3rd Sunday of Advent

Welcome to St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church!
We are so glad you are here, and invite you to become involved in our parish. If you wish to become a parishioner, please pick up a registration form in our narthex, call the parish office, or download a form online by visiting our website. New parishioner welcome receptions are held several times throughout the year.

Celebration of the Mass
- Saturday: 5:00 p.m.
- Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, 11:30 a.m., 4:30 p.m.
- Monday: 8:30 a.m.
- Wednesday: 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday: 8:30 a.m.
- Friday: 8:30 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday: 4:15-4:45 p.m.
or by appointment

Parish Staff
Pastor: Rev. Richard Kirkham
Accountant: Jean-Marie Mosch, jean-marie@saintmartindp.org
Administrative Assistant: Alexis Campbell, alexis@saintmartindp.org
Bookkeeper: Eileen Altieri, eileen@saintmartindp.org
Kathy Campbell, kathy@saintmartindp.org
Communications & Sacramental Coordinator: Anne Servo, anne@saintmartindp.org
Facilities Manager: Ryan Marsland, ryan@saintmartindp.org
Family Faith Formation Director: Laura Myers, laura@saintmartindp.org
Music Director: Joe Davison, joe@saintmartindp.org
RCIA & Family Life Director: Niki MacDougall, niki@saintmartindp.org
Receptionist: Peggy Salas, peggy@saintmartindp.org
School Principal: Nancy Kirkpatrick, nkirkpatrick@smdpcatholic.org

Parish office hours at 4000 W. University Drive in Prosper: Monday-Friday 9:00 am-3:00 pm.

REQUESTS FOR EUCHARIST FOR THE SICK, HOMEBOUND & HOSPITAL VISITS
Please call the parish office at 469-287-7624.

Faith, Family, Future.

St. Martin de Porres Catholic School
469-362-2400
www.smdpcatholic.org

A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.
John 1:6-7

© Diocesan
Third Sunday of Advent

Today’s Readings
Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11  
“My soul rejoices in my God.”  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24  
John 1:6-8, 19-28

Welcome to St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church! This is a very exciting time for our parish, and we are thrilled that you have decided to join us.

Our parish was established in February 2015 by His Excellency, Bishop Michael F. Olson, to serve the rapidly-growing areas of Frisco, Little Elm, and Prosper in eastern Denton County, Texas.

Bishop Olson appointed Rev. Richard Kirkham as the first Pastor of the parish. The first mass of St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church was celebrated on February 8, 2015, at Purefoy Elementary in Frisco. The Diocese of Fort Worth purchased 52 acres in Prosper on March 4, 2015, upon which St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church and St. Martin de Porres Catholic School was to be built. In June 2015, all masses were moved to the St. Martin de Porres Catholic School building, located at 303 King Road in Frisco. The last mass at that location was on Monday, December 11, 2017.

We encourage you to become a registered parishioner of St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church! You can pick up a registration form in our narthex, call the parish office at 469-287-7624, or download a form online by visiting our website. New parishioner welcome receptions are held several times throughout the year.

The end of the year is such an exciting time! Families come together, and we get to retell the story of our Savior's birth. In all the hustle and bustle that goes along with this season, we ask that you prayerfully consider including St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church in your end-of-year giving. The benefits of income tax deductions, capital gains savings and other financial benefits are significant advantages that provide an incentive to make a gift at the year-end. Your gift, in any amount, will create a meaningful and lasting impact on our church!

End-of-year contributions must be received by December 31, 2017. If you have any questions about contributions, please call the parish office at 469-287-7624.
Advent and Christmas Schedule

December 23-24 – 4th Sunday of Advent
Mass on Saturday at 5:00 PM
Sunday at 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM and 11:30 AM
No 4:30 PM Mass on December 24
(Parish Hall - 3990 W. University Drive in Prosper)

December 24 – Christmas Eve
Mass at 4:00 PM, 7:00 PM and Midnight
(Parish Hall - 3990 W. University Drive in Prosper)

December 25 – Christmas Day
Mass at 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM
(Parish Hall - 3990 W. University Drive in Prosper)

A Note about Christmas Masses:
Doors will open 45 minutes prior to the start of each Mass. We strongly recommend that your entire group arrive at the same time - seats may not be saved or reserved for any reason! Our ushers will fill any empty seats 15 minutes prior to the start of each Mass. In compliance with fire codes, if the building reaches capacity, the doors will be locked, and nobody else will be allowed to enter.

Thank you for your assistance, and we look forward to celebrating this most special feast day with you in our beautiful new church home!

No Daily Mass December 26-29

December 30-31
Regular Mass Schedule

No Daily Mass January 1-5, 2018
Don't miss out on the blessings of service! At St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church, we encourage everyone to become active in parish life. Our ministries offer many opportunities to get involved, enjoy fellowship, and deepen your relationship with God.

