

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.

November 9, 2025

Dedication of Latern Basilica



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 - 9:45 am
or by appt.

Office Hours

Tuesday through Friday
8 am to 4pm

Parish Staff

John Duffner - Business Manager
Sandra Streeter - Director Religious Education
Ramona Milburn - Bookkeeper
Tonya Dorsey - Music Director
Elizabeth Maitre - Office Manager

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

The Temple of God

Today, the Church marks the anniversary of the dedication of the Cathedral Church of Rome by Pope Sylvester I in AD 324. This church functions as the episcopal seat of the Pope, who is the Bishop of Rome, and is therefore called “the Mother and Head of all Churches of Rome and the world.” It is known as St. John Lateran Basilica because it was built on land donated to the Church by the Lateran family, and because monks from the monasteries of St. John the Baptist and St. John the Divine served there.

This celebration invites us to reflect on the reverence owed to God who dwells in this church. The church is the most sacred place because it is God’s House and deserves the highest respect. The water flowing from the river symbolizes life from God and the blessings flowing from His throne. The imagery of the fruit trees and life-giving water in the first reading reminds us that the Church and the sacraments offer spiritual nourishment and healing for those who believe.

From the second reading, we learn that the Church is a holy place because the Holy Spirit dwells within it. This calls us to recognize the sacredness of the community and to live in a way that respects this divine presence. Paul gives a serious warning: anyone who destroys this temple, which is the Church, will be destroyed by God. This destruction can result from false teaching, division, or immorality that threaten the community’s unity and holiness.

Today’s Gospel presents the powerful story of Jesus clearing the Temple in Jerusalem. He expelled its merchants and moneychangers with strong feelings against the corrupt commercialization of a House of Prayer and the exploitation of poor pilgrims in the name of religion. The issues that angered Jesus were 1) turning a prayerful space into a bustling marketplace and 2) unfair business practices by animal sellers and moneychangers, supported by the Temple leaders. Therefore, Jesus crafted a whip of cords and drove out the animals and moneychangers, quoting Zechariah the prophet: “Stop making my Father’s house a marketplace” (Zechariah 14:21).

The passage reminds us that the Church and each believer are called to be a living temple, free from the impurities of commercialism, greed, and sin. Just as the physical temple needed cleansing, so do our hearts and souls require ongoing spiritual work and renewal. The focus is on preparing our hearts to be open to God’s Word and presence, rather than being distracted by external things or material gain.

We must offer living worship to a living God. If our God is the God of the living, our worship of God must also be alive. This means our participation in prayers and songs during the Holy Mass should be lively, and our behavior in church should be reverent, as we offer our lives and all our activities to our living God on the altar with repentant and grateful hearts.

We must abandon the business mindset of profit and loss in divine worship. Our relationship with God should be that of children to parents — built on love, respect, and a desire for mutual good, without thoughts of gain or loss on either side.

We need to remember that we are the temples of the Holy Spirit. Hence, we have no right to desecrate God’s temple by impurity, injustice, pride, hatred, or jealousy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Seminary Appeal November 16, 2025

We look forward to our visit from Seminarian Joshua Brooks who will speak to us at Mass !

Gift Card Bingo

November 15 Church Hall - Sheila will have tickets after Mass, also tickets available in school main office.. Price is \$ 20.00 early bird, \$ 25.00 at door. See the flyer at back table in church.

Church Anniversary/Saint Martin de Porres Feat Day Celebration November 23, 2025

Join us November 23 for our Church Anniversary and our Patron Saint's Feast day celebration with a reception to follow in Church Hall.

Roman Chances are in - Please Support this fundraiser for Saint Martin de Porres Church!

Sponsored by the Martineer Women. One book \$ 20.00, individual chances \$ 2.00. Yvonne Gray and Monique Wriyth will be at the table in back of church during month of November.

Thanksgiving Meals / Groceries

November 25 @ 3 pm in Church Hall.

Biblical Tea November 30, 2025

Knights of Peter Claver invite you to come celebrate and prepare for the birth of Christ. Donations are \$ 10.00. All proceeds benefit Saint Martin de Porres Church.

Sacrament of Reconciliation during Advent

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available Sundays during Advent from 9 am to 9:45 am.

Weekly Readings

Sunday November 9 - Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

First Reading Ezekiel 47:1-2, 8-9, 12, Psalm 46, Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 3:9C-11, 16-17
Gospel Reading: John 2:13-22

10 November 2025 – Monday

First Reading: Wisdom 1:1-7, Psalm 139, Gospel: Luke 17:1-6

11 November 2025 – Tuesday

First Reading: Wisdom 2:23-3:9, Psalm 34, Gospel: Luke 17:7-10

12 November 2025 – Wednesday

First Reading: Wisdom 6:1-11, Psalm 82, Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

13 November 2025 – Thursday

First Reading: Wisdom 7 22b-8:1, Psalm 119, Gospel: Luke 17 20-25

14 November 2025 – Friday

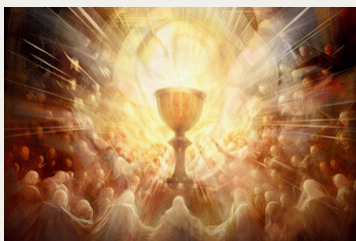
First Reading: Wisdom 13:1-9, Psalm 19, Gospel: Luke 17 26-37

15 November – Saturday

First Reading: Wisdom 18:14-16: 19:6-9, Psalm 105, Gospel: Luke 18:1-8

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday: John Reilly
 Monday - David Miller Strine
 Tuesday - Alberta Morgan
 Wednesday - Catherine Koch Holler Strine
 Thursday - William Hardie Henderson
 Friday - Kathryn Holler Henderson Hood
 Saturday - Leonard Maitre

**Weekly Collection November 2 2025****Thank you for your support !****In Church: \$ 3512.00****Online Giving: \$ 339.28****Total: \$ 3851.28****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.