



The Drum

THE BEAT OF BLACK CATHOLIC CHICAGO

December 2013

Celebrating and Suffering: Holidays with Family

Andrew & Terri Lyke

Poet Robert Frost said, “Home is the place where, when you have to go there, they have to take you in.” During holidays we are drawn to our families because we want to, and sometimes because we are expected to. For families, holidays are extraordinary times that demand extraordinary effort, which makes them holy times. Holidays can stretch us, sometimes joyfully, sometimes painfully, always heavenly. Because of the holidays we are more mindful of our familial bonds. And we go the extra mile. For some, that extra mile is literal as they travel great distances to be with family. Or it may be hosting a family gathering, preparing meals, exchanging gifts, or sending holiday greetings. Members embrace each other and endure each other. At the holidays we spend more, eat more, laugh more, cry more – we feel more deeply as we mindfully tend the bonds of familial love, which draws us closer to God.



Andrew & Terri Lyke

We both live near our hometown Chicago, as do our parents and most of our siblings, as did our grandparents, aunts, uncles, and most of our cousins. In the earliest years of our relationship it seemed that we spent most of Christmas Day in the car traveling from one home to the next, bearing and receiving gifts. There were a few times when severe weather made our holiday trek especially difficult. Yet, it felt worthwhile and it seemed that we were fueled by God’s grace in the effort.

Having both of our families based in the Chicago Area has had some challenges, particularly during the holidays, because we are of two families. Both our families want and expect our presence at their respective holiday gathering. As children entered our life, the door to door holiday trekking was no longer a solution. We never resorted to splitting up for the holidays. That

would have been too simple. Instead, we have tapped into God’s grace by sacrificing our individual preferences so that we could make good choices about where and with whom we spend our holidays.

A case in point: Both of our families host gatherings at Thanksgiving. Alternating with which family we feasted year by year, while it seemed a fair solution it was not a good one. We recognized that we couldn’t resolve this dilemma without a sacrifice. Andrew’s family is more like the traditional African-American matriarchal extended family. Thanksgiving feasts are large gatherings where the table is a serving station. Terri’s is a smaller nuclear family where the table seats everyone, and our absence is acutely felt.

We made the decision that Thanksgivings will be with Terri’s family. This means that we, especially Andrew, would sacrifice being with the other family. Sacrifice isn’t without pain. While our decision has proven to be a good one, we miss being with the other. Through the years we have had very many wonderful Thanksgiving dinners with Terri’s family. We experience God’s grace each year with the pang of not being with Andrew’s family. And we rest in that grace.

Sometimes the sacrifice is to endure a personality that is irksome. Sometimes it is to be silent for the sake of peace. Sometimes it is to speak up for the sake of justice. We reminisce about the past through rose-colored glasses and remember the best about each other. Sometimes we confront unresolved issues that need closure. Sometimes we find healing; sometimes old wounds resurface.

Our holiday family gatherings are imperfect; often they are messy. We celebrate each other and we suffer each other. And if we’re open to the nudging of the Holy Spirit, we mend and heal, we forgive and form new bonds, we become more aware of and sensitive to the landmines of family life. Shaped by God, we are stronger in our loving because we make room for each other. Our love is modeled after God’s covenantal love and the Paschal Mystery of Jesus. Our suffering each other redeems us all.

Our reasons for coming together may be because “they have

(Continued on page 2)

Re-introducing Kwanzaa

By Andrew Lyke

Every year from December 26th to January 1st, many African Americans enact a daily ritual as an affirmation of their cultural richness. This celebration is called **Kwanzaa**. Although its symbols and activities are expressed in the African language, Kiswahili, Kwanzaa is a celebration of an American people—African Americans.

Through the celebration of Kwanzaa we bring to mind a rich, beautiful and inspiring culture that deserves preservation in the minds and hearts of it's heirs.

The name, Kwanzaa, is from the phrase, "Matunda va kwanza" which means "the first fruits of the harvest." The African American celebration was founded in 1966 by Dr. Maulana (Ron) Karenga, an African American educator.

In the home decorations in black, red and green are made visible. The **Nguzo Saba** (The Seven Principles) and the traditional Kwanzaa symbols are prominently displayed. At the evening meal each day, a member of the family lights a candle. Each member shares a brief reflection on the Nguzo Saba principle for the day.

On December 31st a **Karamu** (feast) is held for family and friends. At the Karamu there is singing, dancing and a variety of foods. It is an opportunity to celebrate Kwanzaa with a larger group than during the other days of the observance. Many families have the Karamu on the last day of Kwanzaa so not to interfere with the New Year's Eve celebration and to incorporate the old tradition of the New Year's Day feast with the celebration of Kwanzaa.

January 1st is devoted to the **watoto** (children). They are rewarded with **zawadi** (gifts) for the good deeds performed during the past year. The gifts should be simple and inexpensive. At the end of the Kwanzaa celebration, it is appropriate to make a clear and concise farewell statement (**Tamshi La Tutaonana**) of our purpose. We recommit ourselves to our struggle for greater unity and self-determination during the new year. We give thanks for the blessings we share, our children, our ancestors, our extended family and friends, and our rich heritage. We iterate the



Nguzo Saba and dedicate ourselves to making each principle live in our individual lives.

Why celebrate Kwanzaa?

We celebrate Kwanzaa as a cultural re-creation and restoration for Diasporan Africans. The seven principles of Kwanzaa, if put in practice, can bring about the healing so necessary among African Americans. The celebration of Kwanzaa is a re-connection between Continental and Diasporan Africans.

The Nguzo Saba (The Seven Principles)

Umoja: Unity To strive for and maintain unity in the family, community, nation and race.

Kujichagulia: Self-determination To define ourselves, name ourselves, create for ourselves and speak for ourselves, instead of being defined, named, created, and spoken for by others.

Ujima: Collective Work and Responsibility To build and maintain our community together and make our sisters' and brothers' problems our problems and to solve them together.

Ujamaa: Cooperative Economics To build and maintain our own stores, shops and other businesses and to profit from them together.

