

Saint Cecilia Parish

90 Church Street
Rockaway, New Jersey 07866

Parish Office: 973-627-0313 Website: st-cecilia.org — Office: stcec@optonline.net Fax: 973-627-4811
To Contact: Fr. Zig: Ext. 12 or speplowski@optonline.net
Fr. Matt: Ext 15 or frmateuszdarlak@gmail.com
School: 973-627-6003 CCD Office: 973-627-0313 Ext. 17

Rev. Sigmund Peplowski
PASTOR

Rev. Mateusz Darlak
PAROCHIAL VICAR

Mrs. Janet Maulbeck
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR
YOUTH PROTECTION &
SAFE ENVIRONMENT
COORDINATOR

Mr. James Clancy
DIRECTOR OF FAITH FORMATION

Mr. Charles Linnell
MUSIC DIRECTOR

Mrs. Diane Boykow
CEMETERY ADMINISTRATOR
STAFF ASSISTANT

Mrs. Kelly Cacella
PRINCIPAL



CERTIFICATE OF ELIGIBILITY

All Catholic Churches in the United States require from Catholics serving as a Godparent for Baptism or a sponsor for Confirmation a certificate of eligibility. This document certifies that the Godparent/sponsor is a registered member of the parish, attends Holy Mass, approaches the sacraments regularly and contributes to the support of the Church via the Sunday offering envelope program or "WeShare". It is the responsibility of the individual to meet these requirements as listed in the Code of Canon Law, #874.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Arrangements for the Sacrament of Baptism can be made by calling Fr. Matt at extension 15 or by email.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Arrangements are to be made at least ONE YEAR in advance. The date should not be set until the priest has been consulted.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Urgent calls will be attended to at any time of the day or night. If there is anyone at home or in the hospital who cannot get to Mass and the Sacraments because of illness or old age, please inform one of the priests or call the Parish Office @ 973-627-0313.

EMERGENCY PHONE:
862-251-3914

MASSES

Saturday: 4:30 pm, 7:00 pm
Sunday: 8:00 am, 9:15 am
10:45 am and 12:15 pm
5:00 pm (Vietnamese)

Holydays

Vigil 4:30 pm
6:30 am, 8:00 am & 7:00 pm

Weekday Schedule:

Monday - Friday
6:30 am & 8:00 am
Saturday
8:00 am followed by Novena

Confessions

Saturday @ 3:00—4:00 pm &
6:15-6:45 pm
Monday during Holy Hour
7:00—8:00 pm

Ms. Susan Brennan
TRUSTEE

Mr. James Gallagher
TRUSTEE

NOVENA: OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL AND OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Saturday morning after the 8:00 am Mass

HOLY HOUR : Monday @ 7:00 pm (Sept. to June)

OCIA—ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION— FOR

ADULTS:

Please contact Sr. Diane — sdmoughan@gmail.com

ROSARY PRAYER GROUP: Monday through Sat. @ 7:30 am

FEMININE GENIUS PROJECT: 1st & 3rd Saturday of the month at 8:00 pm in the parish office.

ST. JOSEPH MEN'S GROUP: 2nd & 4th Saturday of the month at 6:00 am in the parish office.

PADRE PIO PRAYER GROUP: 1st Wednesday of the month; 10:00 am in the church (Sept. to June)

ST. MONICA NOVENA: Last Saturday after 8:00 am Mass.

Parish Office Hours

Monday thru Thursday: 8:30 am to 4:00 pm
Friday: 8:30 am to 2:00 pm
Closed for lunch: 12:00 to 1:00