As we continue to grow, we are in need of volunteers for ALL of our ministries, especially:

* Homebound Ministry
* Ushers
* Hospitality

If you would like to get involved, please visit www.saintmartindp/ministries, and use the link at the bottom to sign up via Ministry Scheduler Pro. You will receive a note with volunteer information. Thank you for the gift of your time and talent!

2018 Lector Workbooks are now available in the parish office!

These workbooks contain the readings in large print for practice, with words in bold indicating suggestions for emphasis, commentaries that give background and explain the meaning of the reading, margin notes with pronunciation guides and tips for proclamation. Suggested donation of $15 per book.

On December 10, our Family Faith Formation had Service Centers. It was an amazing night! We packaged items that our families generously donated for 6 local charities. Many cars were filled to the brim with packaged donations, complete with cards and artwork made by our youngest parishioners!

Our next Family Faith Formation class will be on January 7 at 6:00 PM.

For more information, please contact our Director of Family Faith Formation, Laura Myers, at laura@saintmartindp.org.

If you wish to have your child(ren) Baptized, please visit www.saintmartindp.org/baptism for important information and our parish policy. All first-time parents, those families new to the parish, and families who have not had a child baptized in the last five years must attend a Baptism Preparation class. Please send a note to Anne Savoie (anne@saintmartindp.org) for more information.

Have you ever wanted easy access to Catholic resources but didn’t know where to start?

FORMED, a revolutionary online platform, provides access to the best Catholic audio talks, movies, ebooks, and video-based studies from trusted providers like the Augustine Institute, Ignatius Press, Catholic Answers, Sophia Institute Press, and St. Paul Center - right at your fingertips! There are great resources available for all ages -- children and adults! Sign up for your FREE account by visiting formed.org/register and enter in the Parish Code 7VWZRG (NOTE: code is case-sensitive). Questions? Contact Niki at nicole@saintmartindp.org.

Offertory Envelopes for 2018 are in the Parish Office!

If you recently registered in our parish, please call to check if your envelopes have arrived. Please note that if you use Faith Direct, you will not receive a boxed set of envelopes.
Christmas Poinsettia Donation Order Form

We will be decorating our new altar with beautiful poinsettias for Christmas! These poinsettias can be dedicated in honor, or in memory of, a family or individual at a donation amount of $20 per plant. All names will be included in our Christmas bulletin, unless otherwise specified.

If you wish to donate, please fill out this form. You may place it in the collection basket, or return to the parish office by Monday, December 18.

*Due to printing schedules, names received after this date will not be included in the bulletin.*

Please print names clearly:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Circle: (in honor of / memory of)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*After all of the Christmas Masses, I would like to pick up / donate (please circle) the poinsettias I donated.*

Total Number of Poinsettias: __________
Total Donation Amount: __________ (circle: cash / check)

Your Name: ____________________________________________

Your Email Address: ____________________________________

Your Phone Number: ____________________________________
Dear Parishioners,

In this season of Advent, we are continuously preparing ourselves for the celebration of Christ's birth. Why not help our own parish prepare for the coming new year by signing up with Faith Direct? By supporting St. Martin de Porres, both you and our parish can save some time and peace of mind this holiday season. Already using Faith Direct? Don't forget to add your Christmas or End-of-Year contributions to your account.

Already using Faith Direct? Don't forget to add your Christmas or End-of-Year contributions to your account!

Visit www.faithdirect.net and use our church code: TX706. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family!

God Bless You,

Rev. Richard Keckman

---

Interested in joining our Music Ministry, and/or becoming a Cantor? We would love to have you! Please contact our Music Director, Joe Davison at joe@saintmartindp.org or speak with him after Mass for additional details.

We have 8 new communion cups that can be given in honor or in memory of a loved one. The cost for each cup is $500.00, and includes engraving. Please call the parish office at 469-287-7624 for more information.

“I am ‘the voice of one crying out in the desert, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,”

---

Stewardship News for Week Ending December 10, 2017

Weekly Need: $19,393.28
Offertry Collection: $20,205.43
Year to Date Budget: $465,438.72
Year to Date Collected: $210,557.35
Under: $254,881.37

Special Collections
Retired Religious - $699.50
Immaculate Conception - $481.50

Tell them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous, ready to share.
— Timothy 6:17-19

Last Week’s Mass Attendance
Saturday, 5:00 PM - 145
Sunday, 7:30 AM - 63
Sunday, 9:00 AM - 244
Sunday, 11:30 AM - 175
Sunday, 4:30 PM - 216
Total Weekend Attendance: 843

If you have a submission for the bulletin, please contact Anne Savoie (anne@saintmartindp.org) by Mondays at 3.