Nia: Purpose To make as our collective vocation the building and developing of our community in order to restore our people to their traditional greatness.

Kuumba: Creativity To do always as much as we can, in the way we can, in order to leave our community more beautiful and beneficial than we inherited it.

Imani: Faith To believe with all our hearts in our god, in our people, our parents, our teachers, our leaders and the righteousness and victory of our struggle.

Suggestions on how to celebrate Kwanzaa

On each day between Christmas and New Years Day, family members and friends should follow the following format:

- Gather together.
- Light a candle.
- Say a prayer of thanksgiving.
- One person states the principle of the day and its definition.
- Each person shares briefly on the principle of the day.
- One person reads the suggested Scripture for the day.
- All share a drink of fruit juice from one cup as a symbol of their family unity.
- Close with the Lord's Prayer.

For a free guide to celebrating Kwanzaa go to www.blackcatholicchicago.org/directorspage.aspx

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to take [us] in," a sense of obligation, or the joy of being together with loved ones. Whatever brings us together during the holidays, it's of God. Our family holiday gatherings may be at times messy. But, we take heart in knowing that they are a holy mess.

How to have a Solemn High Breakfast

On any ordinary day:

- Bring out your best dinner ware;
- Use the formal dining room;
- Prepare a simple breakfast (pancakes, French toast, eggs, etc.);
- Ask one of the kids to lead in saying grace;

- Formally celebrate the solemnity of simple family life.

Elevating family rituals to family liturgies

- What expressions of love are repeated regularly in your home?
- Ask yourself how it expresses love in the family.
- Reflect on the fact that God is the Author of love.
- The next time you enact that ritual, invite God to be the center of it.

Andrew and Terri Lyke are co-founders of Arusi Network, Inc., a not-for-profit national apostolate that supports, strengthens, and encourages marriage among African Americans. This article was reprinted with permission from Loyola Press.

The Season of Advent

Lois DeFelice

There used to be a ketchup commercial that had everyone sitting on edge waiting for the ketchup to flow forth, the music played and we heard "Anticipation." We need the season of Advent to put us on the edge of our seats, anticipating.



What are we waiting for? The secular world would have us believe we're waiting for the biggest, best and newest "fill-in-the-blank" to purchase, wrap and have delivered by Santa Claus. We've been hearing Christmas carols for weeks and of course there have been great parades and tree lighting ceremonies.

What are we waiting for? Advent has a two-fold purpose, we await the Incarnation, God entering humanity both at his birth and again at the end of time. Over these next four weeks we are challenged in the gospels to "prepare the way of the Lord." We hear the ancient chant "O Come, O Come Emmanuel." Emmanuel, God with us. It's hard some days to see the presence of God in our midst when the world seems to be spinning out of control.

Growing up in an Irish/German household, there were some German traditions that we celebrated and I continued with my five children and grandchildren. The Advent wreath was on our table, a round circle of greens to remind us of God's everlasting, unchanging love and in a circle to remind us of the Alpha and Omega, God had no beginning and has no end. White bows were placed near the candles to remind us of purity and red berries of the blood shed for us. Finally, there were three purple and one pink candle. Each week one more candle was lit, the pink on the third Sunday when the gospel tells us that Mary was chosen to be the Mother of God, a time of great joy. On Sunday, as the candle is lit we would have a special prayer.

Week One Lord, we begin this Advent season and our need to prepare the way for you to join us in our minds and hearts and souls. Please order our steps as we live your Word each day. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Week Two Lord, your coming bring us who are sinners great hope. We are reminded of the great love you have for us your children. We need you in our world for justice and peace to prevail. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Week Three Lord, it is with great joy that we anticipate your coming now and at the end of time. Let this joy permeate the darkness of our world. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Week Four Lord, as this Advent season comes to a close open our hearts to recognize your presence among us. Let us remember during this season that whomever we greet was made in your image and likeness and that everything you created was good. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

When Christmas arrives the wreath remains on the table and a large white candle is placed in the center as a symbol of Christ.

Another tradition is the Advent calendar to help in counting down the days to Christmas. There are many forms of this tradition, some follow the family tree of Jesus and every day there is an ornament and part of the story of Jesus' root. Some calendars have a scripture quote from the Nativity passage and there are figures to begin to make the crèche. Some calendars have good works to do during this Advent season or perhaps there is a piece of chocolate behind the window. Again, this is a way to slow down and anticipate the coming of Christ.

Some cultures place pieces of hay in the manger making the place where Jesus lay a softer bed. As you do good deeds you can add more hay.

On the Feast of St. Nicholas we would put our shoes outside our door hoping for nuts, oranges and coins if we were good boys and girls or coal if we were bad. St. Nicholas was a generous man and the legend is that he left things in peoples doorways that were in need. The most famous is the story of the man who had three daughters and no dowry to provide their spouse. St. Nick made sure there was something for each of them in their doorway the night before their wedding.

We would also begin to build our crèche, lovingly placing each of the figures on the dining room buffet. Baby Jesus would be hidden for us to find after we came home from Midnight Mass

on Christmas Eve. As each of our children has married one of the presents they have received is a manger and figures for Christmas.

Advent is a season of anticipation and waiting for the coming of Christ, both at his birth and at his coming at the end of time. We then celebrate Christmas and the season of Christmas, the twelve days of Christmas. Just as spend time preparing for it's coming, we need to remember that although the world turns off the carols at 5 P.M. on the 25th, the after



Christmas sales begin and the trees get thrown, we just begin our celebration on December 25th and it continues as we hear the wonderful scripture stories of the holy family, the coming of the Magi, the Epiphany and feasts of Mary, Mother of God. In many cultures, the decorations and ending of the season don't come until January 6th the Feast of the Epiphany or February 2nd the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord or until Fat Tuesday marking the day before Ash Wednesday.

Amid the flurry of preparing for the Christmas season, take some time this year and celebrate Advent, add a new tradition or a special prayer and join our church in saying "Come, Lord Jesus, come!" Happy Advent!!!!

Lois DeFelice is the Catechetical Ministry Coordinator for Vicariate VI and Black Catechesis in the Office for Catechesis and Youth Ministry.

