



TEN THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE BCI

February 2016

Catholic Schools Week Black History Month

Just like the Faith, the Drum works for us if you pass it on.

TO SUBSCRIBE TO THIS NEWSLETTER CONTACT
BCI@archchicago.org

1. LET US PRAY

Please pray for members of our church who educate.

May the angels lead them into paradise.

Please pray for members of our church who are unemployed.

May the angels lead them to a Catholic education.

Unemployed young men in the Archdiocese of Chicago

African Americans Males Aged 20 -24

38% in Chicago

42% in Suburban Cook County

16% in Lake County

Latino Males Aged 20 -24

14% in Chicago

17% in Suburban Cook County

6% in Lake County

White Males Aged 20 -24

9% in Chicago

12% in Suburban Cook County

11% in Lake County

Please submit all prayer request to BCI@archchicago.org.

LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER!

2. CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

**WE ARE NOT
DIFFERENT BECAUSE
WE ARE BLACK.
WE ARE DIFFERENT
BECAUSE
WE ARE ONE!**

LESSONS FROM THE STUDENT COMMITTEE

- 1.** *Black History should be passed, not the past.*
- 2.** *History has more meaning when it is not only about the notables of the past, and is about how the past is present in the future.*
- 3.** *We are not different because we are Black, we are different because we are ONE! (i.e. catholic)*

From the mouths of babes!

The Lesson Plan

The BCI has requested that Catholic schoolteachers share their lesson plans that use Black History. Lesson plans will be compiled by educational professionals to be shared with those who want to teach, learn and share in the Black experience.

Sr. Joanne Delahanty, OP. a religious with more than 45 years of teaching experience, developed the first lesson plan of this collection.

The plan offers teachers at every level a tool to use the person of Jean Baptist Pont DuSable to teach Black History, Church History, American History and Chicago History in a single lesson!

The Collection

At the 38th celebration of prayer at the Cathedral of the Archdiocese of Chicago, the student prayers will be asked to DO SOMETHINGS. Contribute to the future of Catholic education, plant something in response to climate change, think about how to be involved and receive the mercy and grace of God.

Each student will be offered the chance to give as well as receive. A reverse collection, where a student takes money from the collection and then does the work of the church, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, will be encouraged. Students will then report back on how they used the resource of the church to participate in the ministry of the Lord.

The Rite of Passage

Graduates of Catholic Education will be offered a spectacular day of Retreat to join together and reflect on Now that I have my Catholic education, what's next?

A one-day journey to our nation's capitol is being offered as a way to celebrate this milestone and see the church more broadly.

The Prayer

On Feb. 26th students from across the Archdiocese will convene at the Cathedral to shout THANKS BE TO GOD for the gifts of Blackness

Highlights of the Prayer Service

The Procession of Students

THE WORD OF GOD

The Reverse Collection

The Recognition of the first African American to teach in a Catholic School

The Presentation of the Story of Fr. Tolton

The Gift

A GIVE CENTRAL account is being established to allow us to join together in order to present each student at the prayer service with a copy of the graphic novel on the life of

FR. AUGUSTUS TOLTON.

This goal will need \$20,000 worth of fundraising.

At least, every participating school will receive copies of the book.

At best, every student participating in the celebration will receive a copy.

THE DIFFERENCE IS UP TO US.



Promote the Cause of Fr. Tolton
Support Catholic Education
Celebrate Black History
Teach a child
Build the church

