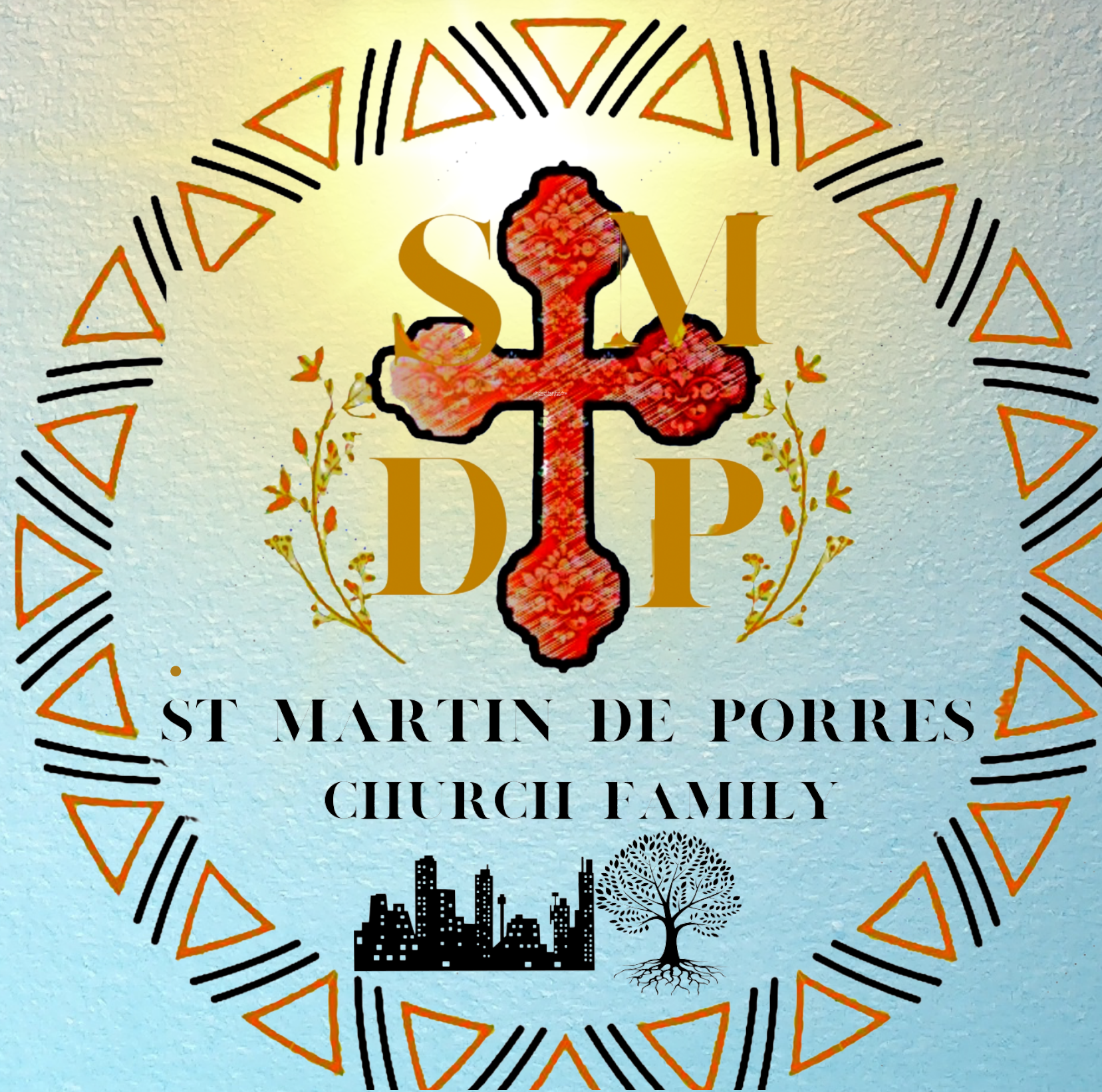


ST. MARTIN DE PORRES

BLESSED BE GOD FOREVER!

Pastor Addisalem T. Mekonnen
Email: fathermekonnen@gmail.com
Deacon Melvin Burton, Jr.
Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 21, 2024

AND JESUS SAID



"This is the time of fulfillment.
The kingdom of God is at hand.
Repent, and believe in the gospel."

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



Who do you follow ?

When I was a teenager, I can remember watching sports with my dad and brothers: We would be watching in support of our Philadelphia teams such as the Sixers and the Eagles. My dad never bought tickets to the games, so we never attended the games in person growing up. The first time I attended a game in person was after I had received some free tickets for the Sixers, and I also received free tickets for the Eagles game. It was great to see what it was like to be there in person. Everyone seemed so happy to be there, as they followed the players, cheering and applauding during the game.

Some fans knew the stats of their favourite players and seemed to have followed their career throughout the seasons. I never got to that level, but I have always loved playing sports, whenever I got a chance, with my brothers. My brothers and my dad would play basketball for hours and hours to the point that my mother would get annoyed, as she wondered when we were coming home. I can clearly remember, on one occasion, playing one on one basketball with my older brother and it was very cold outside. We started seeing snow slowly falling from the sky and yet, I wanted to play one more game. I wasn't really ever that good compared to my brothers, but my determination would never wane. Simon and Andrew followed in the tradition of their dad and so they became fishermen. They spent hours and hours trying to catch fish at night. I'm sure they enjoyed doing it, even though it was also their livelihood; however, they experienced a transformation once they encountered Jesus, because they believed they needed to drop everything in order to follow Him.

