
St. Martin De Porres Parish

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Parish Contacts

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prepare the way...



ADVENT

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Fourth Sunday of Advent



1st Reading:
Isaiah 7.10-14

2nd Reading:
Romans 1.1-7

Gospel:
Matthew 1.18-24
The Birth of Jesus the Messiah

Making Room for Jesus

As Christmas fast approaches and Advent is drawing to a close, let us remind ourselves of the importance of this liturgical season. Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of Christ at Christmas as well as His final coming at the end of time. However, the great saints of the church also speak of an intermediary coming, the coming of Christ to our present lives. Let us take a moment to ask ourselves, if the Lord showed up in our life today, would there be room for Him?

As stewards, we often face the temptation to let our works of charity become a life of volunteering instead of a spirituality of service. Our many works may begin to take precedence over our relationship with Christ which should always remain as the source of our stewardship. This Advent, as we are waiting for Christ, Christ is also waiting for us. Jesus says in the Book of Revelation, "Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you" (Revelation 3:20). He is waiting for us to open the door and let him in.

We can let him into our lives as stewards by realizing it is not ourselves ministering to our neighbour, but the love and presence of Christ within us. St. Teresa of Calcutta says it best when she proclaims that, "it is Christmas every time you let God love others through you. Yes, it is Christmas every time you smile at someone and offer them your hand." St. Teresa of Calcutta fully embodies the spirit of stewardship that makes room for Christ to love others through her. Let us strive to let Jesus into our lives as we approach Christmas.

Summary

The great saints of the church speak of an intermediary coming of Christ, the coming of Christ to our present lives. Jesus says in the Book of Revelation, "Listen! I am standing at the door, knocking; if you hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to you" (Revelation 3:20). We can let him into our lives as stewards by realizing it is not ourselves ministering to our neighbour, but the love and presence of Christ within us.

Regular Mass Schedule Weekday Masses:

Daily morning mass is celebrated Tuesday to Friday at 8:30 am

Weekend Schedule: Saturday (Vigil) Mass 5:00 pm
Sunday Masses: 9:00 am, 10:30 am & 12:00 noon

<https://stmartindeporressc.archtoronto.org/eg/>

Mass Intentions for the Week of Dec 20 / 21, 2025

Saturday Dec 20th

5:00 pm + John Don Paul (Death Anniversary)
 + Carolina Miel

Sunday Dec 21st

9:00 am + May Ong
 + Gracie & Constancio Menezes

10:30 am - For All Parishioners of SMDP

12:00 pm + Allen Domingo
 + Pricilla Lumanlan

Monday Dec 22nd

8:30 am + Cenon Arillano

Tuesday Dec 23rd

8:30 am

Wednesday Dec 24th

8:30 am
6:00 pm - For the Church and the People of our Parish

Thursday Dec 25th

9:00 am
10:30 am - For the Church and the People of our Parish
12:00 noon

Friday Dec 26th

8:30 am + Allen Domingo
 + JiJi D'Cruz



CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve

December 24th - 6:00 pm

Christmas Day

December 25th - 9:00 am, 10:30 am & 12:00 noon

New Year's Eve

December 31st - 5:00 pm

New Year Masses

January 1st - 9:00 am, 10:30 am & 12:00 noon



PARKING ON DEC 24th AND 25th

Please respect the fire routes and **DO NOT** park in front of them. Parking is on a first-come basis and additional parking is available at St. Martin de Porres Catholic School, which is adjacent to the church. Bylaw officers will issue tickets to those who do not comply especially during the holiday. Thank you for your cooperation.



The parish is asking for donations of Poinsettias to help decorate the Altar and the Church for Christmas. If you would like to donate a poinsettia/s, please drop them off by **Tuesday, Dec. 23rd** in the parish hall.

We thank you for your generosity!



NEW OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2026

Kindly pick up your **2026** Sunday Offertory envelopes from the Church Hall. Please look for your **last name** and not your envelope number, as many numbers have changed. If you do not see your name on a box of envelopes, please contact the parish office. Thank you!

Please do not use the 2026 envelopes until January.

2025 DONATION DEADLINE

Any donations received in the parish office by noon on December 31, 2025, will be credited toward your 2025 charitable donation tax receipt. Donations received after that time will be considered 2026 donations. In accordance with CRA regulations, donations submitted by mail must be postmarked by Canada Post by December 31, 2025, to be eligible for a 2025 tax receipt.



Let us Pray! For the sick members of our Parish and for those who love and minister to them.

Joy to the world



A Savior is Born

May the Miracle of Christmas fill your hearts with joy and peace.

Merry Christmas and blessings to you and your loved ones. May the gift of Christmas live within you always.

From: Fr. Anthony Gonsalves and the Staff at St. Martin de Porres.

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