

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

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

October 26, 2025

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Schedule

Weekday Masses:
In Chapel
Wednesday & 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 ?**

Humility, the Mother of All Virtues

A news reporter once asked Mother Teresa if she had ever been tempted to feel proud. Mother Teresa replied with a smile, “Proud about what?” The reporter said, “Why, about the wonderful things you have been doing for the poorest of the poor!” Then she answered, “I never knew I had done anything, because it was God working in and through my Sisters and volunteers.” — True humility distinguishes a saint from a sinner. If we are proud of our talents, family connections, reputation, or achievements, today’s Gospel reminds us that we need Jesus to eliminate our pride and help us become truly humble.

The main message of today’s Gospel is that genuine humility and repentance for our sins should be the foundation of our prayers. However, the primary focus of today’s parable is not on worship itself, but on the danger of pride, the need for true humility, and the role of God’s grace in our salvation.

The first reading, taken from the book of Sirach, serves as a perfect complement to the Gospel parable. In one powerful image from Sirach, the writer states, “the prayer of the lowly pierces the clouds to reach the unseen throne of God.” Such prayers are heard because they come from the hearts of people who understand how much they need God. Although God has no favorites and responds to everyone’s prayers, the oppressed, the orphans, the widows, and those who can least help themselves are His special concern.

In the refrain for today’s Responsorial Psalm (Ps 95), we sing this warning reminder: “If today you hear His Voice, harden not your hearts,”—a caution against pride or scorn. In the second reading, Paul, the former Pharisee Saul, humbly recognizes that his work is made possible by the grace of God. He thanks God for enabling him to fight a good battle, run a good race, and maintain his faith while proclaiming it. In today’s Gospel parable about the Pharisee and the tax collector, Jesus reminds us that God listens to the prayers of those who approach Him humbly with a repentant heart. God did not hear the prayer of this Pharisee because he exalted himself. His prayer was simply a thanksgiving that he was not as sinful as others. He told God about his freedom from sin and detailed his fidelity in fasting and tithing. The tax collector’s prayer, “O God, be merciful to me, a sinner,” was heard because he humbled himself, admitting his sins and asking for God’s mercy.

Let’s remove the Pharisee and bring back the publican in us. We become the proud Pharisee when we boast about our achievements without giving credit to God or those who help us, when we seek praise and recognition from others for what we accomplish, and when we hurt others with insensitive comments.

Our personal prayers should include asking for forgiveness for our sins, giving thanks for the many blessings we receive daily from God, offering praise and worship, entirely and unconditionally surrendering our lives and activities to God, acknowledging our weakness and total dependence on Him, and finally, presenting our needs and petitions, requesting that they be granted only if they align with His Holy Will. We should also fervently ask for God’s strength in our weakness and temptations through the daily anointing of His Holy Spirit. Let us pray every day: “Be merciful to me, a sinner.”

Food for Thought

Let us seek God's unconditional love, forgiveness, and mercy during the Holy Mass. When we participate in the Mass, let us first confess our sins to God by saying, "I have greatly sinned ... through my most grievous fault," and sincerely beat our breasts in repentance. Let us ask for God's mercy as the publican did, by saying, "Lord, have mercy! Christ, have mercy! Lord, have mercy!" Later in the Mass, when we pray, "Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world," let us passionately cry out, "have mercy on us, have mercy on us, and grant us peace!" Today's Gospel emphasizes God's Divine Mercy. The tax collector understood this well: "Be merciful to me, a sinner."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Special Thank You to LaSalle Boys High !

Thank you to LaSalle Boys High for choosing SMDP for Reach Out Day! Our grounds and plants look wonderful as well as our sparkling clean church ! Thank you to Kathy again as well and all who helped with this effort !

Saint Martin de Porres website!

Please remember to check our website for updated information. All bulletins and announcements are posted on the website - see smdpphiladelphia.com

Saint Martin de Porres Mini Conference

Last day to sign up in back. Saturday November 1. Please see brochure and sign up at back table.

Parish Register Update

As the parish continues to try to update the attendance register, we are grateful to Annie Torian and Aloha Young for their efforts in this regard.

October 26, 2025 Saint Katherine of Siena Mass here at SMDP

Our sister parish Saint Katherine of Siena visits today !

Keep in touch with us via email and text:

To sign up, Text STMARTIN To 84576 or sign up online at:
smartindeporrescatholi4.flocknote.com
See flyer at back table for more information

Daily Reading for Sunday October 26th 2025

First Reading: Sirach 35:12-14, Responsorial Psalm 34
Gospel, Luke 18:9-14, Reading 2, 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

27 October 2025 – Monday

First Reading: Romans 8:12-17, Psalm 68,
Gospel: Luke 13:10-17

28 October 2025 – Tuesday

First Reading: Ephesians 2:19-22, Psalm 19, Gospel: Luke 6:12-16

29 October 2025 – Wednesday

First Reading: Romans 8:26-30, Psalm 13, Gospel: Luke 13:22-30

30 October 2025 – Thursday

First Reading: Romans 8:31b-39, Psalm 109, Gospel: Luke 13:31-35

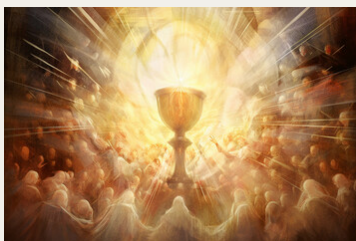
31 October 2025 – Friday First Reading: Romans 9:1-5, Psalm 147, Gospel: Luke 14 1-6

1 November – Saturday

First Reading: Revelation 7:2-4, 9-14, Psalm 24, 2 Reading 1 John 3:1-3
Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12a

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday: Mary Henderson Glassford
 Monday - Paula E. Gartside - Living
 Tuesday - Diane Parker - Living
 Wednesday - The Ahearn Family - Living
 Thursday - Sister Suzanne M. Bellenoit, SSJ
 Friday - Sister Karen F. Washbaugh, SSJ
 Saturday - Sr. Marie Patricia Celia, SSJ



Weekly Collection October 19, 2025

Thank you for your support !

In Church: \$ 2,134.00

Online Giving: \$ 811.78

Total: \$ 2,945.78

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.

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.