

# The Drum

The Beat of Black Catholic Chicago

August 2014



## Rebuilding the Bridge: African-American Affairs' 50th Anniversary Initiative

**50 years ago...** The first episode of the game show *Jeopardy* aired and *Freedom Summer* brought 1000 activists by bus to Mississippi to help African Americans exercise their rights and duties as citizens. What's the winning question today?

**50 years ago...** The Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party formed to challenge the all-white official Democratic party. Its delegates attended the Democratic National Convention in Atlantic City NJ, until they were forcibly removed. Is the right to vote secure today?

**50 years ago...** Baby boomers enjoyed watching *Bewitched*, *The Addams Family*, *Gilligan's Island* and *The Man from U.N.C.L.E.* On television they also watched police dogs, fire hoses and billy clubs beat back their fellow citizens seeking the right to vote and equal opportunity for employment, housing and education. Which made a bigger impact on your life?

The **African-American Affairs' 50th Anniversary Initiative** provides a platform for probing the impact of this historic moment on African-American Catholics, the Church and U.S. society today. For a quick look back, view the Catholic News Service video, **Equality for All: Catholic Reflections on the Civil Rights Act.** ([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C\\_X8kAkT\\_B8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C_X8kAkT_B8))

More food for thought is available in *America Magazine*. See the July 7-14, 2014 issue (Reference Vol. 211 No. 1; Whole No. 5055). Read reflections of

African-American Catholics on the theme, "**Black and Catholic: On Race, Faith and Freedom.**" Share your own reflections on USCCB [Facebook](http://www.facebook.com/usccb) ([www.facebook.com/usccb](http://www.facebook.com/usccb)) and [Twitter](http://www.twitter.com/usccb) ([www.twitter.com/usccb](http://www.twitter.com/usccb)).

**50 Years Ago** in his encyclical to *The Clergy And Faithful of the Whole World and To All Men of Good Will*, Pope St. John XXIII declared:

*"When the relations of human society are expressed in terms of rights and duties, men become conscious of spiritual values, understand the meaning and significance of truth, justice, charity and freedom, and become deeply aware that they belong to this world of values. Moreover, when moved by such concerns, they are brought to a better knowledge of the true God Who is personal and transcendent, and thus they make the ties that bind them to God the solid foundation and supreme criterion of their lives, both that of life which they live interiorly in the depths of their own souls and of that in which they are united to other men in society."*

A half century ago immersed in a massive social movement, Americans awakened to pleas for justice, civil rights, human rights and the eradication of racism. At home and abroad those who were "less

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fortunate” sought relief from unjust systems of oppression, discrimination and colonial status. In recognition of that critical moment, the USCCB will encourage the Catholic community to rediscover this slice of history through the prism of the Church’s involvement at the time and within the current social context. **From June 2014 through 2015, we will examine how the lessons and legacy of the civil rights era continue to shape us today as Catholics and faithful citizens.** Bookmark this page, share it with

your friends and return often for guest commentaries on the USCCB Blog, a calendar of events, prayer and catechetical resources, video clips, practical ideas for engaging the Catholic community and much more.

*Reprinted from the USCCB Secretariat of Cultural Diversity In The Church Subcommittee on African-American Catholics July E-Newsletter.*

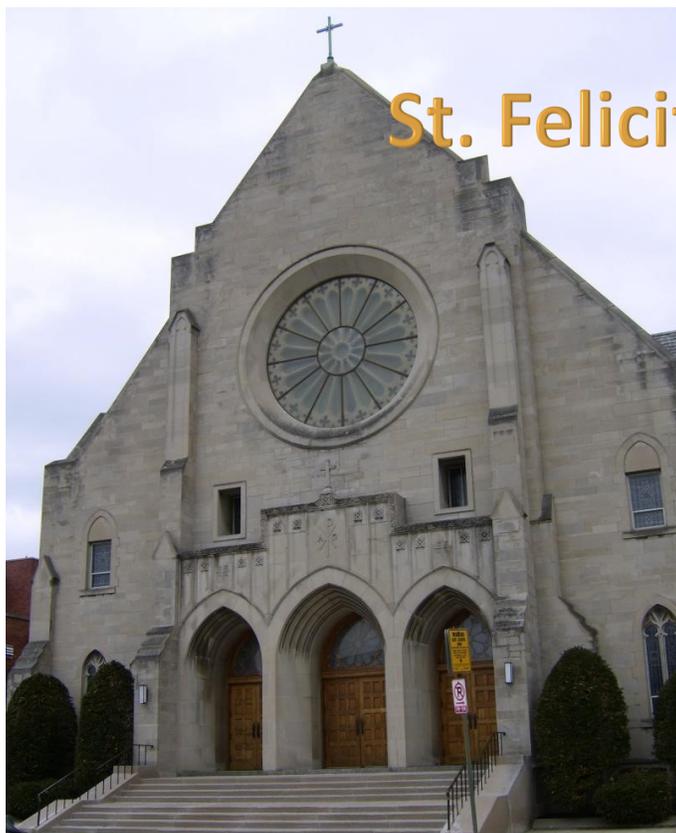
3211 Fourth Street, NE, Washington, DC 20017  
Telephone: 202-541-3178  
Email: [dgrimes@usccb.org](mailto:dgrimes@usccb.org)

## Seeking African-American Engaged Couples

USCCB would love to feature African-American Catholics on their [For Your Marriage](#) web page. The couple would be featured for about a year through the phases of being engaged to becoming newly-weds.

Ideal candidates are active/practicing African-American Catholics. This isn't Hallmark or reality television.

We're looking for real people to tell real stories that will encourage African-American young adults to trust God and say "Yes!" to marriage. Contact Donna Grimes at 202-541-3178 or [dgrimes@usccb.org](mailto:dgrimes@usccb.org).



## St. Felicitas Taste 2014

Let's connect with family, friends and community.

St. Felicitas has a special treat for you

**Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**from noon to 4:00 p.m.**

**Fun for ALL!**

Music . . . Singing . . . Prizes

School Hall  
1500 E. 83<sup>rd</sup> Pl.  
Chicago, Illinois  
Fr. Greg Rom, Pastor

# I'm so Black Catholic Chicago . . .

Andrew Lyke

A few weeks ago when I was catching up on Facebook. There was this thread called I'm so Chicago that intrigued me. People were talking about old TV shows like *Here's Geraldine*, *Lunchtime Little Theatre*, *Romper Room* and *Ding-Dong School*. Also mentioned were amusement parks Riverview and Funtown, and other Chicago landmarks in the archives of our memories. It had me thinking. Why not start a similar thread focused on Black Catholic Chicago and see what happens. So, I presented the idea of "I'm so Black Catholic Chicago . . ." on *God's Praises Tell*, the weekly radio show of the Office for Black Catholics.

