



# St. Martin de Porres

**Catholic Church • Diocese of Charleston**

2229 Hampton Street - Columbia, South Carolina 29204

**Office:** (803) 254-6862 - **Rectory:** (803) 376-6027 - **Fax:** (803) 799-4720

**Church E-mail:** [stmartincolumbia@gmail.com](mailto:stmartincolumbia@gmail.com)

**School:** (803) 254-5477 - **Fax:** (803) 254-7335

### Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 PM  
Sunday: 9:00 & 11:30 AM

### Mass in Vietnamese

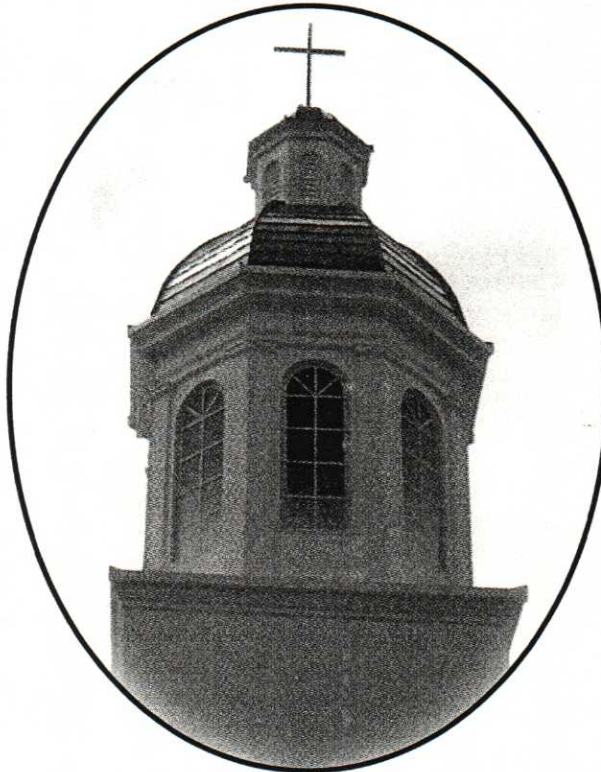
As announced in bulletin

### Weekday Masses

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday  
12:00 Noon

September thru May  
Thursday: 9:30 AM

Check calendar for changes.



### Parish Staff

Rev. Michael Okere  
*Administrator*

Rev. Mr. Carl Johnson,  
*Deacon*

Mrs. Ardrina Scott Elliott  
*Administrative Assistant*

Mrs. Doris Arvelo,  
*Director of Religious Education*

Sr. Roberta Fulton, S.S.M.N.,  
*School Principal*

### Parish Council

Dr. Gerald Wilson, Chairman  
Hermina Bellinger, Secretary  
Deacon Carl Johnson  
Sr. Roberta Fulton, ssmn  
Doris Arvelo  
Hank MacDonald  
Lin Wright

### Finance Council

Cathy Chiles, Chairperson  
Larry Bailey  
Naomi Scipio  
John Spells

### Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 9:30 AM - 4:00 PM  
Friday 9:30 AM - 12:00 Noon

### Confessions

Saturday 4:15 PM to 4:45 PM  
and by appointment

### Weddings

If planning to receive the Sacrament of Marriage, our Diocese requires a program of instruction & preparation at least six months prior to the wedding date. Please contact the Church Office.

### **St. Martin de Porres Mission Statement**

St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church is a multicultural community founded on the African American Catholic experience. We are a faith-filled community promoting spiritual and academic development, financial stability, social justice, and strong shared leadership. We will continue the faith of our ancestors as we hand down the traditions to our youth.

**Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time — September 6, 2015**

## Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

### This Week In Our Parish

Website: [smartincolumbia.org](http://smartincolumbia.org)

#### MONDAY, September 7

Father Michael's Day Off

#### TUESDAY, September 8

12:00 pm Mass Intention: the Faszewski family

#### WEDNESDAY, September 9

12:00 pm Mass

#### THURSDAY, September 10

10:00 am Mass Intention: +Barbara & Joe Gambardella

#### FRIDAY, September 11

12:00 pm Mass Intention: +Olga & Paul Phillips

#### SATURDAY, September 12

4:15 pm – Confession

5:00 pm Mass

#### SUNDAY, September 13

9:00 am Mass

11:30 am Mass

5:00 pm - SOUP KITCHEN: Rosary Altar Society

6:00 pm Vietnamese Mass

### Important Dates in September

September 7 – Labor Day (Office closed)

September 9 – Parish Council Meeting

September 12/13 – SMDP Ministry Fair

September 19 – KPC/KPC-LA Event\*

September 20 – Catechetical Sunday

September 27 – Parish Picnic

### MASS INTENTIONS

For September 5 and September 6, 2015

5:00 pm – +Pearl MacDonald

9:00 am – The People of the Parish

11:30 am – The People of the Parish

### Today's 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection:

The second collection today is for *Catholic University*. Please give generously.

\$\$ FINANCIAL MATTERS \$\$

August 29 and August 30, 2015

Regular Collection	\$4,712.80
Parish Charity Appeal	498.10
Maintenance	5.00
St. Martin Mission Fund	18.00
Soup Ministry	25.00
Total Offerings for the week:	\$5,258.90

### Liturgical Ministry Schedule

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 12, 2015 – 5:00 pm

Lector: Lin Wright  
 Eucharistic Ministers: Sheri Felder & Hank MacDonald  
 Altar Server: Delaney Dunn  
 Sacristan: Hank MacDonald

SUNDAY – SEPTEMBER 13, 2015 – 9:00 am

Lector: Clauddie Henryhand  
 Eucharistic Ministers: Bernetha Henry & Terry Wright  
 Altar Servers: David Pelley & Isaiah Francis  
 Sacristan: Innocent Nkwocha

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2015 – 11:30 am

Lector: Barbara Johnson  
 Eucharistic Ministers: Janice Coleman & Rick Harrison  
 Altar Server: Favour Nzewi  
 Sacristan: Loyce Harrison  
 Collection Counters: Cynthia Deneal, Sam Henry, Ed Sutton

### “Lord, Hear Our Prayer”

*For the healing of:* Declan Alexander, John Arceneaux, Chester Bolden, Sallie M. Boykin, Nellie Brown, Vivian Carraway, Rea Coverdale DeVan, Floria Dial, Pat R. Goodwin, Edward Hampton, Vivian Kates, Jacqueline Kelly, Harriet McKie, Donald Miller, Eva Mary Njoku, Robert Pearson, Theodore Pearson, Jane Rienzie, the Silver family, Jaimie Smith, Veronica Sullivan, Agnes Toomer, Catherine J. Weedon and Leroy White, Jr.  
*For the souls of:* Otis Hicks, Mark Murells, Molly Williams and all our departed brothers and sisters in Christ.

Assisted Living: Dora Brooks, Alexzenia Hebert  
Nursing Home: Charlese Fischer, Byron Weston

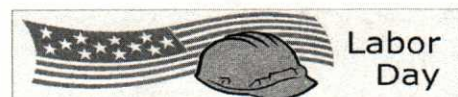
*If you would like to include someone in our prayer list, kindly call the office at (803)254-6862.*

### MASS ATTENDANCE

August 29 and August 30, 2015

Adults: 221 Children: 60

*Mortgage Reduction Offerings for the Weekend of August 30, 2015 were \$80.00*



Labor Day

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## SCHOOL NEWS

SMDP School is still accepting applications for the 2015-2016 school year. New families in the parish are encouraged to apply.

## EVENTS/ACTIVITIES/UPDATES



### Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Classes meet on Thursdays from 6:30-8:00 pm. Please contact Cathy Meadows at (908) 548-4350 if you are interested in joining the class.

