OUR PARISH MISSION & VISION
St. Martin de Porres is a Stewardship and Hospitality parish. As Catholic Christians guided by the Holy Spirit, we are Christ’s disciples dedicated to faith formation, worship, community life, and service. All are welcome as we use our unique gifts to serve the world as a visible sign of God’s love.

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Sunday, June 28, 2020 | 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

SUNDAY READINGS

Reading 1  KGS 4:8-11, 14-16A
One day Elisha came to Shunem, where there was a woman of influence, who urged him to dine with her. Afterward, whenever he passed by, he used to stop there to dine. So she said to her husband, “I know that Elisha is a holy man of God. Since he visits us often, let us arrange a little room on the roof and furnish it for him with a bed, table, chair, and lamp, so that when he comes to us he can stay there.” Sometime later Elisha arrived and stayed in the room overnight.

Later Elisha asked, “Can something be done for her?” His servant Gehazi answered, “Yes! She has no son, and her husband is getting on in years.” Elisha said, “Call her.” When the woman had been called and stood at the door, Elisha promised, “This time next year you will be fondling a baby son.”

Reading 2  ROM 6:3-4, 8-11
Brothers and sisters: Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life.

If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him. We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more; death no longer has power over him. As to his death, he died to sin once and for all; as to his life, he lives for God. Consequently, you too must think of yourselves as dead to sin and living for God in Christ Jesus.

Alleluia 1  PT 2:9
R. Alleluia, alleluia.
You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation; announce the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.
R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Responsorial Psalm
PS 89:2-3, 16-17, 18-19
R. (2a) For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

The promises of the LORD I will sing forever, through all generations my mouth shall proclaim your faithfulness. For you have said, “My kindness is established forever;” in heaven you have confirmed your faithfulness.

Gospel  MT 10:37-42
Jesus said to his apostles: “Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives the one who sent me. Whoever receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever receives a righteous man because he is a righteous man will receive a righteous man’s reward. And whoever gives only a cup of cold water to one of these little ones to drink because the little one is a disciple—amen, I say to you, he will surely not lose his reward.”
Dear St. Martin Parishioners,

It is truly a joy for me to have the church open for the celebration of the Sacraments, albeit, in a limited way for the moment. As we slowly return to our sacramental life, three important questions have been brought up that I believe deserve my serious attention: Whether to come back to church now or later, whether to require face coverings in church and whether Holy Communion should only be distributed on the hands. I would like to share with you my answers.

First, I understand perfectly those of us who do not feel safe returning to Mass at this time. The Bishop does too and that is why the dispensation from the obligation of Sunday Mass is still in place. The reality is that Masses and the Sacraments are being offered in person only for those who are ready to return. However, the commandment of keeping the Sabbath day holy cannot be dispensed, and therefore, while not attending Mass in person, the faithful still owes it to God to dedicate Sunday to God (following Mass online is one way). For those who are ready to return to Mass in person, the Mass times currently offered are: 8:45 AM, 10:30 AM (Live streamed) and 12:15 PM.

Second, about requiring masks in church, I have two issues. One is the practical question of enforcing. I do not want to put that burden on the deacons, or staff, or the ministers of hospitality, or the Knights, or anyone of our parish. Do we block the way of those who refuse to wear masks? Do we escort them out? Do we call the police? Do we stare them down? I do not say “must” if there is no practical way to enforce it. My second issue with requiring masks in church is that it is my personal conviction that this infringes on the liberty that each American enjoys. No need to elaborate here as its discussion is beyond the scope of this communication. I will say this is one area that many good people would have to agree to disagree about. Let's do so in a charitable manner. Love of God and one another needs to be our primary goal.

Third, about Communion on the tongue, the Bishop of our Diocese recognizes that Canon Law grants the faithful the two options of receiving Holy Communion, by hand or on the tongue. This is why he has not asked us to stop distributing Holy Communion on the tongue in the present diocesan policy. Here in our parish, since the presider is the only one who distributes in this manner, those who want to avoid the risk can simply receive Holy Communion from the other minister(s) at Mass.

I hope you do not mind me sharing with you my thoughts on these very pertinent questions. This is a strange time that requires lots of patience from us all. Please pray for me as I strive to make the best decisions I can for the spiritual good of our family of faith here at St. Martin de Porres. Meanwhile, let us have faith and be courageous.

Fr. Sy Nguyen
WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 28, 2020

SUN 6/28  
2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a/Ps 89:2-3, 16-17, 18-19 [2a]/Rom 6:3-4, 8-11/Mt 10:37-42

MON 6/29  
Acts 12:1-11/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [5b]/2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18/Mt 16:13-19

TUE 6/30  
Am 3:1-8; 4:11-12/Ps 5:4b-6a, 6b-7, 8 [9a]/Mt 8:23-27

WED 7/1  
Am 5:14-15, 21-24/Ps 50:7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13, 16hr-17 [23h]/Mt 8:28-34

THR 7/2  
Am 7:10-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [10cd]/Mt 9:1-8

FRI 7/3  
Eph 2:19-22/Ps 117:1bc, 2 [Mk 16:15]/Jn 20:24-29

SAT 7/4  
Am 9:11-15/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [cf. 9b]/Mt 9:14-17

SUN 7/5  
Zec 9:9-10/Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14 [cf. 1]/Rom 8:9, 11-13/Mt 11:25-30

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 28, 2020

Sunday: 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles
Tuesday: The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church
Wednesday: St. Junípero Serra, Priest
Friday: St. Thomas, Apostle
Saturday: Independence Day
Next Sunday: 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Independence Day

LIVE THE LITURGY
Inspiration for the week

“Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?” What do you understand these words to mean? Many see these words as an indication of what may come in eternal life. In actuality, they have more to do with our lives here and now. We are called to die to ourselves and offer our lives as gifts given generously to others. It is not about us. We are asked to serve God and not continue in our service of sin. Life is about learning to do what we really do not want to do because it brings us deeper into the mystery of God, ourselves, and others. Learning how to accept and live with the “small deaths” and sacrifices we encounter teaches us how to live with and approach our final death. We can do so with a heart that has been touched by and is open to mercy or one that is self-focused and closed.
HEALTH AND WELLNESS

3 EASY STEPS
To Keeping Yourself & Others Healthy!
We are cautioned to be especially careful during the Coronavirus outbreak. Here are some simple ways to keep sickness away.

Wash Your Hands
Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds using soap and water. If you can’t wash your hands, use hand sanitizer frequently.

Don’t Touch Your Face
Especially around the eyes, nose and mouth. If you must sneeze, use a tissue or your arm.

Keep Your Distance
Practice social distancing during this epidemic and stay away from large groups. Instead, call, email or check up on family and friends using social media.

“WHOEVER GIVES
only a cup of
cold water to
one of these little
ones to drink
because the little
one is a disciple-
-amen, I say
to you, he will
surely not lose
his reward.”

- Mt 10:42

“IT IS
LOVE ALONE
THAT GIVES
WORTH TO
ALL THINGS.”

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Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.
Compassionate and Loving Father,

In the face of confusion and concern impart to us the calm of Your presence.

In You allow us to find hope and healing.

Be with those who serve the sick and give them Your caring hands.

Be with those who lead and give them Your spirit of wisdom.

Be with those who have fallen ill and give them Your comforting heart.

Wrap Your arms around our world and hold us in Your love.

Allow us at this time of trial to then serve as instruments of that love to all we meet.

We ask this in Your Name.

Amen