In the 2012 study by the University of Notre Dame that was funded by the National Black Catholic Congress, it show that Black Catholics, in comparison to



other Catholics, are more engaged with their faith. Part of the mission of the Office for Black Catholics is to strengthen the faith identity of the community. So, this Facebook initiative "I'm so Black Catholic" was a fun way of illustrating what the Notre Dame Study document, that we Black Catholics are highly engaged in our Catholic Faith.

Here are some of the entries:

Andrew

*I'm so Black Catholic that my son's first name is my Confirmation name (Martin).*

Jennifer

*I'm so Black Catholic Joliet that my confirmation name is my grandmother Elizabeth.*

Keith

*I am so Black Catholic that I was a member of the UBS aka the United Black Seminarians at Quigley South*

Christine

*I'm so Black Catholic I remember when there were more than 4 Black Catholic Churches on the Westside.*

*I'm so Black Catholic I remember going to Purcell Hall and watching the Westside Catholic Basketball and Volleyball games on Saturdays.*

Andrew

*Wentworth just south of Wentworth Gardens. It's where my parents were married and I and my older sister were baptized.*

*I'm so Black Catholic Chicago I remember hanging out with Fr. Wheatley and going over to St. Dorothy's to visit Fr. George Clements and listening to Ray Charles records.*

Pat

*I'm so Black Catholic that I still smile when I see a bobby pin and Kleenex I used when I forgot my chapel veil.*

Jennifer

*I am so Black Catholic that I went to church everyday for 8 years before school started and had a cold fried egg sandwich for breakfast everyday.*

Megan

*I'm so Black Catholic that I always got candy from our "Church Mothers" at Holy Rosary Parish on 113th and King Drive on the South Side! :)*

Marva

*I am so Black Catholic that I remember when St. Sabina used to have Sunday masses that lasted under an hour :)*

Stefani

*I am so Black Catholic Chicago that I remember singing at the age of ten at the 1985 Black Catholic Revival down at Holy Name Cathedral with Walt Whitman as the director and Gloria Burchette, and Wilton Gregory was our Bishop! Good Times!!!*

Jennifer

*I'm so Black Catholic that I wanted to crown the Blessed Virgin Mary in the month of May but was never picked. I wonder why!!!*

Carlean

*I am so Black Catholic that I remember all of the summer activities in Madden Park on 38th and Rhodes with the Nuns from Holy Angels when I was 5 yrs old!*

Andrea

*I'm so black catholic chicago, I remember being 5 playing with the church fans and eating jellybeans from my little purse in the pews at St. Sabina on Easter.*

Carol

*I am so Black Catholic Chicago I remember Father James E. Goode preaching at Saint Sabina's first Revival and witnessing an awesome move of the Holy Spirit!*

Maureen

*I am so Black Catholic Chicago, in 3rd grade Sr.*

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*Edisa left our class assigned pews to pop one of the boys in the head during all school mass. When he said 'ouch' Sr. faced the altar and said "Excuse me Father." Although we all wanted to laugh, we were afraid of all nuns!*

Robin

*I'm so Black Catholic I remember my whole family gathering in front of the one TV in the living room to proudly watch the Little Angels of Holy Angels the largest Black Catholic school in the US.*

Gardis

*I'm so Black Catholic Chicago, I remember the current day St. Rita used to be Quigley South.*

Marcia

*I am so Black Catholic Chicago that I remember when Sr Hortensia became principal at Holy Angels and I sang my first solo as a "Little Angel", I'm a Lonely little Petunia in an Onion Patch.*

Anita

*I'm so Chicago that I passed the Joe Louis Milk factory everyday on my way to St. Anselm school.*

This was a fun project that had us reflecting on the many ways our Catholic Faith is in the backdrop and forefront of our lives. So, let's keep it going. On Facebook or twitter use #imsoblackcatholicchicago. Or email OBC@archchicago.org.

## In Memoriam: Fr. Paul Marshall, SM

University of Dayton—July 17, 2014

**F**ormer University Rector Father Paul Marshall, S.M. '69, died suddenly Thursday, July 17, while visiting Marianists in India. Marshall was 66.

Marshall spent 47 years as a Marianist, serving as a social worker, teacher, parish pastor and administrator. He served as rector from 2005-10 when he was appointed assistant for temporalities for the Marianist Province of the United States, headquartered in St. Louis, and was also a professor in the department of religious studies.

"He touched the lives of countless students and embodied our philosophy of learn, lead, serve," said University President Daniel J. Curran. "We will miss him deeply."

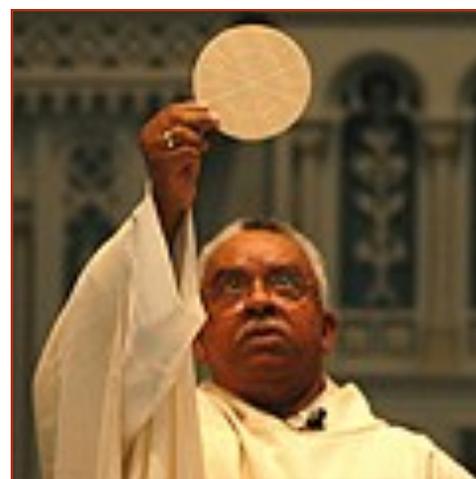
As rector, Marshall helped establish the Marianist Educational Associates, a program that develops a community of lay faculty, staff and administrators dedicated to preserving the University's Marianist heritage. In 2007, while leading faculty and staff Marianist Educational Associates on a trip to walk in Marianist founder William Joseph Chaminade's footsteps in France, Marshall spoke about the importance of furthering the Marianist charism at the University.

"The charism should infuse every aspect of the University, who we are and what we do," he said. "It embraces all areas of academics and growth — nothing is outside the kingdom of God."

Marshall also served in many leadership positions in the black Catholic community in the U.S. He had a great passion for social and racial justice and promoting the gift of the black Catholic community to the entire Church. As he wrote on the occasion of his 25th jubilee as a Marianist, "The Marianists have always been open to someone of a different culture. Our life together, I believe, is a witness to the kingdom of God. Every race, culture, and people are called to be followers of God. Mary, our model of faith, praised God who raised the lowly and freed the oppressed. Working for freedom and promoting the faith in the black community have given meaning to my life as a Marianist."

A Cleveland native, Marshall earned a bachelor's degree in philosophy from the University of Dayton and a master of divinity from the University of St. Michael's College in Toronto. He professed first vows in 1966 and was ordained in 1976. Before returning to the University of Dayton in 2000, he served as pastor of St. Aloysius Church in Cleveland and was president of the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus. He volunteered with the University of Dayton alumni chapter programs in Cleveland and, in the greater Dayton community, Marshall served as urban corps director in the youth services office for the city of Dayton. Parity Inc. selected him in 2008 as one of its Top 10 African American Males for his leadership and contributions to the Dayton community.

