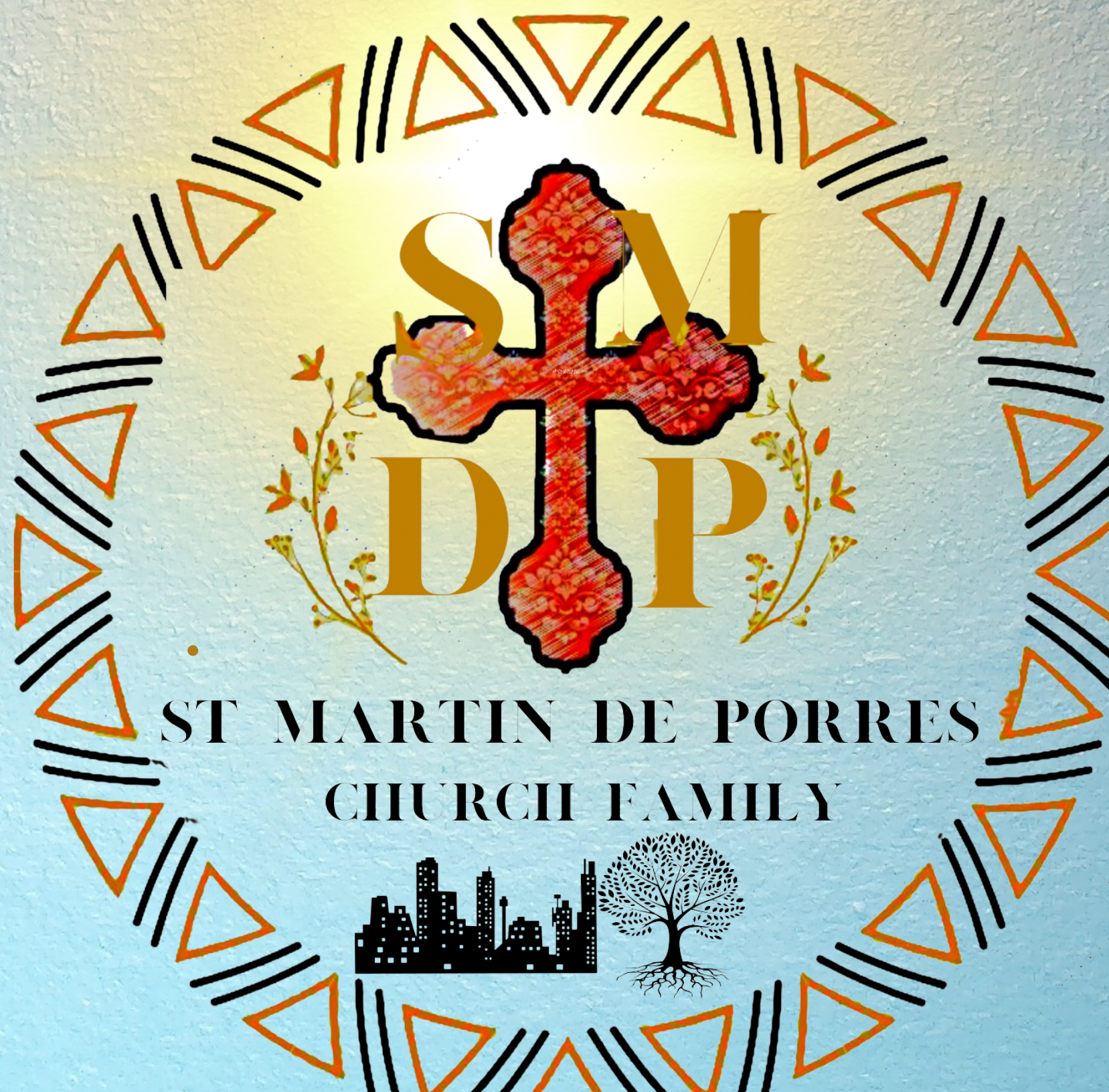


ST. MARTIN DE PORRES

BLESSED BE GOD FOREVER!

Pastor Addisalem T. Mekonnen
Email: fathermekonnen@gmail.com
Deacon Melvin Burton, Jr.
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
January 28, 2024

AND JESUS SAID



"Do not be afraid; just have faith."

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 Epotalivo

Secretary - Ms. Elsie Banks

Food for thought from Fr. Mekonnen



Just imagine a comedian is telling a joke in a field and a fan has a dog sitting right there listening to all the jokes; scientific data reveals that dogs can move their ears independently of each other, as they have more than 18 muscles that control the ears. Therefore, they can turn, raise, lower and tilt their ears to pick up a sound and where it's coming from, and their ears also express how they are feeling. Dogs can hear well, but they can't listen to the joke, so their response is not laughter. Very often dogs can hear whenever danger is near, such as a burglar entering a home. Listening is better than hearing because it takes a rational being to have the ability to think logically. To some degree, listening takes work. If it doesn't take work, then why is it nearly all professionals have to be educated for several years just, so they can be competent in basically listening. In fact, even mental health professionals either have a supervisor, or counselor, depending if they are licensed or not who listens to them regarding their work. Although, more often than not, people think of listening as being passive, but it is an active process, most especially, in our relationship with each other and God.