Our Most Powerful Words

Bishop Joseph N. Perry

Our liturgies in the Catholic Church contain some of the most powerful words to be spoken by anyone. When it comes to commitments we make to each other and to the Church, the Church's rites have it worded correctly and powerfully. We gather to hear the poetry of the words in order to explore with our hearts the depth of their meaning, reminding us of commitments we have made – stirring words that dig right down to what we feel life is all about – namely, the beauty of living is made evident when there is some one or some thing we can live for, hand our lives over for, and even die for. As Catholics we believe people have it within them to give the totality of their lives over to another in marriage or to the Church in religious and priestly consecration.

“Forever” was the original definition of man and woman at the time of their creation. But, what a broken experience it has been since then for so many.

In the meantime, we never tire of going to weddings. We love to be invited to weddings. To see a couple pledge their love now and forever reminds us of life's highest ideals while wanting to make the dreams of love and commitment real in our lives. Christian weddings serve to inspire our own commitments to each other and to the Church sealed before the believing community some time ago. Such pledges, indeed such vows have their origin in God and what he desires to be with and for us.

Take the wedding vows, for example, which are indicated this way –

I take you to be my husband/wife;

I promise to be true to you in good times and in bad;

In sickness and in health.

I will love you and honor you all the days of my life!”

Only a human being can say such words and mean them and stamp them with their last breath. May these words ring true for every marriage each day while they tell the story of Jesus' own love for his bride the Church!




To whom are they listening?

Willie Cobb

During the season of Advent, we play a particular type of music, we spend time in deep reflection, and we take the opportunity to look at our lives and see what we have accomplished and to lament what we have not. Advent is an opportunity to know that God delivers on his promises to help save a lost people. Advent is more than an opportunity to wait for the Savior. Advent is an opportunity to have a tremendous discussion with your loved ones, particularly with your young people. Young people are under more pressure and strain and despair than they ever have been before. Teenagers have more distractions than at any time in our history. With more opportunities to play games, to watch movies, to know technology, some of them never have the opportunity to get to know God.

Most teenagers do not understand advent, not because the concept is difficult, but because young people today simply do not have to wait on anything. Everything is instant: from the microwave to the TiVo, everything in their lives is instant. When they want it at their fingertips, it is right there. Young people do not even have to put ‘www’ into their browser anymore in order to find the website they are searching for; they simply punch in the name.

They do not need seasons like advent. They do not have to speak to their teachers about their grades because those grades are on Edline. They do not need to research their homework because it is posted on line. They do not need to go to the library or a bookstore to find Spark Notes, because they have Wikipedia.

This convenience has caused a tremendous lack of discipline and, for some of our young people, has given them the opportunity to turn away from what we traditionally have believed in: the love of Christ, the discipline of the church, the need for community. These things have become secondary in the lives of our young people.

I encourage you to take the opportunity to sit with your children, to slow down, to talk to them about the importance of patience and of waiting. Talk to them about the need to understand that everything in their lives is not going to come so quickly and so easily. Life is not a videogame.

Take the season of Advent to talk to your young people about some of the very serious issues that surround our society. For example, set your young person down on December 14 and talk to them about the tragedy that happened just one year ago when young children were murdered by a teenager, and how so quickly and easily people in society have stopped talking about it. Talk to them about the violence in their own city, and how it has become ‘the norm’. Talk to them about their safety and what they can do when and if they're faced with such a difficult situation. Talk to them about the young children who were murdered by another teenager. Take the opportunity of Advent and use it as an excuse to talk to your young person about the love of God and the protection that God gives us.

The question has to be: if you are not talking to them, then to whom are they listening?



In The Spirit

Dr. C. Vanessa White

*Oh Come Oh Come Emmanuel
And Ransom Captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear
Rejoice, Rejoice, Oh Israel
Shall come to thee Emmanuel.*



Advent is upon us. It is a time where as Catholic Christians we prepare ourselves

once again to welcome and remember the birth of our Blessed Savior, Mary's Baby who is King of Kings and Lord of Lords. A good way to prepare for this Advent is to reflect on the meaning of this season through the words of the classic song – OH COME EMMANUEL.

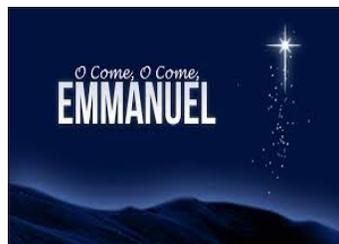
OH COME, OH COME EMMANUEL. Emmanuel means God with us. As we begin the journey of Advent, in what ways are we preparing ourselves to welcome God into our lives? There is the classic painting of Jesus knocking on the door. If you look closely at the picture, you will notice that the doorknob is within the house, because like the home, only we can invite Jesus in. Are we ready to do so?

AND RANSOM CAPTIVE ISRAEL. Like the Israelites, we too may have wandered away from God. In the busyness of our lives, we may not have had the time to really look closely and reflect how sin has held us captive. Advent is a good time to do an examination of conscience and reflect on our spiritual journey. In what ways do we need to make some changes in our lives. How have we kept the commandments of God? How have we lived out the greatest commandment to love God, neighbor and self? This is the time we need Jesus to save us, show us the way.

THAT MOURNS IN LONELY EXILE HERE. The Israelites for many years were in exile, awaiting the coming of the Messiah, preparing for his arrival. For many it was a time of mourning what they had lost because of the choices they had made. As we prepare to welcome the Christ Child into our hearts, what do we need to let go of, what is it we need to mourn, so that we are better prepared to have room in our hearts to be the loving presence that Jesus calls us to be?

UNTIL THE SON OF GOD APPEAR. REJOICE. We also are reminded that we are a Christian people and that means we are a community of hope. We know that God is with us and that each Advent is a time to once again connect with that Holy Hope that moves us to be people who rejoice, who are grateful for the many ways that we have been blessed by God in our faith, in our friendships, and in family ties.

