

ST. MARTIN DE PORRES

BLESSED BE GOD FOREVER!

Pastor Addisalem T. Mekonnen

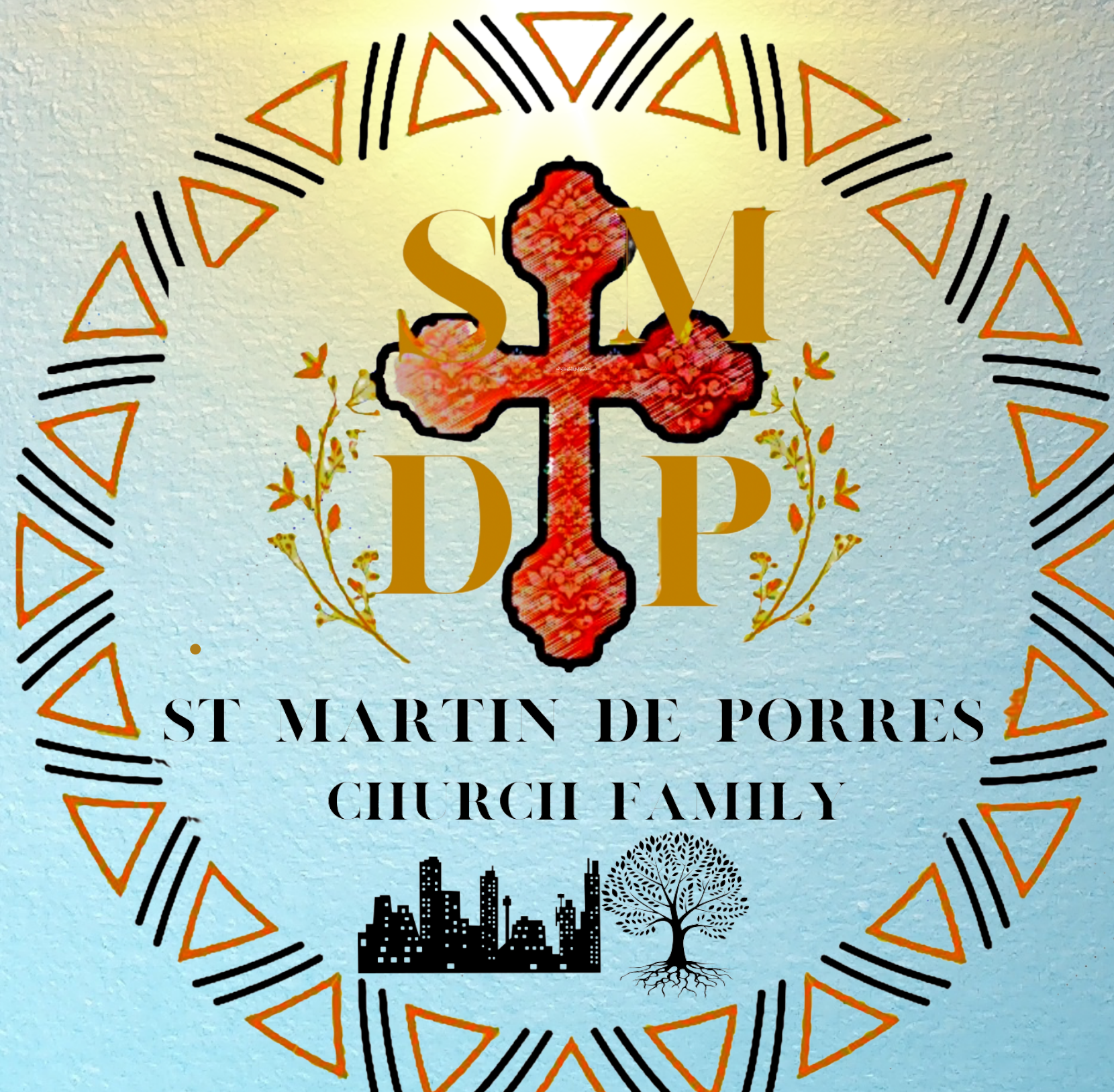
Email: fathermekonnen@gmail.com

Deacon Melvin Burton, Jr.

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 4, 2024

AND JESUS SAID



"Hear me, all of you, and understand.

Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person;
but the things that come out from within are what defile."

2340 West Lehigh Avenue Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19132

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

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

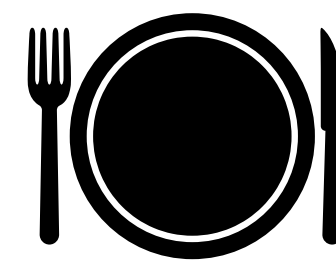
Sunday Mass at 10:00 am is available on LIVESTREAM