Monday, November 3, St. Martin De Porres

6:30 am — Sophie Marticek req. by Sophie Boylan

8:00 am — Mary Petrisick req. by Sophie Boylan

Tuesday, November 4, Saint Charles Borromeo, Bishop

6:30 am — Rose Peplowski req. by Fr. Zig

8:00 am — Anna Kobylar req. by Fr. Zig

Wednesday, November 5, Weekday

6:30 am — Toni Carlotti

8:00 am — Deceased Members of the Seniors

Thursday, November 6, Weekday

6:30 am — Saverino Napolitano

8:00 am — Bob Berntsen req. by Joyce, Rob & Michael

Friday, November 7, Weekday

6:30 am — Barbara Connolly req. by Family

8:00 am — Russell Colditz req. by his wife, Ana

Bella Kakaian req. by Family

Saturday, November 8, Weekday

8:00 am — Deceased Members of the Men's Society

Sunday, November 9, The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

4:30 pm — Teresa Brussell req. by the McDonnell Family

Kevin Haran req. by Peggy McKinney

7:00 pm — Alice & Walter Lech req. by Dianna & John Sullivan

8:00 am — Ernest & Berta Juretschke req. by Ed & Mary Merz

9:15 am — David Lewis req. by his Family

Minor Lee Marston req. by Sean Connolly

10:45 am - Frank DeCanio req. by his Sister, Marie Squeo

Fr. Stanley Skrzypiek req. by Fr. Zig

12:15 pm — Alex Wharton req. by C.M., G.P, J.R. & L.V

Lawrence Lancy Miranda req. by Greta Miranda

ST. CECILIA CHURCH COLLECTION GOALS**Week Ending : October 26, 2025**

Collection—Checks & Cash	\$ 8,320.00
WeShare Electronic Giving	\$ 5,742.75
Total Weekly Collection	\$ 14,062.75

Yearly Collection Goal (BUDGET)	\$ 785,000.00
Weekly Goal	\$ 14,313.73

Weekly Collection Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (250.98)
Year To Date Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 7,641.47

We are thankful for your consistent stewardship. ©JPPC

**PRAY FOR THE SICK AND THEIR CAREGIVERS**

Ethan Chandra, Dean Wayne Campbell, Jane Gorcica, Sam Sessa, Karen Niles, Noel Wadleigh, David Cicchine, Teresa D'Atria, Derek Bascharow, Debbie Malc, Grace McDermott, Joe Horvath, Jr., Elvira Bugaoan, Owen Peter Byrne, Tia Maddaloni, Mason Walker Steussing, Susan Mejia, Derek Bascharow, Jim Rattay, Tom Hull, Kathleen Fazio, Kristin Wich, Kyle Johnson, Kate Darlington, Jake Michael Miraldi, Cheryl Anne Bornemann, Sean Nolan, Maryann Hughes, Peggy Eileen Miars, Ray Kennedy, Richard Corcoran, Madison Rose Leslie, Demetrius Barbee, Frances Finn, Dorothy Murray, Kimberly Dugan, Gale Sessa, Mike Murray, Michael Turner, Ruben Lorenzo, Michael Alvarez, Mina Simmons-Jones, Joe Maulbeck, Mary Merz, Patricia Smith Schulman, Vincent Fortunato, Joyce Turner, Tom Cummiskey, Dennis O'Brien, Steven Simmons, Ariel, James DiStaiso, Marty Mackin, Brian Bosworth, Dennis Dilger, Robyne LaGrotta, Frieda Solow, Claire Wasacz, Emilio Viola, Ramiro Hinojosa, Jimmy Buckley, Clare Desmond, Craig Huffman, George Stitik, Stephen Goordman, Cecilia Donofrio, Deidra Zink, Anthony Pane, Victoria Zuber, Keith Newman, Francis Sanchez, Raymond Fullam, John Sandelli, Fran Gatzke, Bob Nielsen, Gert Taylor, Walter Zelinski, Clo Callahan, Michael McClain, David Saggioli, Michael Hafke, Tyler Bascharow, Kevin R. Bruno, II, Jeremiah O'Brien, Lanie Bruno, Joan Apgar, Richard Sala, Richard Cortese, Kira Woyce, Anthony D'Alessio, Katherine Lynn, Sophie Boylan, Michael Gatzke, Philip Colombrito, Esperanza Vertucci, Molly Mack, Michele Murray, Jimmy Olge-luie, Mark Howarth, Logan Mattessich, Harry Lusardi, Carmela Cragan, Bob Libak, Mary Lou Baumiller, Patricia Shea, Jose Castillo, Joseph Bardi, Gloria Benson, William Serafin, Eleanor Sala, Cecilia Pane.