SHALL COME TO THEE EMMANUEL. We know that God is with us. As people on a spiritual journey we need only to make the choice to move towards God and God will be there to love and support us. Let us enter this holy season with the hope that once again, we like Mary, can say yes and allow ourselves to be filled with that Sweet Holy Spirit, allowing that Spirit to fill us with the love of Christ that will radiate from us to others this



season and throughout the year.

Dr. C. Vanessa White is Assistant Professor of Spirituality and the Director of the Augustus Tolton Pastoral Ministry Program, a theological and pastoral ministry formation program for African American Catholics who are pursuing graduate study in preparation for ministerial leadership at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. Dr. White is co-editor of the book (with Cecilia Moore and Paul Marshall, SM), Songs of the Heart and Meditations of the Soul - A book of prayers for Black Catholics published by St. Anthony Messenger Press, and contributing author in the monthly publication Give Us This Day: Daily Prayers for Today's Catholic published by Liturgical Press. She has published articles in the National Religious Vocation Conference journal - Horizons, New Theology Review and U.S. Catholic Magazine. Her writings have focused on African American Spirituality and issues of discernment.

**Catholic Men
Chicago Southland
Presents**

***Bishop Perry's
Catholic Men's
Conference***



Separation – Encounter – Return

***“Reintegrating and Grounding
Male Catholic Identity”***

Saturday, December 7, 2013

Saint Ailbe Church in Chicago

91st Street and Stony Island Avenue

Breakfast promptly at 9AM, out by Noon

(or after closing Mass)

Keynote: Fr. Thomas G. Belanger

Pastor, St. Philip Neri Church Chicago

Mass & Homily: Most Reverend Joseph N. Perry

Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Chicago

Master of Ceremonies: Mr. Peter Palanca

Executive Vice President and COO of TASC, Inc.

Closing Challenge: Andrew Lyke

Director, Office for Black Catholics, Archdiocese of Chicago



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ADVENT RESOURCES offered by USCCB and Pax Christi USA

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB's) electronic calendar for the Advent/Christmas Season returns this year with contributions from the Secretariat for Cultural Diversity in the Church and other offices. Daily entries will be available to Read, Pray, Reflect and Act on. You can download the Family Advent calendar and respond to an invitation to help build an online mosaic by sending in your own family pictures, traditions and prayers. Also, do check out the daily drawing for a two-volume set of "The Simple Wisdom of Pope Francis," a new series that features quotes from the pope's weekly audiences and other speeches.

Pax Christi USA (Peace of Christ), the national Catholic peace and justice organization offers a book of daily reflections, *Unshakable Belief*, with entries by Msgr. Ray East, Kimberly Mazyck of Catholic Relief Services, Dr. Alex Mikulich and Dr. Darleen Pryds. Available in electronic or hard copy, preview a sample, get the details and see other Advent resources here: http://paxchristiusa.3dcartstores.com/UNSHAKEABLE-BELIEF-Advent-2013-Reflections_p_280.html

OTHER SEASONAL NOTICES

The National Catholic Partnership on Disability (NCPD) invites us to become Partners for Giving Tuesday. Beginning on December 3 and following Thanksgiving, Black Friday and Cyber Monday, consider contributing to NCPD to ensure that the 14-million Catholic individuals who live with a disability are meaningfully involved in the Church and society. To sign up as an individual partner, contact Mary Ellen Barringer at 301/466-7427 or mebarringer@ncpd.org. Follow this link <http://www.ncpd.org/> for more information and great resources for inclusion. Let's partner with NCPD to insure that no one in our diocese or parish is de facto "ex-communicated" due to physical or mental challenges.

Support the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) to Defend Human Dignity & Take Poverty Off the Map. Did you know that the Annual CCHD Collection date is the weekend before Thanksgiving, but the actual date in your diocese may differ? Learn more about CCHD by going to www.usccb.org/about/catholic-campaign-for-human-development/collection/. To access diocesan and parish Collection materials go to <http://www.usccb.org/about/catholic-campaign-for-human-development/collection/collection-resources.cfm>.

2014 Catholic Social Ministry Gathering - [Register online](#) at <http://www.usccb.org/about/justice-peace-and-human-development/catholic-social-ministry-gathering/index.cfm>. Some financial assistance is available through the Diversity Outreach Initiative (DOI). But hurry, DOI applications must be submitted

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DID YOU KNOW...



... that on December 1, 1955 Rosa Parks was arrested for refusing to give up her seat to a White passenger on a city bus in Montgomery, Alabama?



... that on December 2, 1922 Eugenicist Henry Laughlin published "Model Sterilization Law," which 18 states passed in the following year? Laughlin was a leading American eugenicist in the first half of the 20th century. He was the director of the Eugenics Record Office from its inception in 1910 to its closing in 1939, and was among the most active individuals in influencing American eugenics policy, especially compulsory sterilization legislation. A biographer has described him as "among the most racist and anti-Semitic of early twentieth-century eugenicists."



... that on December 3, 1970 Cesar Chavez was jailed in Monterey County, California, after he refused to follow a

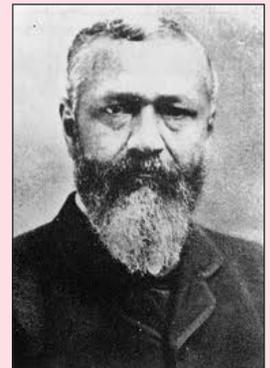
court order demanding that he call off a migrant farmworkers' strike against a lettuce farm?



... that on December 4, 1849 Massachusetts Supreme Court heard arguments in *Roberts v. City of Boston* and later ruled that the city can mandate separate schools for Black and White children? The court case was seeking to end racial discrimination in Boston public schools. The Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court ruled in favor of Boston, finding no constitutional basis for the suit. The case was later cited by the US Supreme Court in *Plessy v. Ferguson*, which established the "separate but equal" standard.



... that on December 5, 1960 in the *Boynton v. Virginia* decision, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that racial segregation in interstate bus terminal restaurants was unconstitutional?



