

# St. Vincent De Paul Church

109 East Price Street ♦ Philadelphia, PA 19144-2145 ♦ 215-438-2925  
www.facebook.com/StVincentDePaulCatholicCommunity ♦ www.saint-vincent-church.org

## Mission Statement

*St. Vincent de Paul is a faith community striving to live Jesus' gospel message of love, peace and justice for all peoples. In the spirit of St. Vincent de Paul, our inclusive community welcomes, affirms and serves both the poorest of the poor and those who are alienated and most vulnerable among us. Our individual faith journeys join together in the celebration of the Eucharist. Through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we will continue to nurture the gifts of all our members. Our parish family will draw strength and unity from diversity. We will foster an atmosphere of warmth, hospitality and prayerfulness. We pray that our commitment to these efforts will further the mission of being one with our God and one with each other.*

**The DePaul Catholic School, An Independent Mission School**

44 W. Logan Street ♦ Philadelphia, PA 19144 ♦ 215-842-1266 ♦ www.thedepaulcatholicschool.org

## Parish Staff

♦ **Sylvester Peterka, C.M.**

Pastor, Ext. #218

♦ **Joseph Cummins, C.M.**

Parochial Vicar, Ext #220

♦ **Valerie Lee-Jeter**

♦ **Dennis Rivera**

Ministers of Music

♦ **JoAnn O'Connor**

Bookkeeper, Ext. #229

♦ **EveLyn Rogers**

Parish Social Ministry

215-438-1514

♦ **Corbin Gardner & Grace Yi**

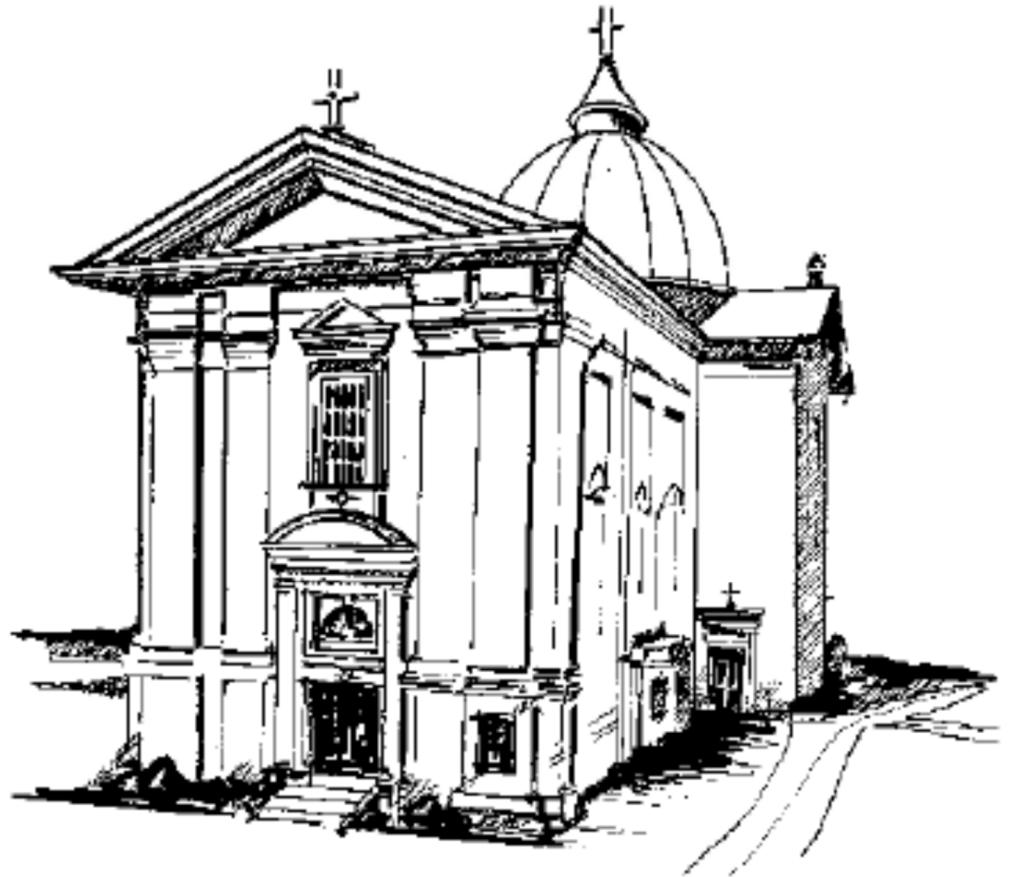
Directors of Religious Education

♦ **DeLia Landers & Katie Crump**

Directors of Youth & Young Adult Ministry

♦ **PAR-Recycle Works Prison Ministry**

Timothy Lyons, C.M. & Laura Ford  
267-335-5455  
Par-recycleworks.org



## Partners in Ministry

♦ **Inn Dwelling**

Sr. Rosemarie Jefferson  
Administrator  
Alfred J. Smith, C.M.  
Director  
215-438-2195  
inn dwelling.org

♦ **Face to Face**

Mary Kay Meeks-Hank  
Exec. Director  
215-849-0179  
267-566-8402  
facetofacegermantown.org

♦ **My Place Germantown**

Jeffrey Williamson  
Executive Director  
js@myplacegermantown.org  
215-763-6387

**Eucharistic Celebration ♦ Saturday 4pm, Sunday 9 & 11am**  
**Sacrament of Reconciliation ♦ Please call for an appointment.**

June 18, 2017

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK**

<b>SUN</b>	<b>06/18</b>	John Fox	<b>9:00 am</b>
			<b>11:00 am</b>
<b>MON</b>	<b>06/19</b>	NO MASS	
<b>TUE</b>	<b>06/20</b>	Frank Meloni	<b>7:00 am</b>
<b>WED</b>	<b>06/21</b>	Miraculous Medal	<b>7:00 am</b>
<b>THU</b>	<b>06/22</b>	Miraculous Medal	<b>7:00 am</b>
<b>FRI</b>	<b>06/23</b>	Miraculous Medal	<b>7:00 am</b>
<b>SAT</b>	<b>06/24</b>	Miraculous Medal	<b>4:00pm</b>

**THIS WEEK'S  
CALENDAR**

<b>SUN</b>	<b>Holy Body &amp; Blood of Christ</b>
<b>SAT</b>	<b>Sacrament of Penance 3-3:30 pm</b>

**FOR THIS WE PRAY**

**Parishioners**

Muriel Ancrum, Patricia Banmiller, Bernadette Barry, Katherine Elliott, Anoa Curtis, Myles McDonald, William Drinker, Judith Di Battista, Donna Jean Cocchia, Leo Johnson, Patricia Judge, Pat Burton, Thomas Baumann, Dick Taylor, Ginny Witte, Edna Poole, Nan Wade, Betsy Moore, Vince Morgan, Gerry Widmann, Kay Harty, Mary Lynn Kraft, Darryl Carroll, Natalie Gianetti, Arlene Myers, Betty Barnett, Annie Serious, Mary Ellen Graham, Mary Ann Delaplane, Linda Zappacosta.

**Friends of St. Vincent's**

Maryann Hunsicker, Steven David Aslow, Mary Fazzini DeCanelo, Laura Alfonse, Nancy Tooker, C'Arone & Wynter Marie Hamilton, Tim McCabe, Harrison Harper, Claude Harper, Jaedon Anthony Horton, Arturo Magana Herrera, Lisa Kineke, John Brennan, Ashley Kiker, The Carey Family, Monique & Joseph Phillips, Dan Wuenschel, Ashley Margatech, Johnny Hilferty, Diane McCabe, Judy Spearmint, Millie Kribel, Kathleen Lawson, Dorothy Heimlich, Connie Bronson, Joseph Simmons, Amy Natkins, Terri Jackson, Samuel Gonzalez, Mary Elizabeth Unterfofner, Ana Esquilin Santos, Ann Rainsford & Family, Rayan Bouso, Richard Lipton, Palmina Rucker, Martha King Cox, Anna Satchell, Steve Damville, Jessica Jara, Joe Hagan, Ned Dugery, Vincent Owens, Barbara Rothenbach, Diane Harris, Siobhan Barrett, Mary Corini, Robert Glasgow, Alysia Smith, Joanne Gerney, Diane Dugan, Mary Hunter Gibbs, Joey Gavin, Louis Malizia.