"Let us thank God for the gift of his life and the many ways he blessed our University community," said Father James Fitz, S.M., University of Dayton vice president for mission and rector. "Let us thank Mary Our Mother for the gift of his perseverance as a Marianist religious. Together, let us pray that he may rest in the peace of Christ."



# CONNIE'S CORNER

by  
Connie Reden

Last month I got a call from Stephanie Jackson informing me of a newly published book by a parishioner at Holy Name of Mary Parish in the Morgan Park Community on the South Side. The book is a compilation of articles written for the parish bulletin at Holy Name of Mary. The author is Constance Reden. I invited Ms. Reden to be my guest on the weekly radio show *God's Praises Tell*. While on the air I proposed that her column "Connies Corner" be a regular feature of *The Drum*. She graciously accepted the proposal. Here is the first of many contributions to our monthly newsletter of "Connie's Corner" by Connie Reden. Welcome aboard, Connie!

Andrew Lyke  
Editor

## Wearing the Cross

A phenomenon of life is the ability to think and wonder about people, things, and situations. One of my wonders has been whether people understand the true meaning of wearing the cross around their necks. I see many people wearing a cross encrusted with precious stones and others wearing the cross without ornamentations. I wonder if they remember the deeper meaning of the cross. I believe the cross is a symbol of Jesus' obedience to His Father, a sacrifice for eternal life that opened heaven to us, and the love He has for us.

Sometimes the understanding and sensibility seem to evade our consciousness. Our society has a tendency to deactivate our need to love one another and to search for truth. Our truth and love is the lighted path to God our Father. The symbol of the cross requires our understanding and sensibility always reaffirmed through our prayers and actions.

Early Christians held the symbol of the cross in reverence. They could not forget the first symbol of the cross as a sign of persecution. As they traveled throughout their Roman dominated land, the side of many roads told the story of Roman supremacy and barbaric retributions. Crucifixion was condoned by Romans as torture for slaves, rebels and any non-Romans. The early Christians saw bodies raised high with blood blanketing the ground beneath the cross while buzzards ate their fill of dying flesh. Then came the death of Jesus on the cross, symbolizing salvation and love. This young carpenter turned the world upside down and was the sacrificial lamb bursting the doors of heaven open to all of us. There was a new found freedom for our souls through His sacrifice. He paved the way for eternal life. Therefore, the cross is the symbol of sacrifice, a tena-



Connie Redden

acious spirit, attainable goals of immortality, peace and love.

In the future I hope we wear and carry our crosses praying for guidance and forgiveness when we forget we are not the masters of our own fate. We are predestined to be with God unless we make choices contrary to His word and deny the responsibility we have for His sacrifice on the cross.

In the name of the Father who loves me, and the Son who lives within me, and the Holy Spirit who empowers me, Amen, Amen, Amen



Come out & Join  
The Faith Community of  
**Saint Sabina**

For A Block Club Party In The Park  
**Renaissance Park**  
1230 West 79th Street

Friday, July 18 &  
Friday, August 15, 2014  
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

**FREE**  
FOOD - FUN - FELLOWSHIP - BASKETBALL  
GAMES - MUSIC - FAMILY FRIENDLY

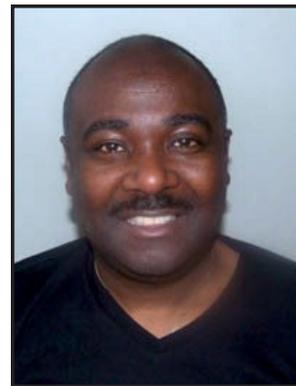


Coming together as a village to promote peace!

# Forgive me . . . I messed up!

**Dr. Keith Wilson**

**F**orgiving is a attribute that all Christians claim to aspire to , but in a practical sense we all fall down from time to time with regards to forgiving. Sometimes we are unable to do so because we confuse forgiving with excusing. There are many examples in the text of the bible where Jesus forgives many of the wrongs that are the world does to him. Perhaps the greatest example that he personally showed of this act was in Luke 23:34 while in the midst of his crucifixion he cried out before the crowd that was torturing him “Father, forgive them for they do not know what they are doing!”



As we examine closely the interactions in our communities where conflict resolution seems to be a struggle for our citizens, it seems that on a fundamental level we have forgotten how to forgive and how we all need to be forgiven from time to time. How often do we participate in arguments that escalate into anger and some unfortunate words being said or worse yet as is the case with our youth where a disagreement results in death?

The media including social media is a very interesting animal in that both feature writers and pundits. From time to time you will hear very terse or provocative statements and people often fail to realize that opinions are simple observations that are based on a person’s point of views and life experiences. They can be right and they can be wrong. The point is they are not scripture. Sometimes we will do or say things we wish we could take back because we later realize that we were in error after further consultation.

How many of us have jumped in the proverbial water with both feet into a situation because we thought we knew all of the facts (we thought we could swim there) only to find out the water was too cold or treacherous. Sometimes we need a life preserver in the person of another Christian or thoughtful person that is willing to forgive our stupidity and give us a helping hand (a life preserver) or a way out.

Sometimes instead of maintaining focus on differences in opinion by the act of exercising the act of forgiveness with them or yourself (for not being able to see the other person’s point of view) in that moment we find that we often can maintain relationships that are more important than the dispute. To be clear the proposal is not to excuse the person for any bad act, but concluding that the disagreement is the agreement and to focus on the vast majority of the time when you do agree. Mistakes and misstatements will be made as we are all mere mortals.

Recently Steven A Smith an ESPN sportscaster known for his over the top and verbose style of journalism weighed in on an unfortunate situation with Ray Rice and his then fiancée. Mr. Rice was pretty clearly a domestic abuser in that situation and Mr. Smith made observations about his views on the situation which resulted in his suspension. Discussion of this situation has

created a firestorm in the African-American community in particular.

I bring up the concept of forgiveness and excusing in this situation to distinguish between the two. To the outside observer it appears that his employer concluded that Mr. Smith was excusing the deplorable behavior of Mr. Rice and as a result his employment was put at risk. I would argue that Steven A Smith never advocated or excused the bad behavior of Mr. Rice, but did speak a controversial view on the matter. In my opinion Mr. Smith may be in need of forgiveness for being impolitic while ironically it appears that he is being punished more than the actual bad actor. The NFL seemed willing to excuse the deplorable behavior with its mild punishment of Mr. Rice while his fiancée (now wife) seemed willing to forgive as she has since married Mr. Rice.

