is listening to our prayers and that He wants the best for us and those we pray for.

**Rectory Office Hours:
Thursdays and Fridays 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Saturdays 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.**

New Parishioners are most welcome and are encouraged to register as soon as possible after moving into the Parish. Please see an usher after church and request a form.

Home Blessings & Holy Communion are available. Anyone who wishess their home blessed, please call the rectory. If any of our homebound or shut in parishioners wish to receive Holy Communion, please call the rectory 215.228.8330.



If you are in the hospital or sick, please contact the church office, 215.228.8330 for a visit from Fr. Mekonnen.