***Our Sister Parish of Las Anonas de Santa Cruz, El Salvador. Those who fight in wars, those who are victims of war, and those who seek peace and justice.***

*Please pray for the soul of William Regan, brother of parishioner, Mary Regan.*

**PASTORAL CARE**

We will bring the Eucharist to those unable to attend Mass regularly because of sickness or infirmity. Please call the Rectory, at 215-438-2925.

Last Week's Collection	3,017.28
Electronic	<u>3,250.00.</u>
Total	6,267.28
Tithe	313.36

***Today's Readings***

First Reading: Deuteronomy 8:2-3, 14b-16a  
Psalm: Psalm 147  
Second Reading: I Corinthians 10:16-17  
Gospel: John 6:57-58

***Readings for Next Week***

First Reading: Jeremiah 20:10-13  
Psalm: Psalm 69  
Second Reading: Romans 5:12-15  
Gospel: Matthew 10:26-33

Monday: 2 Cor 6:1-10; Ps 98:1, 2b, 3-4; Mt 5:38-42  
Tuesday: 2 Cor 8:1-9; Ps 146:2, 5-9a; Mt 5:43-48  
Wednesday: 2 Cor 9:6-11; Ps 112:1bc-4, 9; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18  
Thursday: 2 Cor 11:1-11; Ps 111:1b-4, 7-8; Mt 6:7-15  
Friday: Dt 7:6-11; Ps 103:1-4, 6-8, 10; 1 Jn 4:7-16; Mt 11:25-30  
Saturday: Jer 1:4-10; Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17; 1 Pt 1:8-12; Lk 1:5-17

**BAPTISM OF OUR CHILDREN**

Call Fr. Sy Peterka, Pastor, at 215-438-2925, ext. 218, for available dates and additional information.

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS**

The RCIA is the process through which adults become members of the Catholic Church. If you are interested in exploring whether the Catholic Church is where you want to begin or continue your Christian faith journey, please contact the Rectory at 215-438-2925.

**THOSE IN NEED OF THE SACRAMENTS**

Please contact Fr. Sy Peterka, at 215-438-2925 ext.218.

**MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES**

If you are interested in becoming involved in one or more of our Parish ministries, call the Church office, at 215-438-2925.

**PARISH OUTREACH**

Non-perishable food donations may be made Monday, Tuesday and Friday between 9am and Noon. To make an appointment for any other time, please call Evelyn Rogers at 215-438-1514.

**RESERVATIONS FOR MEETINGS/EVENTS**

Please call the Church office, 215-438-2925.

**RACIAL HEALING STATEMENT**

*To foster a community in which people of all races and cultures are treated as equals and fully participate in the life of the church. We hope to achieve this by... Deepening Cross-Racial/Cross-Cultural relationships; Developing each person's gifts for Leadership & Ministry, (Including each group's Art & Culture) and by... Supporting actions for justice.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS - June 18-24, 2017

### CELEBRATION FOR GRACE AND CORBIN:

On **July 30**, there will be **one Mass at 10am** to celebrate and say goodbye to Grace and Corbin, Ann Marie and Claire and Gabriela Fore, Tonya Harris, and Jackie Lynch. There will be a picnic type party afterwards.

### LECTORS

Lectors, please sign up now for June and July (and through September!).

### HOSPITALITY

Please join us for hospitality provided by the community after the 9am Mass in the Hospitality center. To volunteer, sign up on the bulletin board by the side entrance. Questions? Call Jack DiFeo 215 287-5682.

### CALLING ALL ST. VINCENT'S PARISHIONERS!

As most of you know, St. Vincent's has a website <<http://saint-vincent-church.org/>> where you can download the latest bulletin, check Mass times, and get contact information for parish staff. However, did you know that you can also find:

- schedules for lectors and altar servers?
- a calendar of events?
- news and writings from your fellow parishioners?
- ministries, staff bios, announcements, and more?The parish website ministry has been working hard to make our site both engaging and useful. But we can't do it alone—we need your help! Here's what you can do:

- If you're a ministry, please send us whatever you'd like for us to put on your ministry page, be it photos, an updated schedule, anything.

-If you're a shutterbug, please send us your photos! We'd like to have a gallery showing the vibrancy of our parish life!

-If you're coordinating an event at St. V's or elsewhere, then please let us know the details so we can include it on the calendar.

-If you just have something you'd like to share with the parish, perhaps a reflection or a poem, then send it along.

To make it easier, email anything you have to [web@saint-vincent-church.org](mailto:web@saint-vincent-church.org). And finally, we are always looking for people to join the ranks of the web ministry. If nothing else, your feedback and encouragement are essential, so let us know how we could serve you better.

### CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

We have pledged about \$777,000 and in less than a year have over \$440,000 raised thus far. This will be used for: Roof, if needed, handicap bathroom, handicap parking/drop off, handicap entrance to Rectory and Chapel, refurbish present bathroom, repair Sacristy with handicap ramp and new cabinets, bring choir risers and altar to code, replace church floor and add air conditioning, touchup interior of Church. If you haven't pledged, please do so. See Father Sy.

### PRAYERS NEEDED

Please pray for Fr. Joe as he deals with issues related to cancer. He is in the infirmary. Visitors are welcome.

### POWER UPDATES

St Vincent's is a member of this vibrant interfaith community organization that works on economic dignity, criminal justice reform, fair school funding, and immigrant issues. Contact Terri Burgin (215-651-0100) or Mary Laver (610-324-9388) for more information.

### HARRISBURG TRIP for FAIR EDUCATION FUNDING/ENDING EDUCATION APARTHEID, Wednesday, June 21:

Last-minute call to join St Vincent's and people of faith from across our city and state for a prayerful and prophetic day of action to speak out on the inequity in school funding! If you can join us this Wednesday, please contact Mary Laver ASAP to reserve your spot. This will be a great family field trip for you and your kids/ grand-kids the day after school's out - educational and inspiring to see "democracy in action" in one of the most beautiful and historic Capitol buildings in the nation. Food and bus service (from St Malachy's) provided free by POWER. Carpool from St Vincent's at 7:30am; buses leave St Malachy's at 8:30, back at St V's by 6pm.

Here's why your presence matters: Research by POWER and the Education Law Center shows that on average, majority-white school districts receive \$2000 more per child from the state than majority-African American or Latino districts—across the state, not just in SE PA. No matter whether your children attended public, charter, or private schools, we can stand together for the right of ALL Pennsylvania children to a fairly-funded, high-quality education!

### ST. VINCENT'S POWER Monthly Meeting: Monday, June 26 at 6:30pm in the rectory.

**LIVE STOP:** Have you or a friend/ family member ever experienced a "Live Stop" where a car was towed because of the lack of proper paperwork (license, registration, insurance)? If so, please contact Mary Laver or Fr Sy. POWER is assisting New Sanctuary Movement in gathering stories about the devastating financial impact of this practice, in an effort to convince city officials that it is just as safe - and far less costly - to grant drivers 30 minutes to get a licensed friend to drive the car to a home location rather than to a PPA lot. This impacts thousands of Philadelphians every year, many of whom forfeit their vehicle if they can't cover fees within a few weeks. Thank you for your help as we organize to change this!

### FR. SY'S AFRICAN APPEAL

Every year, I ask friends and family to help me make a difference in VINCENTIAN AFRICA. I don't "mail" my appeal letters to my St. Vincent's family, but they are in the back of the church. I hope that you would take one and read it. Pray about it. You have been so wonderful in your support and in bringing Hope to so many. Thank you.

### HOUSING WANTED

Mature woman interested in renting a room, with access to kitchen and bathroom. Can help with house cleaning and is good with pets. She is quiet, neat and can provide company if the individual wants it. Please call the rectory or speak with Father Sy if you are interested in this opportunity.

**Saint Vincent de Paul Parish**  
**Registration Form**

Thanks for being here! If you would like to become an ACTIVE member of St. Vincent De Paul Parish (full-time or part-time), we invite you to **complete the Parish Registration form below.**

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Envelope number \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

last

first

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Full name and relationship of all resident family members

\_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Have you received the Sacraments?

( ) Baptism ( ) Confirmation ( ) First Communion

Are you interested in

( ) Liturgical Ministry ( ) Service Ministry

(Can you sing, lector, teach....)

