

St. Martin de Porres Parish

St. Columba • St. Mary of the Assumption • St. Vincent de Paul

2026 Town Hall Meeting

Sunday, May 3, 2026 | St. Mary of the Assumption: Hartmann Hall

COMMITTEE AND MINISTRY REPORTS



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER

Parish Vision Statement

Saint Martin de Porres Parish is a community of Catholics striving to the life and example of Our Lord Jesus Christ through liturgy, worship and faith. We pray, with the divine intervention of the Holy Spirit, to lead and share our gifts to all.

Contents

Questionnaire Responses	A-2
Sacraments Summary:	A-7
Pastoral Council	A-8

Committees

Building & Grounds	B-2
Faith Formation	B-3
Finance	B-5
Liturgy	B-7
Strategic Planning/ Communications/Anniversary	B-8
Social Ministry	B-9

Ministries

Caring Card	B-12
Food & Fellowship	B-13
Prayer Shawl	B-14



St. Martin de Porres was born in Lima, Peru, in 1579. His father was a Spanish gentleman and his mother a freed-woman from Panama. At age 15, 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. Since this was not possible, however, 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 to 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 day's 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. His feast day is November 3.

Town Hall Survey

I. I think our parish is doing well and shows its strengths in these ways:

- We're very friendly.
- I love coming to mass at St. Mary's! The mass is always excellent, the sermon is interesting and the music is an extra bonus.
- The people of our parish are wonderful.
- Better liturgy. Good attendance at Food & Fellowship (St. Mary's – don't know about the other sites)
- Both very young and very old parishioners are treated with love and respect.
- We have always had a loving, thoughtful, welcoming parish community.
- Our volunteerism, our choir, our food and fellowship after 9AM Mass.
- Father Carlos has, in my opinion, been embraced by the Parish and has proven to be an exceptional spiritual leader.
- Attendance at programs sponsored at church, for instance Food & Fellowship, parish retreats, active committees, active Faith Formation program, response for help with garage sale and most recently, attendance at Holy Week liturgies.
- Cohesion of 3 communities as one Parish.
- Welcoming at services. Strong support for food & fellowship at St. Mary and St. Vincents. Social Ministry group does a wonderful job in reporting to parish/parishioners in bulletin. Fr. Carlos morning prayer service (Parish retreat and Holy Saturday AM). Would be a great monthly service for Peace. (Advent and Lenten Parish retreats – more than two? Uses of Hartman Hall and the "Hartmann Hall girls." Steve Hull does a great maintenance job – not only for the big things but so many little things that make a difference! (SC, SM, SV).
- Friendly community, spirit of reverence, kindness, concern and celebrating eucharist. Music Ministry. Preaching by all three homilists. (SV)

2. I think our parish can improve in these ways:

- Having the 4:30 Christmas Eve mass be a children's mass. I'd like to see the children be invited to the altar for a homily that is age appropriate for them. Also, I'd like to see a children's choir before that mass. I'd rather not have music before that mass that is unfamiliar to everyone. There are a lot of visitors at that mass. They should be able to chat with their neighbors before mass. Especially because you need to get there very early to get a seat. (SM)----

Response: Thanks for the suggestion. Having children coming up to the Altar could be problematic due to the space being so small. At the 4:30 pm Mass the statue of the child Jesus is also displayed in front of the Altar which makes the space more crowded and not suitable for a gathering with children. Music plays an important role in liturgy and by playing sacred music before Mass people are able to prepare their mind and soul for the celebration. "Chatting" before mass is not appropriate. We should come early to prepare ourselves for the most important event of our faith, which is the Eucharist. We invite the Lord to help us be open to listening to his voice and receiving his gentle presence.

Town Hall Survey (continued)

- Better Faith Formation program. More social events (Bunko, fundraising events). (SM) ---We are working on improving our Faith Formation program for the next year and what other social events/fundraisings can be offered to parishioners.
- At St. Mary's the nativity set belongs in front of the altar. It is a focal point for the Christmas season. With it off to the side, only the people in the first few pews can see it. (SM) ----

Response: Thanks for the comment. It's important to be aware that, liturgically speaking, a nativity set placed in front of the Altar is not appropriate. The nativity set, although it is encouraged to be set up in our homes and in church, it is not a liturgical symbol like, for instance, the Advent Wreath in Advent or the Paschal Candle in Easter. The main focus when we come to church must be the Altar table where the sacrifice of the Lord is celebrated. During Christmas, the nativity scene helps us connect our mind and heart with what we are celebrating, the birth of the Lord, however, the Altar table continues to be the main focus of our celebration. The nativity set will be displayed on the side of the Altar and hopefully we can put it on a higher level so everyone can see it.