THE LORD RAISES UP  
THOSE WHO WERE  
BOWED  
DOWN



**New to the Parish???** Please drop by the Office to complete Registration forms, pick up a ministry booklet, calendar and photo directory.

## FLOWERS

**THANK YOU** to MMS who is sponsoring flowers for the month of September.

### PARISH MINISTRY FAIR

All ministry groups are encouraged to participate September 12-13 for an hour before and after each mass. Tables will be set up for your use. Please bring flyers and handouts describing your ministry and its activities within the church and local communities. What a wonderful opportunity to evangelize and recruit fellow parishioners to your ministry!!!

\* **"FRIENDSHIP 9 to EMMANUEL 9 to the REMOVAL OF THE CONFEDERATE FLAG A SYMBOL OF HATE" event**, sponsored by KPC/KPC-LA to be held on September 19 from 10am- 12:00 pm in the SMDP School Cafeteria.

### SAVE THE DATE

Black Catholics' Heritage Celebration,  
"An Advent Gathering of the Faithful"

December 12, 2015  
Columbia, SC

9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**Volunteers Urgently Needed! Contact the Office please.**

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Col 1:24 — 2:3; Ps 62:6-7, 9; Lk 6:6-11, or, for Labor Day, any readings from the Mass "For the Blessing of Human Labor," nos. 907-911  
Tuesday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30; Ps 13:6  
Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 [18-23]  
Wednesday: Col 3:1-11; Ps 145:2-3, 10-13ab; Lk 6:20-26  
Thursday: Col 3:12-17; Ps 150:1b-6; Lk 6:27-38  
Friday: 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14; Ps 16:1b-2a, 5, 7-8, 11; Lk 6:39-42  
Saturday: 1 Tm 1:15-17; Ps 113:1b-7; Lk 6:43-49  
Sunday: Is 50:5-9a; Ps 116:1-6, 8-9; Jas 2:14-18; Mk 8:27-35

## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Orthodox Christians have a saying about the reality of sin. They speak of "this holy and sinful Church, which we love." We know all too well the effects of sin on the faith community. From our earliest days, we have seen baptism as a place where the old self dies in Christ, dies to sin, and rises to new life. Our ancestors in faith held that post-baptismal major sin was unthinkable. Yet, as one Baptist minister once explained, "We know that sin is drowned in the water, but it would appear that the devil is a pretty good swimmer."

The origins of the sacrament of penance have to do with a similar insight among bishops in the early church. A critical question for them was whether or not a baptized person who had committed a public sin could be re-established in church life, forgiven, and restored. Forgiven, yes, was an early answer, but restored was another matter. Penance would be a permanent lifestyle for the forgiven; they would live at the margins of the community, clearly visible in distinctive garments, and their access to the table of the Eucharist was restricted. The harsh beginnings of public penance led in time to a true treasure of our tradition: the ability to find our way home through the ministry of others, and a way for all of us sinners to experience the gentle embrace of our forgiving Lord.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

### SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: Labor Day

Tuesday: The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Wednesday: St. Peter Claver

Friday: Patriot Day

Saturday: The Most Holy Name of Mary;  
Blessed Virgin Mary

### What's happening in the Diocese?

See the handbook on the table at the back of the church.

### FEAR NOT

In these times, there is plenty to be afraid of, if we only look around. It seems that every day the news media have yet more bad news to tell: wars, disease, terrorism, drought, social unrest, and more. Some people have stopped using clock radios to wake up in the morning, preferring a jarring buzzer to the even more jarring morning news. What more do we need before we realize that we are finite creatures, and while there is much we can do to make our world better, ultimately there is a lot that is simply not within our grasp? To this our loving God says, "Be strong, fear not!"

We must do what we can to make our world a better and safer place, but we must also realize our limits and that our ultimate safety is in the hands of God. We can be comforted by the realization that God loves us beyond measure, and will give us every help in our efforts to make our world a loving and safe place for everyone.

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