The people of St. Cecilia Parish are asked to pray for the following people serving our country in the armed services: **SmE3 Andrew Clifford,**

Joseph Giannetti US Navy, Lance Corporal Dennis Wuest, Capt. Kelley E. Robbins, Pvt USMC, Diego Usma, Major Glenn E. Martinez, Sgt. Brian Whalen, Capt. Anthony Odierno, Cpl. Kong V. Nguyen, Cpl. Jim Van Valen, LCPL Anthony Eresman, Sgt. Paul J. Willson, PFC Cano Janeth, Sgt. Bob Autrey, Col. William Paliwada, Sgt 1st Class (E7) Sam Colon, PFC Marylyn Rivera-Sachez, Cpl. Edward C. Thompson, Major Kevin M. Nash, Lt. Amy Cronin, Col. John L. Medeiros, Jr., Sgt. Daniel Healy, Marine Keith Leitner, Sgt. Spencer Lopez, PFC Taryn Kemp, Jeffrey Braunhausen, E7 Joseph Grimsey, Bill Maloney, Greg Bloete, Gian Carlo Bruzzese, Spc. Christopher Little, PFC Brittany Martindell, PO1 (E6) Matthew Fitzgerald, SA Justin C. White, Matthew & Daniel Rosica, Mark Leonard, Sr. Armn. Ashley Valetta, Sgt. John Wisnofsky, Cpl. T.J. Finn, Sgt. Kristopher Faber, Capt. Vincent Presto, Airman First Class William Kussler, Spc. Gregory Villaneuva, PVT Jack L. Gatzke, US Army, ENS Timothy G. Smith, US Navy, We ask God the Father of us all, through the intercession of St. Michael the Archangel, to protect all the men and women in our Armed Forces, to bless them in their efforts toward bringing peace and justice to our world. May they be brought back safely to those they love.

580-St. Cecilia

ADULT FAITH FORMATION – Our parish offers two opportunities during the week for adults to gather to enrich their faith. On Monday evenings at 7:30 a video series on the Catechism of the Catholic Church takes place led by Chuck Malaniak. On Tuesday mornings at 9:30 a Scripture class on the Letters of Saint John and the Book of Revelation takes place led by Father Matt. Both gatherings are in Hayes Hall and are open to all adults. Please join us to increase your knowledge of the faith we share in Christ!

ADVENT RETREAT – Mark your calendar for our parish ADVENT RETREAT which will take place on Saturday, December 6th with Monsignor Raymond Kupke, Professor of Church History at Immaculate Conception Seminary-Seton Hall University. The morning event begins with Holy Mass at 8 o'clock followed by a hot breakfast in Hayes Hall. The retreat is divided into two sessions separated by a "coffee break." The retreat concludes at 11:30 a.m. The registration fee is \$25, payable to St. Cecilia Church. The deadline for registration is Tuesday morning, December 2nd. You may register by contacting the parish office.

ADVENT TREE – Our annual ADVENT TREE PROJECT will commence on Sunday, November 30th, the First Sunday of Advent. The tree will contain tags for gifts which will be distributed to the needy in time for Christmas. All parishioners are invited to take a tag from the tree and bring your gift to the church on Sunday, December 14th. Your generosity will bring Christmas cheer to someone in need. May God bless you!

FATIMA STATUE – The pilgrim statue of Our Lady of Fatima is available for one week stay in a parishioner's home, from Sunday to Sunday at the 10:45 a.m. Mass. A sign-up for this purpose is located at the altar of the Blessed Virgin Mary. In taking the image of Mary into your home, you are committed to praying the Holy Rosary every day for the cause of peace. For further information regarding this project of the Knights of Columbus please see Father Zig, Father Matt or Sister Chiara Marie.

VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK – November 2-8 is "National Vocations Awareness Week" in the United States. All Catholics are asked to especially pray for an increase response to the Lord's invitation to our young people to serve Him as a priest, religious sister or brother. Please take note of the poster we recently received from the chancery displaying those who are in formation at the seminary. At present we have only 9 seminarians!

NOVENA TO SAINT CECILIA – In preparation of our celebration of the feast of Saint Cecilia, our patron saint, a novena will be prayed each morning following the 8 o'clock Mass. We begin the novena on Thursday, November 13th. The feast of Saint Cecilia is Saturday, November 22nd.

JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE – His Excellency Bishop Sweeney has designated SAINT BERNARD CHURCH (22 St. Bernards Drive in Mount Hope) as a designated pilgrim site for the Diocese of Paterson. Pilgrims are welcome on Monday evenings for Holy Mass at 6:30, followed by Holy Hour and Confessions. A plenary indulgence is granted to pilgrims. Our Holy Father, Pope Leo, calls all Christians to become pilgrims of hope. This is a virtue which must be sourced above all in the grace of God and in the fullness of His mercy. A plenary indulgence is given to those who are: *truly repentant; free from any affection for sin; moved by a spirit of charity; receive the sacraments of Penance and Eucharist; and pray for the intentions of Pope Francis (1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary and 1 Glory be...)*. A plenary indulgence is the full remission of the temporal punishment due to sins whose guilt has already been forgiven. This jubilee grace can be applied in suffrage to the souls in Purgatory through pilgrimage, whose works of mercy and penance, and visits to a Jubilee designated shrine or church, such as Saint Bernard's.