**Please place completed form in the Offeratory basket  
or send to the Parish Office and we will contact you.**

.....

**Bulletin Deadline: Mondays by noon. Email to  
secretary@saint-vincent-church.org**



**St. Vincent de Paul Church**  
**Electronic Donation Authorization ES6255**

**Thank you** for considering donations to St. Vincent de Paul electronically via your bank account. Please complete this form so that we can set things up for you. If you have questions, call Joannet 215-438-2925x229

Date\_\_\_\_\_ Envelope Number\_\_\_\_\_  
Electronic Type: New\_\_\_\_ Change\_\_\_\_

Name\_\_\_\_\_ last first

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City\_\_\_\_\_ State\_\_ Zip\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #\_\_\_\_\_

Cell #\_\_\_\_\_

Email\_\_\_\_\_

**Date of 1st Donation**\_\_\_\_\_

**Amount of Donation**\_\_\_\_\_

**Frequency:**

Monthly on the **1st** \_\_\_\_\_

Monthly on the **15th** \_\_\_\_\_

Weekly (**every Monday**) \_\_\_\_\_

Weekly (**every other Monday**)\_\_\_\_\_

Bank Routing Number\_\_\_\_\_

Account Number\_\_\_\_\_

Please debit my checking account per **attached voided check**. (If you wish to debit your savings account, please contact your bank for routing and account number.) **I authorize the above organization to process debit entries to my bank account. I understand that this authority will remain in effect until I provide reasonable notification to terminate the authorization.**  
**Authorized signature and Date:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Feast of the Celebration of the Body and Blood of Christ**

**Corpus Christi, June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Prayers of the Faithful**

**For the Church, may the Bread we eat, and the Cup we drink deepen our awareness that we ARE the Body of Christ and transform all we think, say and do to make this a more just and equitable world, we pray.....**

**As we, as a Faith community, blessed and display the banner "Black Lives Matter, at St. Vincent's" (de Paul) may we recommit our lives to the work of banishing the sin of Institutional racism which is bolstered by the myth of white supremacy, we pray....**

**This weekend, we also remember Juneteenth Day which recalls the events in Galveston TX, of 1865, when the last of the nation's slaves learned they were free, TWO years after the Emancipation Proclamation was signed. In thanksgiving for the contributions of our African-American ancestors to the history of this country, we pray....**

**The weekend is also the second anniversary of the murder of nine parishioners of Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston SC, who are martyrs to our failure to repent, restore and heal. May they and all our dead, including those who perished in the terrible fire in London this week, experience the loving embrace of the Triune God, we pray...**

**That all fathers and father figures may receive the blessings and strength needed to fulfill their vocations, and by God's grace take delight in sharing in the lives of their children, we pray.....**

**Bernadette Marie Cronin-Geller**

*Blessing of the Black Lives Matter Banner  
Saint Vincent de Paul's Church  
Germantown, Philadelphia  
June 18, 2017, Feast of Corpus Christi*

**Jesus our brother**, in your earthly body you lived under racial oppression and died in poverty and violence. On this feast of your Most Holy Body and Blood we declare your resurrection from death and your promise of victory over all injustice. Bless ALL your people this day as we lift up black lives in the light of your coming kin-dom. Heal our nation, our church and ourselves as we do the work of learning our past, building our present and giving our future to you in faith.

**Jesus our bread**, we ask you to bless this banner that all who see it may be moved towards the All Powerful love we proclaim and share at your Holy Table, that our faith might be greater than any fear.

**Jesus our healer**, strengthen us to build relationships, in joy and in struggle, across race and culture for Your glory and for our healing, as we grow deeper in faith in your promise that your kin-dom is already here, waiting for us to reveal it in our lives. *Amen.*

## ***ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR JUNE 17<sup>TH</sup> AND 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2017***

**Happy Father's Day to all of our fathers and father figures!**

**YOUNG ADULT POTLUCK:** If you are between 18 and 40, please join us on Sunday, June 25<sup>th</sup>, in the Hospitality Center, at 6:30 pm. Signup sheets are in the back of the church.

**GOSPEL CHOIR:** If you are interested in joining the 11 o'clock choir, please give Dennis Rivera a call, at (267) 356-8665.

**ELECTRONIC GIVING:** It's easy. It helps the church. Please prayerfully consider signing up, if you do not already give electronically. There is a simple form in your bulletin.

**FR. SY'S AFRICAN APPEAL:** If you can help with this great appeal, please take a brochure from the back of the church.

**CAPITAL CAMPAIGN:** Again, thank you for all who pledged, all who gave. If you would like to make a pledge, please see Father Sy, for a form and more information.

**PLAY AT OLD ACADEMY PLAYERS:** "Mornings at Seven", directed by our own Loretta Lucy Miller, about four aging sisters and their spouses (amen!). Playing this Sunday and next Sunday, at 2:00 pm. Also playing next Friday and Saturday at 8:00 pm. Box office number is (215) 843-1109.

**Financial reports will be mailed to all registered parishioners in August, after the fiscal year ends.**

**Mission speaker will be here July 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

**Welcome to our seminarian: Walner Diaz. He will be with us this summer. Feel free to invite him to your home for a visit or dinner.**



Calling all Parents, Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles, Fans of Children...!

**Join POWER & Families from  
across PA for a  
DAY of ACTION in  
HARRISBURG  
to oppose  
EDUCATION APARTHEID**  
*Inequitable funding that impacts  
schools state-wide:  
Our Children Deserve Better!*

**WED JUNE 21, 2017**

*School ends the day before, so this would be a great day for a family trip!*

**Free Bus & Food provided by POWER**

7:30 AM: Meet at St Vincent's to carpool to St Malachy's (N Phila)

8:30 AM: Buses depart St Malachy's for Harrisburg

*At the Capitol: Briefing, Prayers, Noon Rally @ Rotunda, Meetings with legislators.*

6:00 PM: Arrive back at St Vincent's

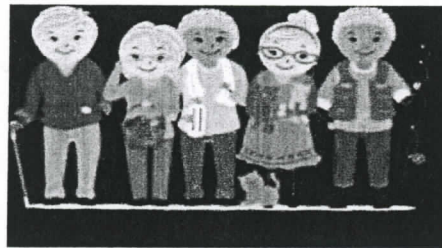
**\*\*Please reserve your seats on our free buses ASAP!**

**\*\*Sign up in church, or contact Mary Laver 610-324-9388**



COME JOIN US!

# SENIOR COMMUNITY SERVICES FAIR



WHEN: FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2017

TIME: 10:00 AM TO 1:00 PM

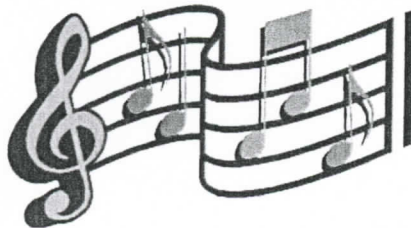
WHERE: CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

NORTHEAST FAMILY SERVICE CENTER

7340 JACKSON STREET

PHILADELPHIA, PA 19136

For more information call: 215-624-5920





# MARY:

## ***A BIBLICAL WALK WITH THE BLESSED MOTHER***

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WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

**STARTING: WEDNESDAY - 6/28/2017**

**6:30 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.**

RECTORY

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For more information Contact: Fr. Hugo 215-438-2925



# Martin de Porres Foundation

*The* **UPDATE**

May/June 2017  
Newsletter

Edition III, Volume 12



**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.

## RETIREMENT!! Deacon William Bradley

The Archdiocese of Philadelphia recently announced the retirement of Deacon William Bradley, Director of the Office for Black Catholics, effective June 30, 2017.

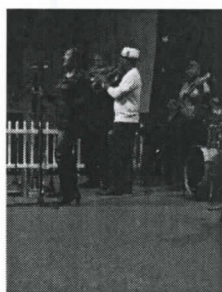
The Martin de Porres Foundation would also like to congratulate Deacon Bill, for his upcoming retirement. We applaud him for his dedicated years of service and achievements. After the many years of working together, we will try to adjust to the idea that he no longer works in the OBC. But, this is not the end of his career of inspiring, spiritually uplifting, and helping to develop leadership and Vocations for the Priesthood and the Diaconate within the African-American/Black Catholic Community.

