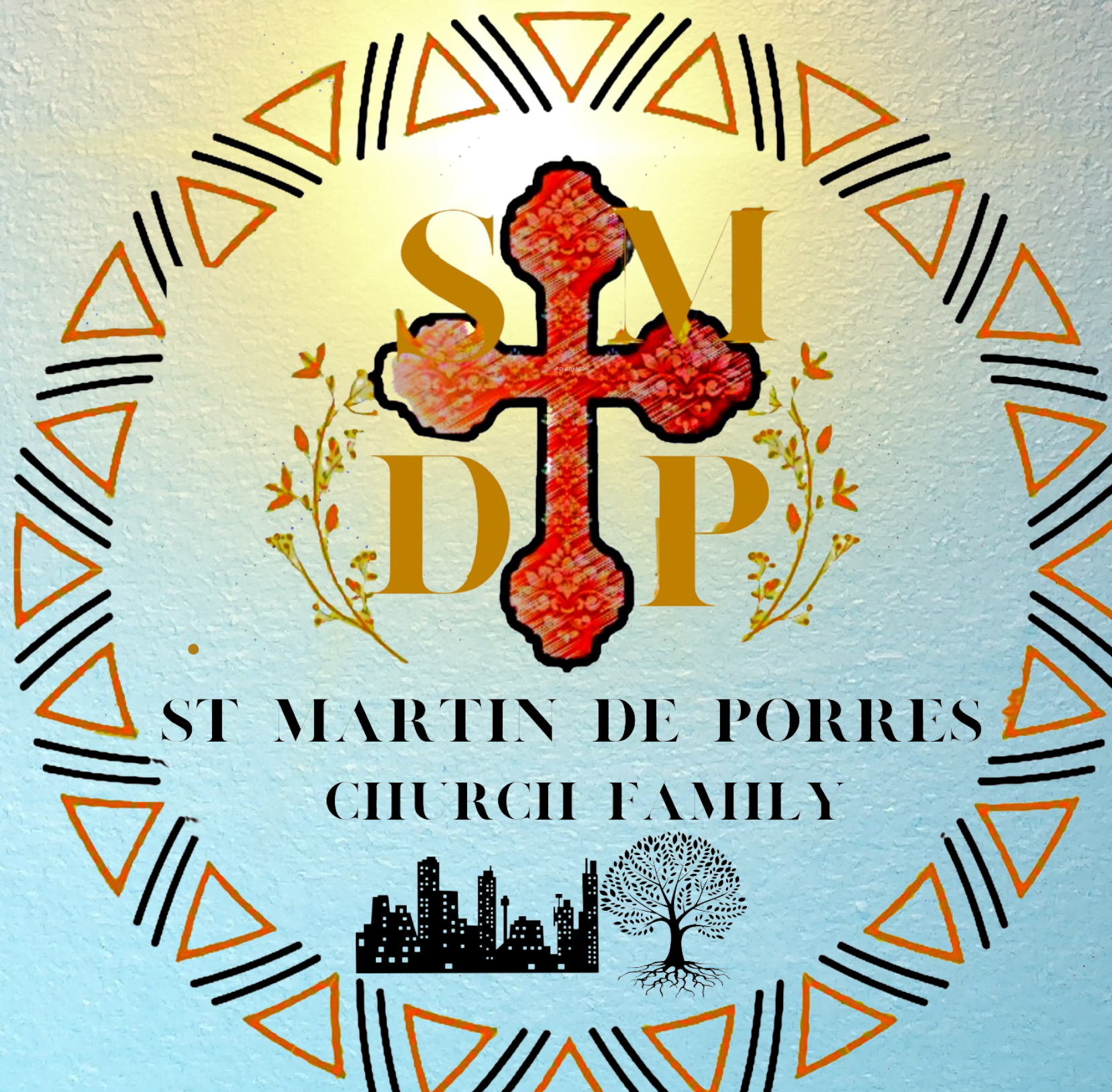


# ST. MARTIN DE PORRES

## BLESSED BE GOD FOREVER!

Pastor Addisalem T. Mekonnen  
Email: [fathermekonnen@gmail.com](mailto:fathermekonnen@gmail.com)  
Deacon Melvin Burton, Jr.  
**Second Sunday of Lent**  
February 25, 2024

## AND JESUS SAID



**"Stop judging and you will not be judged.  
Stop condemning and you will not be condemned.  
Forgive and you will be forgiven.  
Give and gifts will be given to you"**

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

Sunday Mass at 10:00 am is available on LIVESTREAM

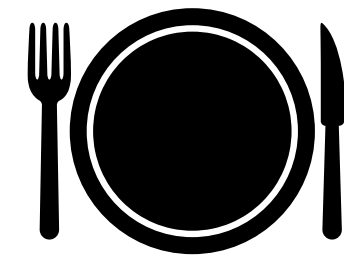
Dir. of Parish Services - Mr. James E. Andrews

Business Manager- Mr. John Duffner

Bookkeeper - Ms. Elaine Epotalivo

Secretary - Ms. Elsie Banks





Nothing is more practical than finding God; that is, then falling in love in a quite absolute and final way. What you are in love with seizes your imagination and will affect everything. It will decide what will get you out of bed in the morning, what you will do with your evenings, how you spend your weekends, what you read, who you know, what breaks your heart, what amazes you with joy and gratitude.

