“Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means “God is with us.”

Matthew 1:23
Today’s Music

Entrance: Come Thou Long Expected Jesus #39
Kyrie: Chant Mass #842
Responsorial Psalm: page 43
Advent/Christmas Gospel Acclamation: #75
Offertory: Christ, Circle Round Us #55
Eucharistic Acclamations: Chant Mass #844, 845, 846
Lamb of God: Chant Mass #848
Communion Antiphon: page 44
Communion: Christ Be Our Light #587
Like a Child Rests #454
Recessional: People Look East #40

Interested in joining our Music Ministry? We are always looking for cantors, choir members, and instrumentalists! Please see Joe after Mass, or send him a note: jdavisson@saintmartindp.org.

December 23: No Evening Adoration
Christmas Eve: Masses at 4PM (Children’s Mass) and 7PM (no Adoration)
Christmas Day: Mass at 10AM (no Adoration)
December 26: No Daily Mass or Adoration
December 27: No Daily Mass or Adoration
December 31: No Daily Mass or Adoration
New Year’s Day: Masses at 10AM and 6:30PM (no Adoration)

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed December 24-January 1. We wish you a very Merry Christmas, and a blessed New Year!

Important Information about Christmas Masses: Doors will open 45 minutes prior to the start of each Mass. Seats may not be saved or reserved for any reason, so we strongly recommend that your entire group arrive at the same time!

In compliance with the Town of Prosper Fire Department, if the Parish Hall reaches capacity, the doors will be locked, and nobody else will be allowed to enter. Please note that this has happened in years past for the 4PM Mass, so please plan accordingly! In the event that the building does reach capacity, Mass will start as soon as the doors have been locked, even if it is before the scheduled start time.

Thank you for your cooperation, and we look forward to celebrating the birth of our Lord with you!
Offertory Information

Collection December 14 & 15, 2019
Offertory Collection: $14,468.80
Immaculate Conception: $65.00
Faith Direct: $19,811.78
Year to date Offertory Collected: $353,226.22

National Collections
Catholic University: $50.00
Retirement Fund for Religious: $870.42

Total Weekend Mass Attendance: 1,511
Saturday 5:00 PM: 220
Sunday 7:30 AM: 195
Sunday 9:30 AM: 491
Sunday 11:30 AM: 605

As we reflect on the upcoming Christmas season, it is likely that we will be busy with parties and family gatherings. Simplify your life, save time, and enjoy the peace of mind this Christmas season knowing that your generation donations will be sent to St. Martin de Porres even when you are unable to attend Mass. To enroll, just go to faith.direct/TX706.

So far, 37 of our registered families have contributed $9,960.12 towards our parish goal of $51,500

During this season of generosity, please remember to pray for the work of the vital ministries that are supported through the Annual Diocesan Appeal! Its mission is to witness God’s grace in our lives by together sharing the Gospel message of faith, hope and charity with those most in need of attention through knowing and doing all that we are called to as Disciples of Christ. We are striving for 100% parish participation by June 30, 2020! Text ADA to 91999, complete a commitment card in the Narthex, or donate online at bit.ly/AnnualDiocesanAppeal.

All men of St. Martin de Porres are invited to attend this free morning of prayer, camaraderie, reflection, and talks about being a Catholic Man in today’s society. Coffee, breakfast and a light lunch will be provided. We hope you’ll join us! For more information, or to register, please visit www.saintmartindp.org/mens-groups.

As we enjoy holiday fun with family and friends, it is also a good time to review financial decisions, especially charitable giving. There are many benefits to making gifts before the end of the year!

The requirements for tax deductible year-end giving are as follows:

- In order to be credited as a donation in the 2019 tax year, checks must be dated and mailed with a postmark on or before Tuesday, December 31, 2019.
- Credit card gifts are effective on the date the card is charged.
- Electronic funds transfer is effective on the date of the transfer.
- Stocks transferred electronically are effective on the date of transfer.

If you are already using Faith Direct, simply log-in to add your Christmas and/or End-of-Year contributions to your account today. To enroll in Faith Direct, just go to faith.direct/TX706.

Thank you for prayerfully considering your End-of-Year gift!
The Sunday of the Gift of Faith

The Fourth Sunday of Advent can sometimes feel like “filler” in between the Third Sunday of Advent where we are bid to Rejoice and Christmas itself. To rush past this Sunday is to miss a deeper level of what Christmas is truly about, and why we celebrate. During the Advent Season we have been asked to prepare our hearts and homes for the coming of the Messiah. We place ourselves back in the mindset of our Jewish brothers and sisters as we await the fulfillment of God’s promise to send a Messiah. However, we do not wait in the same manner as they do; for we know that God has kept His promise and that Christmas truly has happened. It is important that we remember that God keeps His promises.

This Fourth Sunday of Advent highlights how God keeps His promise. When God offers an explanation to Joseph, God also gives to Joseph the gift of Faith. This is an important lesson for all of us. If we wish to know how God keeps His promises, then we must pray for an outpouring of the gift of Faith. It is not possible to understand the “how” of God’s work if we do not first seek union with God. If our trust in God only comes from God proving Himself to us first, then it is not really God in whom we are trusting but rather in our own understanding of God and in what makes sense to us. Joseph is echoing the fiat of Mary and both are demonstrating to us all how we too can understand the coming of the Lord. God keeps His promises, and if we wish to understand why and how He will fulfill the mission He is undertaking through His coming, we too will need the gift of Faith.