Again, we send congratulations on a well-deserved retirement. Few have worked as hard as Deacon Bill. We believe, he will continue to enjoy and focus some of his energy into working with our Church and community.

## Father Richard Owens, New Director of the Office for Black Catholics – Archdiocese of Philadelphia

Father Richard Owens was ordained on June 7th, 2014 at St. Augustine Church in Pittsburgh. He is a native of Philadelphia and was born in 1982. Father Owens is the oldest of two siblings. He attended Our Lady of Hope Grade School and Mercy Vocational High School in Philadelphia. Fr. Owens is the son of Mary & Richard Owens.

## St. Raymond of Penafort Men's Ministry Raises Monies with Musical Events: Arlene Edmonds Tribune Correspondent – May 5, 2017



The Men of St. Raymond of Penafort Church in Mount Airy raised money by holding a jazz night. — Photo by Arlene Edmonds

The St. Raymond of Penafort Church in Mount Airy raised monies through its men's ministry for the independent St. Raymond Mission School. This was the first of two sold-out, back-to-back benefits for the church located at 1350 E. Vernon Road. The Men of St. Raymond held a jazz night in the school hall recently. The following afternoon the church hosted "An Evening of Mahalia Jackson" featuring singer Joilet Harris in the sanctuary.

The Rev. Christopher M. Walsh, pastor of St. Raymond's, was pleased with the overwhelming response for the events. Together they raised thousands of dollars for the church ministries. "The parish is most grateful to all those who have worked so generously to raise funds for our hall renovation recently," Walsh said. "Mary Jones and Pat Brockington along with a very large crew of helpers raised more than \$1,400 with their Good Friday fish fry. Joanne Evans, along with her very able team, raised more than \$3,500 through the Mahalia Jackson tribute concert."

The men's ministry raised even more money from the jazz event. Otis Wilson said that they reached their goal of at least \$1,000. He said that the monies will be used for some needed upgrades at the school that serves children in the surrounding community from kindergarten to eighth grade. The school is no longer under the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, so the resources are welcome. [Read more](#)

**MARTIN DE PORRES  
FOUNDATION MONTHLY  
NEWSLETTER  
SIGN-UP  
click here  
<http://eepurl.com/cnlalf>**

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- 2 – Venerable Pierre Toussaint





## SAVE THE DATE

**The National Black Catholic Congress  
Congress XII Mass Choir  
Need Section Leaders for all voice parts  
Rehearsals on Mondays from 5:30 – 7:00 PM  
➤ June 5 & 19**

If you are a choir member who's registered for NBCC and you are interested, email your name, contact information, voice part, along with any questions to:

Angela Taylor at [acantor13@gmail.com](mailto:acantor13@gmail.com)

**Rehearsals will be held at  
St. Martin de Porres Church  
2340 W. Lehigh Avenue (19132)  
Congress XII  
Orlando, Florida  
July 6 – July 9, 2017**

## **Archdiocese of Philadelphia Office for Cultural Ministries-ONE CHURCH Many Cultures**

*Building Intercultural Competence for Ministers  
(BICM) Training*

*The Catholic Church in the U.S. is rapidly growing in diversity. This dynamic and thoughtful training explores valuable tools for ministry in an intercultural setting.*

Archdiocesan Pastoral Center, Auditorium  
222 N. 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103  
Wednesday, 7:00 PM – 9:30 PM

June 14 Module 1 Issues of Diversity  
June 21 Module 2 Understanding Culture  
June 28 Module 3 Intercultural Communication  
July 5 Module 4 Obstacles to Intercultural Relations  
July 12 Module 5 Ecclesial Integration vs. Assimilation

**Space is limited. Please register by June 1st  
215-667-2820 or [rbarrios@archphila.org](mailto:rbarrios@archphila.org)  
Registration is \$25 (Books & materials included)**



*Pierre Toussaint was declared Venerable in 1996.  
Born in modern-day Haiti and brought to New York City as a slave, Pierre died a free man, a renowned hairdresser, and one of New York City's most well-known Catholics.*

Pierre was internally free long before he was legally free. Refusing to become bitter, he daily chose to cooperate with God's grace, eventually becoming a compelling sign of God's wildly generous love.  
(Franciscan Media)

## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR NBCC UPDATE!!**

**Congress XII and Hyatt Regency Hotel  
Registration Deadline – June 14th!!**

<https://www.nbcccongress.org/>

**National Black Catholic Congress XII  
Thursday, July 6, 2017 to Sunday July 9, 2017**

Location: Hyatt Regency Orlando

9801 International Drive, Orlando, FL 32819

Adult Meeting Registration \$375.00

Youth Group Discount Registration - \$195.00

(Ages 14-17 groups of 15 or more youths)

(Ages 14-17, individual registration, or groups of 14 or less)

Youth Meeting Registration - \$250.00

Hotel Room Fees:

NBCC Room Rate: Single/Double/Triple, & Quad \$138.50 per room, per day. Includes taxes & fees

## **VOCATION OFFICE FOR THE DIOCESAN PRIESTHOOD PRESENTS: QUO VADIS SUMMER 2017-HIGH SCHOOL AGED MEN**

June 26-29, 2017

Black Rock Retreat Center, Quarryville, PA

Register on and after April 2<sup>nd</sup>: \$35.00

AT: [WWW.HEEDTHECALL.ORG](http://WWW.HEEDTHECALL.ORG)

## **EVENT: TRADITION, A CELEBRATION OF THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Monday, June 19, 2017 - 8am-5:30pm

Sheraton Philadelphia Downtown Hotel, Philadelphia

Registration deadline is May 26. \$65 pp

<https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=74cab9>

## **WINE National Catholic Women's Conference**



The Archdiocese of Philadelphia is proud to be  
the host diocese for the first annual

**WINE: Women in the New Evangelization  
National Catholic Women's  
Conference**

**Saturday, October 21, 2017 – 8:30am-4pm  
National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa  
Doylestown, PA**

Registration is open! **REGISTER NOW!!**  
Visit the WINE Conference website by clicking the  
purple button below:

**Go to: [wineconference.org](http://wineconference.org)**

Contact your Pastor/DRE regarding Martin de Porres  
Foundation funding.

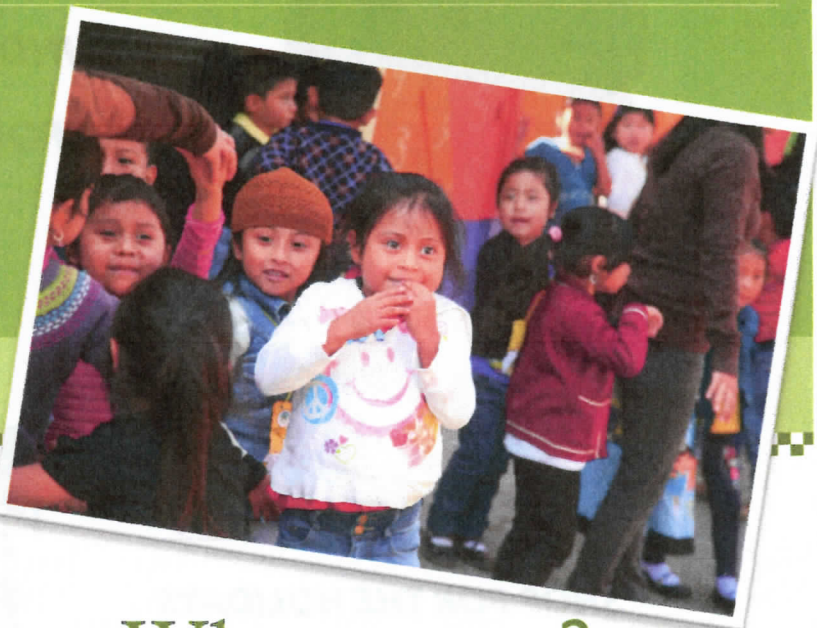




# You Can Make A Difference!

Save the Dates!

Saturday October 28  
Sunday, October 29  
BEFORE & AFTER MASSES



## Who are we?

Under the Same Moon (UTSM) is a non-profit organization that helps support a primary school, Bendición de Dios, in San Juan Alotenango, Guatemala. Bendición de Dios educates about 500 children, most of whom cannot afford the \$250 in annual costs needed to attend the "public" schools there.