... that on December 9, 1872 P.B.S. Pinchback of Louisiana assumed the impeached

(Continued on page 7)

DID YOU KNOW...

governor's office, becoming the first Black governor in the U.S. and serving the remainder of his predecessor's term, which was one month?



... that on December 11, 1917 thirteen black soldiers were executed after local police beat and shot Black troops stationed in Houston, Texas, prompting 156 soldiers to revolt? In all, 16 were hanged and 50 sentenced to life in prison.

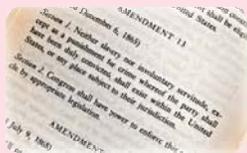


... that on December 14, 1964 in the landmark decision *Heart of Atlanta Motel v. United States*, the U.S. Supreme upheld Congress' power to prohibit racial discrimination in privately owned hotels?



... that in the week of December 15, 1922 Harvard University President Albert Lowell defended the practice

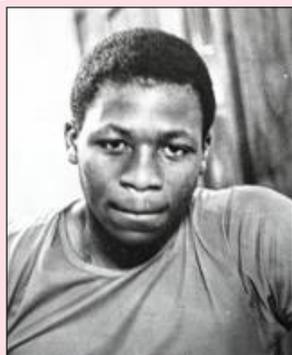
of banning Black students from residence halls and dining rooms? Lowell stated "we do not owe to them inclusion in a social system with white people."



... that on December 18, 1865 the Thirteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, prohibiting slavery and involuntary servitude except as punishment for crime was ratified?



... that on December 19, 1865 South Carolina passed a law that required Black "servants" to enter into labor contracts with White "masters" to work from dawn to dusk, and to maintain a "polite" demeanor?



... that on December 20, 1986 Michael Griffith, a 23 year-old Black man, was hit by a car and killed after being chased onto a highway by a White mob in Howard Beach, New York?

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by November 22.

And, More...

The Center for American Progress recently reported that closing the inequality gap is good for the country and for all Americans. Read about their [findings](#) and issues where we can make a difference. How does this conform with Catholic social teaching? Are their recommendations in step with any diocesan initiatives in your area?

Heads Up – Stay tuned:

On December 10, Pope Francis through Catholic organizations around the world will initiate a global wave of prayer to combat hunger as **One Human Family, Food for All**. Catholic Relief Services, Catholic Charities USA and other organizations will disseminate prayer resources and activities starting December 2.

National Conversation of African American Directors/ Coordinators of Black Catholic Ministry in January/February 2014 (date tbd). Please consider taking part in this important discussion regarding the state of the ministry today.

2013-2016 USCCB Strategic Plan: Suggested Parish/Diocesan Roadmap A Four Year Journey with Christ: Faith – Worship – Witness

2013-2014: Focus on Faith

Beginning with the opening of the Year of Faith (October 2012 – November 2013) and continuing during the next few years, diocesan and parish planning can focus on:

- Helping Catholics deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ and increase their knowledge of the teaching of the Church;
- Strengthening the education and formation of priests, religious and lay ministers, increasing the invitation to young people to discern their vocation in life, and strengthening formation programs;
- Working with local clergy to implement the USCCB statement on preaching through training and education so that preaching is inspiring, motivating and catechetical;
- Educating Catholics so they are adequately formed in their faith as relates to Catholic teaching on the life and dignity of the human person, including issues of migration and pastoral care for refugees, respect for all life, concern for the poor and marginalized;
- Continuing diocesan efforts to educate and advocate for the religious liberty of all people both nationally and internationally;
- Continuing diocesan and parish efforts to develop special outreach to married couples and families and advocate for the institution of marriage;
- Strengthening the understanding of forgiveness and reconciliation as foundational to the new evangelization leading to greater participation in the sacrament of penance.





SAVE THE DATES >>>

**The Josephite Pastoral Center
and the National Black
Catholic Congress present....
"Pastoring In Black Parishes"
a Series of Clergy Enrichment Conferences**

**Development and Enrichment Conference for Priests,
Deacons and Seminarians**

**Tuesday, November 12, 2013 - 4:30 pm through
Wednesday, November 13, 2013 - 5:30 pm
Cost: \$175.00**

**"Blessed Art Thou", A Women's Worth
A Conference on the Dignity of Women
Saturday, June 7, 2014
Cost: \$ 75.00**

**Location: St. Joseph Seminary
1200 Varnum Street, NE
Washington, DC 20017**

**Registration Contact: A'dell Lee
(202) 526-9270
Email : ssjpastrcntr@aol.com**

**relevant
950 AM radio**

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

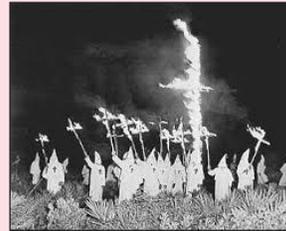
The Church, The Cardinal and You is a monthly news show featuring interviews with Cardinal George and broadcast via the Comcast cable network. Andrew Lyke, director of the Office for Black Catholics, and Todd Williamson, director of the Office for Divine Worship, host this show that includes a variety 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.

DID YOU KNOW...



... that on December 21, 1956 Black citizens desegregated Montgomery, Alabama buses after 13 month boycott? The bus company then resumed full service.



... that on December 24, 1865 a group of Confederate Army veterans established the Ku Klux Klan in Pulaski, Tennessee?

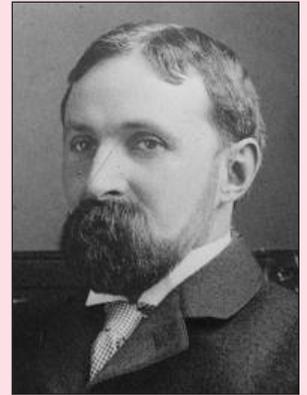


... that on Christmas Day, 1956 Civil Rights leader Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth survived a bombing of his Birmingham, Alabama home by the Ku Klux Klan? This would be the first of five attempts on his live over the next seven years.



... that on December 28, 1956 Rosa Jordan, a pregnant African American resident of Montgomery, Alabama, was

shot in both legs while riding a desegregated bus?



... that on December 29, 1900 Harvard professor Albert Bushnell Hart told the American Historical Association in Detroit, Michigan that states where lynchings were prevalent should legalize lynching to maintain order?