THANKSGIVING DAY – Holy Mass on Thanksgiving Day, November 27th will be celebrated at 9 o'clock in the morning. This is the only Mass which is scheduled for this day. Please join us in thanksgiving to God for the blessings He has bestowed upon us.

NO MASSES, NO CONFESSIONS – On Saturday, November 22nd the regular vigil Masses and confessions WILL NOT TAKE PLACE! On that Saturday afternoon the only Mass to be celebrated will be at 4 o'clock! No confessions on Saturday, November 22nd! – Father Zig

REMEMBERING THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED – The month of November is dedicated to the souls of the faithful departed. During this time the All Souls envelopes with the names of the departed will rest on the altar so that they will be remembered during the Holy Sacrifice. Also, the Book of the Dead will be positioned on the altar of Saint Joseph in which you may inscribe the names of departed loved ones.

FINANCIAL REPORT – A financial report of our parish will be printed and included in the Sunday bulletin on November 30th.

We are online: www.st-cecilia.org

Our Condolences to the Family of
Toni Carlotti, Richard Breta & Conrado Orta
Eternal Rest Grant to them Lord

Monday, November 3

7:00 pm—Holy Hour (Church)

7:30 pm—Bible Study (Hayes Hall)

Tuesday, November 4

9:30 am—Bible Study (Hayes Hall)

12:00 pm—Seniors Meeting (Hayes Hall)

7:45 pm—Light of Christ Prayer Group (Church)

Wednesday, November 5

8:30 am—Christian Care Meeting (Hayes Hall)

10:00 am—Padre Pio Prayer Group (Church)

6:00 pm—Steering Committee Meeting (Parish Office)

7:00 pm—Choir Practice (Church)

Thursday, November 6

6:30 pm—Ushers Meeting (Church)

Friday, November 7

4:00 pm—Set up for Craft Fair (Hayes Hall)

Saturday, November 8

8:30 am—Men's Society Meeting (Parish Office)

9:00 am—Craft Fair (Hayes Hall)

Sunday, November 9

9:15 am—Children's Liturgy (Hayes Hall)

8:00 pm—LTP

Divine Mercy Academy News

IF YOU ATTEND FRIDAY MORNING MASS – As a security measure the doors of the church will be locked for Friday morning Mass at 7:50 am. If you attend Mass on Friday morning, you must be in the building by that time. This is a security measure for our school children. – Fr. Zig

Join us for a joyful morning filled with festive fun, hot cocoa, holiday music, and a special visit from Santa himself. Whether you're walking, running, or jingling all the way, it's a great way to support Divine Mercy Academy and celebrate the season!

When: Saturday, December 6th at 9am

Where: Peterson Memorial Field, Rockaway Township

Cost: Early registration fee \$30 / Onsite registration \$35. Register at: <https://my.raceresult.com/352188/>

As we look forward to the success of our first annual 5K, we are seeking sponsors who share our commitment to education, community engagement, and wellness. Your support would be instrumental in making this event a memorable one, and we would be thrilled to have your business partner with us to help raise funds that will directly benefit our students and the programs we offer. Please contact Lbretzger@dmrockaway.com for more information!

BUY YOUR TICKETS TODAY! – Today we are selling tickets to our parish's 150th Anniversary Gala Banquet which will take place on Saturday, November 22 beginning at 6 o'clock in the evening at the Hanover Manor in East Hanover. The ticket cost for this *FORMAL EVENT* is \$70 for adult, \$50 for senior and \$30 for children. Reservation forms for table seating for 10 are located at the sales table. **ALSO**, tickets for the Grand 50/50 Raffle, which will be drawn on November 22nd, are also available for sale. The cost per ticket is \$20.