- All our worship sites need work. I feel our parish should find ways to cut spending.

Response: Our Finance team will be working on better ways to administer our resources and invest more in what the 3 sites require.

- Faith Formation – is this a full-time position? There is no faith formation for 3 months in the summer (SM).

Response: Faith Formation is a full-time position. We wanted to hire one person to cover both Faith Formation and Youth Ministry but given the short time back in September 2025 when Jen Hughes resigned, we had to hire a full-time coordinator.

- St. Vincent worship site music is lacking. Why do we not use or perhaps have an organ? It is great to have volunteers but truthfully, some who volunteer to cantor perhaps should reconsider. (No, I cannot do better.).

Response: We think the choir at SV is doing a great job and we appreciate the generosity of our volunteers who share their talents in service to the Church.

- The same person giving the opening announcements is getting “old.” This should be rotated. The same jokes and facial expressions have run their course. Plus, these announcements are sent out by email on Saturday and are usually in the parish bulletin. (SV).

Response: The Liturgy Committee decided to have one person to be in charge of the announcements because we needed a very good speaker to be able to deliver the messages more efficiently.

- Be mindful of communication with people of the parish, increase participation in parish programs as in volunteering for parish council and being an active participant, responding by answering for help from various committees, etc.

Response: We are working on it for next year.

Town Hall Survey (continued)

(I think our parish can improve in these ways... continued)

- Spiritual enrichment programs. (SC).

Response: Absolutely, we need more spiritual enrichment.

- Monthly report from Pastoral Council from their minutes – bullet points “short and sweet” would let parishioners know what we need (i.e., volunteers for...) vs. what we want (i.e. better parking). Reach out to parishioners that are not coming to mass, not supporting the parish collections but hold out that there will be a church for weddings and funerals. (Do when we redo the parish photo directory and parishioner list.) (SC, SM, SV).

Response: We will start working on this with the Pastoral Council.

- I think it's (the Parish) ok as we are. (SV)

3. I'd like more information about:

- Budget, On why we need a confirmation/youth and faith formation coordinator for so few kids. (SM).

Response: Our communication with parishioners will improve.

- I love this parish. (SM)

4. Other questions or comments:

- I would ask the Pastor and PC to reconsider the Saturday Mass time, during Daylight Savings Time, to 5PM. 4PM is too early for younger families and other folks who only have Saturday to do chores, errands and shopping. Father John changed it to 4PM as elderly parishioners did not want to drive home in the dark. This can be remedied by keeping 4PM during Standard time and 5PM during DST. (SC).

Response: This is something we need to discuss at the Parish Council and Liturgy Committee.

- It seems almost every week there is a second collection. We haven't reached our thanksgiving appeal. There is a limit to keep asking for money. (SM). We agree that the Diocese/parish ask for a lot of money throughout the year.

Response: Our Finance team will discuss better ways to reduce the number of 2nd collections.

- I'm working on a 10th Anniversary History Booklet (Michael Miller)– need input on how we should publish professionally or photocopy in office? Will bring up a council. If we don't have parishioner support on programs, events, should we be doing them or not? (SM, SC, SV)
- Whereas I think we're doing well, I also think there is always room for Improvement – welcoming and responding to call for help. (SM)

Red Box Suggestions

Suggestion: Why is everything for holy week held at St. Vincent's in Churchville? Why isn't it rotated between the 3 churches of St. Martin de Porres? Benefits: Each of the three churches would benefit as would the parishioners.

Response: Not everything for Holy Week was held at St Vincent. Palm Sunday at the 3 sites, Holy Thursday at St Columba, Good Friday at St Vincent, Easter Vigil at St Mary's, Easter Sunday at St Columba and St Vincent.

