

# Saint Martin de Porres Catholic Church

2340 W. Lehigh Ave.  
Philadelphia, PA 19132  
215.228.8330  
website: [smartindpparish.org](http://smartindpparish.org)

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

May 3, 2026

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**



## **Mass Schedule**

**Weekday Masses:**  
In Chapel  
Wednesday & Thursday 9 am

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

Sunday Mass 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  
Sandra Streeter - DRE  
Tonya Dorsey - Music Director  
Elizabeth Maitre - Office Mgr.

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

## Jesus the Only Way

When St. John Chrysostom was summoned before the Roman Emperor Arcadius and threatened with banishment, he replied, “You cannot banish me, for the world is my Father’s house.” “Then I will kill you,” the Emperor exclaimed angrily. “No, you cannot,” retorted Chrysostom, “because my life is hidden with Christ in God.” “Your treasures shall be confiscated,” the Emperor replied grimly. “Sir, you can’t do that, because my treasures are in Heaven, as my heart is there.” “I will drive you from your people, and you shall have no friends left,” threatened the Emperor. “That you cannot do either, Sir, for I have a Friend in Heaven Who has said, ‘I will never leave you or forsake you.’” — In today’s Gospel, Jesus, the Way, the Truth, and the Life, gives us the same assurance. “In my Father’s house, there are many dwelling places. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am, you also may be.”

Today’s readings tell us how the early Church accepted the challenge of keeping Jesus’ memory alive in the Christian community by shaping it into a serving and worshipping community (Acts 6:1-7). They allowed God to make them “living stones” and to build them into a “spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ,” with Jesus Christ as the “Living Cornerstone” (I Pt 2:4-5). Thus, they were built into the Father’s House (Jn 14:1-12).

The Refrain of today’s Responsorial Psalm (Ps 33) invites us to sing, “Lord, let Your Mercy be on us, as we place our trust in You,” because His Divine Mercy is the Source and binding power of our unity in Him, here and hereafter. Today’s Gospel presents the Church as a Church in glory in the Father’s House. It also reminds us of the great truth that Jesus is the Way to God, the Truth of God, and the Life of God, through Whom we receive God’s own Life in Baptism. Today’s readings call for real Faith not only in God the Father but also in Jesus, precisely because He is “the Way, the Truth, and the Life” (Jn. 14:6), and He instructs us, “You have faith in God; have faith also in Me” (Jn. 14:1).

We go to God the Father, who is Truth and Life, through Jesus. Jesus calls Himself the “Way” because He, the Only-begotten Son of God, is also the Son of Man, the visible manifestation in human form of all that His Father is. Jesus asked Philip: “Have I been with you all this time and you still do not know me?” He is asking us the same question: “Have I been with you all this of Eastertime – in the Mass, in the Sacraments, in the Bible, in the worshipping community – and you still do not know me?” If we truly believe that Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life, we will find fresh, creative ways to keep his memory alive. Jesus asks us to keep his memory alive by reading and praying the Scriptures, by gathering in his name and celebrating the Eucharist “as a Memorial” of him, by handing on the great tradition of the Christian Faith, and by living according to his wise teachings. Jesus says, “If you believe in me, you will do the work I do.” This is the work he’s talking about: creating safe, secure, happy places for one another where the important work of life — transformation and big-family building can happen.

# CELEBRATING THE MONTH OF *Mary*



## **May is the Month of Mary**

The Catholic Church dedicates the entire month of May to the Blessed Virgin Mary, the mother of God and the spiritual mother of all. In the plan of salvation, the Blessed Virgin Mary holds a special place. By virtue of her role as the Mother of the Son of God, chosen by divine election, she was conceived without the stain of original sin and, by her fidelity to her son, has been crowned Queen of heaven and earth.

Everything Mary said and did led to Christ. Who knows a child better than a mother? And what good, loving child does not know their mother and love her with all their heart?

Mary knew and loved Jesus like no one else on earth — and she loves each of her children, human beings, with the same affection and tenderness. The Church, in its wisdom, asks its children to be especially devoted to Mother Mary during May and to be especially grateful for all her care. Two Marian liturgical celebrations are observed in May.

On May 31st in the United States, we celebrate the Commemoration of the Visitation. When Mary learned that her elderly relative, Elizabeth, was expecting a child, she hurried to help her.

When the Ascension falls in May, the Saturday after the Ascension of Our Lord is traditionally celebrated as the Feast of Our Lady, Queen of the Apostles, the liturgy commemorates the period after the Ascension, when the apostles gathered in prayer with Mary and the women in the Upper Room.

### **Ways We Can Honor Mary:**

- Pray the Rosary
- Say the Hail Mary Prayer throughout the day
- Create a Prayer Corner, placing some representation of our Blessed Mother, whether that be a photo, small statue, or Rosary beads.
- Create an outdoor space, flowers in honor of Mary

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Saint Martin de Porres Parish Groups**

It is important to belong to a group where you can give your time, talents, and treasure to God through service in the church. We invite parishioners to contact group leaders if they wish to join any of the parish groups.

Hospitality Committee – Sheila Lee

Food Pantry – April Caldwell

Lectors – Letitia Owens

Communications Team – Norman Spencer

Music Ministry – Tonya Taylor Dorsey

School Ministry – Sandra Streeter

Ushers- Germaine Edwards

Altar Servers / Extraordinary Ministers - Deacon Melvin Burton Jr.

Legion Mary – Jo-Ann Savoy

# Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled

## *John 14:1-3*

### Mass Intentions

Sunday - Reginald Taylor

Monday - Alton Moore

Tuesday- Carol Marcovecchio

Wednesday -Spe. Int. Joseph Patton Sr. -Living

Thursday -Edith Comby

Friday - Margaret J. H. Shaw

Saturday - Jean S. Comby

### Prayers for Parishioners

Kendra Maxwell, Lois Streeter, Barbara Carter, Melody Cooper, Jenai Ballard, Tamika Tender, Audrey Victor, Janice Williams, Lisa Williams, Mary Jean Williams, Helen Dirkson, Gwenda Perry, Sister Germaine and family, Gerald Carter, Francine Tyler, Gwen Meekins, James Mason, Bienka Jean Charles

### 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.

### Weekly Collection for April 26, 2026

Thank you for your support !

In Church: \$ 2,455.00

Online: \$ 508.94

Total: \$ 2,963.94

### 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.