SHOPPING GIFT CARDS – The sale of the shopping cards from SHOPRITE and other stores is conducted every Saturday and Sunday for the convenience of our parishioners. Your purchase of the cards assists our parish school, an important part of Saint Cecilia Parish. Please know that the cards may also be purchased at the parish office during the week. I would like to personally thank you for supporting this program! – Father Zig

WINTER COAT DRIVE – The Men's Society will sponsor their annual Saint Martin of Tours Coat Drive on Saturday and Sunday, November 1 and 2. New (or gently clean used coats) may be placed on the designated tables in Hayes Hall. Coats are being accepted for men, women and children and will be distributed to the needy through the Morristown Mission and the Father English Community Center in Paterson. Saint Martin of Tours is known for the act of sharing his cloak with a beggar who turned out to be Christ. His feast day is November 11th.

Divine Mercy Academy's Christmas Wreath Fundraiser is underway! You can order online at <https://my.evergreenindustries.com/>

Customer Code: DIVINE. Orders will be shipped directly to you. \$10 will be donated to Divine Mercy Academy for each item ordered. Orders must be placed 12/3. Thank you for your support!

5TH SUNDAY ROSARY – The "5th Sunday of the Month Rosary" will take place on Sunday, November 30th at 3 o'clock in the afternoon at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church on East Main Street. During this 30-minute gathering the Holy Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet will be prayed. All are welcome to attend this prayer service which is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council 3359.

Spiritual Opportunities at Villa Pauline

As the Jubilee Year comes to an end, Villa Pauline in Mendham, NJ will host a day of reflection on November 12th, from 9:30a.m. - 2:00p.m. Rev. Peter Krebs, Ph.D. from the Missionary Servants of the Most Holy Trinity, will facilitate the day with a theme, A Pilgrim Journey Into Hope. Together we will fan the flame of hope that has been given to us.

During the Advent Season, Sister Patrice Owen and Sister Theresa Marie Tran will facilitate a five-session faith sharing program on Wednesday November 19th, 26th, and December 3rd, 10th, and 17th, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Through daily reflection on our life experiences with Scripture, the writings of Thomas Merton, and quiet prayer, we will practice contemplative living in the midst of our busy lives. The first session will meet in person; the other four sessions will meet virtually. To register, please call Villa Pauline at 973-543-0985 or visit our website scc.org.

BEWARE OF SCAMS – Be on the alert of scams which say they are from me. THEY ARE NOT!!! Please call me at the office (973.627.0313x12) if you have **doubt** about a text, email, etc, which is supposedly from me asking for money, gift cards, favors, etc. PLEASE DO NOT BE FOOLED!!! Fr. Zig

Stay Connected with Us Online! Want to keep up with the latest events, uplifting messages, and community updates from our parish? Follow us on our official social media channels! Facebook | Instagram | TikTok: @SaintCeciliaChurch - You can follow Fr. Matt on his YouTube channel for heartfelt weekly reflections podcast - <https://youtube.com/frmattdarlak> Like, follow, and share to help us spread faith, joy, and love beyond the church walls. Let's grow in faith together — online and offline!

PADRE PIO – The Padre Pio Prayer meeting will take place on Wednesday morning, November 5th at 10 o'clock in the votive chapel located off the church vestibule. All are welcome to join in this one-hour time of praying the Rosary and reflecting on the meditation sent from the Padre Pio Center in Italy.

USHERS AND GREETERS – A meeting of the ushers and greeters will take place on Thursday evening, November 6th at 6:30 in the church. Several important matters will be presented. Anyone wishing to join this ministry is welcome to attend the meeting. – Father Zig

ST CECILIA PRESENTS – The next episode of “Saint Cecilia Presents” will take place on Thursday evening, November 13th in Hayes Hall beginning at 7 o'clock. Mr. Preston Dibble will speak on the role of Sacred Music and Saint Cecilia. Mr. Dibble is the Diocesan Director of Music. Please join us for this interesting presentation.

FIRST FRIDAY VISITS – Father Matt and I visit the homebound on the first Friday of every month with the Holy Eucharist and the availability for confession as well. Should you or someone you know like for the priest to visit them on first Friday, please call the parish office and leave your name and phone number so that we may add you to our schedule. – Fr. Zig

CHRISTIAN CARE COMMITTEE – The Christian Care Committee will meet on Wednesday morning, November 5th in Hayes Hall immediately following the 8 o'clock Mass. The Christian Care Committee is a ministry which is attentive to the spiritual needs of the homebound and sick of the parish.