... that in the week of December 30, 1890 the U.S. Army massacred as many as 300 Lakota men, women, and children near Wounded Knee Creek on the Lakota Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota?

... that on December 31, 1952, for the first time since 1881, a full year passed with no reports of any lynchings in the U.S.?

Organizing Catholics For Justice

unites Chicago Catholics through

Grassroots Organizing

to address the problem of injustice

SAVE THE DATE!

Hope in an Age of Crisis:

Reclaiming Dr. King's Radical Vision for Economic Equality



Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration and Public Meeting

Sunday, January 19, 2014

2:30 pm – 4:30 pm

St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church

8235 S. South Shore Drive, Chicago

Musical celebration and registration at 2:30 pm.

Public meeting will start promptly at 3:00 pm.

Sponsored by IIRON and The People's Lobby.



Knights Of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary
St. Felicitas - St. Ailbe Court #181

Presents

The Twentieth Annual Archbishop James P. Lyke, O.F.M. African American Male Image Awards



Georgios Banquets

8800 West 159th Street, Orland Park, Illinois

Sunday, February 16, 2014

2:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.

Donation: \$45.00

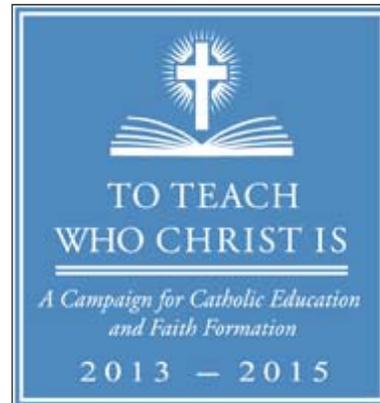
GUEST SPEAKER:

Please contact: Lady Yvonne A. Jones-Lady Bobbie Levy Chairpersons

@773-382-0521/773-731-0246

Evelyn Slater, Grand Lady

All contributions made are tax deductible within the extent allowed by law.



Like us on Facebook

Go to www.facebook.com/blackcatholicchicago

This is Your Faith, **NOT** somebody else's problem

This is the grace and responsibility given to you at baptism



Sacred Heart Revival

Deacon LeRoy Gill of St. Dorothy’s ignites the Spirit at the 23rd Annual Revival at Sacred Heart Church in Joliet. Attending was Most Rev. Joseph Imesch, Bishop Emeritus of the Joliet Diocese. The revival was on two nights: Saturday evening (Youth Night) November 9th and Sunday evening, November 10th. Both nights Deacon Gill gave stirring messages befitting the theme, “Ignite the Spirit.”



Martha Jane Tolton Award

Bishop Joseph N. Perry presents the 2013 Martha Jane Tolton Award to Josephine McCord, parishioner at St. Malachy + Precious Blood Church on the West Side. Looking on are Deacon LeRoy Gill, who with his wife Teresa Pennix-Gill were Masters of Ceremony of the event, and members of Mrs. McCord’s family. The award was presented at the 3rd Annual Gala Fundraiser for the Cause for Canonization of Fr. Augustus Tolton, the first recognized African-American Catholic priest, who served in the Archdiocese of Chicago in the late 19th Century.



National Black Catholic Men’s Conference

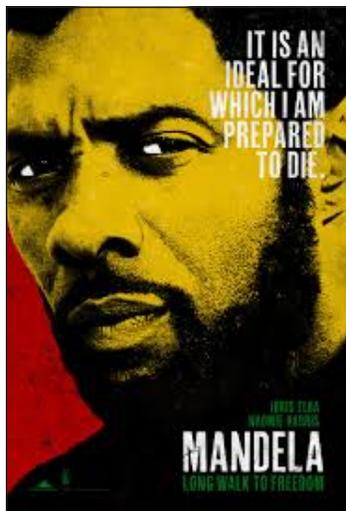
The 10th Annual National Black Catholic Men’s Conference was held in Austin, Texas from October 24-27, 2013. Andrew Lyke, Director of the Office for Black Catholics in the Archdiocese of Chicago was one of the keynote presenters.



Awardee Josephine McCord poses for a photo op with Bishop Perry after the Gala Fundraiser at the Union League Club of Chicago.

Mandela: Long Walk To Freedom

On November 20th the Office for Black Catholics hosted a pre-release screening of *Mandela: Long Walk To Freedom* at Chatham 14 Theaters in Chicago. More than 150 attended. "This dramatization of the life of a world icon was a powerful testament to being fully human." said Andrew Lyke, Director of the Office for Black Catholics, at the end of the viewing.



Diocesan Black Catholic Congress

Faith Engaged

November 16, 2013
8:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Holy Rosary Catholic Church
 3300 R Street
 Richmond, VA 23223



The Office for Black Catholics of the Diocese of Richmond hosted a diocesan Black Catholic Congress on Saturday, November 16, 2013. There was a strong Chicago connection among the presenters: Fr. George Clements, Sr. Jamie Phelps, OP, and Andrew & Terri Lyke. The evaluations from the participants were extremely positive. They appreciated the keynote speaker Fr. Stephen Thorne's presentation which focused on Congress Office, the Pastoral Plan of Action, and the National Black Catholic Survey.

Pam Harris, Director of the Office for Black Catholics in Richmond was the guest on a recent *God's Praises Tell* radio show where she and host Andrew Lyke discussed the Diocesan Black Catholic Congress in Richmond. To listen to that show go to [mms://files.archchicago.org/podcastfiles/podcastgodspraisestell/20131119GODSPRAISES.mp3](https://files.archchicago.org/podcastfiles/podcastgodspraisestell/20131119GODSPRAISES.mp3) to download.

