

Martin de Porres Foundation

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UPDATE

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1** • Closing of St. Peter Claver Center for Evangelization
• The Institute for Black Catholic Studies-Xavier University of Louisiana
- 2** First African Heritage Mass
Dynamic Catholic Book Program
- 2** Calendar of Events - Saint Martin de Porres - 52nd Annual Celebration

CLOSING: St. Peter Claver Center for Evangelization

On Saturday, October 11, 2014 the Archdiocese of Philadelphia announced the closing of **Saint Peter Claver Center for Evangelization** - (*CatholicPhilly.com*). It is with a deep sense of sadness that we ask the question, "Why did this happen?" And there will be many different answers. In July 2012, the XI National Black Catholic Congress, Inc. was attended by more than 2,000 Catholics. Our theme: "Faith Engaged" was a challenge to "**Empower, Equip, and Evangelize**." Let us re-examine our progress and efforts built upon these powerful *three* words of encouragement and inspiration. For further information regarding the Pastoral Plan of the NBCC go to: <http://www.nbccongress.org/features/pdf/pastoral-plan-color.pdf>

The Martin de Porres Foundation will continue to value the ideals recognized by the Saint Peter Claver Center for Evangelization; as we move forward in our Mission to advance the African-American/ Black Catholics in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

Summer 2015 – The Institute for Black Catholic Studies - University of Louisiana

The Martin de Porres Foundation has established scholarships for Parish Directors of Religious Education (DRE), Coordinators of Religious Education (CRE), and Administrators of Religious Education (ARE) to attend the Summer Session 2015 program at The Institute for Black Catholic Studies-Xavier University of Louisiana. The following parishes have expressed an *interest* in attending the program:

- Gloria Richardson, DRE – St. Charles Borromeo Church
- Mark Gonzelez, DRE – St. Cyprian
- Angela Taylor, Dir.of Parish Ministry & Services – Holy Cross
- Jennifer Simmons, DRE – St. Ignatius of Loyola
- Julia White , DRE – St. Katharine Drexel, Chester PA
- Stacy Williams, Pastoral Associate – St. Malachy
- Darin Williams, DRE – St. Philomena, Lansdowne, PA

The Continuing Education & Enrichment Programs offer a unique opportunity for individuals to grow in their understanding of Black Catholicism and its impact, not only on the wider Church, but also on themselves (C & E Handbook). For additional information go to website: www.xula.edu/ibcs

The Mission of The Martin de Porres Foundation



The goal of the Martin de Porres Foundation is to develop lay leadership among African American/Black Catholics. This is achieved through undergraduate and graduate education as well as training in Ministry and Leadership skills. The Foundation supports these lay leaders in their efforts to advance Catholicism in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.



The First African Heritage Mass was held at St. Cyprian Church at the 2 p.m. Mass on Sunday, October 19, 2014. The Mass was considered for all who attended an inspiring success. (*CatholicPhilly.com*)

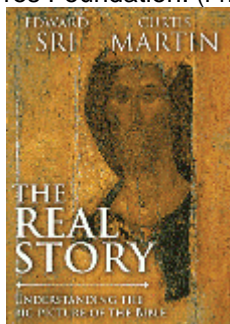


(Photo by Sarah Webb)

Principal celebrant of the Mass was Father Livinus Ugochukwu, a Nigerian who celebrates Mass at St. Cyprian for Africans weekly and also a Mass for non-Africans at St. Martin of Tours Parish.

Dynamic Catholic Book Program

At Christmas this year at a number of our parishes (St. Athanasius, St. Barbara, St. Martin de Porres, St. Ignatius, Holy Cross, St. Katherine Drexel, St. Raymond and St. Vincent de Paul) parishioners and visitors will receive a very special Christmas Gift: a copy of *The Real Story: Understanding the Big Picture of the Bible*. A group called Dynamic Catholic has the goal to “get a good Catholic Book in the hands of every Catholic once a year” and this book give-away is part of that effort. St. Raymond participated in the give-away last year with the book *Rediscovering Catholicism* that was a huge success in the lives of many parishioners. *The Real Story*, written by Ed Sri and Curtis Martin, will offer readers a new and perhaps deeper understanding of the Bible. The Pastors of the parishes who are participating hope that the book will inspire people to embrace reading the Bible with confidence and allowing them to grow as Disciples of the Lord Jesus. There will be a total of 4000 books give-away in these parishes at Christmas through the kindness of the Martin de Porres Foundation. (Fr. Chris Walsh)



Calendar of Events

Catholic Life Congress

Date: Saturday, November 1, 2014
2014 Theme: A New Pentecost for a New Evangelization
Time: 9:00 AM – 4:00PM
Registration: Individual \$60 and Table of 10 people: \$500 (\$55 per person)
Location: Sheraton Philadelphia Downtown Hotel
201 N. 17th Street
For additional information, flyer, and registration go to www.phillycongress.org

52nd Annual Celebration of the Canonization of Saint Martin de Porres Prayer & Praise Service

Date: Sunday, November 9, 2014 at 3:00 PM
Location: Saint Ignatius of Loyola Catholic Church
636 N. 43rd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104
For more information contact:
Archdiocesan Office for Black Catholics
(215) 587-3541
wbradley@archphila.org

Black Catholic Vocation Day (OBC)

Date: November 15, 2014
Location: TBA
Cost: \$10

The Archbishop's Lecture Series

How the West Really Lost God

Date: Monday, November 17, 2014
Time: 7:00 PM
Location: St. Charles Borromeo Seminary – Vianney Hall
Registration: \$5 donation per lecture –
www.phillyevang.org/lectures

Reimbursements for the above fees will be funded by the Martin de Porres Foundation. Reimbursement forms must be submitted thru the parish (Pastor/DRE).

If you would like to submit an event for inclusion in the **UPDATE**, please email all relevant information to: Janell.lavender@martindeporresfoundation.org or fax: 215-221-6516 for consideration.

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www.martindeporresfoundation.org

November is Black Catholic History Month