I am attempting not to make a value judgment as to why his wife forgave him and the NFL appeared rather lenient, I simply ask that we look at the concept of how forgiveness seems to be applied perhaps because of personal motivation which is the issue. Forgiveness is just something we should do even when we don’t want to. The point is that forgiveness is an action that is beyond right or wrong or even being deserving of it. Sometimes we have to take the time “Just Do It” . . . meaning forgive and sorting out right and wrong later. By doing as Christ, perhaps we can have real dialogues and not just disagreements which are easier to have. People who should be punished will be done so independently of someone forgiving them. In life ultimately” you reap what you sow.” Galatians 6:7-9

Admittedly, I may be right about this concept or I could be dead wrong. . I just ask that you forgive me if I have offended you and continue the dialogue.

*Dr. Keith Wilson is a dentist, an active leader at Holy Angels Catholic Church, and a regular contributor to The Drum.*



## Four ways to stem the tide of pain in our community

**Willie Cobb**

**I**walked into a store the other day in a multicultural community and I faced an age-old problem. I was discriminated against. The black woman behind the counter literally served the Hispanic people behind me. I looked into her eyes and she looked absolutely afraid of me.

This is the problem in the African-American community. We are not considered as humans and we are considered dangerous even by other black and African-American people. It doesn't matter if they are store clerks or civil servants. The fact is the African-American community is under fire; whether it's from within or from lawless, or Nihilist, or non-moralist, or young people, or police officers, or paramedics. Let me make myself very clear. Not all police officers view the black community as a danger, but it only takes one police officer to beat a defenseless woman in the head and it only takes one police officer to choke a black man to death. The black community is under siege from the outside and the inside.

Here are four very clear ways we can help stem the tide of the pain and suffering that our community is experiencing.

First: We have to rely on the teachings of the church and our particular history. We have to pray. We have to pray as a community. We have to pray as a church. Gather your particular parish together one evening, once a week, and let our voices rise to the heavens and scream out to God. Each parish needs to hold a weekly prayer vigil for the end of the violence that is occurring in the Black and the African-American communities.

Second: Support your youth ministry program; not by words, but by deeds – either with your time, your talents, or your treasures. Ask your youth minister how you can help. Don't wait for someone else to get involved. You get involved. If you do not have a youth ministry program, call the Office of Catechesis and Youth Ministry, and they will help you start one. But you must get involved.

Three: Personally call on the communion of saints. We truly believe within Catholicism that our ancestors are not just gone; they watch over us, they pray for us. Every single day, call on the angels and the saints to help end this suffering. I believe in the power of prayer



and I believe that the Black and African-American communities have the historic knowledge and faith to overcome these current difficulties. Look to our history, short and long past, and we will find the answers through prayer and hard work.

Four: Find out more about the Strong Catholic Parents, Strong Catholic Family program and see if you can bring it to your parish. It is a powerful program that Amanda Thompson, from the Family Ministries Office of the Meyers Center has organized. I fully support this program as I fully support the Office of Black Catholics and the Office of Catechesis and Youth Ministry. These are powerful offices and we are not utilizing nor maximizing the gifts and programs they have.

These are four things that you can do, starting now, in your particular parish that can help stem the tide of pain and suffering that the Black and African-American communities are experiencing.



*Willie Cobb is a leading voice in Catholic Youth Ministry, husband, father and highly engaged Catholic. He is a regular contributor to The Drum.*

# Immersing our Families in Faith

## Amanda Thompson

**O**ur children need to be immersed in faith! The Strong Catholic Families, Strong Catholic Youth Initiative is a process that helps parents connect faith with family. Parents matter! The most prominent finding of the National Study on Youth and Religion compiled by researcher Christian Smith was that the single most important influence on the religious and spiritual lives of adolescents is their parents. And our parents need our help and resources.

Our parents need help in learning how to create a household where faith permeates the atmosphere. Parishes need to teach parents how to pray with their families, how to put religious items throughout their houses and encourage them to attend church events that are created for the whole family. Parents need a network at the church to connect with, one that will help them with the demands and struggles of parenting in this not so family-friendly society.

A group of outstanding leaders in the African-American community has gathered to look at the concerns and struggles of the community and created a presentation to help parents look at and voice their needs to the parish. These needs will be brought to a team of parents brought together by the parish staff. This team will begin a process of meeting those needs in various and creative ways over the course of the next few years.

“People can’t come to the table, until they feel a sense of belonging.” This initiative helps a parish create a sense of belonging to a community that speaks the same language of love, acceptance and faith. The parish becomes a place of stability and a center of resources and support for families.

Together we can teach this beautiful language of love and faith in our homes, parishes and communities in order to build up the kingdom of God here on this earth with the power of the Holy Spirit guiding our hearts to reach out to one another.

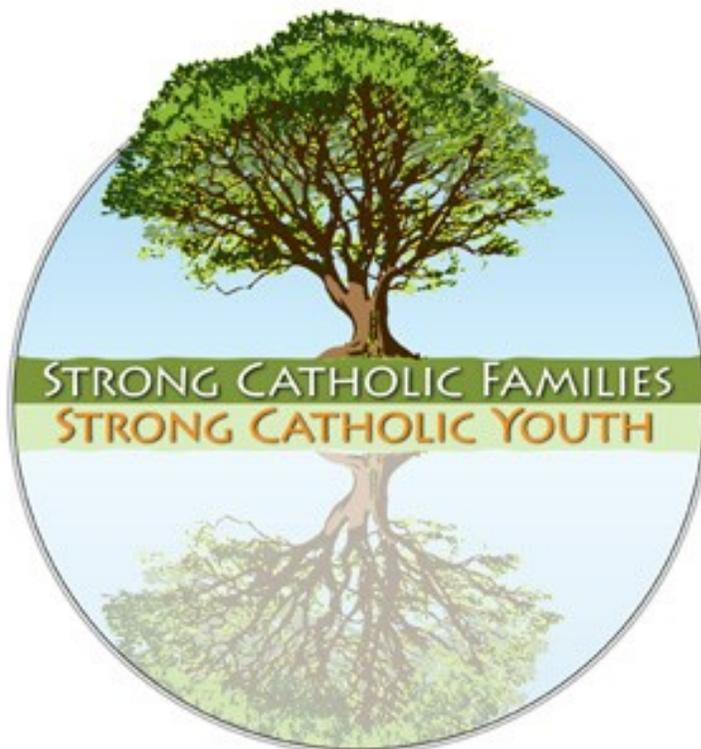
This fall, the initiative will be presented to the parishes that serve the African-American communities. For more information about how your parish can be a part of this process of becoming a more family-sensitive community, please contact Amanda Thompson at [athompson@archchicago.org](mailto:athompson@archchicago.org) or 312.534.8391.

