

Dec. 15th, 2019



Saint Martin de Porres Parish

"A Faith Community, One in the Father, Son and Holy Spirit."

REV. ALONZO Q. COX, PASTOR

REV. DANIEL O. KINGSLEY, PAROCHIAL VICAR

RECTORY: 583 THROOP AVENUE, BROOKLYN, NY, 11216 **TEL:** (718) 574-5772

FAX: (718) 919-2265 **E-MAIL:** info@smdpp.org **WEB:** www.smdpp.org

OFFICE HOURS: MON, TUE & THURS. 9:00AM-8:00PM

WED & FRI: 9:00AM – 4:30PM

Dear Parishioners,

Today is the 3rd Sunday of Advent. You will notice that we have lit the rose colored candle on our Advent wreath. Today is traditionally known as "Gaudete" Sunday, which means rejoice. We rejoice today that very soon our Lord will come to us as a child. Liturgically you will notice that the priests and deacons for Mass today will be wearing rose colored vestments. The rose color is a mixture of the purple of Advent and the white of Christmas. It's a sign that Christmas is near. Are we ready to welcome Jesus into the homes of our hearts this Christmas season? Our second reading from the letter of St. James reminds us to make our hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand. James also challenges us to be patient and to not complain. He says, "Do not complain, brothers and sisters, about one another, that you may not be judged. Behold, the Judge is standing before the gates. Take as an example of hardship and patience, brothers and sisters, the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord". It can be very easy to become impatient during this time of the year, especially when we have to do last minute shopping! As we prepare to celebrate the Incarnation, let us allow the Holy Spirit to guide us closer to Christ the Lord who will come to us a child.

Advent Lessons and Carols

We will have Advent Lessons and Carols this Tuesday, December 17 at St. Peter Claver Church beginning at 7:00PM. Lessons and Carols during the season of Advent is a traditional ceremony with readings from sacred scripture and Advent carols, preparing ourselves for the birth of the Savior. This year we will welcome His Excellency, Most Reverend Paul Sanchez, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Brooklyn as the presider. Please be sure to join us.

Christmas Flowers

Each of our churches will be beautifully decorated with Christmas poinsettias. Each of you are invited to have a Christmas flower donated in memory or in honor of a loved one. Please use your Christmas flower envelopes located at the doors of the churches. You may place your \$20 donation in the envelope and bring it to Mass on Sunday or to the parish office during the week.

Children's Christmas Party

Our parish Children's Christmas party will take place today, December 15 at Our Lady of Victory McGuinness Hall beginning at 1:00PM. Families from each of our three churches are invited to join us in fun and fellowship as we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. The party is free and all are welcome!

Christmas Mass Schedule

There are prayer cards located at each of the three churches with the schedule of Masses for Christmas printed on the back. You may take a few prayer cards home with you. We are asking you to invite friends and family to Mass this Christmas. We want all of God's holy people to encounter the love and mercy of his son Jesus, born to set us free from our sins!

Have a great week,
Father Alonzo Q. Cox



Holy Rosary Church
139 Chauncey Street
Brooklyn, NY 11233

Mass Schedule
Sundays: 9 AM
Tuesdays: 11 AM



Our Lady of Victory Church
583 Throop Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11216

Mass Schedule
Sun.: 7: 30 AM & 10: 15 AM
Mon. to Fri.: 8 AM
(in St. Anthony's Chapel)



St. Peter Claver Church
29 Claver Place
Brooklyn, NY 11238

Mass Schedule
Sat.: 5 PM Sun.: 11: 30 AM
Mon. & Wed.: 12 Noon
1st Fridays: 12 Noon

HOLY DAYS:
as announced

**St. Francis of Assisi
Catholic Academy**
(718) 778-3700

PARISH CLERGY & STAFF

Dcn. Balfour Thompson, Permanent Deacon
 Ms. Paulitiana St. Hilaire, Secretary
 Mrs. Alicia J. Rosete, Bookkeeper
 Ms. Michelle Joseph, Dir. of Religious Edu.
 Mr. Joseph Murray, Co-Dir. of Music
 Ms. Joan Marie Delahunt, Co-Dir. of Music
 Ms. Tamika Daniel, Youth Minister
 Mr. Humberto DaCosta, Buildings /Grounds

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Roman Catholic Parish of St. Martin de Porres, formed from the tri-church unity of Holy Rosary, Our Lady of Victory and St. Peter Claver churches is led by the Spirit and committed to becoming one in Humility, Faith and Love. In community and by the Eucharist, we journey together realizing that our strength is in our commitment to the Church founded by Christ and to the spread of His Word by the actions of our daily lives.