Learn

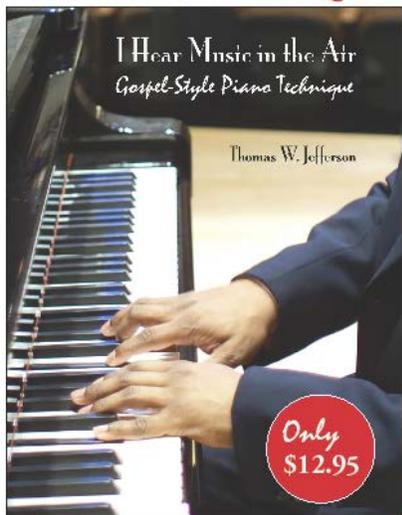
Gospel-Style

PIANO TECHNIQUE!

I HEAR MUSIC IN THE AIR

Thomas W. Jefferson

Use this comprehensive method book, written by master pianist Thomas W. Jefferson, to learn gospel-style piano playing techniques that will elevate you to a new level of musical skill and style. Here, 100 authentic and practical examples and exercises are offered that will help you to understand and implement that extra flare into your playing technique. Several full-length pieces are also included for you to apply the new methods you have learned. Challenge yourself and in no time at all you will impress your friends and family by adding "gospel stride" and "swing rhythm" to all your favorite pieces!



100 exercises plus several full-length pieces!

Hear Jefferson's newest recording: IMPROMPTU

Improvisational piano performance that includes works from several time periods and influenced by several styles, from classical and Impressionist to gospel and jazz.

001224 CD \$17.00



Also available on iTunes.



Thomas W. Jefferson is a renowned pianist. He earned his DMA in Piano Performance and Pedagogy from Northwestern University School of Music. He currently serves on the piano faculties

of the Sherwood Community Music School at Columbia College and North Park University, and is the music minister at the Basilica of Our Lady of Sorrows in Chicago, Illinois.

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Sankofa Safe Child Initiative



Presents

"Building Up Our Brothers"



A male mentoring program which offers Support groups that will address the needs and issues of men in our community. Some of the Topics that will be addressed are:

- ❖ Personal Reflections
- ❖ Anger Management
- ❖ Domestic Violence
- ❖ Violence Prevention
- ❖ Positive Guidance/Effective Parenting
- ❖ Healthy Living (Physical, Spiritual and Mental)

Sankofa House

4041 W. Roosevelt
Chicago, IL 60624

Cost: Free

Every Wednesday at 3:00pm

For more information or if you're interested in Volunteering please contact Ed Bickham at

Sankofa House: 773-542-9900



Office for Black Catholics
Archdiocese of Chicago

The Drum



In 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 to subscribe today.

Office for Black Catholics * OBC@archchicago.org * 312-534-8376

O God, * we give you thanks for your servant and priest, Father Augustus Tolton, * who labored among us in times of contradiction,* times that were both beautiful and paradoxical. * His ministry helped lay the foundation for a truly Catholic gathering in faith in our time.* We stand in the shadow of his ministry.* May his life continue to inspire us * and imbue us with that confidence and hope * that will forge a new evangelization for the Church we love.

Father in Heaven, * Father Tolton's suffering service sheds light upon our sorrows; * we see them through the prism of your Son's passion and death.* If it be your Will, O God,* glorify your servant, Father Tolton, * by granting the favor I now request through his intercession * (*mention your request*) * so that all may know the goodness of this priest * whose memory looms large in the Church he loved.

Complete what you have begun in us * that we might work for the fulfillment of your kingdom.* Not to us the glory,* but glory to you O God, through Jesus Christ, your Son* and our Lord; * Father, Son and Holy Spirit,* you are our God, living and reigning forever and ever.

Amen

2010 Bishop Joseph N. Perry

Imprimatur
Francis Cardinal George, OMI
Archdiocese of Chicago

CATHOLIC PARENTS CHICAGO

Raising Faith-Filled Kids • One Word at a Time

Patience



One afternoon one of my daughters was uncharacteristically cranky. She started whining, wouldn't listen, and seemed intent on making my life miserable. I grew increasingly impatient and angry until I realized that she was coming down with the flu and her irritability was a symptom. Once I knew the cause of her crabbiness, compassion replaced my impatience. I began to care for my daughter and deal with a small but healthy dose of guilt in my heart. Patience means facing life on life's terms, which means on God's terms. It means tolerating delay, something our fast-paced society finds difficult. The way to patience is to keep your eye on the big picture and be fully attentive to the present moment. To cultivate patience this week, pray using Jesus' words: "Thy will, not mine, be done." —Tom McGrath

YEAR OF STRONG CATHOLIC PARENTS

The ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO in partnership with **LOWNA PRESS**.

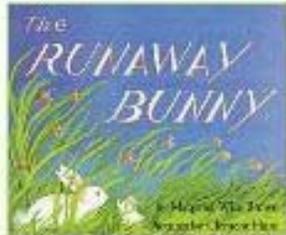
For more parenting resources: www.lownapress.com
www.CatholicParentsChicago.org

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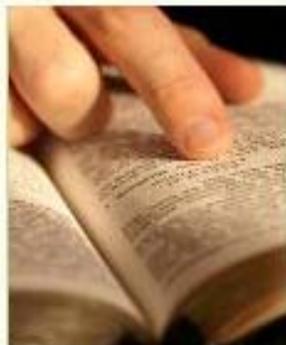
[Click here for Spanish](#)



PREPARING CHILDREN FOR THE SACRAMENTS



BOOK OF THE MONTH



PASSAGES FOR PARENTS



PARENT TO PARENT WISDOM



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Employment Opportunities

Listed below are current job opportunities in the Pastoral Centers of the Archdiocese of Chicago. For details on each of these job postings go to www.archchicago.org/Employment. For job postings at parishes go to www.archchicago.org/Employment/Parishes.aspx. Other job opportunities can be found at www.archchicago.org/Employment/Others.aspx



Full time - Posted: 11/13/2013

Vicariate Administrative Consultant

Financial Services - Other

Work closely with parishes and schools to improve their long-term financial stability, and to prioritize and resolve administrative issues. Assess parishes against best practice standards in key areas of financial and administrative management (e.g. stewardship, staffing, spend management, capital planning); Assist parishes in attracting, developing and retaining local business ...