We raise money by collecting donations & selling handcrafted items made by Guatemalan indigenous artisans and locally sourced Guatemalan coffee, Dean's Beans.



UTSM works directly with artisans & artisan cooperatives to follow fair trade practices. Thus, our purchases also provide opportunities for greatly improved earnings for the artisans.



**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL/GERMANTOWN**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28 &**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29 , 2017**

**BEFORE & AFTER ALL MASSES**

**SAVE THE DATES!**

**SHOP FOR THE HOLIDAYS**

**SHOP FOR SPECIAL EVENTS**

**SHOP FOR A SPECIAL SOMEONE**



**PROCEEDS WILL SUPPORT:**

- **UNDER THE SAME MOON (UTSM)  
CHILDREN'S SCHOOL & ARTISANS**
- **ST. VINCENT DE PAUL  
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**



# POPE FRANCIS

## FIVE FINGER PRAYER

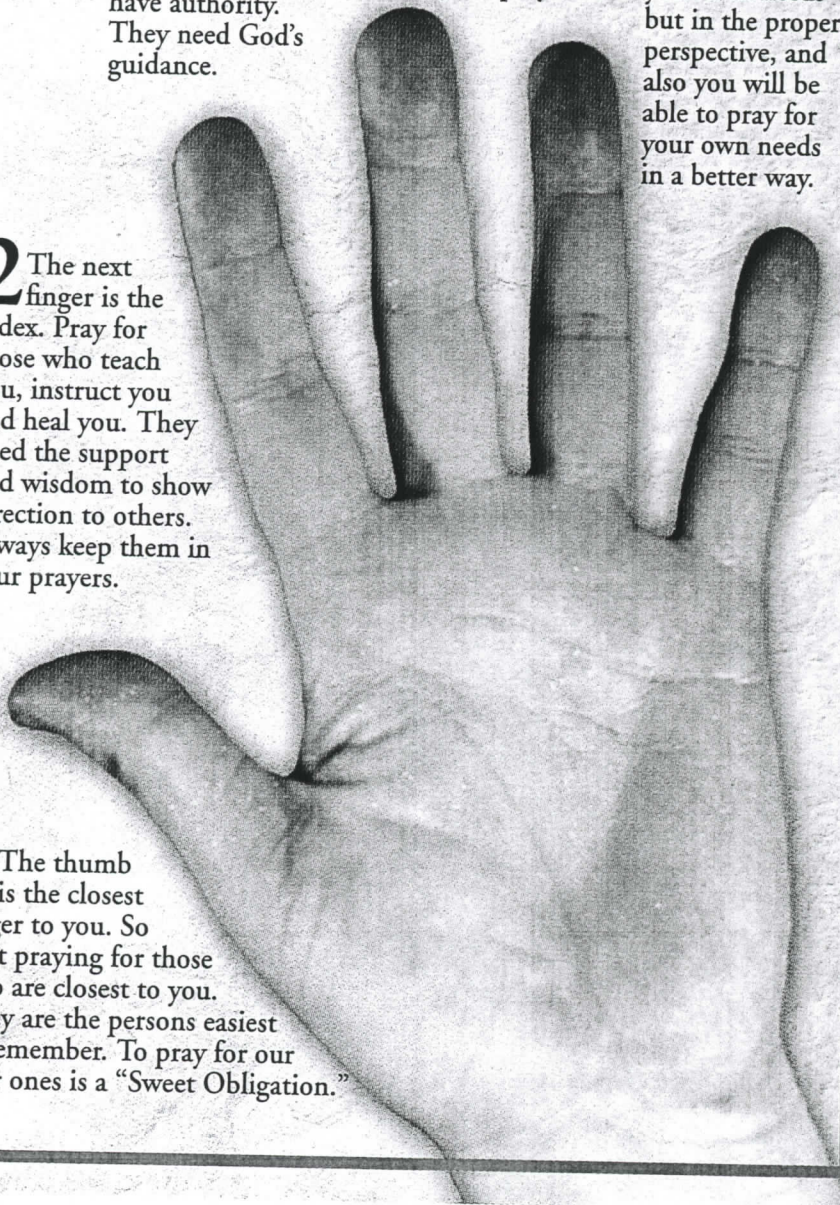
**3** The following finger is the tallest. It reminds us of our leaders, the governors and those who have authority. They need God's guidance.

**4** The fourth finger is the ring finger. Even though it may surprise you, it is our weakest finger. It should remind us to pray for the weakest, the sick or those plagued by problems. They need your prayers.

**5** And finally we have our smallest finger, the smallest of all. Your pinkie should remind you to pray for yourself. When you are done praying for the other four groups, you will be able to see your own needs but in the proper perspective, and also you will be able to pray for your own needs in a better way.

**2** The next finger is the index. Pray for those who teach you, instruct you and heal you. They need the support and wisdom to show direction to others. Always keep them in your prayers.

**1** The thumb is the closest finger to you. So start praying for those who are closest to you. They are the persons easiest to remember. To pray for our dear ones is a "Sweet Obligation."



# Save The Date!



Saturday  
July 29, 2017



Join the Metuchen Comitium for  
**LEGION OF MARY DAY**

at

The NATIONAL BLUE ARMY SHRINE  
OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

674 Mountain View Road  
Washington, NJ 08802

10:00 am: Welcome, Legion Prayers and Rosary

10:30 am to 11:30am: Confessions

11:00 am: Conference

12:00 pm: The Holy Mass and Catena

1:30 pm: Lunch (Snack Bar will be open)

Bring Food for yourself and to share.

3:00 pm: Conference, Exposition and Adoration of the  
Blessed Sacrament, Benediction

**{ More Details To Follow }**

Contact: Michael White

Phone: 732-910-2070

Email: [queenshipofmary.michael@gmail.com](mailto:queenshipofmary.michael@gmail.com)



THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL

*Shrine*

NOVENA  
*of*  
HOPE



EVERY MONDAY  
*for*  
NINE WEEKS:

JUNE 5  
*to*  
JULY 31



# MIRACULOUS MEDAL SHRINE - NOVENA OF HOPE

PREACHER: REV. MICHAEL J. SHEA, CM

THEME: "THE NEW EVANGELIZATION"

## DATES IN JUNE

### MONDAY, JUNE 5

*"It Pays to Advertise"*

7am Novena Prayers and Mass

9am, 12:05pm & 7:30pm Novena Prayers, Mass, and Sermon

2pm, 3:30pm, 5pm & 6:30pm Novena Prayers, Sermon, and Benediction

### MONDAY, JUNE 12

*"What is Evangelization?"*

7am Novena Prayers and Mass

9am, 12:05pm & 7:30pm Novena Prayers, Mass, and Sermon

2pm, 3:30pm, 5pm & 6:30pm Novena Prayers, Sermon, and Benediction

### MONDAY, JUNE 19

*"What is the New Evangelization?"*

7am Novena Prayers and Mass

9am, 12:05pm & 7:30pm Novena Prayers, Mass, and Sermon

2pm, 3:30pm, 5pm & 6:30pm Novena Prayers, Sermon, and Benediction

### MONDAY, JUNE 26

*"The New Evangelization and Saint John XXIII"*

7am Novena Prayers and Mass

9am, 12:05pm & 7:30pm Novena Prayers, Mass, and Sermon

2pm, 3:30pm, 5pm & 6:30pm Novena Prayers, Sermon, and Benediction

## JOIN US IN PERSON OR ONLINE!

To send us your intentions or watch the live broadcast or recording, visit

[MiraculousMedal.org/Novena](http://MiraculousMedal.org/Novena)