The Word of God was seen as scary when He spoke on the mountain during the time of Moses, but then Moses prophesied that God would raise up a prophet who would speak with authority and clarity. Jesus is the fulfillment of that Prophecy, prophesied by Moses. Jesus' hearers acknowledge the truth in that whenever He spoke He spoke with authority, unlike the other rabbis or teachers. No one disagrees with the effect of our Blessed Lord's ability to preach, and so even the demons submitted immediately to our Lord's commands as they listened. Therefore, faith is the ears of the soul and it can be big or small, mature or immature, healthy or unhealthy, but we are all tempted to link that deficiency to God rather than in us poor sinners who are loved by God. If we lack faith, or have a weak faith, then we respond with a hardness of heart; that is, we are simply hearing the Word of God like a dog listening to a joke he is unable to comprehend. Therefore, when we pray, our heart is made open to God's grace so that we are filled with the Spirit of understanding, which gives us the capacity to listen to the Word of God and submit to His holy Will.

In J.M.J

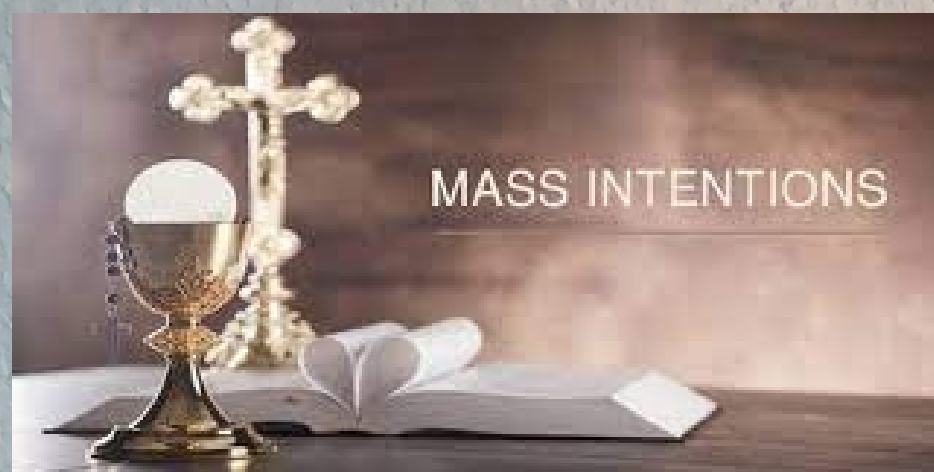
Fr. Mekonnen



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.

7:00 AM Mass in Rectory Schedule & Intentions



Begin your day with Mass

**Sunday, January 28, 2024
in the Church**

“For the People of the Church”

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Dolores Bowen

Thursday, February 1, 2024

Edward Koiv

Friday, February 2, 2024

All Cancer Patients

Saturday, February 3, 2024

Lois Zandier

Episcopal Ordination of

**Bishop-elect Keith J. Chylinski,
Bishop-elect Christopher R. Cooke,
and Bishop-elect Efren V. Esmilla**

EUCCHARISTIC HOLY HOUR WITH SOLEMN VESPERS

Wednesday, March 6, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.

**Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul
and the Shrine of St. Katharine Drexel
18th Street and Benjamin Franklin Parkway
Philadelphia, PA 19103**

Open to the Public.

Free parking is available in the Cathedral parking lot.

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**SOLEMN MASS WITH THE ORDINATION OF SEVERAL BISHOPS**

**Thursday, March 7, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.**

The faithful are invited to participate via livestream at this link:  
<https://vimeo.com/event/2470138>

## **Bible Study with Deacon Burton**

**Romans 12: 1-8**

**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:**

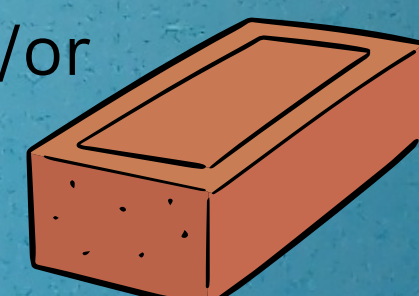
**JENAI BALLARD, CHERYL BELL, MURIEL BOOKER,  
LUCILE BROWN, ANDRE CARTER, BARBARA CARTER, JANICE  
WHITMORE-CARTER, GERALD CARTER, MARSHA COOPER,  
MELODY COOPER, MARY COOPER, HELEN DIRKSON, RITA  
FELDER, JANICE FLOYD, THERESA HART, LYNETTE FORD-  
HAVENS, HARRY W. HUBBARD, AUGUSTUS JOHNSON, MARIE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

The engraved design won't fade or crack away with sun and weather exposure; over time the engraving will still be crisp and legible.

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.**

