

Saint Martin de Porres Catholic Church

2340 W. Lehigh Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19132
215.228.8330

Our Clergy
Parochial Administrator: Fr. Wilfred Emeh
Parish Deacon: Melvin Burton Jr.

April 6, 2025

Fifth Sunday of Lent in Year C



Mass Schedule

Weekday Masses:
In Chapel
Monday & Wednesday 9 am

At Temple Newman Ctr
Tuesday and Thursday
12:10 pm
(except winter and
summer break)

Sunday Mass
In Church
10 am

Adoration

Wednesdays at 10 to 11 am (Chapel)
Lenten Season
Friday
5 pm to 6 pm (Church)
Followed by Stations of the Cross

Reconciliation

Sunday's 9:15 - 10 am
or by appt.

Parish Office Hours :
8 am to 4 pm Monday - Thursday

Parish Staff

Business Mgr. John Duffner
Bookkeeper Ramona Milburn
Music Director -Tonya Dorsey
Office Mgr. - Elizabeth Maitre

Let God take care of the Past.

Today marks the fifth Sunday of Lent. Gradually, we are approaching the end of the Lenten season as we near the Paschal feast. In other words, we are steadily moving away from the realm of suffering and toward the realm of glory. Therefore, all the readings for this Sunday offer us hope and present a vision of a bright future.

In the first reading, God tells us of the new things he has started doing among us and for us. He is restoring our hope and giving us every reason to continue living. This means that, despite the difficulties of the present moment and season, the Lord will soon put a smile on our faces.

Indeed, he will do this because “weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning” (Psalm 30:5). Therefore, there is hope as we approach our morning. We must stay optimistic about the future as Easter approaches, for God is ready to fulfill His promises to us very soon.

In our second reading, Paul tells us that he decided to consider everything a loss for the sake of Christ. This was to gain the future glory that God wishes to reveal in Christ. He understood the value of the new life offered by God in Christ. He knew that “the glory of the latter shall be greater than that of the former” (Haggai 2:9). Paul saw all these truths revealed to him. Thus, he remained resolute in his faith, even to the point of “reproducing Christ’s death in himself. ” This same promise must sustain us to the end.

In today’s Gospel, the Pharisees brought an adulterous woman to Christ, believing he would immediately condemn her and permit them to stone her to death. However, they were mistaken, as Christ came to save, not to condemn. His ways and thoughts differ from theirs. Instead of condemning her, Jesus restored her life and offered her a new chance to live, telling her, “Go and sin no more.”

The story of the adulterous woman reminds us of the human tendency to condemn and take pleasure in the misfortunes of others. Each accuser left the scene when confronted with their sins and weaknesses. The golden rule is to treat others as we would like to be treated. Unfortunately, we often neglect this principle, expecting God to bless us and grant us a bright future while showing little regard for those in difficult situations.

Holy Week begins next Sunday with the Palm Sunday Mass. Let us take note of the program as follows:

Holy Thursday: Mass starts at 5 pm

Good Friday: Stations of the Cross begins at 3 pm outside the church

Holy Saturday: Mass starts at 7 pm in front of the church

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Sister Bea Jeffries Formation Program

Courses are offered in Black Catholic Parishes throughout the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Spring Semester begins week of April 21 and ends week of June 9, 2025.

Register:

<https://www.scs.edu/school-of-theological-studies/institute-for-christian-formation/black-catholic-formation-program/>.

See greeting table for brochure and information on locations.

The Holy Rosary

During this season of Lent, we should renew our commitment to praying the rosary individually and as a community.

When we pray the rosary, we unite ourselves to Jesus with the help of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

We shall pray the rosary every Sunday during Lent, beginning at 9.30 am.

Be a Part of the Conversation, Take the Survey!

Please see **trustandhope.org** to read the letter from Archbishop Nelson Perez to learn more about the vision for us to come together to encounter each other with open hearts to build the strongest possible church of Philadelphia.

Fridays of Lent- 5pm-6 pm

Exposition and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

As Catholics, we believe in the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

We are in his divine presence when Jesus is exposed in the Blessed Sacrament.

During his passion in the garden of Gethsemane, Jesus wanted his special friends, Peter, James, and John, to stay awake for an hour of prayer.