Suggestion/Comment: All of holy week was at St. Vincent's. I am concerned as to why this is and the same for Patrick Place Tea. We have 3 working and awesome halls, and the facilitator of the PP tea holds it at an outside location. It should be at Columba's or Hartman Hall! Benefits: More people may attend because they are tired of this being held outside of the church halls. We are one parish – not just St. Vincent's!!

Response: We will communicate this suggestion to PP people and see if they want to use one of our facilities.

Suggestion: More masses at St. Mary's (Saturday 5, 6 or 7pm), Communal Confession, Open Church daily, more Holy Water fountains on right side when leaving church, better acoustics in church for hearing impaired.

Response: Thanks for the suggestions, we will bring this up to the Liturgy Committee.

Getting Involved

4. I can contribute to our parish by:

- Already do: Altar linen laundry; food and fellowship hostess; Hartman Hall girls; collection counter. (SM)
Kathy Frederick 585-571-4193 Katfred1218@Gmail.com
- I have experience in grounds upkeep as well as food service. (SV)
Bob Ehrmentraut behrmentraut@gmail.com
- Helping when parish reaches out for volunteers or when needs for help for minor projects, being friendly to other parishioners and being welcoming whenever opportunity arises, for example F&F. (SM)
- Money counter, usher, member of KofC. (SC)
Pat Rountree rountreepj@gmail.com.
- Volunteering (SM)
Gail Bovill gbovill7@gmail.com
- Continuing to do what I do (SV)
Tom Agness

Sacraments Summary

Baptisms

2026 to date: 4

Total parish baptisms by year

2025: 14 | 2024: 17 | 2023: 24 | 2022: 14 | 2021: 23 | 2020: 13 | 2019: 19
2018: 25 | 2017: 25 | 2016: 20 | 2015: 20 | 2014: 25

Baptisms by Worship Site

St. Columba 2026: 0

2025: 4 | 2024: 5 | 2023: 9 | 2022: 1 | 2021: 12 | 2020: 10* | 2019: 4 | 2018: 4
2017: 12 | 2016: 5 | 2015: 5 | 2014: 5

* All baptisms were at this site after July 12, as a pandemic precaution.

St. Mary of the Assumption 2026: 3

2025: 7 | 2024: 5 | 2023: 10 | 2022: 7 | 2021: 4 | 2020: 1 | 2019: 8 | 2018: 10
2017: 8 | 2016: 7 | 2015: 11 | 2014: 12

St. Vincent de Paul 2026: 1

2025: 3 | 2024: 7 | 2023: 5 | 2022: 6 | 2021: 7 | 2020: 2 | 2019: 7 | 2018: 11
2017: 5 | 2016: 8 | 2015: 4 | 2014: 8

Adult Baptisms

2025-2026: 2

Adult Confirmations

2025-2026: 5

Weddings

2025-2026: 4

First Communion

2025-2026: 3

Confirmation

2025-2026: 12

Funerals

2025-2026: 32

Pastoral Council

The Parish Council meets on first Tuesday of the month September -June at 6 pm.

Locations are St.Mary's, St.Columba and St.Vincent's on a rotating basis.

The Chairperson receives the agenda and notes from previous meeting from the Parish Council secretary and copies are distributed at meeting.

Our agenda consists of monthly:

Committee Communications Reports:

Building & Grounds	Social Ministry
Faith Formation	Strategic Planning
Finance	Communications- address Red Box Submissions

*Parish & Council Events such as :

Parish Retreats- (organized by Father Carlos)

Food & Fellowship (scheduled September-May – 2nd Sunday of month)

Parish Family Gatherings/Picnic (August /Sept)

Town Hall meeting- May

Garage Sale -June

Community Events

Patrick Place updates

Community Blood Drives

Memorial Day

The council in January/February form a committee to seek new members. In June we present the candidates and their names are selected after masses.

Chairperson & Co Chair is 1 yr. Council members 3 yrs.

2026 Town Hall

Parish Committee Reports

Building & Grounds Committee

(Report to be provided as separate insert.)

