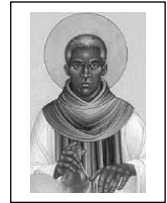


# Martin de Porres Foundation

The UPDATE

August/September 2015  
Newsletter

Edition 2, Volume 3



**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.

## Many Black Catholic Young Men Vadis 2015

By Deacon William Bradley



Quo Vadis means “where are you going?” Again this year, as it was in 2014, for a large number of African American, African and Haitian young men, the answer was “to the vocation retreat in Blackrock, PA.” From Sunday, July 5th to Wednesday July 8th and also Thursday, July 9th thru Sunday July 12th, 2015, Saint Charles Seminary conducted two wonderfully successful Vocation Retreat sessions. Each of these 4 day, 3 night sessions were jammed full of faith, food and fun as 34 young men from our Black Catholic communities joined other young men from throughout the Archdiocese in spirited and spiritual activities.

In addition to the sports activities, (Basketball, Soccer, Ultimate Frisbee and Tether Ball) the young men enjoyed swimming, hiking, ropes courses, a water trampoline and a 130 foot water slide. They also took part in team building exercises and lots of small group discussions in addition to daily Mass, Eucharistic Adoration and a Penance service.

Each four day session was led by a Seminarian from St Charles who served as a small group leader. The meals, which were fantastic, were shared in the small groups which allowed for further bonding and sharing among the diverse group of participants. Along the way, the young men soon learned how much they had in common as men of God.

As it was last year, this retreat is very important for our Church and community as we continue to pray for vocations to the Priesthood the Diaconate and Religious life. The Quo Vadis retreats will help our young men better focus on God’s call and hopefully, prayerfully “Heed the Call”. We are grateful to the Martin de Porres Foundation for their support of this retreat and their continued efforts to foster leadership in the Black Catholic community.

For more information about Saint Charles Seminary and its Vocation Programs visit: <http://heedthecall.org> Or, you may contact Father Stephen Thorne (Vocation Coordinator for the Black Catholic Community) at [frsthorne@gmail.com](mailto:frsthorne@gmail.com)

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 – 2015 Quo Vadis
- 1 – World Meeting of Families - Scholarships
- 2 – Deacon A. Gerard Jordon
- 2 – Revival 2015 WMOF
- 2 – **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

## World Meeting of Families September 22-27, 2015

We are excited to countdown to the World Meeting of Families – Philadelphia 2015 – We hope you will be there!

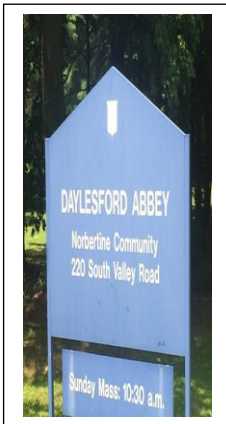
**LOVE is Our Mission – The Family fully alive**

Scholarships to attend WMOF 2015 sponsored by the Office for Black Catholics and the Martin de Porres Foundation

The family which experiences the joy of faith communicates it naturally. That family is the salt of the earth and the light of the world; it is the leaven of society.

Pope Francis, October 27, 2013





Cathy Reimel Hamilton congratulates Brother A. Gerard Jordan on step #2 of 3 on the way to priesthood. Blessed to attend the beautiful ordination ceremony to the Diaconate. And what a treat to see Fr. Anthony Bozeman from New Orleans and fellow Martin de Porres Foundation Board members, Monsignor Britto and Tonya Banks. Where: Daylesford Abbey.

## MARK Your Calendar

The following events will take place at St. Athanasius Church, 2050 E. Walnut Lane, Philadelphia, PA 19138

### 2015 WMOF Week

#### Catholic Charismatic Renewal

Date: Sunday, September 20, 2015 – 3 pm

#### The African Family Heritage Mass

Date: Wednesday, September 23, 7:30 pm

Sponsored by the Archdiocesan Office for Pastoral Care for Migrants and Refugees.

Further info: Sr. Florence Enechukwu MSHR (610) 525-525-3313.

#### The Catholic Community of Ghana will Celebrate in dance and song their Catholic faith.

Date: Thursday, September 24, 2015

Time: 7 pm - Mass

#### Knights & Ladies of St. Peter Claver Mass

Date: Friday, September 25, 2015 – 7 pm

Please join the Local, Regional & National Courts and Councils to celebrate as a Family joined in Love and Friendship. **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

#### Bernadette Brooks Presents MEN In Gospel 2 – Gifted Voices Gospel Concert Hosted by: J.C. Caldwell

Date: Saturday, October 17, 2015

Location: St. Thomas Aquinas Hall 1700 Morris Street, Phila., Pa.

Concert 3:30 pm/Lunch 2-3pm

Tickets: \$20/ \$25 at door

For further information call 215-820-1762

#### 2015 PASTORING IN BLACK PARISHES

A Series of Development and Enrichment Conferences for priests, deacons, seminarians, religious brothers and sisters and administrative laity who serve in leadership roles in the Catholic Church.

Date: November 9-12, 2015

Location: Hilton Crystal City Hotel

2399 Jefferson Davis Hwy

Arlington, VA 22202

Contact your Pastor/DRE about Martin de Porres Foundation funding.

It's Time for  
a **REVIVAL!**



*Come and get your Praise on!!*

**Love is our Mission  
The Family Fully Alive!**

Monday & Tuesday September 21 & 22, 2015  
6:30 PM. The Church of the Gesù  
18th & Girard Avenue  
Philadelphia, Pa 19130



[www.facebook.com/martindeporresfoundation](http://www.facebook.com/martindeporresfoundation)

[www.martindeporresfoundation.org](http://www.martindeporresfoundation.org)

Tell us your parish story or give reflections on program(s) you attended.

[janell.lavender@martindeporresfoundation.org](mailto:janell.lavender@martindeporresfoundation.org)

Or call 267-398-2314/267-408-5923

(Worth Repeating) - "The church is called to be the house of the Father, with doors always wide open ... Everyone can share in some way in the life of the church; everyone can be part of the community."

**Pope Francis** (Joy of the Gospel) CatholicPhilly.com