The adoration hour is a precious moment in which we immerse ourselves in worship, intimately united with the passion of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Jesus invites us:

“Come to me all you are weary and burdened and I will give you rest” (Mtt 11:28).

How to pray during adoration. You can fill the hour with any of these prayers

- Thanking God for blessings
- Ask for forgiveness (contrition)
- Praise and worship
- Make your requests (include intention for lapsed Catholics to come back to church.)
- Say the rosary
- Read scripture or spiritual reading
- Say the Psalm
- Make silent moments; be there for at least 10 minutes
- Listen to praise and worship songs (during guided Holy Hour)

Disciple Maker Index

The Disciple Maker Index (DMI) is an anonymous survey of parishioners that provides insights into the level of missionary discipleship in the parish in addition to the effectiveness of the Mass experience, preaching and other aspects of the parish.

Your Archbishop has invited all parishes throughout the Archdiocese of Philadelphia to take part in the Disciple Maker Index survey. To take the DMI survey for your parish, Saint Martin de Porres go to: <https://portal.catholicleaders.org/dmi/survey/xp60b6>

Prayer to St. Monica

Eternal and merciful Father, I thank you for the gift of Your Divine Son, Jesus Christ, who offered His life on the Cross for all mankind. I thank you also for the gift of the Catholic faith that I share. Help me to grow in faithfulness to You by prayer, by works of charity and penance, and by regular participation in the Sacraments of Penance and the Holy Eucharist. You gave Saint Monica a spirit of selfless love manifested in her constant prayer for the conversion of her son, Augustine. Inspired by boundless confidence in Your power to move hearts and the success of her prayer, I ask for the grace to imitate her constancy in my prayer for (N.). In Your mercy and kindness, O Lord, grant that (he/she/they) may be open to the promptings of Your Holy Spirit to return to Your love and mercy in the communion of Your Church. Grant also that my prayer be ever hopeful and my witness be ever joyful. And grant me, O Lord, the grace never to judge another person's motives, for You alone can read what is in our hearts. I ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Rosary/Bible Study

with Deacon Burton
Tuesday at 6:00 pm
Zoom Meeting # 570-117-8316
Phone: 1-646-568-7788 HostKey # 20165

Mass Intentions

Sunday: Thank God for St. Anthony (*Fr. Wilfred*)
Monday: Comasia Semeraro (*Fr. Wilfred*)
Tuesday: Patrick Kleman (*Fr. Wilfred*)
Wednesday: Mary Joyce Cappelletti (*Fr. Wilfred*)
Thursday: Joanne Bullock (*Fr. Wilfred*)
Friday: Jeremy Jaros (*Fr. Wilfred*)
Saturday: Daniel Cole (*Fr. Wilfred*)

Prayers for Parishioners

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, Hazel Marsh, Yakaisha Marsh, Lisa McCloed, William Patterson, Clarence Preston, Lois Streeter, Tamika Tender, Vicente Velazquez, Audrey Victor, Janice Whitmore, Lisa Williams, Mary Jean Williams, Rosa Gallon, Lenora Chapman, Flora Hall, Patricia Moon, Lakia Moon, Edna Moon Wilkes, Paul J. Haggerty, Jenai Ballard

Save the date: APRIL 26

Bus leaves Church 3:45 pm
St. Katharine of Siena Bus Trip
More information to follow !

The Legion of Mary

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 the whole world through the apostolate of the Legion.
Please call rectory for information.

Parish Mission Statement

We are a Catholic Community nourished by the Word of God and the Eucharist to proclaim the good news of salvation in North Philadelphia. Inspired by our Patron Saint Martin de Porres, we strive to welcome everyone, regardless of race or background and to attend to the needy of our community. We aspire to be a beacon of hope in the City of Philadelphia, moved by an unwavering determination to revive, rebuild trust, and mediate a loving relationship between the people of our city and Jesus Christ.

Vision Statement

Our Vision is to form intentional disciples and to build a faith filled and vibrant church community through a commitment to faith formation, prayer, Eucharistic celebration and Adoration, and care for the less fortunate brothers and sisters of Jesus Christ. Guided by the Holy Spirit we shall recreate the spirit of the early Christian community.