SACRAMENTS:**Anointing of the Sick**

Please call the Rectory to make arrangements.

Baptism

The Sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on the fourth Sunday of each month. Please call the Parish Office to make an appointment. A baptism preparation class will be held on the second Wednesday or fourth Saturday of each month in the Church. Attendance at this class is required by the parents and godparents of the child to be baptized.

Confession

Saturdays: 4:00pm to 4:45pm, St. Peter Claver.
 Sundays: Holy Rosary Church, from 8:15am to 8:45am. Or call the rectory for an appointment.

Marriage

Arrangements must be made seven (7) months prior to the wedding date. Please call the rectory office to make an appointment with a priest.

Memorials ~ Remember your loved ones, or celebrate and give thanks to those around you by offering Bread and Wine, or Sanctuary Candle Memorials. Please make an offering with each request.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Sun.	12/15	IS 35:1-6A, 10 PS 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10 JAS 5:7-10 MT 11:2-11
Mon.	12/16	NM 24:2-7, 15-17A PS 25:4-5AB, 6& 7BC, 8-9 MT 21:23-27
Tue.	12/17	GN 49:2, 8-10 PS 72:1-2, 3-4AB, 7-8, 17 MT 1:1-17
Wed.	12/18	JER 23:5-8 PS 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 MT 1:18-25
Thu.	12/19	JGS 13:2-7, 24-25A PS 71:3-4A, 5-6AB, 16-17 LK 1:5-25
Fri.	12/20	IS 7:10-14 PS 24:1-2, 3-4AB, 5-6 LK 1:26-38
Sat.	12/21	SG 2:8-14 ZEP 3:14-18A PS 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 LK 1:39-45

Parish Membership

All new families are welcome to the Parish and encouraged to become actively involved in parish societies and activities. New parishioners should register with ushers or at the Rectory as soon as possible. Parishioners are asked to use the weekly envelopes in making their contributions.

SCHOOL OF FAITH FORMATION:

There is ongoing registration for our School of Faith Formation. Registration forms can be found in the back of each church. Registration fee is \$40.00 per child. Please talk to the faith formation representative in your church: Ms. Michelle Joseph – OLV.

Youth Ministry and Leadership~ Meets on Friday evenings from 7:30pm to 8:30pm, in Our Lady of Victory McGuinness Hall. Please contact Ms. Tamika Daniel, our Youth Minister at tdaniel@smdpp.org.

RCIA~Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. For those who are interested in becoming Catholic or if you have not received all of the sacraments of initiation please contact Fr. Cox, Fr. Kingsley or Mr. Ken Callahan to inquire about our ongoing RCIA program.

School Affiliation: St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Academy is located on 400 Lincoln Road, Brooklyn, NY 11225. The Academy has two UPK classrooms and serves children in Kindergarten thru Grade 8. Please call 718-778-3700 to schedule a tour. Visit. Tuition Assistance is available through the Diocese.

Reminder~ Novena to St. Therese of Lisieux meets on Fridays at 6:15pm in St. Peter Claver Church to pray for Msgr. Bernard Quinn's canonization.

Lord, come and save us.

MASS INTENTIONS:

SPC Saturday, Dec. 14th, 5:00pm (Vigil Mass)
The people of the parish

SPC Sunday, Dec. 15th, 11:30am
Elkin McDonald – in memoriam
Req. by Dalma McDonald

OLV Sunday, Dec. 15th, 7:30am
Joyce Lewis Roberts
Req. by Roberts family

OLV Sunday, Dec. 15th, 10:15am
Kwesi Aaron – birthday blessing
Req. by Georgiana Brown

Intention for Thomas David

HRC Sunday, Dec. 15th, 9:00m
John & Ruth Garland- in memoriam
Req. by Sadie Hughes

SPC Monday, Dec. 16th, 12:00noon
Ifield McDonald -in memoriam
Req. by Dalma McDonald

SPC Wednesday, Dec. 18th, 12:00noon
Anthony Samuel – in memoriam
Req. by Dalma McDonald

Pray for the Sick

Dorothy Bailey, Jaret Buyund, Ethel Carter, Felicia Casimiro, Eugenia Charles, Jasmine Charles, Joyce Cochran, Virginia Cox, Josie-Mae Boyce, Jennifer Edwards, Delva Ellis, Lessie Everett, Antonio Goodsell, Christabel Gomes, Beryl Hunter, Eva Johnson, Ian Kellman, Gwendolyn Knight, Adolph Lauriano, Irma Liddell, Francis McCloggar, Gorvin Mitchell, Vilma Mitchell, Theresa Noel, Noreen Simonette, Neville Pinnock, Andrea St. Agathe, Beverley Thompson, Elaine Travis, Vera Walker, Sybil Westmoreland, Rosemarie Wilkie, Evelyn Williams, Marie Williams.