2025 Diocesan Ministries Appeal “Three Counties, One Family of Faith”

The Diocesan Ministries Appeal helps fund senior priest healthcare needs, including Nazareth Village, our home for retired diocesan priests. The priests who live at Nazareth Village have faithfully served our diocese for many years, and many continue to celebrate Mass at parishes. The Appeal also helps fund the formation of our seminarians as they prepare for service to our parishioners now and for generations to come. Your gift to the Appeal acknowledges those priests who have dedicated years of service to our families and those who will begin their service to the Lord in our Diocese. Please make a donation to the 2025 Diocesan Ministries Appeal today - visit www.2025appeal.org to make a gift today.



MASS CARDS

We are asked to pray for the dead. The best way to do this is to have a mass celebrated in memory of a loved one.

Call the Parish Office 973-627-0313

~Offering \$15.00~

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS – Donations of food are gratefully accepted to help supply the two food pantries being assisted by our parish, the Rockaway Food Closet and Hope House (Catholic Charities in Dover). Your donations may be brought to the designated area in the stairwell of the church (side closest to the parish office) or left in the church vestibule. May God bless you for the generosity!

It's Safe, It's Simple & It's Convenient Give online with WeShare

Support St. Cecilia Parish today using your debit or credit card or checking or savings account: Visit www.st-cecilia.org and click Donate Online. Select the collection or event of your choice. Set up your donation or payment. That's it! **OR SCAN HERE:**





My dear parishioners,

Today we observe not the 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time but rather the Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed which we traditionally call ALL SOULS DAY. Because November 2nd falls on a Sunday this year the Sunday in Ordinary Time is suppressed.

Every Sunday we gather to celebrate the Eucharist on the day in which our Lord Jesus rose from the dead. His Holy Resurrection is the sign of great hope for us as we recall our baptism in which we “died with Christ so that we may also one day rise with Him.” (Romans 6:8) This is our faith, and we proclaim it joyfully on the first day of the week as a reminder that we will one day be united with Christ and His holy ones in eternity. We pray for the souls of the faithful departed, our relatives, friends and those who have no one to pray for them.

The Scripture readings which the Church gives us today for our reflection are filled with the hope of eternal life for those who trust in God. We take assurance in knowing that the Lord who created us loves us and wishes us to be with Him in the joy of heaven. However, before we can experience this happiness we must go through the purification, or purgation, from our sins so as to be undefiled before the Lord of Hosts. On the feast of All Souls, we pray for the departed so that through the strength of our prayers we may assist them as they make their way to the heavenly Jerusalem. It is our practice to give an offering to the Church so that the Holy Mass may be offered for the dead. The Holy Mass is the most powerful prayer there is and when we offer it for the dead it is not only a sign of faith but also of love for the departed. When we fail to offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for the departed it shows an indifference for their eternal happiness.

This is a feast not to be ignored but to celebrate with faith. This is a wonderful day to go with. Let us remember that our prayers and offerings are acts of mercy that unite us with the communion of saints and all those who have gone before us. By participating in these spiritual works, we affirm our belief in the resurrection and demonstrate our care for those we love, trusting in God’s promise of everlasting life.

GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST-GLORY FOREVER!

Father Zig

St. Martin De Porres
Religious—November 3 – Patron of Hairdressers

St. Martin de Porres was born at Lima, Peru, in 1579. His father was a Spanish gentleman and his mother an Indian woman from Panama. At fifteen, he became a lay brother at the Dominican Friary at Lima and spent his whole life there—as a barber, farm-laborer, almoner, and infirmarian among other things.

Martin had a great desire to go off to some foreign mission and thus earn the palm of martyrdom. However, since this was not possible, he made a martyr out of his body, devoting himself to ceaseless and severe penances. In turn, God endowed him with many graces and wondrous gifts, such as aerial flights and bilocation.

St. Martin’s love was all-embracing, shown equally to humans and animals, including vermin, and he maintained a cats’ and dogs’ hospital at his sister’s house. He also possessed spiritual wisdom. Demonstrated in his solving his sister’s marriage problems, raising a dowry for his niece inside of three days’ time, and resolving theological problems for the learned of his Order and for Bishops. A close friend of St. Rose of Lima, this saintly man died on November 3, 1639 and was canonized on May 6, 1962, by Pope John XXIII.

PRAYER God, You led St. Martin by the way of humility to heavenly glory. Help us to follow the example of his holiness and so become worthy to be exalted with him in heaven. Amen.



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Fr. Matt: Ext 15 or frmateuszdarlak@gmail.com

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All Saints' Day



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All Souls' Day