

# Saint Martin de Porres Catholic Church

2340 W. Lehigh Ave.  
Philadelphia, PA 19132  
215.228.8330  
Parish Website: <http://smdpphiladelphia.com>  
Email: [SaintMartindePorres2340@gmail.com](mailto:SaintMartindePorres2340@gmail.com)

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

August 10, 2025

**19<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Year C**



## Mass Schedule

**Weekday Masses:**  
In Chapel

Tuesday & Thursday 9 am

At Temple Newman Ctr  
Monday, Wednesday, Friday  
12:10 pm  
(except winter and  
summer break)

**Sunday Mass**  
In Church  
10 am

## Adoration

Thursday's 10 to 11 am  
(Chapel)

## Reconciliation

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

## Office Hours

Tuesday through Friday  
8 am to 4pm

## Parish Staff

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

**EACH ONE CATCH ONE  
CAN YOU LEAD SOMEONE TO CHRIST ?**

## Stay Awake

The central theme of today's readings is the importance for us, as followers of Christ, to believe in God's promises completely, trusting in Him fully, and to stay vigilant, always ready to encounter our God as our Judge and Rewarder at the uncertain time of our death. Faithfulness in doing God's will is the best way to prepare for our death.

The first reading highlights the faith-filled preparedness of the ancient Hebrew enslaved people in Egypt before their mass exodus to the Promised Land. Their trusting faith in God's promises gave them hope. We are told how their faith and hope led to their liberation. With expectant hope, the Hebrews obediently sacrificed the first Passover lamb and ate the first ritual meal, as prescribed by their God through Moses. They awaited their imminent release and were ready for it.

In the Second Reading, taken from the last chapter of the letter to the Hebrews, Paul defines Faith as "the realization of what is hoped for and evidence of things not seen" (Heb 11:1). He seeks to strengthen the Faith of the Jewish Christians (the Hebrews) by appealing to the example of their ancestors, starting with Abraham, and reviewing the things they accomplished through Faith.

In the Gospel, Jesus challenges his disciples to trust the Father's promise of eternal happiness in His kingdom. However, they must always be prepared because the Son of Man will come unexpectedly, either at the moment of their death or at the end of the world. Using the master-thief parable, Jesus warns us to stay alert so that the thief (the devil) does not steal our treasure of Divine grace through temptations. With the master-servant parable, Jesus reminds us that we must always do God's will by obeying Jesus' commandment of love and by offering humble, sacrificial service to others.

We must stay vigilant and prepared to face the Lord. One traditional way to stay alert is through prayer. The most important part of prayer is listening to God – an attitude of paying attention to the "tiny whispering sound" of the Lord (1 Kgs 19:11-12). Such attentiveness requires us to set aside quiet time each day to tune our ears to God's sounds of love, harmony, and peace. Let us remember the words of the Book of Revelation: "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will enter his house and dine with him and he with me" (3:20).

"Waiting for Christ to return" means working toward the coming of the Kingdom of God. This includes doing God's will by humbly serving others, fighting poverty, ending hatred that divides us, establishing peace among individuals and nations, reducing pride that leads to confrontation, and building social structures that respect the dignity of every person. We must wait for the Lord daily by learning to see Jesus in the least of our brothers and sisters. In other words, we must be ready to serve Jesus in whatever form he takes. What we often find in "serving" others is that God comes to us through them.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Sister Bea Jeffries, SBS Black Catholic Formation Program**

Fall Semester begins Sept 11, fully reimbursable from the Martin de Porres Foundation.  
Register now ! See Table for brochure or <https://officeforblackcatholicsadphila.org/>.

### **Dedication of The Our Lady of Kibeho Shrine**

Saturday, August 17, 2025, 11 am Mass at The Basilica Shrine of the Miraculous Medal Shrine, 500 E. Cheltenham Ave., Philadelphia PA. Celebrated by Most Reverend Efren V. Esmilla, Auxiliary Bishop and featuring The African Catholic Choir and Praise Dancers.