GIFTS AND INTENTIONS:**BREAD AND WINE:**

ALTAR CANDLE:
Canonization of Msgr. Bernard Quinn

ALTAR FLOWERS:**SANCTUARY CANDLE:****CHAPEL FLOWERS:****For a life of prayer**

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

Holy Father's Prayer Intention
(Dec. 2019)



Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick. Please contact us at the Rectory Office if you know of any homebound person or anyone going for medical procedures who would like to be anointed by a priest and/or receive the Eucharist.



Lord, come and save us.



St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Academy has seats available in the Pre-K for all (UPK) program. If you have a child who was born in 2015, then she/he is eligible for the (UPK) program (FREE PRE-K). If you would like your child to attend Pre-K for FREE in a Catholic school environment, call (718) 778-3700 or visit us at 400 Lincoln Rd, Brooklyn, NY 11225

School of Faith Formation

St. Martin de Porres School of Faith Formation classes began on Saturday Oct. 19th, at Our Lady of Victory. Saturday classes run from 9:30am to 11am. Sunday classes take place after the 7:30am Mass. For registration, please provide a copy of the student's birth certificate, baptism certificate and registration fee of \$40. Please contact the Office should you have any questions or concerns. We look forward to another year of helping our children grow in faith.

R.C.I.A. Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Do you know Anyone?

Who has never been baptized? Who has not received the sacraments of Confirmation and/or First Communion? Who has been baptized in another faith tradition, and desires to become Catholic? Who has questions about becoming Catholic?

RCIA IS:

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults for those who are interested in becoming Catholic, or have not received all of the Sacraments of Initiation. Please contact Fr. Cox or Fr. Kingsley to inquire about our RCIA program.

The Associated Vincentian Charities of Brooklyn Vehicle Donation Program will accept donations of used vehicles in any condition. They will tow the vehicle away. You will get a tax receipt and the parish will get a donation from Vincentian Charities. To donate, call Vincentian Charities at 718-491-2525 or avcb@gmail.com.



Mass Intentions

Mass Book

The Mass Intentions Book for 2020 is now opened for announced Masses. Mass intentions are available from January 5th, 2018 through March 29th, 2020. Please note, only one intention per Mass, except the Sunday 10:15 Mass which is a multiple intention Mass. An intention is \$15.00.

Parish Registration

Have you registered as a parishioner at Our Lady of Victory, St. Peter Claver or Holy Rosary Church? If you call St. Martin de Porres Parish your home and attend Mass regularly, please register as a parishioner. This will allow the parish to assist you when you or a family member seek a sacrament, need a letter of good standing, or want to serve as a godparent. It will also help us communicate with you so that you can be up to date on what is going on and how you'd like to be involved at St. Martin de Porres Parish. Thank you.

Reconciliation Monday

On **Monday, December 16th**, the Catholic Church in the greater New York area will observe **Reconciliation Monday**. Here in St. Martin de Porres Parish, one of the priests will be on hand throughout the day to hear confessions whether after the morning Masses or in the rectory. From **6 PM to 8 PM**, there will be a **Silent Service of Adoration in Our Lady of Victory Church** during which the faithful are invited to pray before Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament to not only prepare for the gift of His forgiveness, but also give thanks. Confessions will also be heard during this Service.

Advent Bible Study

Fr. Kingsley and Br. Christopher invite you to Advent Bible Study on December 19th, 7 PM in the conference room of OLV's St. Anthony's Chapel. We will pray over and reflect on the Infancy Narratives of the Gospels of Luke and Matthew. All are invited, please bring your bible.



Advent Lessons and Carols

St. Martin de Porres Parish will have its 4th **Annual Service of Lessons and Carols** on Tuesday, December 17th, 7 PM, at St. Peter Claver Church. We are overjoyed to announce that **the Most Reverend Paul Sanchez, Ph.D., D.D.**, auxiliary bishop of Brooklyn, will preside and preach this special service. Our choir, under the direction of Mr. Joseph Murray and Ms. Joan Delahunt, will lead us in the time-honored hymnody of Christmas, the youth of the parish will proclaim the readings. All are invited.



