

Saint Martin de Porres Catholic Church

2340 W. Lehigh Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19132
215.228.8330

Our Clergy

Parochial Administrator: Fr. Wilfred Emeh
Permanent Deacon: Melvin Burton Jr.

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

Second Sunday of Lent



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

Leave Your Comfort Zone.

Personal growth is a lifelong journey; you die without growing. However, self-improvement always requires moral courage to move away from places, things, and habits that are detrimental to our growth. This can be uncomfortable and messy, but it is worth it because if you keep doing what you have always done, you will always be where you have always been.

When Jesus takes Peter, James, and John to the mountain to pray, he shows them a foretaste of heaven by his transfiguration. Peter requested an extended stay because it was the most beautiful and cozy site (Lk 9:28-36); heaven is real, but Jesus denied it because there is no easy and cheap route to heaven. No one goes to heaven on a couch, but we must all sit up and go through purification, self-denial, and hardships to attain heaven. That is why Jesus reveals that the secret of heaven is in carrying our daily crosses and following him.

It is impossible to leave your comfort zone without pain or suffering, but that is nothing compared to the glorious life ahead. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord. The butterfly would never attain its full potential if it stayed in the cocoon forever. You can only become the best version of yourself when you step out of your cocoon. It takes willpower to say no and move away from proposals and offers that derail the ultimate destination, heaven. It may require you to relocate from the toxic environment and close some doors simply because they lead nowhere. Remember, you are not alone in this journey. God is with you, guiding and protecting you every step of the way.

One major obstacle to leaving our comfort zone is laziness. Laziness is not a virtue. Laziness is the habit of resting before you get tired. If you want to eat breakfast in bed, stay in the kitchen. Some people are so lazy that they would sleep on the floor if they were to work in bed.

A girl's prayer card read: Dear God, if you cannot make me thin, make my friends fat. It is a lousy prayer. By the way, the only person you should try to be better than is the person you were yesterday. Lazy people often make excuses. You don't get thin by prayer but by exercise and a healthy lifestyle. Lazy people pray for good luck instead of working hard.

Another obstacle to leaving your comfort zone is fear of the future. Remember, God holds the future, so leave your comfort zone and trust him, for he will take care of you. Without total trust in God, we would never leave our comfort zones. When God asks Abraham to leave his homeland, he trusts God completely, and in the end, God fulfills His promise. Those who leave everything in God's hands will see God's hands in everything. When God pushes you to the edge of a cliff, trust him fully because only two things can happen. He will catch you when you fall or teach you how to fly. Trusting in God's guidance is not just a suggestion; it's a promise of a better future.

Announcements

Parish Registration Information

We want to keep our parish information up to date.

If your phone number, email address, or home address changes, please get in touch with the parish office.

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.

Evangelization Ministry

One crucial ministry is evangelization as we strive to grow church attendance and reconnect with our lapsed parishioners.

Please contact the parish office if anyone has been part of this ministry or has ideas on forming one.

The Holy Rosary

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

The rosary is a mighty prayer in which we contemplate the mysteries of our salvation with our Blessed Mother, who accompanied her divine Son until death.

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.

Sacrament of Confessions

Lent is a time to experience God's love in the Sacrament of Confessions.

As Catholics, we are blessed with this Sacrament, which

Jesus gave to his church to forgive our sins after baptism.

“Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy”

(Pr.28:13).

We shall announce a date for penitential service soon.

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” (Mtt11:28).

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)

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
 Wednesday at 6:30 pm
 Zoom Meeting # 570-117-8316
 Phone: 1-646-568-7788 HostKey # 20165

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

Mass Intentions

Sunday: Helen Foelker (*Fr. Wilfred*)
Monday: Peggy Brennan
 Family Intentions (*Fr. Wilfred*)
Tuesday: Thomas O'Brien (*Fr. Wilfred*)
Wednesday: Christopher Netzel (*Fr. Wilfred*)
Thursday: Joan Voce (*Fr. Wilfred*)
Friday: Margaret Higgins (*Fr. Wilfred*)
Saturday: Eileen Martin (*Fr. Wilfred*)

The Legion of Mary

The essential aim of the Legion of Mary is the sanctification of it's 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.