Albert Einstein’s definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting different results...it’s time to try something new!



**Amanda Thompson**

*Amanda Thompson is the Coordinator of the Strong Catholic Families Initiative for Marriage and Family Ministries of the Archdiocese of Chicago. She is the wife of a deacon and the mother of three.*



# Prayer Service

## With Cardinal George and the Catholic Communities of the African Diaspora



Join His Eminence Francis Cardinal George to pray with Black Catholics of the African Diaspora and those connected with the Catholic African Diaspora community.

**Friday, August 8, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.**

**St. Rita of Cascia Shrine Chapel  
7740 South Western Avenue, Chicago, IL 60620**

RSVP to [OBC@archchicago.org](mailto:OBC@archchicago.org) or (312) 534-8376 no later than August 1, as there is limited space.



Office for Black Catholics  
Archdiocese of Chicago



Black Catholic Deacons  
Of the Archdiocese of Chicago

# MAWUSI on the move...

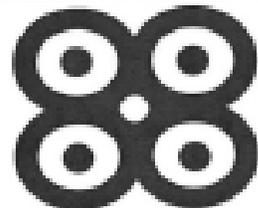
Mawusi, in Ewe, a language from Ghana and Togo, means

"in the hand of God."

Come experience Catholic spirituality from the Black perspective with people who minister to and with those in our communities of faith.

TELLING OUR  
STORY WITH  
ARTFUL VOICES

LISTEN



MATES  
MASIE

"What I Hear, I Keep, I Understand"



**Churches are doing great things but we don't know each other!!!  
Let's share our parish story!!!!**



**You are invited to a gathering to celebrate the history, traditions, experiences, and Black culture, of who we are... As Sister Thea said let us "live fully until we die" and let us bring our gifts to the Church to share for the future.**

**Gather with the MAWUSI community for prayer, story, and song and to learn more about this prayerful retreat which has been offered over 21 years by the Office for Catechesis and Youth Ministry.**

For more information on dates and places, check the OFCYM website and Facebook page, [www.chicago-catechesis.org](http://www.chicago-catechesis.org) or the Office for Black Catholic website [www.blackcatholicchicago.org](http://www.blackcatholicchicago.org)

# The Deacon Speakin’

## Wall of Words

By Deacon Bruce McElrath.

People often hide their feelings behind a wall of words. They use a kind of double-talk in which words and feelings do not agree. Many people are afraid that honesty in speech will cost them friendships, love, or respect. So they either keep their lips zipped or say something other than what they mean.

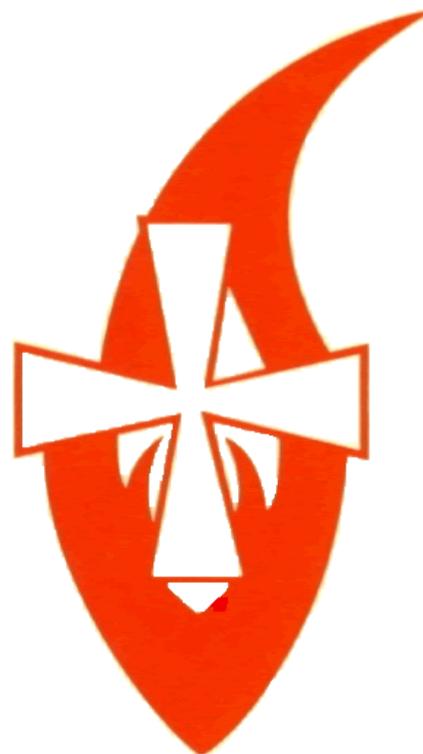
Other factors that may obstruct straight talk are shyness, lack of confidence, fear of displaying ignorance, trying to avoid criticism, and not wanting to hurt someone’s feelings.

Believers in Christ are not exempt from this problem. Trying to be both loving and truthful can be difficult, but the Bible tells us how to deal with this dilemma. The book of James teaches us that we need the wisdom that comes from God above. The Lord will enable us by His Holy Spirit to speak effectively and honestly. His wisdom is “first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy” (Jas.3:17).

Let’s govern our speech with these qualities from God’s Word. Then we will not have to hide behind a wall of words.

Wisdom is Knowing When to Speak Your Mind and When to Mind Your Speech

*Deacon Bruce McElrath of Holy Angels Parish is a deacon of the Archdiocese of Chicago and a frequent contributor to “The Deacon Speakin’” column in The Drum.*



### Semi-Retired? Retired? Eager to “give something back?”

The **Ignatian Volunteer Corps** may be for You! Members of this Catholic service program volunteer in materially poor and disenfranchised communities 2 days per week, September to June, and grow deeper in their Christian faith through a program of reflection and prayer.

IVC members meet monthly with other IVC members to share their experiences in faith and service. Each IVC volunteer is paired with a spiritual reflector in the Jesuit Catholic tradition.

IVC members serve as elementary and high school tutors, employment counselors, food pantry volunteers, elderly companions, hospital and prison ministry and much more! Opportunities . You must be 50 and older to apply; there is no upper age limit.

Come “*Experience Making a Difference*” with the Ignatian Volunteer Corps!

Detailed information is online at [www.ivcusa.org/chicago](http://www.ivcusa.org/chicago). To inquire, please contact Jackie Fitzgerald at 312-961-6206 or [jfitzgerald@ivcusa.org](mailto:jfitzgerald@ivcusa.org).

To see a video of our volunteers in action, click on [https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=nxujTxN2qi4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=nxujTxN2qi4)

# Praying for Non-Violence



## SUNRISE Prayer Service

Saturday, August 30, 2014  
6:30 am – 8:00 am  
Oakwood Beach 41<sup>st</sup> Street &  
Lakeshore Drive

Hosted by the Black Catholic Deacons of Chicago



On INDEPENDENCE DAY WEEKEND, CHICAGO 2014, the headline news read, “**Blood on the Fourth of July**” Chicago’s deadly, gun-fueled holiday weekend was only marginally worse than last year’s holiday weekend. Here in the communities we serve, 82 people were shot in an 84-hour window, according to the *Chicago Tribune*. Fourteen were dead by Monday morning, including two boys, aged 14 and 16. This year’s July Fourth bloody toll was not unusual, last year more than 70 people were shot. The following weekend, July 14, 2014 headline news read, “**4 Dead, 29 Wounded...**”

*The Lord said, <sup>14</sup> if my people, who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. <sup>15</sup> Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place.*