Full time - Posted: 11/12/2013

Pastoral Migratoria Partnership Coordinator

Office for Immigrant Affairs and Immigration Education - Cardinal Meyer Center

The Coordinator will lead the design, development, implementation and coordinator of partnerships and community engagement activities among local parishes, community-based organizations, institutions, individuals and other partners involved in Pastoral Migratoria (Hispanic Immigrant-to-Immigrant Ministry) to achieve the mission and goals of this ministry related to lay leadership empowerment to service, accompaniment, ...

Full time - Posted: 11/1/2013

Contract Manager II

Real Estate - Archbishop Quigley Center

The Contract Manager II represents the Parish in negotiating agreements with prospective and current tenants, while maximizing rental income and occupancy levels for Parish properties. This person is responsible for the entire leasing process from the introduction of a property to a potential tenant through lease execution and occupancy of ...

Full time - Posted: 10/31/2013

Building Maintenance

Building Operations - Archbishop Quigley Center

Duties and Responsibilities•Perform preventative maintenance on all mechanical equipment such as changing of filters, belts, lubrication of bearings, etc. •Monitor and log all HVAC equipment on a daily basis: low-pressure boilers, domestic water pumps, ejector pump operation, etc. •Maintain and log Fire/Life Safety System. •Report and record daily findings of mechanical equipment to ...

Full time - Posted: 10/18/2013

Communications Project Manager

Media Relations Office/Department of Communications and Public Relations - Archbishop Quigley Center

The Communications Project Manager will manage and assist in directing a variety of professional marketing and communication assignments to meet deadlines established by the Director of the Office of Media Relations.

Full time - Posted: 9/30/2013

Administrative Assistant - Reporting/Database

Stewardship and Development - Archbishop Quigley Center

The Administrative Assistant will create Annual Catholic Appeal reports through Portfolio and Excel; this person will utilize existing, preprogrammed reports, as well as create ad hoc reports at the direction of the Director of Development Services; Coordinate all communications/reporting for the Debt Reduction Program and the Rebate Program; Coordinate all ...



Director of the Institute for Black Catholic Studies Xavier University of Louisiana

Xavier University of Louisiana, the nation's only Historically Black and Catholic institution of higher education, invites nominations and applications for the position of Director of the Institute for Black Catholic Studies (IBCS). The Director reports directly to the Provost/Sr. Vice President for Academic Affairs and is responsible for implementing major policies and procedures relating to the overall administration of the IBCS. The Director supervises the Associate Director for Administration, the Administrative Assistant, and the Associate Directors for the specific programs and Community Life. In addition the Director is the official representative of the Institute to appropriate educational and ecclesial forums. The Director is responsible for planning and leading year-round events, conferences and workshops sponsored by the Institute. The Director is expected to collaborate with Campus Ministry, the Office of Catholic Identity and Mission Integration, and the Theology department. Overall, the Director should be an energetic, thoughtful and visionary leader who is able to work creatively with a variety of constituents and stakeholders.

The successful candidate will be a practicing Catholic with an earned doctorate in Theology or Religious Studies. The candidate will also have at least five years of progressive leadership experience, preferably in higher education, exhibited competency in research and scholarship, knowledge of the changes and trends in the Catholic Church, and demonstrated ability to fundraise and manage budgets.

Xavier University offers a competitive salary and generous benefits. The IBCS is committed to excellence in interdisciplinary teaching, the training for and promotion of effective ministry, and the social and cultural engagement of issues pertaining to Black Catholics and the larger Black community.

For more details visit the IBCS website, www.xula.edu/ibcs. To apply, log in to our online system, <https://jobs.xula.edu>. Attach (1) a letter of interest, (2) a curriculum vitae, and (3) the names, addresses, and email addresses of three references. The letter of interest should be addressed to Dr. Pamela R. Franco, Chair – Search Committee.. Review of applications will begin on November 1, 2013. EOE/AA.



The Drum: A year-one assessment

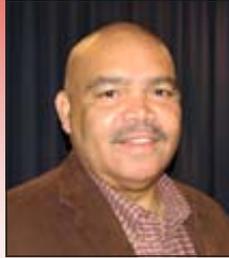
Andrew Lyke

When I took on the role of director for the Office for Black Catholics I was determined to address the paradoxical predicament that for a city founded by a Black Catholic (Jean Baptist Point Du Sable), one with a robust African-American population, and a city that is so very Catholic, the most common Black Catholic experience is of a shrinking population and powerlessness in growing our faith with the next generations. Among several strategies in play, one is to nurture a more cohesive Black Catholic identity. One way to do this is through extra-parochial events and a monthly publication to highlight the vibrancy of our community.

Since January of this year *The Drum* has been doing just that. Through its promotion of events in the Black Catholic community and insightful articles for Black Catholic leaders, *The Drum's* first year has been a good start. Readership has been steadily growing and is now over 700. Feedback has been very positive and encouraging.

Our goal in the second year is to double the circulation and form an editorial board that will direct the growth of this publication. For me it's been a labor of love to pour my energy in this publication. I thank all of the contributing writers over the past year and all who have given constructive feedback.

I ask every reader to consider how he/she can help us



increase the readership. Here are a few suggestions:

- Share *The Drum* with your friends and family by forwarding it by email;
- Ask your parish leaders to promote *The Drum* in your parish bulletin;
- Encourage others to subscribe (it's free!) at www.blackcatholicchicago.org/thedrum.aspx;
- Give us your feedback. We listen. Send email to OBC@archchicago.org; phone (312) 534-8376.

I am also committed to making this publication one that will help keep "the dream" alive by focusing on efforts for positive change. We will stay abreast of initiatives that address root causes for the maladies in our communities.

However, I know that "the dream" only has a chance if we remember "the nightmare" through which we have come and in which many of us are locked. So, this publication will be one that tells the truth and pushes us toward meaningful action for change.

As we close out the first year of *The Drum* and step into the next year, we are determined to advance the cause for building the "Beloved Community" and sharing the rich cultural and spiritual gifts of Black Catholics. Thank you for being with us on this journey.

Andrew Lyke
Publisher and Editor



Office for Black Catholics
Archdiocese of Chicago

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