We don't normally think about oxygen, unless we, or others are in a situation where we aren't getting much of it.; such as, being under water, being under ground, or being in a smoke filled room. We take it for granted, because it is free and it moves everywhere we go, unless we go into space.

Even fish need oxygen, and God blessed them with the ability to receive it under water. As humans, land is our natural habitat. For Jesus, his natural habitat is heaven, because He is eternal life - Son of The Father, and because we are children of Adam and Eve, we belong to the earth. Johan was called to leave his native land to preach to the Ninevites, but instead, he ran from God and his mission. God made him become one with the big fish, so that he could breath in grace of God, which is like oxygen for the soul. We can say that Jonah experienced a type of death, because he could not eat, or move around comfortably; he had no power to save himself from that imprisonment. Jonah also exoerenced a type of resurrection too, because he no longer wanted to live for himself, but instead, he wanted to live for God. He committed to doing this by following through on his mission. Jonah essentially experienced a type of baptism. Jesus referenced the event of Jonah being in the belly of a big fish for three days to the son of man being resurrected from the tomb after three days. A fish was a symbol of a Christian; Jesus and His Church is the big fish. All those who enter the water of baptism are called to cease rebelling against our God given mission and surrender to the will of our Heavenly Father.

It is through Prayer, Penance, and Almsgiving that we are able to breath in the grace of God into our soul so that we become a new creation, which will be our natural habitat. Like fish, we can not close our eyes and sleep; our body, spirit, and soul must be wide awake with eyes of faith, so that we stay alert to the dangers of sin while consuming only that which is nourishing to our soul. "When Jesus says Yes, nobody can say No." Remember, Jonah said, "No" and then he said, "Yes." This miracle of conversion proves that God is always present, always patient and always wide awake calling us to come back to Him. The season of Lent is the perfect opportunity to find God in the sacred scripture, in the Holy Eucharist, in the poor and in the silence of our own soul. It is nothing more practical and spiritual than to add penance to prayer, so that we become a new creation in Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Therefore, Will you be running from God or to God?



# 7:00 AM Mass in Rectory Schedule & Intentions

Sunday, February 25, 2024  
in the Church  
“For the People of the Church”

Tuesday, February 27, 2024  
Rita Edward Karnell, SSJ

Thursday, February 28, 2024  
Francis P. Kirk, SSJ

Friday, March 1, 2024  
Saint Rose Dwyer, SSJ

Saturday, March 2, 2024  
Steven Pietrowicz

## St. John Chrysostom

607 S Providence Rd, Wallingford, PA

**March 19 at 6:00 pm.**

Overcoming Racism Stations of the Cross  
with our Parish. All are welcome!

**March 23, 11:30 am** Social Justice Stations  
of the Cross with St. John Chrysostom  
at SMdP

Annual Mass for Persons with Disabilities  
and the Deaf Community will be held on  
Sunday, March 10, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. at the  
Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul.


FRIDAYS starting March 1st

3:30 p.m. Church Hall

## Junior Legion of Mary

All children are invited for FUN, Rosary,  
and refreshments

**JUNIOR  
LEGION  
OF MARY**



True Devotion to Jesus through  
Mary by St Louis de Montfort  
33 Days Zoom meeting with  
Fr. Mekonen @ 6:30 p.m.



**STARTING FEBRUARY 22ND  
ZOOM Meeting # 282 564 5789  
Mobile # (16465588656)  
(2825645789)**



**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:

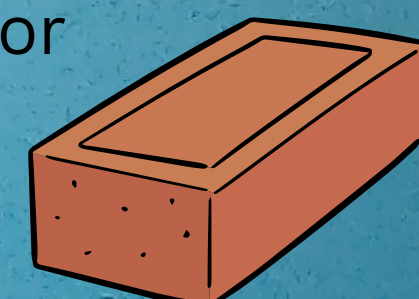
**JENAI BALLARD, CHERYL BELL, MURIEL BOOKER,  
LUCILE BROWN, ANDRE CARTER, BARBARA CARTER, JANICE  
WHITMORE-CARTER, GERALD CARTER, MARSHA COOPER,  
MELODY COOPER, MARY COOPER, HELEN DIRKSON, RITA FELDER,  
JANICE FLOYD, THERESA HART, LYNETTE FORD-HAVENS, HARRY  
W. HUBBARD, AUGUSTUS JOHNSON, MARIE LAWRENCIN, HAZEL  
MARSH, YAKAISHA MARSH, JAMES MASON, LISA MCLOED,  
WILLIAM PATTERSON, CLARENCE PRESTON, 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!***



**STATIONS OF THE CROSS WILL TAKE PLACE ON SUNDAYS FOLLOWING THE CONCLUSION  
OF MASS IN THE CHURCH HALL**



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.**