*2 Chronicles 7:14-15*

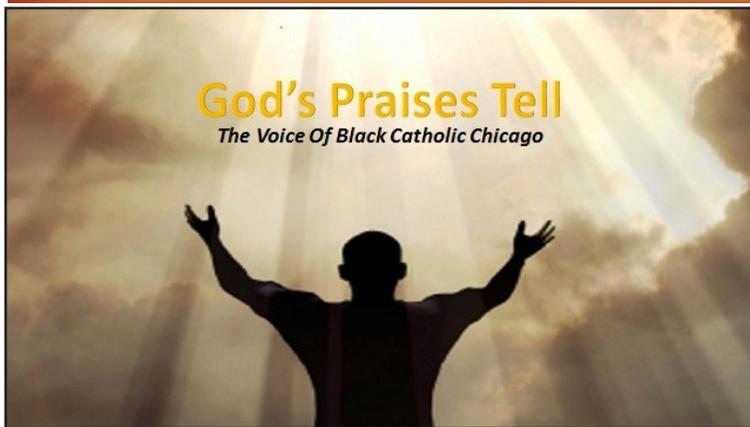
On Saturday, August 30, the Black Catholic Deacons of Chicago, in collaboration with many Priests, Deacons and laity from various communities, will pray together for non-violence and peace - the healing of our families, schools, and communities. We will be blessed to have you attend the mass and join in with all the clergy from the Archdiocese of Chicago on Saturday morning.

## SUNRISE PRAYER SERVICE

August 30, 2014  
6:30 am – 8:00 am  
Oakwood Beach  
41<sup>st</sup> Street & Lake Shore Drive

For additional information and confirmation of attendance, please contact:  
Deacon LeRoy Gill at 773-933-0027/email [deacongill@sbcglobal.net](mailto:deacongill@sbcglobal.net)

# DID YOU KNOW...



*God's Praises Tell*  
 The Voice of Black Catholic Chicago  
 Tuesdays 9-9:30 a.m.  
 Relevant Radio 950-AM  
 Hosted by Andrew Lyke

## The Church, the Cardinal and You



Produced by the Archdiocese of Chicago Office of Radio and Television

The Church, The Cardinal and You is a monthly news show featuring interviews with Cardinal George and broadcast via the Comcast cable network. Andrew Lyke, director of the Office for Black Catholics, and Todd Williamson, director of the Office for Divine Worship, host this show that includes a variety of stories taped at locations across the Archdiocese of Chicago. This program is produced by the Archdiocese of Chicago's Office of Radio and Television. Comcast customers who live in Chicago and throughout the suburbs can see The Church, The Cardinal and You, Sunday at 2:30 p.m. on CN-100, the Comcast Network (Channel 100). The program also airs Friday at 7 p.m. on Chicago Loop Cable Channel 25.



. that on August 1, 1979 Franciscan friar and native Chicagoan James P. Lyke was ordained Catholic Bishop of Cleveland, Ohio?



. that on August 3, 1919 in Chicago, Illinois, race riot ended, leaving 38 dead, 537 injured and 1000 black people homeless?



. that on August 4, 1964 the bodies of murdered civil rights workers Michael Schwerner, James Chaney, and Andrew Goodman were discovered in a Mississippi dam, nearly two month after their disappearance?



. that on August 4, 1961 Barack H. Obama, the 44<sup>th</sup> President of the United States, was born in Honolulu, Hawaii?



. that on August 5, 1938 James H. Cone, black theologian and author of *Black Power and Black Theology*, was born?



. that on August 6, 1965 President Lyndon B. Johnson signed into law the Voting Rights Act?

# DID YOU KNOW...



. that on August 7, 1930 Thomas Shipp and Abram Smith were lynched in Marion, Indiana? A third black youth, 16-year-old James Cameron, survived the attack and later founded America's Black Holocaust Museum in Milwaukee.



. that on August 9, 1961 President John F. Kennedy nominated James Parsons as U.S. District Court Judge for Northern Illinois? Parsons became the first black federal judge in the continental U.S.



. that on August 17, 1968 the National Black Sisters Conference was founded?



. that on August 20, 1619 a Dutch ship landed in Jamestown, Virginia, carrying the first cargo of kidnapped Africans to what would become the United States of America?



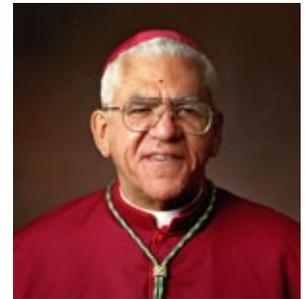
. that on August 9, 1936 Jesse Owens wins four gold medals in track-and-field events at the Olympics in Berlin?



. that on August 10, 1984 Carl Lewis won four gold medals in the Olympic Games in Los Angeles?



. that on August 21, 1831 Nat Turner led 60 enslaved blacks in rebellion in Southampton, Virginia, that left 55 whites dead? Turner and dozens of other black participants were later executed.



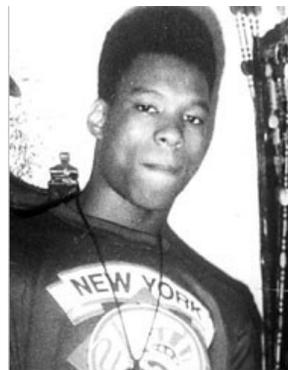
. that on August 22, 2006 Haitian American Guy A. Sarsicq was consecrated Bishop for Brooklyn, New York?



. that on August 13, 1955 WW-I veteran Lamar Smith was shot and killed in front of the Brookhaven, Mississippi courthouse for urging blacks to vote? No one was ever charged despite the numerous witnesses.



. that on August 17, 1965 riots in the Watts neighborhood of Los Angeles, California, sparked by white police beating of a young black man, left 34 dead, 1032 injured, nearly 4000 arrested, \$40 million in damages?



. that on August 23, 1989 Yusef Hawkins, a 16-year-old black boy, is murdered in Bensonhurst, New York, by a mob of 30 whites who wrongly believed he was visiting a white girl in the neighborhood?



. that on August 25, 1956 in Montgomery, Alabama, the home of Robert Graetz, white minister of Trinity Lutheran Church and the Montgomery Improvement Association, was bombed?

# OUR CHILDREN ARE CALLING!!!

The Jim Fisher Development Center at St. Anselm Parish has been answering the call of our neighborhood children for the past 15 years. It is an Art and Cultural Development Program for children ages 5 to 14.

We provide a safe environment

We teach music, art, dance, African culture, reading appreciation, theatre

We affirm their achievements

We encourage and guide their growth

JFDC is an exciting and fun summer experience!!!