Faith Formation

2025-2026

This is a report of the current state of Faith Formation and will serve as a general overview. As of writing this, I am still settling somewhat into the position, and have largely kept the previous model of Faith Formation (as I understand it). If you have any questions, or would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact me via the following:

Luke.Nolan@dor.org

(585)294-3085 ext. 7006

FF Registrations (K-7th Grade)

16 families

Total # of children in Family Faith Formation: **24**

Family Faith Formation:

Families of students grades k-7th would attend at least one of the monthly gatherings, picking from either St. Vincent, St. Columba, or St. Mary's depending on schedule, distance, etc. Attendance rate is about 80%. There are "extracurricular" activities each month as part of the monthly playlist meant to encourage further engagement with family. They also have received the Pflaum Gospel weeklies to provide additional catechesis at home.

Initial comments/observations

There seemed to be some confusion regarding the registration process/online form.

Feedback received (from parents) so far is generally positive regarding overall method, but some sticking points (curriculum, presentation, etc.).

Curriculum decided by Jen, doesn't follow a textbook but rather is a grouping of different topics, not necessarily related- although the topics do meet diocesan requirements.

I am open to different programs/options if that is something the Faith Formation families are interested in.

Hoping to increase numbers & participation for the next year (2026-2027)

Faith Formation (continued)

Survey results

At the end of the 2025-2026 Faith Formation year, I sent out a survey to parents regarding their experience in our Faith Formation program. The method – stations with activities- has received generally positive feedback. Communication has also generally been positive as well.

Next year

Currently I am working on a new registration form for next year's Faith Formation. The form itself will borrow heavily from 2025-2026.

Further, only minor changes will be made to the Faith Formation program next year. Scheduling as well as the structure of each session will be adjusted per the survey responses.

Miscellaneous

Interested in exploring *consolidation* of Faith Formation sessions- i.e., having them at two, even one location at different times. How would something like this be received? No intention of doing that soon, but something to think about. It would help with storage of materials as well- but it may prove difficult for those who live on the far side of the parish.

Shared use of spaces – can be a bit of a challenge, as not every meeting/event is marked on a shared calendar.

Finance Committee

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR ST MARTIN DE PORRES TOWN HALL

The financial report for the period July 1, 2025 through March 31, 2026 reflects our fiscal experience in what we are projecting to be a healthy financial year. We are on pace to achieve an operating surplus for the first time since 2019. The offertory lags the prior year but is sustaining a level needed to meet our current obligations. Operating expenses have decreased, making our revenues go further in sustaining the needs of the parish. This is a result of a restructuring of staffing at the parish. It is our determination that St. Martin de Porres is operating efficiently and effectively.

The parish has made capital improvements during the period. We replaced the St. Vincent's office roof and modernized the electrical components at the rectory. We were also able to repair and renovate the St. Mary's basement which was damaged by flooding in the fall. This project was largely financed through insurance proceeds. Upcoming projects include replacing the boiler system at St. Columba and building a cremation garden at Holy Angels cemetery.

St. Martin de Porres carries a healthy cash balance and over \$400,000 in reserves invested for future appreciation. The restricted funds on the balance sheet reflect money held for the purpose of window restoration and replacement at St. Mary's. The parish maintains total assets at an adequate level to sustain future operations.

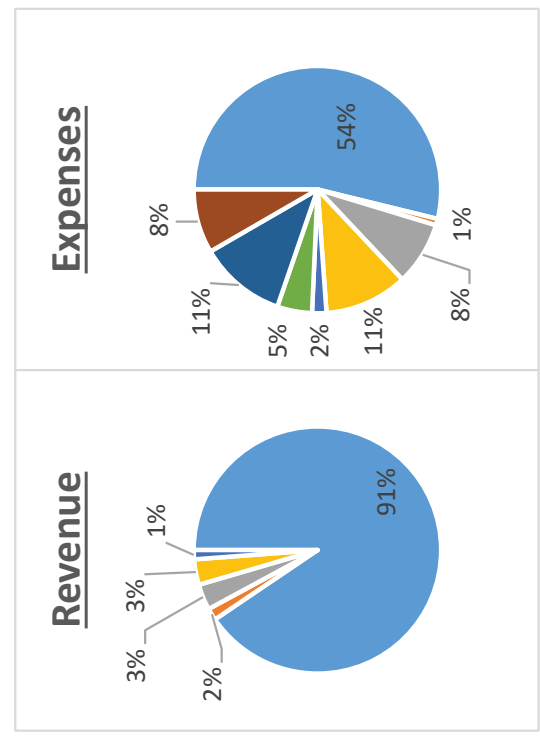
We are very hopeful that St. Martin de Porres will continue to serve the faith community and preach the Gospel in word and deed. Your consistent support of St. Martin de Porress' mission and our ministries is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your service and your generous assistance!