### **Unity in the Church**

Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary, August 26 at 7 pm. Panelist include Brendan Towell, Dr. John Haas, Dr. Nathan Knutson. For more information see <https://www.scs.edu/the-cardinals-forum>

### **Anointing of the Sick/Homebound Parishioners**

If you know a homebound parishioner who would like to receive Holy Communion and a visit, please get in touch with the parish office to schedule an appointment.

### **2025 Catholic Charities Appeal.**

The Catholic Charities Appeal (CCA) is more than a campaign—it is a powerful expression of our faith in action. Every parish plays a vital role in bringing Christ's love to those who need it most, and that impact begins with you.

As we enter the final stretch of the Appeal, we are inviting all parishes to come together in renewed solidarity through a dedicated In-Pew Weekend this October. This moment is an opportunity to reignite awareness, inspire generosity, and finish the year strong. Together, let's continue to be a source of compassion, dignity, and hope in our communities.

### **The Martin de Porres Foundation**

The Martin de Porres Foundation will be supporting Black Catholics throughout our Archdiocese through reimbursing registration fees 100% for Archdiocesan programs  
See <https://officeforblackcatholicsadphila.org/annual-events/> for dates and information.

### **Catholic Women's Conference - Featuring his Excellency Bishop Joseph N. Perry**

Saturday, October 18, 2025 9 am to 4 pm  
National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Doylestown, PA  
<https://www.catholicwomensconference.org/>

### **Daily Reading for Sunday August 10, 2025**

Reading 1, Wisdom 18: 6-9, Responsorial Psalm, Psalm 33  
Gospel, Luke 12:32-48, Reading 2, Hebrews 11: 1-2, 8-19

#### **11 August 2025 – Monday**

First Reading: Deuteronomy 10: 12-22, Psalm 147, Gospel: Matthew 17:12-27

#### **12 August 2025 – Tuesday**

First Reading: Deuteronomy 31: 1-8, Psalm Deuteronomy 32:3-4ab, 7,8,9,12  
Gospel: Matthew 18:1-5, 10,12,14

#### **13 August 2025 – Wednesday**

First Reading: Deuteronomy: 1-12, Psalm 66, Gospel: Matthew 18: 15-20

#### **14 August 2025 – Thursday**

First Reading: Joshua 3:7-10a 11, 13, 17, Psalm 114, Gospel: Matthew 18:21-19-1

#### **15 August 2025 – Friday**

First Reading: I Chronicles 15:3-4, 15-16, 16: 1-2, Psalm 132, Gospel: Luke 11: 27-28

#### **16 August – Saturday**

First Reading: Joshua 24: 14-29, Psalm 16, Gospel: Matthew 19:13-15

**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.

**Invite Someone to Church**

As we strive to grow our church attendance, every parishioner is a missionary disciple, sent out to share the gospel with family, friends, and neighbors and to invite someone to church. We are called to create a welcoming church environment and care for our visitors.

**Mass Intention Sunday August 10, 2025**

Sister Roseann Quinn, SSJ

**Prayers for Parishioners**

Muriel Booker, Lucile Brown, Andre Carter,  
Barbara Carter, Janice Whitmore-Carter,  
Gerald Carter, Melody Cooper, Mary Cooper,  
Helen Dirkson, Janice Floyd, Theresa Hart,  
Lynette Ford - Havens, Harry W. Hubbard,  
Hazel Marsh, Yakaisha Marsh, Lisa McCleod,  
Clarence Preston, Lois Streeter, Tamika  
Tender, Vicente Velazquez, Audrey Victor,  
Janice Whitmore, Lisa Williams, Mary Jean  
Williams, Flora Hall, Lakia Moon, Edna  
Moon Wilkes, Jenai Ballard, Kimberly Jenks-  
Johnson, Gwenda Perry, Marsha Cooper

**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.