

# Martin De Porres House of Hospitality

225 Potrero Avenue  
San Francisco, Ca. 94103  
Telephone (415) 552-0240

**Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven . . .**

We mourn for a country that has lost its soul to the sufferings of its own species . . . when basic necessities and the struggle to survive are so difficult that people can be indifferent to fellow human beings as they step over them in the street.

**Blessed are the meek for they shall possess the earth . . .**

We grieve for the children all over the world that look to the elders of the earth to protect them and guide them in wisdom and love, not hate and oppression.

**Blessed are they who mourn for they shall be comforted . . .**

We mourn for a country that kills people in the name of freedom, when exploitation, injustice, torture and greed are a way of life.

**Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for justice . . .**

We grieve for the lack of basic human values that allows people that are sick to suffer because of inadequate funds and medical facilities.

**Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God . . .**

We mourn for the souls of the victims and perpetrators of war. We mourn for those that lack compassion and respect, and have no internal wisdom.

**Blessed are they who suffer persecution for justice's sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven . . .**

We grieve for a society so in love with the speed of human technology that we have allowed that technology to grow to the point where it may bring an end to all life. We grieve for a planet so beautiful in its magnitude, given so freely, and for which we have shown only carelessness and disrespect.

Dear Friends:

We at Martin's are in mourning and grief. In grief for our fellow human beings that have once again stumbled and fallen to evil -- the evil of war. We take our teachings from all the wise people that have come before us. We take counsel especially from Jesus who in his great wisdom and love made it perfectly clear: We shall not kill. We shall turn the other cheek. We shall love our enemies.

At Martin's we see the consequences of war every day: veterans of past wars, refugees from violence and terror in Latin American countries, victims of America's drug wars, and those who suffer the personal wars of abuse and neglect, mental illness, conscience and despair. Our guests are the prisoners of war of the 20th century.

We beseech you at this time to listen to the words of God, the God of flowers and stars and gentle winds. Love thy neighbor as thyself.

We must hold the lamp of Truth in a world of ignorance and sin. Let us be partners in building a universe based on Loving Kindness, Beauty and Peace.

In God's Light,

*Barbara*

Barbara Collier ✕

For the Martin de Porres Community