## DATES IN JULY

### MONDAY, JULY 3

*"The New Evangelization and Blessed Paul VI"*

7am Novena Prayers and Mass

9am, 12:05pm & 7:30pm Novena Prayers, Mass, and Sermon

2pm, 3:30pm, 5pm & 6:30pm Novena Prayers, Sermon, and Benediction

### MONDAY, JULY 10

*"The New Evangelization and Saint John Paul II"*

7am Novena Prayers and Mass

9am, 12:05pm & 7:30pm Novena Prayers, Mass, and Sermon

2pm, 3:30pm, 5pm & 6:30pm Novena Prayers, Sermon, and Benediction

### MONDAY, JULY 17

*"The New Evangelization and Pope Benedict XVI"*

7am Novena Prayers and Mass

9am, 12:05pm & 7:30pm Novena Prayers, Mass, and Sermon

2pm, 3:30pm, 5pm & 6:30pm Novena Prayers, Sermon, and Benediction

### MONDAY, JULY 24

*"The New Evangelization and Pope Francis"*

7am Novena Prayers and Mass

9am, 12:05pm & 7:30pm Novena Prayers, Mass, and Sermon

2pm, 3:30pm, 5pm & 6:30pm Novena Prayers, Sermon, and Benediction

### MONDAY, JULY 31

*"Summary - The New Evangelization"*

7am Novena Prayers and Mass

9am, 12:05pm & 7:30pm Novena Prayers, Mass, and Sermon

2pm, 3:30pm, 5pm & 6:30pm Novena Prayers, Sermon, and Benediction



## THESE NOVENAS ARE OFFERED FOR THE INTENTIONS OF THESE SPECIAL GROUPS:

**MONDAY, June 5:** Priests, Seminarians, Deacons, and Religious Men and Women

**MONDAY, June 12:** Public Servants: Police, Firefighters, and EMTs

**MONDAY, June 19:** US Veterans and Military Personnel

**MONDAY, June 26:** Catholic Educators

**MONDAY, July 3:** Catholic Medical Professionals: Doctors, Nurses, and Technicians

**MONDAY, July 10:** Seniors (each service has "Anointing of the Sick")

**MONDAY, July 17:** Catholic Lawyers and Business Professionals

**MONDAY, July 24:** Catholic Societies and Organizations: Knights of Columbus, Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Legion of Mary, and many more

**MONDAY, July 31:** Vincentian and Novena Families: All Who Attend Vincentian Parishes and the Monday Novenas (Past & Present Devotees)

### ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Monday, July 10, at all Services

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Every Monday - 7:30am to 7:30pm

### CONFESSION

Every Monday - Starts 15 minutes before all Services

### COFFEE AND REFRESHMENTS

will be served July 31, following the 9am and 12:05pm Masses



## Miraculous Medal Shrine

500 E. Cheltenham Ave. • Philadelphia, PA 19144  
215-848-1010 • [www.MiraculousMedal.org](http://www.MiraculousMedal.org)

*O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee.*



# Black Lives Matter at St. Vincent's

*"What does it mean to be Black and Catholic? It means that I come to my church fully functioning. That doesn't frighten you, does it? I come to my church fully functioning. I bring myself, my Black self, all that I am, all that I have, all that I hope to become. I bring my whole history, my tradition, my experience, my culture....."*

-Sr. Thea Bowman of Canton, Mississippi (1990)

*"Bear one another's burdens and in doing so you will fulfill the law of Jesus Christ."*

-Galatians 6:2

At St. Vincent's Parish, our support for Black Lives Matter is rooted in our deep Catholic understanding of the fundamental dignity of **all life** and our understanding that God is *always on the side of justice for the oppressed* in the human story (Matthew 25:35-40).

A multi-racial group led by some of our black parishioners has been meeting for months to study Black Lives Matter and discern a way forward for discussion and the possible creation and display of a parish banner as a communal demonstration of support.

The origins of Black Lives Matter is described in the following excerpt found on the Black Lives Matter website:

*"#BlackLivesMatter-was created in 2012 by three women of African descent, two of whom are queer identified. After the murder of Trayvon Martin, Trayvon's killer, George Zimmerman, was acquitted for his crime, and the dead 17-year old was posthumously placed on trial for his own murder. Rooted in the experiences of Black people in this country who actively resist our dehumanization, #BlackLivesMatter is a call to action and a response to the virulent anti-Black racism that permeates our society. Black Lives Matter is a unique contribution that goes beyond extrajudicial killings of Black people by police and vigilantes."*

*(Paraphrased from the [blacklivesmatter.com/herstory/](https://blacklivesmatter.com/herstory/))*

#BlackLivesMatter is working for a world where Black lives are no longer systematically and intentionally targeted for demise. Black Lives Matter affirms the humanity, resilience in the face of deadly oppression, and innumerable contributions of black folks to this society. It recognizes and celebrates the sweat equity and love for Black people now put into creating a political project—"taking the hashtag off of social media and into the streets. The call for Black lives to matter is a rallying cry for ALL Black lives striving for liberation."

Black Lives Matter is committed to:

*Collectively, lovingly and courageously working vigorously for freedom and justice for Black people and, by extension all people.*

*intentionally building and nurturing a beloved community that is bonded together through a beautiful struggle that is restorative, not depleting.*



- *acknowledging, respecting and celebrating difference(s) and commonalities.*
- *embodying and practicing justice, liberation, and peace in engagements with one another.*
- *practicing empathy*

While we at St. Vincent's recognize the intersection of multiple forms of oppression, **the statement "Black Lives Matter"** follows the long legacy of Black liberation movements that has always ultimately supported and benefitted the liberation movements of all oppressed people.

"Black Lives Matter at St. Vincent's", therefore, is a statement of love for Black folks. It is a challenge to us all to live the love we proclaim as we build relationships across race and heal America's historical narrative. As Catholics of all ethnicities, "Black Live Matters at St. Vincent" also calls us to recognize the historic role of our **Catholic Church** in creating and maintaining systems of racial injustice-**even** as we have continued to work against oppression. This work will require us to struggle together across a difficult terrain but to do so trusting God and holding on to one another in hope.

During this Resurrection season, we are challenged to make closer connections across race, gender and age and sexual orientation. We are mindful that we have **all** been affected, *particularly white folks*, by the participation in unjust systems since the beginning of our nation, which have made us **all** blind to the ways we help sustain them. St. Vincent's Black Lives Matter study group invites you to our upcoming reflections and community conversations to be announced this Easter and Pentecost season. Is God calling you to help move the stone of racism in our church and world, this Easter season? For more information please see below.

### Some Upcoming Black Lives Matter Events at St. Vincent's

**21 May at all three Liturgies:** Solemn reading of the names of Black Philadelphians who died from violence

**June 18 (location at Church to be announced):** St. Vincent's All-Parish facilitated conversation on *Black Lives Matter* from a Catholic view

For more information, see the following people:

4 pm Mass- Chris Newsome, 267-584-8732

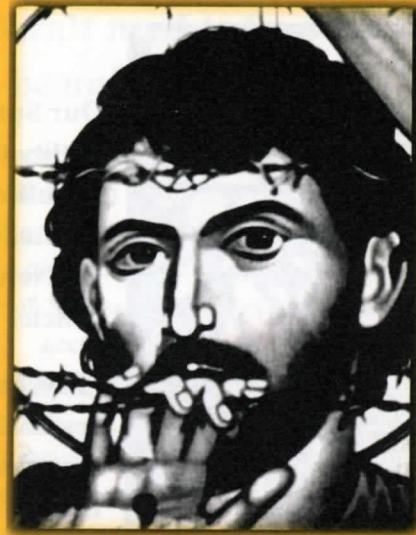
9 am Mass- Doug Copeland & Jeanna Murat

11 am Mass- Bemnet Melaku & Chris Newsome

# ADEODATUS

A Spiritual Field Hospital in Philadelphia

Office of Justice and Peace  
Province of St. Thomas of Villanova  
Augustinian Defenders of the Rights of the Poor



"I was in prison and you visited me."  
Matthew 25, 16

## VOICES FROM PRISON AND THE EDGE

Spring 2017  
No. 26

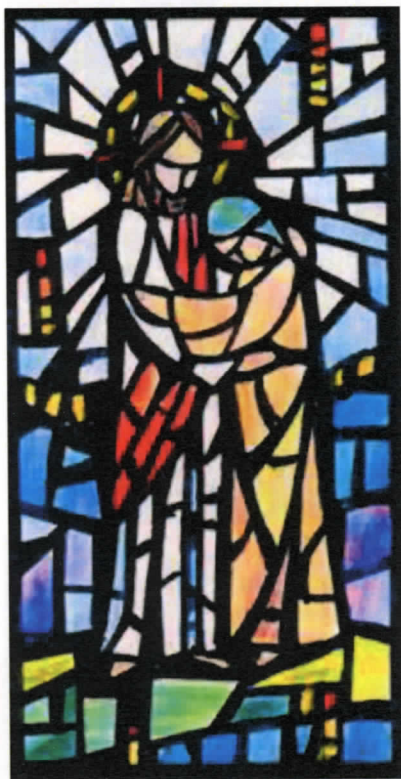


*"They cuff me like an animal,  
Lock me up like an animal,  
And I am lonely."*

**"More than half of prisoners in  
the United States have a mental  
health problem."**

**--2006 Justice Department Study**





--Johnny

Our Spring issue of *Voices From Prison and the Edge* is devoted to the reality that our American society criminalizes mental illness. "People are not officially incarcerated because of psychiatric ailments, but that's the unintended effect," writes Nicholas Kristoff in an article on this topic in the New York Times, (February 2017). Statistics below are from this article.