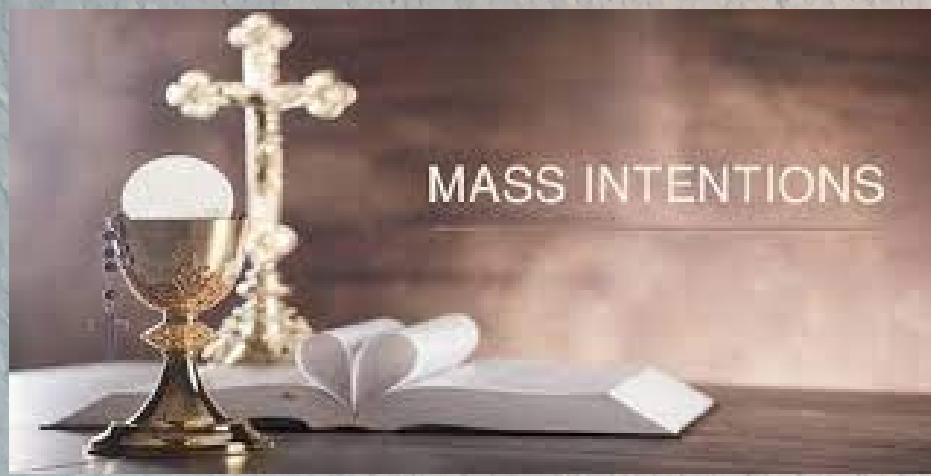
Jesus looked like a simple man and most importantly, He didn't have physical wealth to offer them, but they could see that He was different. Jesus became the One they desired from within their soul and He radiated the kingdom of Heaven. Both apostles were transformed from fishermen to faithful witnesses of the risen Lord, because they never stopped following Him. If they stopped short of following Jesus, then they believed that they wouldn't arrive at their final destination, which is Heaven. Do you follow Jesus? How do you follow Him? Why do you follow Him? Have you, for some reason, stopped following Him ? These are questions we should ask ourselves so that when we encounter Jesus again, and ask Him to help us be faithful to the graces He gives us, then we can use those graces to follow him into the kingdom of heaven.

—◆—
The 16th Annual Archdiocesan Catholic Men's Conference will be on Saturday, March 2, 2024, at St. John Vianney Hall Theater at Cardinal O'Hara High School.

Register at: manupphilly.com.

—◆—
Catechetical Convocation Sharing the Good News of Jesus. Saturday, March 23rd, at Archbishop John Carroll High School More information to come.

7:00 AM Mass in Rectory Schedule & Intentions



Begin your day with Mass

**Sunday, January 21, 2024
in the Church**

“For the People of the Church”

Tuesday, January 23, 2024

John Post

Thursday, January 25, 2024

Georganne Esker, S.S.J.

Friday, January 26, 2024

Alvina Baum

Saturday, January 27, 2024

MaryAnn Clifford

To have a Mass or several Masses offered for a person who is deceased is an ancient and commendable practice. A Mass is offered to pray for a person that he/she may be at peace in heaven. Since each Mass is of infinite value, requesting one or several Masses is of tremendous benefit for the person prayed for as well as for the family, knowing that their intention is joined with the prayer of the Church.

Ash Wednesday this year is February 14th. Mass times will be announced as we get closer to Ash Wednesday. Ash Wednesday is an obligatory day of fasting and abstinence in the Catholic Church, where only one full meal and no meat are to be consumed.



**Bible Study
with Deacon Burton**

Mark 16: 9 - 20



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:

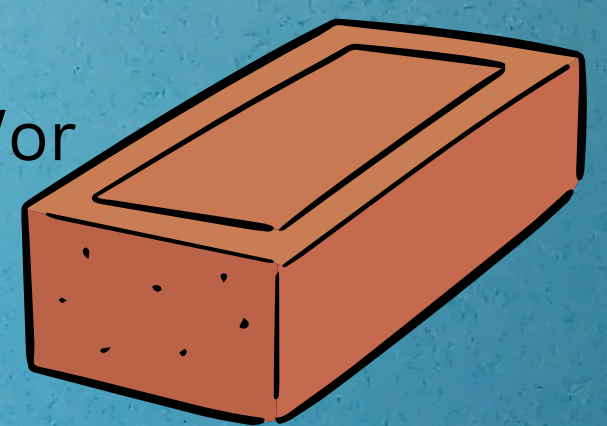
JENAI BALLARD, CHERYL BELL, MURIEL BOOKER, LUCILE BROWN, ANDRE CARTER, BARBARA CARTER, JANICE WHITMORE-CARTER, GERALD CARTER, MARSHA COOPER, MELODY COOPER, MARY COOPER, HELEN DIRKSON, RITA FELDER, JANICE FLOYD, THERESA HART, LYNETTE FORD-HAVENS, HARRY W. HUBBARD, AUGUSTUS JOHNSON, MARIE LAWRENCIN, HAZEL 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

Buy a Brick Campaign

Contact Rectory office staff and/or complete application form

215-228-8330



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.**