OUR FINANCIAL REPORT

St. Martin de Porres Financial Report for the period ended March 2026.

	<u>Q3 25-26</u>	<u>Q3 25-26</u>
	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>
Regular Collections	484,565	500,167
Fundraisers	8,308	13,500
Gifts & Bequests	18,212	15,000
Ministries & Programs	17,677	17,250
Other/Special Receipts	6,526	7,800
TOTAL OPERATING RECEIPTS	\$ 535,288	\$ 553,717
Parish Salaries/Benefits	282,746	303,581
Fundraising	4,369	1,500
School Assessment	43,500	43,500
Insurance & Property Taxes	57,191	57,425
Ministries & Programs	9,892	9,713
Supplies	23,903	23,928
Building & Maintenance	59,730	54,750
Other Expenses	43,874	36,955
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 525,206	\$ 531,352
NET OPERATING SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	\$ 10,082	\$ 22,365
NON-OPERATING REVENUE		
Change in Investments	3,938	-
Other Non-operating Revenue	90,821	-
TOTAL NON-OPERATING REVENUE*	94,759	-
TOTAL NON-OPERATING EXPENDITURES*	84,089	75,000
NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	\$ 20,752	(\$2,635)

*Non-Operating Revenue are income for the parish that do not come from normal activities within the parish. This is made up of investment returns, property sales, insurance proceeds & ERC. Non-Operating Expenditures are costs for the parish that are not routine for the parish. This is usually major capital improvements that are being completed, such as HVAC repairs, roof replacements, etc.



Liturgy Committee

St. Martin de Porres Liturgy Committee Members

Pastor: **Father Carlos**

Chair: **Jeanne Dudek**

Youth Group: **Mary O'Meara**

Faith Formation: **Luke Nolan**

Representing St. Columba's: **Libby Davis, Sean Esposito, Maria Neale**

Representing St. Mary's: **Paula Gallo, Kathy Reno, Anna Steele, Donna Treat**

Representing St. Vincent's: **Kathy Burton, Kathy Kuntz, Linda Smith**

Liaisons to Parish Council: **Michael Miller, Colleen Trevisani, Ann Krenzer**

**Each church gathers regularly to praise and thank God,
to remember and make present God's great deeds,
to offer common prayer,
to realize and celebrate the kingdom of peace and justice.
That action of the Christian assembly is LITURGY.**

-taken from Liturgy With Style and Grace, by Gabe Huck

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- **Our parish Liturgy Committee** meets regularly 10 times a year on Tuesday evenings.
 - **We work very closely with Father Carlos** to set the dates, times and locations of Masses and all liturgical events.
 - **We strive to ensure that our parish liturgies**, strictly guided by the Roman Missal, are prayerful and meaningful.
 - **The committee members** from each church work very closely with liturgical ministers--lectors, communion ministers, sacristans, ushers and altar servers--so that their participation in the Mass becomes a very important ministry for our parish, and a deeply holy and fulfilling ministry for them.
 - Each church, St. Columba's, St. Mary's and St. Vincent's, also has its own committee which maintains the environment and decorates the church for each church season.
 - Please talk with any one of our members to find out how you can join the Liturgical Team at St. Martin de Porres. **We WELCOME new members!**

Strategic Planning, Communications, and Anniversary

Saint Martin De Porres Strategic Planning Group
June 13, 2021- December 2025

The Saint Martin De Porres Parish strategic planning group was organized in June 2021, comprising of parish council, financial council, parish staff and interested parishioners. Approximately 65 attendees with the purpose of developing a 3-to-5-year plan for the parish attended the first gathering. At that and subsequent meetings we developed a seven-page plan with three areas of focus: Communications, Parishioner Engagement and Financial. Many of our 2021-2025 goals have been focused on over the past four and a half years.

We confirmed what has been accomplished and what we need to continue focusing on. Two main areas: parishioner engagement and financial stability, with communication integrated into both of these.

The St. Martin De Porres parish strategic planning group has changed and now invite parishioners to take part in these areas by becoming a new group involved with many aspects of celebrating the parish's 10th anniversary (2017-2027).