"Psychiatric disorders are the only kind of sickness that we as a society regularly respond to not with sympathy but with handcuffs and incarceration. And as more humane and cost-effective ways of treating mental illness have been cut back, we increasingly resort to the law-enforcement toolbox: jails and prisons. "More than half of prisoners in the United States have a mental health problem, according to a 2006 Justice Department study. Among female inmates, almost three-quarters have a mental disorder. In jail (in Cook County, Chicago), some prisoners sit on their beds all day long, lost in their delusions, oblivious to their surroundings, hearing voices, sometimes talking back to them. The first person to say that this system is barbaric is their jailer." ...OR A

FELLOW INMATE!--one who notices the humanity of the person and responds in kind. We received the following letter from an inmate-- call him "Johnny"-- that poignantly illustrates the issue of mental illness in prison and how a person's compassion is the best medicine:

*Fr. Paul, I'm sorry for the delay in my responses to your letters. I've been in and out of the hole and out of my mind! I'm trying to have a sense of humor about it, but it's really not funny. I just got 150 days in DTU (Mental Health Hole). It's a long story but the gist of it is this: a C.O. (Corrections Officer) made something up on a bogus misconduct for something I didn't do, just to get me out of the way. I was unaware of this until the team was at my door telling me to pack. "You're going to the hole." I snapped, got hit with a 10% grade OC spray, and given a black eye. This happened in November. I've been a little stressed out, but I'm doing a little better. I get a little peace of mind locked in this cell by myself. The C.O.s and inmates can't bother me and I have my tablet, so the music helps a lot. I also made friends with another inmate. "Derek" is 27, a little slow and has severe mental help problems. Everyone treated him bad because he was acting crazy. He doesn't have any electronics and can't read or write. When he snaps (even I have never seen this happen before), he rips out desks bolted to the floor, beats the door, and tears light fixtures clean out. He usually does this when he quits taking his meds, which is often. He's three cells away from me and in another program. I'm the only MHU (Mental Health Unit) on this tier. I was put here originally as MHU overflow and I was supposed to get moved. To make a long story short, the kid just wanted someone to listen to him and he's not that crazy (just a little bit). I got him to take his meds for three weeks now and told him how pleasurable he is to talk to on his meds. I told him that with meds he's normal, a human being, even if others still treat him like an animal. A few data snapshots that illustrate the problem: (from the Kristoff article)*

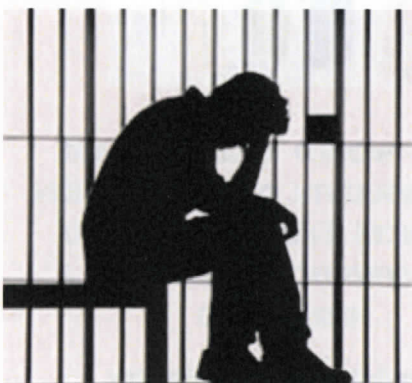
Nationwide in America, more than three times as many mentally ill people are housed in prisons and jails as in hospitals, according to a 2010 study by the National Sheriffs' Association and the Treatment Advocacy Center.



"Taxpayers spend as much as \$300 or \$400 a day supporting patients with psychiatric disorders while they are in jail, partly because the mentally ill require medication and extra supervision and care. "Finally, this is the stupidest thing I've seen government do," Thomas Dart, the Sheriff of the Cook County Jail in Chicago says, "It would be far cheaper," he adds, "to manage the mentally ill with a case worker on the outside than to spend such sums incarcerating them."

In 1955, there was one bed in a psychiatric ward for every 300 Americans: now there is one bed for every 3,000 Americans, the 2010 study said. So while more effective pharmacological treatments are theoretically available, they are often very difficult to access for people who are only borderline functional. "Some people come here to get medication," says Ardell Hall, a superintendent of a woman's unit at the jail. "They commit a crime to get in."

Listen as Johnny continues his story about relating to Derek in the Mental Health Unit in a Pennsylvania prison:



*He likes country music so I blast music, running my tablet through a broken desktop radio. Well even the COs saw a difference in Derek. They started to give him extra food and so forth. When the Lieutenant went to move me to the MHU tier, Derek yelled out "Don't move my boy! He talks to me. Please! I've been doing good." (This was so sad but it brought a smile to my face). I never hesitate, 24 hours a day, to answer when Derek calls my name. Even if I am asleep, he's not a headache...I like him. The staff sees the change and knows I can work with him when even they can't. Many CO's and two psyches have thanked me. The Lieutenant says, "Well I don't want to be the one that causes you to get 41 more years." He was smiling as he ripped my MHU door tag off and walked away. I'm still MHU, but I remain here. I go to group and yard with MHU and they think I'm crazy now. Good!*

This brings to mind a Gospel story, Jesus' intervention with a "possessed" boy (Mk 9:14). When the boy's father brought him to Jesus, it says that the boy fell to the ground in convulsions, foaming at the mouth. Very scary! Jesus' reaction—compassion instead of fear and "locking them up like animals"—is an example for us. We notice this compassion in how Johnny treats Derek almost like his son—at the expense of being considered crazy himself. Is this what Jesus has done, become 'crazy with us,' at least considered crazy and dangerous for "casting out demons"? The next time you see a mentally ill person, think of Jesus. Finally, Johnny concludes with a profound image of Mary in the prison cell with him. Surely it is something to ponder ourselves, no matter what addictions, family troubles, emotional illnesses or loneliness afflicts us in our daily lives:

*They cuff me like an animal. Lock me up like an animal, and I am lonely. Sometimes I look at the Mary Mother of Captives picture you gave me. Depending on my state of mind I use it as a reminder that the Blessed Mother is in the cell with me too. Her back to the locked gate, she's holding the fetters that bind me because she wants me to be free, if only in the cell with her. She knows who I am and not what the courts or prison officials say I am. She sees past the violence and the*





*chaos I am capable of causing. She sees into my heart at the pain inside. And she holds what binds me to her own heart. I am hanging in there, struggling like hell, still doubtful, but I promise I won't give up hope. Love is paid by love alone. -- Johnny.*

In conclusion, Mary knows who we are too. She holds the fetters that bind us because she wants us to be free too, *if only in the cell with her*. She sees into our hearts at the pain inside. And she binds us to her own heart. Pray for Johnny, Derek and their families. Pray—and make your voice heard—for our country too as we make decisions about mental health care and criminal justice. Demand compassion! Have Blessed Spring, Fr. Paul, George Munyan and the Adeodatus Team.

### **AN AUGUSTINIAN PRAYER**

Oh HOLY BREATH OF GOD BREATHE ON US GATHERED HERE, THAT WE MAY BE FILLED WITH YOUR HOLY SPIRIT, AND SO BECOME YOUR FRIENDS. OH, HELP US TO LIVE AND LOVE WITH ONE HEART AND MIND IN YOU, AND SO BECOME YOUR CHURCH, THAT OTHERS MAY BE DRAWN TO FRIENDSHIP WITH YOUR SON, JESUS CHRIST, OUR LORD.

TODAY MANY OF US LONG FOR COMPANIONSHIP, YET EXPERIENCE DEEP LONELINESS IN OUR DAILY LIVES. GRANT US THE GRACE TO GRASP AND LIVE WHAT JESUS MEANT WHEN HE TAUGHT: "GREATER LOVE THAN THIS NO ONE HAS THAN TO LAY DOWN YOUR LIFE FOR YOUR FRIENDS." TOGETHER WITH THE POOR IN SPIRIT IN THIS WORLD, MAY WE LISTEN WITH THE EARS OF OUR HEARTS TO YOUR HOLY WORD IN SCRIPTURE.