Fr. Stephen Hanwalt

Upcoming VIRTUS Safe Environment Session
at St. Martin de Porres

In the Gym of the St. Martin de Porres School Building - 4000 W. University Dr., Prosper - please use the main school entrance

Sunday, January 12th
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Please contact Alexis Campbell alexis@saintmartindp.org with any questions or help with registration.

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED,
NO children under the age of 18.
NO LATE ADMITTANCE. DOORS WILL BE LOCKED.

Visit the Fort Worth Diocese Website for a full list of upcoming Sessions
The St. Martin de Porres Knights of Columbus Council 17304 is sponsoring a **drive to support the Coats for Kids Charity**. This charity’s mission is to ensure that every child who needs a winter coat will receive a new one. The Knights will be accepting donations in the narthex after each Mass until December 22nd. The Knights have set a goal of $1,300. This amount will provide 96 local children the opportunity to receive a new coat! The **Denton County Child Advocacy Center** will ensure the coats will go to those most in need. The Knights need the Parish’s help to reach this goal! The Council will match donations $1 for $1 up to the $1,300 goal - so if the Parish raises $650, the Council will fund the additional $650. **For more information, please contact Dean Hansen, Grand Knight, at 214-808-3879.**

Please join us for **A Night in Monte Carlo** - a fun-filled event with all proceeds to benefit St. Martin de Porres Catholic School! Enjoy delicious food, beer and wine, and casino games. There will be plenty of items to bid on in our live and silent auctions, followed by DJ music for our dance floor so you can kick up your heels in style! **To order your tickets, visit www.smdpccatholic.org/gala.**

---

**Winter Outreach**

All proceeds benefit **BETHLEHEM PLACE**

*Prosper’s food pantry*

**Most Needed Items:**
- Canned Fruit
- Canned Vegetables
- Canned Beans
- Canned Tomatoes
- Jelly
- Peanut Butter
- Soups
- Cereal
- Toilet Paper
- Soap
- Bagged Beans
- Bagged Rice

Please drop off all items in the outreach cart in the Narthex.

---

**February 1, 2020**

**3rd Annual RUNNIN WITH THE NIGHTHAWKS**

Join us for a Super-Fun morning with a Fun walk/run and 5k race in support of St. Martin de Porres Catholic School and the NightHawks Athletic Program!

- Wear Your Best Superhero Costumes
- Get Your Hustle Gear: Superhero Capes and Masks For Sale
- Costume Contest for Best Superhero Outfits

**Race Day Details**

- Registration starts at 7:00am
- Family Fun Run/Walk at 8:00am
- 5k (Chip Timed) at 8:30am

**Race Start:** SECPD - 4000 W. University Drive, Prosper, TX

Visit Our Website by scanning the QR code:

RunninWithTheNightHawks.weebly.com

**Race Entry Details**

- Fun Run: $15 Early Bird Until December 31, $20 starting January 1st
- 5k: $25 Early Bird Until December 31, $30 starting January 1st

Dog Registration (Includes bandana): $5

Sleep-in Option and Hustle Gear are Available!

Friendly dogs are welcome on a leash!

Visit Our Website for More Information and Registration: runninwiththenighthawks.weebly.com
Thank you
You make a difference.

Thanksgiving Basket Drive
Dear St. Martin de Porres members,
We are so very grateful for all the wonderful Thanksgiving Basket items you provided. We were overjoyed with the thoughtfulness of your contributions and amount of food collected. You fed 130 families this year! Almost double what we served last year. Every family receiving the food was so genuinely grateful. You are the reason ALL the children in Prosper went to bed on Thanksgiving Day with full stomachs.

Betsy Winters - Executive Director - Bethlehem Place

Wreaths Across America
Thank you to everyone who participated in our Wreaths Across America fundraiser and service project! This was the first year that DFW National Cemetery had enough wreaths sponsored that all graves received a wreath on December 14th. Our school and parish were responsible for over 1,200 of the 46,000 wreaths laid.

REMEMBER. HONOR. TEACH.

Angel Tree
Thank you to St. Martin de Porres - Prosper for contributing to our Holiday Drive and especially for focusing on helping our teens with necessities like coats and fun gifts too!

Children's Advocacy Center for Denton County

Items collected: 370 pairs of socks, 164 undergarments, 104 shirts, 100 pairs of gloves, 94 coats, 93 hats, 97 sweaters & sweatshirts, 74 pairs of pants, 28 shoes, 15 scarves, 7 pajama sets, 1 belt
39 GIFT CARDS, OVER 150 WISH LIST CHRISTMAS GIFTS
Introducing the new
FORMED®
The Catholic Faith. On Demand.

Diving into the beauty of the Faith has never been easier: at home, on the go, or from any internet connected device.

Discover thousands of books, audio talks, movies, documentaries, and studies... there is something for every member of the family to help them grow closer to Christ and His Church.

Over 4,000 titles - now available on almost any device!

Roku  tv  Android  iOS

Dozens of new features - all to help you enjoy the best in Catholic content

Already have a FORMED Account?

1. Visit FORMED.org
2. Click Sign In
3. Enter your email
4. Click the link in your email
5. You're in! No more passwords!

Want to create a new FORMED account with your parish or group?

1. Visit FORMED.org
2. Click Sign Up
3. Select "I Belong to a Parish or Organization"
4. Find your parish by name or zip
5. Enter your email - and you're in!

Visit FORMED.org or search for "Formed" on your favorite app store