At our October meeting, we decided to review and update our Parish Mission Statement that was reviewed by parish council and accepted by Fr. Carlos. It was published at the beginning of January 2026 on the front page of our weekly bulletin.

We plan to reach out to all parish groups and, indeed, the wider community as we celebrate. We had a listening gathering on February 15 at Hartmann Hall to begin brainstorming for this celebration. Bulletin announcements and an anniversary questionnaire have been distributed to the parishioners, asking for their suggestions and involvement in planning for this celebration.

Next year's Town Hall will have more of a detailed report from the Saint Martin De Porres 10th-anniversary group with their ideas and accomplishments.

Social Ministry Committee

Social Ministry End of Year Summary 2025

The Winter Wear Collection began in October and ran until March 2nd. As of January 12, St. Martin de Porres parishioners had donated approximately 20 bags of new and gently used coats, hats, gloves/mittens, scarves, etc. which were delivered to The Open Door Mission, and 20 bags, of the same, were delivered to St. Monica's for distribution to the people of the 19th ward and neighborhoods beyond. Thanks to all who donated this "warmth" and to those who sorted, bagged, and transported.

The Giving Trees, an annual tradition for all three churches, was a huge success. We are proud and grateful to say that the tags in all of our churches, plus some from The Angry Rooster, were "filled" sending over 120 gifts to Monroe Community Catholic Charities, Livingston County Catholic Charities, Caledonia-Mumford Central School, Churchville Elementary, and 18 boxes of food to Southwest Ecumenical Ministries (SWEM).

Food Pantries are a most important part of our ministry and operate year-round. The Mumford pantry distributes food Tuesday night and served 8 families monthly. The Angry Rooster pantry, a mission of St. Martin de Porres social ministry, served around 20-25 people a day. (The pantry is restocked daily, open from dawn to dusk, and locked overnight.) The St. Vincent's pantry, which is located at Union Congregational Church, across from ST. Vincent's, reached 45-50 families throughout the year. St. Mary's pantry reached 5-10 families per month. Your nonperishable contributions are wonderful! If you would prefer to write a check, make it payable to Social Ministry of St. Martin de Porres and **write food pantry in the memo**. A special thanks goes out to **The Scottsville Sons of the American Legion**, who donated 40 turkeys and \$1,500 so others in our communities could celebrate Thanksgiving and Christmas! Also, thanks to their generosity, Helen, of The Angry Rooster, was able to cook, serve, and deliver 100 meals to those who would have had no Thanksgiving dinner. Another special thanks goes out to **Heany Industries LLC** who donated food in June and again in the fall.

The Backpack Program, which sends home, each Friday, a tote bag of easy to open and serve foods for children in need, has reached 41 children (12 families).

Happy Birthday Cha, Cha, Cha is a program that provides birthday gifts for children, living below the poverty level, in the Rochester City School District. This year 123 bags (3,075 pair) of your new and/or used footwear were recycled, providing the money for these gifts. Some new and gently used footwear were pulled from the collection and distributed to All Babies Cherished, York Central School, and Cal-Mum. Please keep "those old shoes" coming!

An Appreciation Luncheon for Ann Buyea and Pat McGill, our admins, was held after our April meeting. Without them and their organization, foresight, and efficiency, social ministry could not function.

Social Ministry Committee (Continued)

Mother's Day Diaper and Wipes Collection occurred in May to honor mothers and their babies. Your donations were delivered to All Babies Cherished, Angel Care Ministry, and Livingston County Catholic Charities. This was a very successful drive.

Back to School Drive is an effort to help provide our children with some of the supplies they will need to be successful. This year's supplies were delivered to Caledonia-Mumford Central School, Churchville Elementary, and T.J. Connor Elementary in Scottsville. Once again, a great success thanks to you!

Prayers for Peace! On October 14th, Father Carlos said a Mass for peace in our world. This Mass was requested by and assisted by Social Ministry. It was a solemn, hopeful, and well attended occasion. In fact, there were many who asked for another such Mass.

Eye Glass Collection is an on-going effort. In the back of each church, there is a container where you can leave your used glasses. Please, no cases!