MAY WE RECOGNIZE YOU IN PRISONERS OF EVERY KIND, AND WORK WITH THEM FOR THE FREEDOM AND JUSTICE OF YOUR KINGDOM UNTIL WE SEE YOU FACE TO FACE. IN JESUS NAME, WE PRAY. AMEN.

FR. PAUL MORRISSEY O.S.A.

## **THOUGHTS FROM OUR READERS**



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE  
YOUR THOUGHTS ON THIS EDITION  
OF VOICES FROM PRISON AND  
EDGE, CONSIDER SENDING US A  
MESSAGE TO

Adeodatus Prison Ministry  
2130 S. 21st St.  
Phila, PA 19145

or by email to:

[www.adeodatusprisonministry.com](http://www.adeodatusprisonministry.com)

YOUR IDENTITY WILL BE WITHHELD.  
SHARING THOUGHTS LEADS ALL TO  
AN INNER AWARENESS, AND  
PERHAPS, PEACE.







## Saints in Prison

### St. John Stone

#### O.S.A.

Most see all prisoners as outlaws, people outside of the law. They are the guilty ones. But who will speak for the innocent, living and dying in prison? John Stone probably looked like any prisoner as he staggered by in chains on the way to Dungeon Hill. His story presents us with a question. Are we guilty if we break an unjust law, or is society guilty for creating the unjust law?

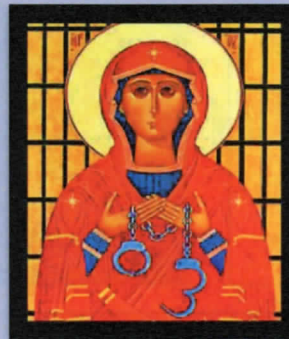
John Stone was an Augustinian monk living at Canterbury, England in the 16th century. He publicly denounced the behavior of King Henry VIII for divorcing his wife, marrying another, and declaring himself head of the Church of England. A law was passed, the Treasons Act, which declared all as criminals who did not accept the King, rather than the Pope, as the head of the church in England. The punishment was prison, torture and death, if you did not accept the king as head of the church. All bishops, priests and religious were required to obey this law. The Bishop of Dover, who had renounced the Pope, visited Canterbury to close the Augustinian friary as ordered by King Henry VIII. The Bishop ordered all of the monks to sign the document declaring the King as head of the church.

John Stone refused to sign and was imprisoned in the Tower of London. In 1539 he was sent back to Canterbury, and tried under the Treasons Act. Found guilty, he was sentenced to death. Before his execution on Dungeon Hill, Stone said: *"I close my apostolate in my blood. In my death I shall find life, for I die for a holy cause, the defense of the Church of God, infallible and immaculate"*. John Stone was hanged to near death, briefly revived in order to feel his disembowelment, and finally, his limbs were severed. To further dishonor his corpse as a traitor, his head and body were left displayed, unburied as a reminder to all, the need to obey the king. Instead St. John Stone obeyed his conscience and was willing to die for it.

By George Munyan ©

## One doesn't need to be a martyr for faith to be unjustly imprisoned.

The Innocence Project is a witness to this. A record-breaking number of people were exonerated in 2015 — freed after serving time in American prisons for crimes they did not commit. In all, 149 people spent an average of 15 years in prison before being cleared last year, according to a new report from the National Registry of Exonerations, a project at the University of Michigan Law School. The convictions ranged from lower level offenses, such as 47 drug crimes, to major felonies, including 54 murder convictions that were overturned. Five of the convicts were awaiting execution, and were saved last year when courts ruled they didn't belong in the prison in the first place.



**PRAYER CARD DONATION**  
20 EACH CHECK PAYABLE TO  
ADROP

**MAILING ADDRESS—**  
ADEODATUS PRISON MINISTRY  
2130 SOUTH 21ST ST., PHILA.  
PA, 19145





## Adeodatus Thursday Night Meetings

### ADEODATUS . . . SUPPORT THROUGH SCRIPTURE AND CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

We are Adeodatus, a support group for ex-inmates, for those struggling with addictions, and anyone who cares about their reintegration into society. We meet every Thursday night (7:30 to 9:00 P.M.) Through prayer, the Gospel and Christian fellowship we offer strength to meet the challenges of life in this world.

Every Thursday 7:30 p.m.

St. Rita Rectory 1166 S. Broad St. (Broad and Ellsworth Streets) Phila., PA

### MARY MOTHER OF CAPTIVES PEN PALS . . . A PROJECT OF ADEODATUS

Are you trying to cope with a loved one in prison, on trial, or about to be sentenced to prison? Do you know anyone who has loved ones in prison? Join us (7:00 PM) at any of these nights and locations.

#### First Thursday

St. Cyprian  
Parish Hall  
501 Cobbs Creek Pkwy  
Phila, PA 19143  
484-432-5695 (Sue)  
[Susan\\_MMOC@comcast.net](mailto:Susan_MMOC@comcast.net)

#### Second Thursday

St. Charles Borromeo  
Parish Meeting Room  
3407 Dennison Ave.  
Drexel Hill, PA 19026  
484-432-5695 (Sue)  
[Susan\\_MMOC@comcast.net](mailto:Susan_MMOC@comcast.net)

#### Third Wednesday

St. Francis de Sales  
Bishop Shea Room  
4625 Springfield Ave Phila.  
PA 19143  
484-432-5695 (Sue)  
[Susan\\_MMOC@comcast.net](mailto:Susan_MMOC@comcast.net)

### VOICES FROM PRISON AND THE EDGE

#### OUR NEWSLETTER

... is published quarterly to 55 parishes, 34 Prisons from Pennsylvania to California, Washington State to Florida, 10 Half Way Houses, 3 Colleges, and 16 Helping Organizations. Contact us at:

Adeodatus Prison Ministry  
2130 S. 21st St.  
Phila, PA 19145  
215 925 3566,  
[www.adeodatusprisonministry.com](http://www.adeodatusprisonministry.com)

Fr. Paul Morrissey O.S.A.  
George Munyan  
Co-editors.

### Our Adeodatus Wish List

You could be a silent partner in our mission through your prayers and financial contribution. Any donation would be a great help in our mission. Below are some specific needs to target your gift:

Adeodatus Retreat: Sponsor one person	\$10
Adeodatus Christmas Party: Buys one meal	\$15
Adeodatus Healing Garden Flowers: Buys a flower bed	\$ 25
Edition of <u>Voices From Prison</u> : Printing Paper	\$ 60
Adeodatus Healing Garden: Buys a stone bench top	\$ 75
Edition of <u>Voices From Prison</u> : Mailing one issue	\$ 300
Adeodatus Healing Garden Masonry Project	\$ 500

Send donations to:

Payable to: The Augustinians (Memo: Adeodatus)  
Mailing Address: Office of Advancement  
PO Box 340  
Villanova, PA, 19085-0340



## **LET US PRAY...**

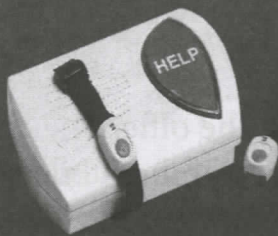
O Lord our God, in the name of our Daughters and Sisters of Nigeria we come to you on bended knee in prayer. In the heat of this day, suffering and hardship has visited young ones and we beg you, almighty Father, Son and Holy Spirit to bring forth release and mercy on those who have been captured, sold and raped. Reverse O Lord, the spirit of the captors. Restore O Lord, the hope of these young innocent girls and bring Recovery to them and their families. Relieve the injured and Redeem O Lord, this situation and drench it with Your love and mercy. We remember O Lord, how You set the captives free in Egypt and how You carved a way to freedom by splitting the waters of the Red Sea. We remember, O Lord how Your mighty hand brought David out of the lion's den and we ask You, O Lord to do the same for our dear young Sisters and Daughters. We come to You this day, knowing the fullness of Your amazing grace which makes a way out of no way. We thank You O Lord for what You can do and will do in Jesus' name- Amen





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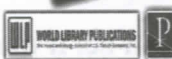
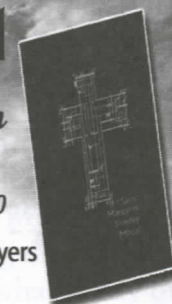
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