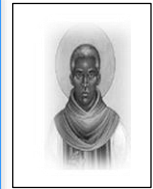


Martin de Porres Foundation

The **UPDATE**

September 2016
Newsletter

Edition III, Volume 4



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.*



A NEW INITIATIVE!

I have always been blessed to be a person who thinks positively. When a challenge or difficulty comes in my life, I see it as an opportunity. It is with that

same sense of hope that I share with you a new initiative. Through the vision and generosity of the Martin de Porres Foundation, a grant has been given to develop a pool of African American teachers to serve as principals in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. The Foundation has enthusiastically made a commitment to this project for three years to raise up new leaders in our Archdiocese. Currently, there is only one African American Elementary School Principal in the Archdiocese and there has

never been an African American high school principal in our history. So far, dozens have expressed interest in this program and the first cohort have begun classes at Neumann University. In addition to the Principal Certification Program, there will be a series of networking sessions and professional development opportunities later in the Fall. There has been a long and rich history of African Americans who have been blessed by Catholic Schools. It is my prayer that more leaders will come forth so our children can see in their principal an image of themselves.

For more information, contact:
Reverend Stephen D. Thorne, M.S. Ed.
University Chaplain & Adjunct Faculty
Neumann University
THORNES@Neumann.edu

GET READY IN OCTOBER!!

SIGN UP FOR MDP FOUNDATION

MONTHLY **E-NEWSLETTER**

Fall 2016 Semester - Martin de Porres Foundation Scholarship Recipients

Classes began on Monday, August 29, 2016 at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary School of Theological Studies (STS). On-line registration through (STS) for the following courses was completed: **STS 202 History of Black Catholics and Saints (Tuesday)** and **STS 294 Catechism of the Catholic Church: Morality & Prayer (Monday)** are being attended with enthusiasms.

A total of 20 students from the following parishes registered for one or both courses: St. Athanasius, St. Barbara, St. Cyprian, St. Ignatius of Loyola, Our Lady of Hope, St. Martin de Porres, St. Raymond of Penafort and St. Vincent de Paul. We hope other parishioners are interested in furthering their education, to enhance a current ministry and/or development of a new ministry. Undergraduate courses are also available for Spiritual Enrichment.

With the necessary criteria, a Master's Degree in Theology is also available through the School of Theological Studies. Your Pastor and DRE must give their support for a M.A. Degree along with undergraduate courses, which may lead to a Certificate in Ministry for Black Catholics (MBC). The Foundation looks forward in assisting African American/Black Catholics in their desire to reach for higher and continuing education.

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THY WILL BE DONE

By Sister Lynn Marie Ralph, SBS



When we take the time to quiet ourselves, we can hear God saying, "Come follow me." This is exactly what Mr. Jamey Francis Moses did. What a great day of rejoicing when on a Sunday Jamey announced to the church family that he will be a seminarian at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. His entrance date was August 23, 2016. Knowing that Jamey was leaving the church family for a while a special blessing was given to him. Father

Stephen Thorne, pastor of Saint Martin de Porres Church where Jamey is a parishioner called forth Jamey to the sanctuary. Because we are a family, Father Steve invited members to come forward and join him in a special blessing. They included his close friends, altar servers, young adults, members of the men's ministry, elders of the church as well as the members of the church family sitting in the pews. We believe in having each other's back. Therefore, it was fitting to place our hands on Jamey to let him know that we all have his back as a family. [Read more.](#)

Reflections: NOLA-Xavier University

By Yvette Palmer

What a wonderful opportunity the Martin de Porres Foundation gave us to attend week long classes at Xavier University in New Orleans this past June 2016.

After several years of classes and finally completing the Certificate program on the Ministry of Black Catholics this past May at Saint Charles Seminary, the experience at Xavier gave me a whole new perspective on our place as Black Catholics. It was like the culmination of all my studies. I left the Institute feeling renewed and a vital part of my church. My culture, my spirituality and making no excuses for who I am, because I felt accepted for who I am. [Read more.](#)

SAVE THE DATE

Preparing for Congress XII-Day of Reflection

Date: Saturday, October 15, 2016 – 8:30am – 3:00pm

**Location: Saint Cyprian Church (lunch included)
63rd & Cobbs Creek Parkway – Phila., PA 19143**

To register for the day, email: obcphila@gmail.com or contact Deacon Bradley at 215-587-3541.

www.facebook.com/martindeporresfoundation

www.martindeporresfoundation.org

www.twitter.com/mdpfound

Share your parish stories or give reflections on program(s) you attended.

janell.lavender@martindeporresfoundation.org

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

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Revival – Bishop Fernand “Ferd” Cheri, III, OFM

Dates: Monday/Tuesday/September, 26-27, 2016

Cathedral Basilica

For additional information call 215-587-3541 Office for Black Catholics. Deacon Wm. Bradley, Director.

Unbound Ministry

Date: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 Time: 1 – 3:00 pm

Location: St. Martin of Tours

Lower Church Room

5450 Roosevelt Blvd, Philadelphia

NO Charge to attend. RSVP Required.

National Black Catholic Men’s Conference

Theme: Blessed is the Man who is Faithful, Fearless & Fruitful

Dates: Thurs/Fri/Sat/Sun, October 6-9, 2016

Location: Doubletree Hilton Philadelphia Airport

4509 Island Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19153

Adult Registration: \$150/ Youth: \$50 (age 8-13)/ H.S. & College Students \$75

<http://www.bowmanfrancisministry.com/programs>

For additional info contact Fr. Chester Smith

www.gamba_10333@aol.com or 317-259-0144

2016 Catholic Women’s Conference Gathering!

REGISTER TODAY - The conference is expected to sell out in early October!

Date: Saturday, October 29, 2016

Location: National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Doylestown – 8:30 am to 4:00 pm

Registration includes breakfast, lunch and hospitality bag.

General Admission: \$50

Groups of 5 or more adults: \$40pp

Religious/Consecrated Women: \$15pp

Young Women’s Track (H.S. & College Students) \$20pp

Registration Deadline: Oct. 18th

www.catholicwomensconference.org

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

NATIONAL BLACK CATHOLIC CONGRESS XII

Thursday, July 6, 2017 to Sunday July 9, 2017

Hyatt Regency Orlando

9801 International Drive, Orlando, FL 32819

Registration Fee: Adults - \$295/ Youths - \$150

Hotel Registration Fee: Single/Double/Triple,

Quad \$125 + tax

per room – per night.

www.orlando.regency.hyatt.com

<http://nbccongress.org/events/default.asp#lampstand>

NBCC XII Theme "The Spirit of the Lord is Upon Me: act justly, love goodness, and walk humbly with your God."

Love begins at home, and it is not how much we do... but how much love we put in that action.
Saint Teresa