

Martin de Porres Foundation

The UPDATE

January 2017
Newsletter

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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.



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Archdiocese Tribute Turns Civil Rights Spotlight Inward

Arlene Edmonds, Tribune Correspondent

“A Dream in Black and White: Growing in Understanding as Catholics” drew a diverse, standing-room-only crowd to the St. Philip Neri Catholic Church in Lafayette Hill on Monday evening to honor the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. It was the 34th annual Archdiocese gathering to the civil rights icon on his birthday, and marked the first time the event was held in a predominantly white Catholic suburban congregation.

About half the audience were African Americans as at least three busloads of parishioners came from churches such as St. Raymond of Penafort in Mount Airy, St. Athanasius Catholic community in West Oak Lane and St. Barbara Church in West Philadelphia. On the program was Deacon Bill Bradley, Director of the Office for Black Catholics, along with African-American priests, the Rev. Rayford Emmons and Rev. Stephen Thorne.



Jamey F. Moses, first-year Seminarian

The remarks that drew the loudest standing ovation were those of Jamey Francis Moses, a first-year seminarian at the St. Charles Borromeo Seminary in Wynnewood and a parishioner at the St. Martin de Porres Church in North Philadelphia. It was his experiences on the Main Line campus that was at the heart of his testimony. “I was walking on the grounds reflecting and praying,” Moses said. “The campus guard came in detail and physically restrained me before I realized what happened. I was taking a little time with Jesus.”

Moses explained that someone reported seeing “a suspicious Black man on campus.” The person who called security “reported feeling uncomfortable when a Black man walked by,” he said, leading him to ask whether Black lives mattered. [Read more](#)

St. Thomas Aquinas Church – Annual Retreat

Daria Ward, President, and Co-founder of “CBC” (**Concerned Black Catholics**) of Saint Thomas Aquinas Church in South Philadelphia, organized their Annual Retreat on October 22, 2016, at the National Shrine of Saint Rita of Cascia located at 1166 S. Broad Street in South Philadelphia, all parishioners were able to attend. Father Joe Genito was the facilitator for the retreat.

The topic at this year’s annual retreat was “Faith and Acceptance” with much reference to Saint Rita’s life and about the understanding of Reconciliation and Peacemaking. While lunch was being provided, the group could have a breakout discussion to examine their thoughts, opinions, ideas, and give reflection about the topic.

The retreat included a tour of the church/shrine and confession was offered, followed by Mass. *In 2017, Daria stated that she hopes to have more people attend the retreat and her goal for CBC, is for all Black Catholics, to come together throughout the Philadelphia parishes for fellowship.* [Read more](#)

School of Theological Studies – Spring 2017 Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary

Certificate in Pastoral Ministry to Black Catholics (MBC)

Classes began on Monday, January 17th *Old Testament*, and Tuesday, January 18th *Church History*.

Spring 2017: students are from the following parishes: St. Ignatius of Loyola, Our Lady of Hope, St. Athanasius, St. Raymond of Penafort, St. Barbara, St. Martin de Porres, and St. Vincent de Paul.

Summer 2017 Semester: June 12 through July 20. Go to www.scs.edu/sts

ATTENTION: You may have started courses at the Seminary years ago, and for some reason did not complete the MAAC/MBC Certificate. Consider resuming your studies along with students from your parish, friends from other parishes or begin your religious educational experience at the School of Theological Studies St. Charles Borromeo Seminary-NOW!

For MDPF Scholarship Applications, contact Beverly Harper, Coordinator for the MBC Program at 215-587-3541 or bharper@archphila.org. Also, you may speak to your Pastor/DRE or go to www.martindeporresfoundation.org

FOLLOW-UP!

**“Continuing the Conversation”
FROM THE 34TH ANNUAL ARCHDIOCESAN
GATHERING IN HONOR OF
REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**



***A Dream in Black and White
Growing in Understanding as Catholics***

SAVE THE DATES

*Tuesday, February 28, 2017, St. Raymond Church
1350 E. Vernon Rd. Philadelphia, PA 19150*

*Monday, March 13, 2017, St. Athanasius Church
2050 E. Walnut Lane, Philadelphia, PA 19138*

*Monday, April 10, 2017, St. Barbara Church
5351 Lebanon Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19131*

TIME - 7:00 PM

ALL ARE WELCOME!

For further information contact Beverly Harper at
bharper@archphila.org or 215-587-3541

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MANUPHILLY – MARCH 4, 2017

THE AREA'S LARGEST MEN'S SPIRITUALITY CONFERENCE.

To register for this year's Conference visit:

www.ManUpPhilly.com/registration

Early Bird Sale End: 12-31-16 Price: \$40 Fee: \$1.99

Normal Registration 3-1-17 \$50 \$2.24

Student Registration 3-4-17 \$25 \$1.62

Late Registration 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. Wynnwood, Rd. Wynnwood, PA

Speaker: 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: www.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
- Designing your message so it gets noticed & increases engagement

NBCC UPDATE!!

Congress Registration and Hotel Reservations will open at the same time. Links will be provided in early 2017 for online registration. Go to the NBCC Website for information:

<https://www.nbcccongress.org/congress-xii.htm>

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

Early Meeting Registration: \$350.00

Meeting Registration \$375.00

Early Youth Meeting Registration - \$225.00

Youth Meeting Registration - \$250.00

Early Registration Cut-Off Date to be Announced!

Hotel Room Fees:

NBCC Room Rate: Single/Double/Triple, & Quad

\$125.00 per room, per day.

Taxes & fees - \$13.50 per room, per day.

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

Saint of the Day (January 28th) Saint Thomas Aquinas

Reflection

We can look to Thomas Aquinas as a towering example of Catholicism in the sense of broadness, universality, and inclusiveness. We should be determined anew to exercise the divine gift of reason in us, our power to know, learn, and understand. At the same time, we should thank God for the gift of his revelation, especially in Jesus Christ. www.goodnews@franciscanmedia.org