**We now need help**  
**We need a Summer Program Director**  
**Join us...**

Direct the program working along with the Board of Advisors and help shape the way forward for our children



Position Open: **Summer Program Director (mid-June to mid-August)**  
Requirements: **College degree with minimum three years experience working with a children's program (teaching or administration or related).**

To apply.... send resume to: [jimfisherinfo@gmail.com](mailto:jimfisherinfo@gmail.com)

Direct questions to the JFDC Board Chairperson at 312-588-0591

**You are cordially invited to participate in a retreat on  
The Fidelity of God's Love Moves Us From Scarcity to Abundance!**

Our facilitator will be

***Sr. Teresita Weind***

Congregational Leader, Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur



The retreat will take place from 9 am to 3:30 pm on  
**Saturday, Sept. 6, 2014**

We *welcome home* Sr. Teresita Weind, a renowned liturgist, prayer leader, animator of spirituality, advocate for women, and retreat and spiritual director. Sr. Teresita served in parish ministry and pastoral care in the Chicago area and in Saginaw, Michigan before accepting leadership roles first of her province in Cincinnati and currently of her entire congregation. She resides in Rome.

**Location:** St. Catherine of Siena – St. Lucy Church, 38 N. Austin Blvd., Oak Park, IL

**Contribution:** \$20 (which includes lunch). *Financial assistance is available.*

***You are also cordially invited to stop by the Rectory Dining Room between 7:30 and 9 pm on Fri., Sept. 5 to meet and greet Sr. Teresita personally. Light refreshments will be served. Sr. Teresita will speak during the 10:30 am mass on Sun., Sept. 7. Join us!***

**Parking:** 3 parking options are available:

- \* The lot south of the rectory on Austin Blvd. between the rectory and Maguire Hall.
- \* The lot on the east side of Austin Blvd. directly across from the large Gothic church that is St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy.
- \* On-street parking on Washington Blvd. west of Austin and north of St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy Church.

**Registration and payment in advance is strongly preferred.  
ALL ARE WELCOME!**

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**RETREAT REGISTRATION**  
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Please mail to St. Catherine-St. Lucy, 38 N. Austin Blvd., Oak Park, IL 60302 ATTN: Retreat

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I enclose **\$20**, plus a contribution of \$\_\_\_\_ to assist those with fewer financial resources to attend. TOTAL enclosed \$\_\_\_\_  
Checks should be made payable to *St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy Parish* and note "Retreat" on the memo line.  
\_\_\_\_\_ I will pay at the door with cash, check, or credit card.

*I'm Black & Beautiful*

**BLACK CATHOLIC  
WOMEN'S RETREAT**

**OCTOBER 10-12 • 2014**

**FRIDAY EVENING TO SUNDAY NOON**



Sister Addie Walker,  
SSND, PhD.  
Retreat Directress

**Dominican Mother House • Siena Hall**  
1237 West Monroe Street • Springfield  
Retreat, Room & Meals: \$150

**For additional information,  
call (217) 698-8500 or e-mail nmurray@dio.org**

**PRESENTED BY**

Black Catholic Ministry • Office for Social Concerns and Respect for Life  
Diocese of Springfield in Illinois  
Funded by the Annual Catholic Services Appeal

**REGISTRATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Parish \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail this form to nmurray@dio.org or mail to**  
**Office for Social Concerns • 1615 West Washington Street • Springfield, IL 62702**  
*Partial scholarships available upon request.*

# "Men of Courage, Conviction, Creativity"

2014 National Black Catholic Men's Conference  
October 23-26, 2014



## Registration Form

### HOTEL

Holiday Inn University of Memphis  
3700 Central Avenue  
Memphis, TN 38111

Phone: 901-618-8200 or [www.holidayinn.com/nbcm-nofm](http://www.holidayinn.com/nbcm-nofm) (booking code BFM)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Telephone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_

Ministry/Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Adult \_\_\_\_\_ Student (High School) \_\_\_\_\_ (College) \_\_\_\_\_ Youth \_\_\_\_\_ (age 8-13)

Young Adult (age 18-35) \_\_\_\_\_

T-Shirt Size (circle one) Small Medium Large 1X 2X 3X 4X

Adult Registration \$150.00

High School & College Students Registration \$75.00

Youth (age 8 -13) Registration \$50.00

The conference registration fee includes lunch on Saturday

Please return the registration form and a check made payable to:

The Bowman Francis Ministry  
SVD House

815 E. 58th Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46220

Website: [www.bowmanfrancisministry.com](http://www.bowmanfrancisministry.com)

### OFFICE USE ONLY:

Payment Rec'd: Yes No

Onsite: Yes No

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## "Men of COURAGE, CONVICTION, CREATIVITY"



**National Black Catholic Men's  
Conference**  
Memphis, Tennessee



**OCTOBER 23-26, 2014**  
**Holiday Inn University of Memphis**  
**3700 Central Avenue**  
**Memphis, TN 38152**  
**901-678-8200**



For more information visit BFM website: [www.bowmanfrancisministry.com](http://www.bowmanfrancisministry.com) or email [mcbeeje@aol.com](mailto:mcbeeje@aol.com) or [Gamba10333@aol.com](mailto:Gamba10333@aol.com) or call 317-259-0144



# WE SAY NO MORE!

## A Call for a Month of Resistance to Mass Incarceration, Police Terror, Repression and the Criminalization of a Generation!

For 2 generations, Black and Latina/Latino youth in the U.S. have been shipped off to prison in numbers never before seen anywhere in the world at any time. More than 2 million people, of all nationalities languish in prison—ten times the number 50 years ago. The U.S. has 5% of the world's population but 25% of the world's prison population! More than 60% of those in U.S. prisons are Black or Latina/o. 32% of Black men between the ages of 20 and 29 are in prison or on parole or probation on any given day. More than 80,000 people in prison are held in solitary confinement under conditions that fit the international definition of torture.

The incarceration of women has increased by 800% over the last 30 years. They, along with those whose sexual orientation is not "mainstream" or who are gender non-conforming—lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex prisoners—face extremely harsh and abusive treatment in prison, including widespread rape. Alongside this has risen a massive program of criminally prosecuting undocumented immigrants, essentially hidden from public view. As a result of the devastation of their homelands, these immigrants have been driven to this country to work without papers, and today they are being criminalized. The U.S. chastises other countries for human rights violations, yet it enmeshes the lives of tens of millions of people in its criminal "injustice" system. The courts, cops, prisons and La Migra all play a part in enforcing mass incarceration. There are genocidal aspects and a genocidal logic to this program, and it has been gathering momentum. All this is intolerable, and, if it isn't stopped, it will get much worse!

Mass incarceration has grown beside the criminalization of whole peoples; a situation in which every African-American or Latina/o is a permanent suspect—treated as guilty until proven innocent by police and racist vigilantes, if they can survive to prove their innocence. This is especially concentrated among the youth, starting with cops in schools, arresting children for things that used to mean a visit to the principal's office at worst, putting youth on a trajectory from school to prison. Black and Latina/o youth have a target on their backs in this society. Literally tens of millions of lives have been scarred and worse—both the direct victims and their families and communities. People who heroically resisted these and other injustices have been imprisoned, some of them for decades. These political prisoners must be freed.