Tithing is year-round, and this year's donations went to the following charities: Purple Pony, UCC Food Cupboard, St. Joseph Ctr., Stella Maris, Backpack Program, Bethany House, Dimitri House, Daystar Kids, and Mary's Place. (You can visit any of these online.) **Our Social Ministry Committee prays that our tithing budget will be increased in this coming fiscal year, as the number of those less fortunate has increased exponentially, and many of the services that reached out to them have decreased.**

Gratitude! Our Social Ministry Committee is beyond grateful for the parishioners of St. Martin de Porres who have helped us carry out Our Lord's work!

Members: Mary and Gary Brundage, Jen Condame, Kate DiNolfo, Ginny Donlon, Matt Dudek, Sandra Kemp, Kathy Kuntz, Maura LaDue, Michael Miller, Sue Roundtree, Pam Rychlicki, Char Sayers, and Marjorie Wallace.

2026 Town Hall

Parish Ministries Reports

The Caring Card Ministry

This newly formed group hopes to send messages of joy, hope, solace, sympathy and comfort. Create cards for special occasions and holidays.

We thank Fr. Carlos for giving us the opportunity to create this ministry.

I have had an insert explaining the ministry and that we will especially need stamps. But would graciously accept cards and craft materials. Our goal is to be totally cost free. We have already received some donations. There is a special box in each of our church's vestibules.

If anyone knows of someone who would appreciate receiving a card for whatever reason, please let me know and we will send a card to them. You can text Kathy Kuntz at 585-748-3865 or email kathykuntz3442@gmail.com.

Members

Diana Mischler
Linda Smith
Anne Hartman
Sandra Kamp
Vicki Rowland
Kathy McNeely (will prepare cards to be mailed)
Sherrie Maysick
Sylvia Goeltz (will be at-home member)
Kathy Kuntz
Pat DiGiacomo

Food & Fellowship

2025-2026 Food and Fellowship

This is a wonderful gathering to meet your fellow parishioners. We meet on the 2nd Sunday of each month after mass. This is scheduled from September to May/June. We request a few volunteers to make or purchase delicious desserts and/or appetizers. At St Columba, they make a simple meal, i.e. soup/pizza, since it is after the 4pm mass.

We also provide a basket for donations. These donations are used for our annual picnic and various retreats. There year, our picnic is August 2nd. These donations will help pay for food and other necessities, i.e. plates, napkins. More information on the picnic will be available as we get closer to the date. Volunteers are always welcome.

To volunteer for 2nd Sunday gathering Please contact:

St Columba – Michael Miller

St Mary's – Pat Strassner

St Vincent's – Maria Stubing

The Prayer Shawl Ministry

(Ministry Background from Kathy Kuntz)

I was in JoAnn Fabrics one day, in 2006, and found a book entitled “The Prayer Shawl Ministry.” I love to knit and thought it was a really neat idea. Two years later, our then Pastoral Leader, Charlotte Bruney, gave me the go ahead to form the group, so on April 19, 2008 our first group of about 6 ladies met. So every Tuesday afternoon, from 1:00pm- 2:30pm our group meets and continues to grow. And now, with the addition of ladies who are not able to attend the group gathering for whatever reason, but want to be a part of the ministry and wish to knit and crochet at home, we have created the “At Home Prayer Shawl Ministry.”

All are welcome to join us!

Over the past almost 18 years it is hard to know exactly how many shawls, lap robes, twiddle mitts, knitted and crocheted items for babies in the NICU at Strong and Rochester General. Some will go home with parents and then there are the Angel Babies who will go to their heavenly home, or the exact number of Baptismal Shawls, bibs, bears and other gifts that go into the Baptismal Bag given to each family when a child is baptized.

We make hats and scarves for the homeless shelters and inner city schools, shawls are sent to nursing homes, dialysis units all to help St. Christopher’s Prayer Shawl Ministry.

We love what we do and in the process of helping those in need we give to each other time for prayer, laughter, sharing joys and even sad moments.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our ministry with you.

Tuesday afternoon attendees:

Linda Smith
Mary Radka
Diane Virzi
Kathy Kuntz
Eileen DePerna
Beth Cona
Pat DiGiacomo
Lucy Endulvoski, Joanna Aguglia (St. Christopher’s)
Amy Krecker, Vicky Snyder (Caledonia)

At Home members:

Sandy Eichas
Sandra Kamp
Jean Rossignolo (Hilton)