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

Business Manager- Mr. John Duffner

Bookkeeper - Ms. Elaine Epotalivo

Secretary - Ms. Elsie Banks



How can God who is all powerful and Almighty be at the same time the perfect example of humility? I think we can sometimes misunderstand and underappreciate the virtue of humility, which of course is not one of the foundational theological virtues of faith, hope and charity, but is none the less the foundation of our spiritual life. Some may think of humility as some kind of self-hatred in which individuals walk around with their heads down beating themselves up by talking about either their real or imaginary weakness or sinfulness. Some may even conceive humility as a deep feeling of inadequacy in effectively completing some assigned task or mission. Some may view humility as a virtue you exercise and receive by doing external acts of penances without any counseling from their spiritual director. These definitions of humility are counterfeits and our Lord who is eternal Truth reveals this to us whenever these thoughts may cloud our judgments. These are only a few and are not an exhausted list of ways we can fall into the pitfalls of pride. Pride is a very subtle vice that can easily creep into our little inner world like air pollution without us even noticing its deadly presence. Notice the thread that weaves all these actions is an intense focus on “self” as if we as earthlings are the center of the universe and everything else including God revolves around us. Thus, pride gives way to a perception of a fantasy world in which we live on an island but if there are others on this island, they are only present to serve us. Of course, because of our identity as adopted children of God we can easily see how the eternal Son, our blessed Lord, is the center of the universe. This is made clear to us whenever we look upon the crucifix because it is there, we see in a concrete manner how humility Incarnate shines forth drawing all sinners to Himself through the rays of the Holy Spirit. Our Lord said, “learn of Me for I Am meek and humble of heart.” We learn that our Lord humbled Himself in coming down from His heavenly glory to be born in a cold stable filled with hay and animals. Archbishop Fulton Sheen wrote in his book “The priest is not his own” our Lord would not stop there, but even humble Himself in being a “priest- victim, which was never done before as the priests in the Old Testament always offered a vicarious animal, but never themselves as the sacrificial offering to God.” Thus, we learn that humility is simply an acknowledgment of the truth in that we are creatures created in the image and likeness of God. It is because of the fact we are creatures that we have this dependence on God for everything from existence to graces to grow in holiness. Our Lady is our next model of humility as she offers up praises and gratitude to our heavenly Father for giving her His beloved Son, Jesus through the Holy Spirit in her Magnificat Canticle. Thus, learn humility is an attitude of gratitude towards God and neighbor. Our Lady experienced joy as she prophesied in the canticle that all generations will be blessed. We learn from our Blessed Mother that an acknowledgment of talents, blessings, and graces we receive is not prideful if we bear witness that they all come from God. Just think about children who receive Christmas presents from their parents who instead of thanking their parents instead only complain about the gifts or simply love the gift more than their parents. God in His infinite wisdom and humility makes it easy for us in that He transforms ordinary bread and wine to become His sacred Body and Blood, so that there is no separation of the Gift from the Giver. It is interesting that even the holy Eucharist means thanksgiving.

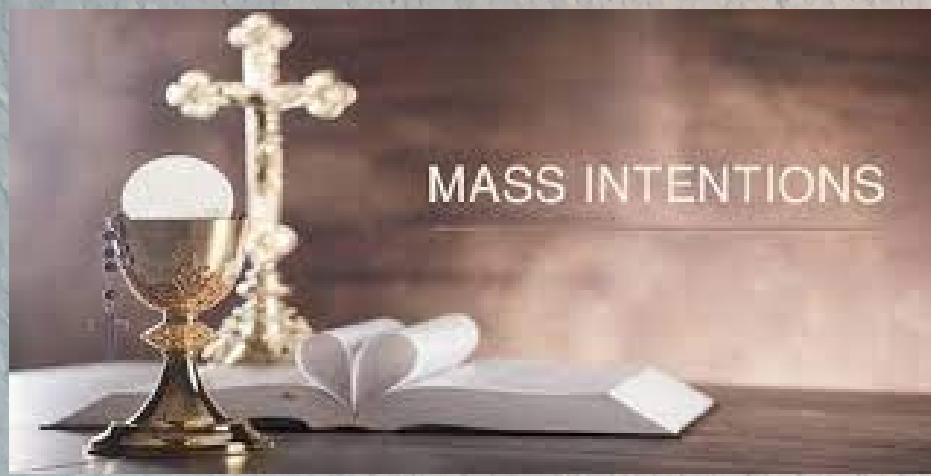
In J.M.J.

Fr. Mekonnen
Pastor



Friday, February 23, 2024 at 6 p.m.
Please join the 8th grade students of
St. Martin de Porres Catholic School as they
showcase their knowledge at the
2nd Annual Blacks in Wax Presentation & Exhibit
Featuring Inventors

No daily weekday Masses this week



Begin your day with Mass

Sunday, February 4, 2024
in the Church

“For the People of the Church”

Saturday, February 10, 2024

Lillian F. Clark

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.



Hallahan - Class of '74 50th Reunion

Sunday, May 19, 2024

12 p.m. Brunch at Panache

Additional details email:

HallahanClassof1974@gmail.com

Bible Study with Deacon Burton

Matthew 4: 1-11



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

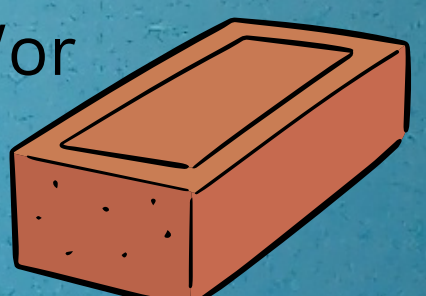
Please contact the church office to add or remove loved ones from our Prayer list. 215.228.8330

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 wishes 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.

Blessings and prayers for all celebrating Birthdays in the Month of February



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