The malignancy of mass incarceration did not arise from a sudden epidemic of crime. Nor did it result from people making poor personal choices. Instead it arose from cold political calculations made in response to the massive and heroic struggle for the rights of Black and other minority peoples that took place in the 1960's and 70's, and in response to the enormous economic and social changes brought about by globalized production. This cancer of mass incarceration has been, from the beginning, nothing but a new Jim Crow in place of the old one. Like the old Jim Crow, it drew on, fed off and reinforced the deep-seated roots of the racism that grew up with slavery. Like the old Jim Crow, it has been, from the beginning, unjustifiable, utterly immoral and thoroughly illegitimate.

**This must stop—NOW!** Not the next generation, not in ten years, not any time off in some promised future that never seems to come. NOW! But it will not stop unless and until millions of people, of all nationalities, stand up and say NO MORE, in unmistakable terms. The history of this and every other

country shows that without struggle, there can be no positive change; but with struggle this kind of change becomes possible.

It is not enough to oppose this in the privacy of your own conscience or the company of like-minded people. It is not enough to curse this out, but then tell yourself nothing can be done. If you live your life under this threat, you **MUST** act. If you understand how wrong this is and how much it devastates the lives of so many millions, you **MUST** act.

NOW is the time to act. People are beginning to awaken and stir. Resistance has begun: Heroic hunger strikes by people in prisons and detention centers and outpourings in response to murders by police and racist vigilantes. Prisoners in solitary confinement in California declared a cessation of racial hostilities as Black, Latino and white prisoners came together to resist the torture of solitary confinement. All this must be taken to a much higher level. **We call for a massive Month of Resistance to Mass Incarceration in October of this year; a Month that can impact all of society; one that can open the eyes of millions of people to the need to end this new Jim Crow.**

**In October, 2014, our resistance to mass incarceration must reverberate across the country and around the world.** There must be powerful demonstrations nationwide on October 22, the National Day of Protest to Stop Police Brutality, Repression and the Criminalization of a Generation. Throughout October there must be panels and symposiums on campuses and in neighborhoods; major concerts and other cultural expressions; ferment in the faith communities, and more—all aimed at taking the movement to STOP mass incarceration to a much higher level. **October, 2014, must be a month that makes clear that thousands and thousands are willing to stand up and speak out today and to awaken and rally forth millions.** It must be the beginning of the end of the mass incarceration in the U.S. To that end:

- We the undersigned pledge to make October, 2014, as powerful as possible;
- We pledge to support resistance to this monstrous system of mass incarceration between now and October; and
- We pledge to utilize October as a launching pad to go still further, mobilizing more people until mass incarceration and the criminalization of entire peoples really is NO MORE!

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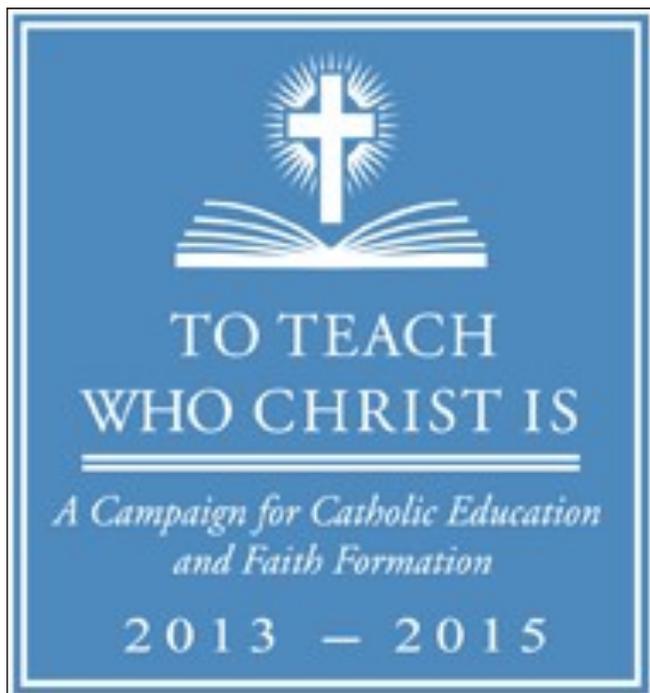
To Endorse and to Get Information to Make October 2014 a Month of Resistance, or to see more, visit [www.stopmassincarceration.net](http://www.stopmassincarceration.net)  
 Stop Mass Incarceration Network, P.O. Box 941 Knickerbocker Station,  
 New York, NY 10002-0900  
 Email: [stopmassincarceration@gmail.com](mailto:stopmassincarceration@gmail.com)  
 Facebook.com/stopmassincarcerationnetwork  
 Phone: 347-979-SMIN (7646) See more at [stopmassincarceration.net](http://stopmassincarceration.net)

**Stop Mass Incarceration Network - Chicago**

[stopmassincarcerationchicago@gmail.com](mailto:stopmassincarcerationchicago@gmail.com)  
 (312) 933-9586

[www.facebook.com/SMINChicago](http://www.facebook.com/SMINChicago)  
[stopmassincarceration.org](http://stopmassincarceration.org)

**The STOP Mass Incarceration Network**  
 Mass Incarceration + Silence = Conquero - Act to STOP it NOW!




Office for Black Catholics  
Archdiocese of Chicago

# The Drum



**I**n Africa, tribes used the drum to bring the community together to celebrate, to mourn and to communicate. The drum kept the community connected, informed and in harmony.

*The Drum*, today, is a publication of the Office for Black Catholics, an agency of the Archdiocese of Chicago, edited and published by Andrew Lyke.

*The Drum* contains news, events and insights relevant to the Black Catholic community of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

As it did for our ancestors in Africa, the Drum connects us to one another as a community in faith and action. Stay with the beat. Hold on to your faith.

Subscribe to the Drum. Go to [www.blackcatholicchicago.org](http://www.blackcatholicchicago.org) to subscribe today.

Office for Black Catholics \* [OBC@archchicago.org](mailto:OBC@archchicago.org) \* 312-534-8376

*The Drum* is a publication of the Office for Black Catholics, an agency of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

Editor, layout designer, and publisher: Andrew Lyke,  
Director of the Office for Black Catholics

News about activities and events relevant to the Black Catholic Community of the Archdiocese of Chicago may be submitted before the 15th of the month. Submissions will be considered for publication under the scrutiny of the Office for Black Catholics. All submissions must be submitted in electronic formats using MS Word, MS Publisher, or PDF. All rights reserved.

Stay with the beat and subscribe to *The Drum* today! Go to [blackcatholicchicago.org](http://blackcatholicchicago.org)

