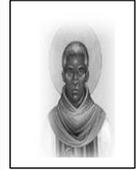


Martin de Porres Foundation

The UPDATE

November 2016
Newsletter

Edition III, Volume 6



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.*

Saint Martin de Porres Mass, November 3, 2016

“The example of Martin’s life is ample evidence that we can strive for holiness and salvation as Christ Jesus has shown us, first by loving God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind; and second, by loving your neighbor as yourself”

By Deacon William Bradley, Office for Black Catholics – Archdiocese of Philadelphia

These words were spoken by Saint John XXIII, on May 6, 1962, the occasion of the canonization of the first Saint of African descent from the western hemisphere. On Thursday November 3, 2016 the feast day of Saint Martin de Porres, as we joined together in celebration of the 54th anniversary of his canonization, we were reminded by Archbishop Chaput that we would do well to model our lives after this great saint.

Saint Martin de Porres was born in 1579, as the unwanted son of a Spanish knight and a freed African slave woman. Saint Martin showed signs of the virtues of modesty, humility and charity for the poor, early in his life. As a Dominican Brother, Saint Martin founded an orphanage and a hospital. He also ministered to hundreds of unhappy people from Africa, who were forced into slavery in the new western world. Saint Martin is recognized in the Church and by many people as the patron saint of African-American Catholics, mixed race people, innkeepers, barbers, public health workers and the country of Peru. Saint Martin’s persistence and perseverance through many trials and obstacles, while continually and selflessly caring for the poor, make him a role model for all people. [Read more](#)

Workshop Sets Early Groundwork for National Black Catholic Congress XII

Arlene Edmonds Tribune Correspondent 10.21.16

Dozens of representatives from Philadelphia’s Black Catholic community came together for the “Rooted in Our Faith: Day of Reflection” daylong workshop on Saturday. This is all part of the Philadelphia Archdiocese’s Office for Black Catholics preparation for the National Black Catholic Congress XII next year. The event took place in the community hall at St.Cyprian Roman Catholic Church, 525 S. Cobbs Creek Parkway in Southwest Philadelphia on Saturday.

Among those present were Deacon Bill Bradley, Director-Office for Black Catholics, Fr. Canon A. Gerard Jordan, and Monsignor Federico A. Britto, Pastor of St. Cyprian.

The agenda included three group discussion questions. The first asked how social media could be used effectively to promote the cause of sainthood for Mother Mary Lange of Baltimore, Venerable Henriette Delille of New Orleans, the Venerable PierreToussaint of Haiti being advocated by a New York-based guild, and the Servant of God Father Augustus Tolton. The latter is the first African-American priest, whose cause is led by Rev. Jordan and others. [Read more](#)

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Reflections

By Janice Paige, St. Athanasius



l-r Janice Thomas, St. Athanasius & Cynthia Brown, Our Lady of Hope - Anita Beauford & Janice Paige, St. Athanasius

On Saturday, October 29, 2016 over 1,200 women attended the 2016 Catholic Women’s Conference at the National Shrine of Our Mother of Czestochowa in Doylestown, PA. Women from across the country were present with the goal to discover the gift of God’s infinite and tender mercy. I spoke to many women, including a Sister of Life nun who was from California. We were blessed to have a wonderful full conference day, starting with Mass and celebrated with Archbishop Charles J. Chaput. The Mass and multiple information sessions were spoken in four languages: English, Spanish, Latin and American Sign Language. [Read more](#)

November - In Celebration of Black Catholic History Month

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!!

Spring 2017 Semester

St. Charles Borromeo Seminary - School of Theological Studies (STS)

Certificate in Pastoral Ministry to Black Catholics (MBC) – Master of Arts Degree. Scholarship applications are available through the Martin de Porres Foundation at www.martindeporresfoundation.org or contact your Pastor/DRE.

Deadline to register is **Friday, December 30, 2016**

Courses will begin January 17, 2017

Spring 2017 Courses - For registration information and additional courses - Go to www.scs.edu. Need further assistance: call 610-785-6287.

Mondays 6:30PM – 9:30PM
STS 101 Old Testament

Tuesdays 6:30PM – 9:30PM
STS 401 Church History

North Bay Retreat 2016

St. Ignatius of Loyola
By Cameron Coles

I have been a member of St. Ignatius Church for 15 years and part of the TLC youth group for 2 years. This was my second time going to North Bay Camp or Jesus camp as we call it.

Now, North Bay is an experience that in no way can be put into words, but I am going to try my best. This retreat is exciting, nerve racking, fun, blood rushing, spirit raising, holy and new. When you go to North Bay you are totally separate from the outside world. I mean there's like four spots in the place where you can make a call or text and don't get me started about the Wi-Fi. None of that is important anyway. The activities like small groups, the 20 minutes of silence outdoors and even mattress wars, bond every teen no matter what their background is and I think that is very special.



Lastly, North Bay will bring you closer to God than you have ever been. At this isolated holy fortress, as I call it, I can honestly say it washes away your worries at the threshold. All those distractions and obstacles that get in the way of feeling His presence are eliminated and you just feel him enter you. You connect with God in every Mass and especially in adoration. Adoration is just the cherry on the top besides the special themed party, of

course. But, honestly adoration drags the tears from your eyes and you just break down and give yourself a way to him and I felt that this year. I didn't cry or anything but every struggle that I had and sin that I did or thought about doing ran through my head. It's almost as if God was telling me to stay strong in faith which I am prevailing in. I now can say I am closer to God and I want to thank the *Martin de Porres Foundation*, from the very pit of my heart for every penny that was donated to our cause to help my group go on this journey and I look forward to next year. May God, Bless you.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Open House and Christmas Concert

Date: Sunday, December 4th at 1:00 pm

Location: St. Charles Borromeo Seminary
100 E. Wynnewood Road, Wynnewood, PA

- Campus Tours
- Stay for the Christmas Concert at 4:00 pm
Christmas concert featuring Seminary choir and musicians
- International Christmas crèche display
This event is free and open to the public

SAVE THE DATE

**REV. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.
PRAISE & WORSHIP
JANUARY 16, 2017**

MANUPPHILLY – MARCH 4, 2017

THE AREA'S LARGEST MEN'S SPIRITUALITY CONFERENCE.

To register for this year's Conference visit:
ManUpPhilly.com/registration.

| | | | |
|-------------|---------------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Early Bird | <u>Sale End:</u> 12-31-16 | <u>Price:</u> \$40 | Fee: \$1.99 |
| Normal Reg | 3-1-17 | \$50 | \$2.24 |
| Student Reg | 3-4-17 | \$25 | \$1.62 |
| Late Reg | Not started | \$55 | \$2.37 |

The Bulletin and Beyond

Building a Parish Communications Plan for the 21st Century.

Date: Friday, February 10, 2017 – 9:00 am – 12:30pm

Location: St. Charles Borromeo Seminary – College Auditorium. 100 E. Wynnewood, Rd. Wynnewood, PA

Speak: Matthew Warner, founder and CEO of Flocknote.

The workshop is designed to be relevant, whether your parish uses – or plans to use – Flocknote & whether you are tech-savvy! \$20 pp Includes morning refreshments. **To register: phillyevang.org/events**

This half-day workshop will cover the essential elements of modern parish communication, including:

- Simple ways to update the way you communicate without breaking your budget
- Crafting your message so it gets noticed & increases engagement

National Black Catholic Congress XII

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

Location: 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#ampstand>

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

*Wishing you blessings of health, happiness
On Thanksgiving*