Christmas Mass Schedule

Tuesday- December 24th Christmas Eve

- 6:30PM -Family Mass~ Holy Rosary Church
- 11:00PM-Carolsing ~ Our Lady of Victory Church
- 12:00AM -Midnight Mass~ Our Lady of Victory Church

Wednesday- December 25th - Christmas Day

- 10:00AM-Christmas Day Mass~ Our Lady of Victory Church

Tuesday- December 31st New Year's Eve

- 10:00PM** -Confession~ Our Lady of Victory Church
- 11:00PM- Service of Compline & Benediction
- 12:00AM-Midnight Mass~ Our Lady of Victory Church

Wednesday- January 1st New Year's Day

- 10:00AM-Christmas Day Mass~ Our Lady of Victory Church.



The Poinsettias that will decorate our church throughout the Christmas Season may be donated. You may wish to donate **IN MEMORY OF or IN HONOR OF** a loved one. Christmas flower donation envelopes are available in the church. Please return your offering in the collection or at the Parish Office.



"Come celebrate with us on Dec. 22nd at the Children's Parish Christmas Party 1pm - 3pm. Location: Our Lady of Victory church. All are welcomed. Food, fun and a surprise guest!!!

Thank You!

On behalf of the pastoral staff, we thank all those who helped make the Parish Christmas party a success. Fr. Cox.



Rejoice Sunday

Lord, come and save us.

Gaudete Sunday: The Week of Joy

This Sunday we light the roses colored candle on our Advent wreath and this week we celebrate Gaudete Sunday! Gaudete is the Latin word for joy. So what makes the third week of Advent different from the rest?

We get the term Gaudete from the first line of the introit of the Mass. The introit is the opening chant of the Mass. You may not even be aware of the term because it is often replaced by the opening hymn. But it's worthwhile to look at the introit in the missal and to reflect on it before Mass starts.

For Gaudete Sunday the Introit is taken from Saint Paul's exhortation in [Philippians 4:4¹](#), "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice."

Why Do You Tarry Lord?

So far in the weeks of Advent we've seen a subtle movement. We started with hope – trust that God will keep His promises. God laid the foundation for His promise of a savior immediately after the Fall. But the savior was a long time in coming. Why did God wait so long to send us the Savior?

One answer, expressed is that God wanted to impress on humanity the full horror of sin, especially in how it separates us from God. God wants our hearts to yearn for Him so that we'll truly love Him.

Another answer is that at the same time God was teaching humanity how to love Him. If we look at Salvation History we see how God takes the Hebrew people, and through them all of humanity, how to build a relationship with Him step by step. You can learn more about how Salvation History teaches this lesson by [clicking here](#).

So, in the first week of Advent we exercise the trust in God that gives rise to perseverance. We settle in for the long haul and we prepare our hearts to learn the lessons God wants to teach us. That's the week of hope.

Responding in Joy

In the third week of Advent we enter into the "fullness of time." We've received God's loving plan of salvation. We've entered into the work on our souls meant to prepare the way for the Lord. We've grown in trust. We've participated in the disciplines of Advent – prayer, sacrifice and alms giving – and allowed these practices to change our hearts. And now we recognize that the time has come!

It's time for the Father to bring it all to fulfillment. And He does that in the Gift of His Son. So our hope and our peace are now united to joy as we acknowledge the goodness and mercy of our God. We are still in a state of anticipation, but it's now the anticipation of Christmas Eve. We know the good stuff is coming, but we just have to wait one more night.

A Miniature Celebration

It is very fitting to do something to celebrate Gaudete Sunday. Go out to eat. Have dessert. But continue to save the full Christmas celebration for the Christmas season! My family will go Christmas tree hunting during this week. We'll start decorating the house for Christmas (the Advent wreath and the Jesse Tree are our only decorations for the first two weeks of Advent). We might even have a few cookies and some hot chocolate while we decorate. But all of this celebration still holds an air of preparation and anticipation.

What will you do to celebrate Gaudete Sunday in a way that celebrates joyful preparation for our Savior? Let's share ideas in the comments below!

Lord, come and save us.

Advent Prayer

*For the desert places in which we walk,
the streets we roam, the paths we cross:
Guide our feet.*

*Take us to places where you would go.
Give us words that you would use,
that in this Advent season of promise
and preparation we might point the way with
John the Baptist to the Lamb of God,
who takes away the sin of the world! Amen.*



*when
you
CHOOSE
joy*

*You feel good
& when you feel
good, YOU do good
& when YOU do good
it Reminds others
of what joy feels like
& it just♥
might inspire
them to do
the same.*

Lord, come and save us.