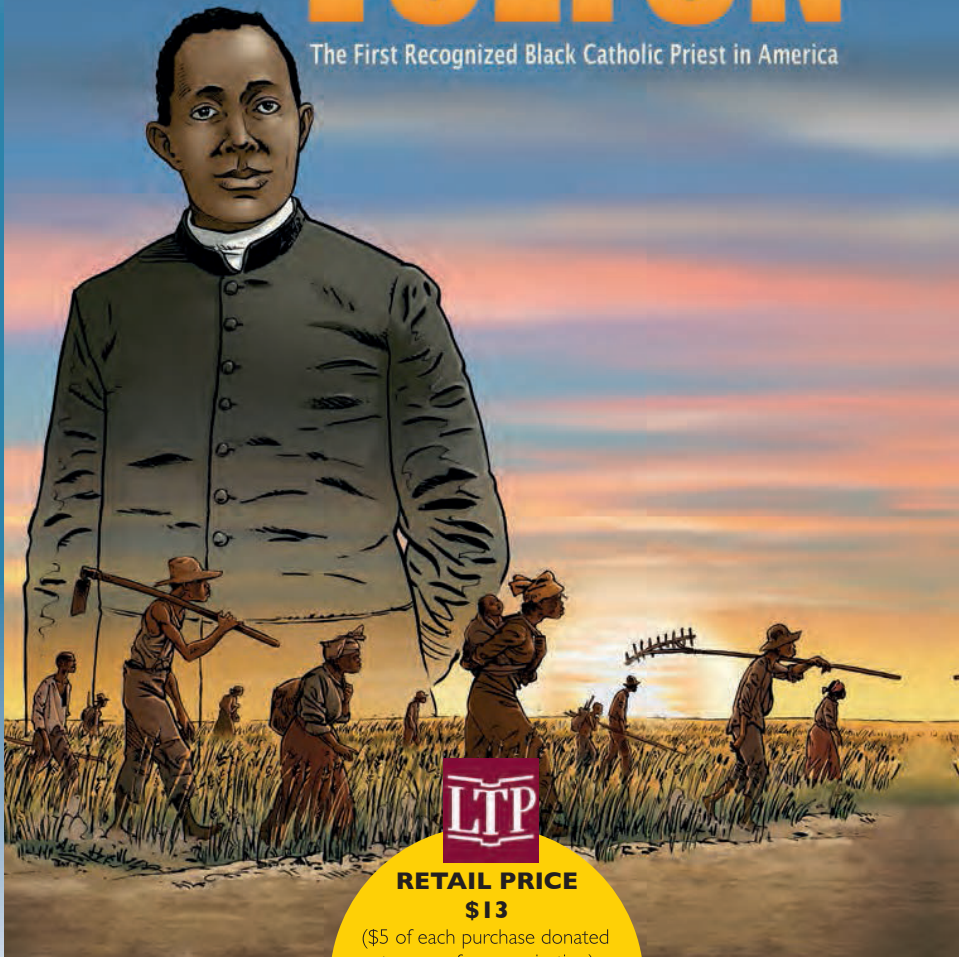
IN ONE STEP

Join us in presenting a copy of the graphic novel on the life of Fr. Augustus Tolton to each student attending the Black History celebration at Holy Name Cathedral on Feb. 26th.

THIS SALE WILL START ON ASH WEDNESDAY

Fr. Augustus TOLTON

The First Recognized Black Catholic Priest in America



RETAIL PRICE
\$13

(\$5 of each purchase donated
to cause for canonization)

BUY ON-LINE NOW
AT: WWW.LTP.ORG

The Contest

BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2016

Essay Contest!



Why I think or believe Fr. Augustus Tolton was a saint.

CONTEST RULES

A faculty or staff member of a Catholic school in the Archdiocese of Chicago must submit your essay.

Parental permission is required for participation.

Submit essays to BCI@archchicago.org

Essay must be written by a student enrolled in a Catholic school.

Essays must be original.

Essays must be no more than 1500 words.

Essays must be received by Palm Sunday.

Students may enter multiple essays.



First Prize
32GB Tablet

Second Prize
16GB Tablet

The Honor

Live at the Cathedral, the Office of Catholic Schools will recognize

Mrs. Bobbie Hicks

as the 1st African American to teach who Christ is in our schools! Mrs.

Hicks, a parishioner at St. Martin DePorres, joined the faculty at St. Elizabeth in 1953. On Feb. 26th she will deliver a charge to the students of today as they go forth from praying about history to making history!

THE BCI

HONORING THE PAST

and

BUILDING THE FUTURE

*Is encouraging the whole church
To use this month of February to
continue what God was pleased to
begin, with Black folks for the church.*

**ONE CANNOT BE CATHOLIC
WITHOUT US.**

3. ON THE AIR

RADIO BCI

Tuesdays 9-9:30 a.m.

Relevant Radio 950-AM

Deacon John Cook hosts this weekly half-hour program that explores a wide range of topics relevant to Chicago's Black and Catholic communities. Deacon Cook serves at St. Felicitas Parish in Chatham and is very involved in organizing and overseeing youth programs in the Bronzeville neighborhood.



**Tune in and Call in
312.255.8408**

Let's talk about:

Feb. 9th – Marriage with the Lykes

Feb. 16th – Social Action with the Deacons

Feb. 23rd – Black History with the Office of Catholic School

**RADIO BCI is in search of persons
YOUNG, GIFTED, BLACK and CATHOLIC
to serve as co-hosts.**

Send resume to BCI@archchicago.org

**WIN TICKETS TO BRONZEVILLE THE MUSICAL and
MARDI GRAS CELEBRATIONS IN THE ARCHDIOCESE!!!!**

Make Them Hear You!

4. Laudato Si



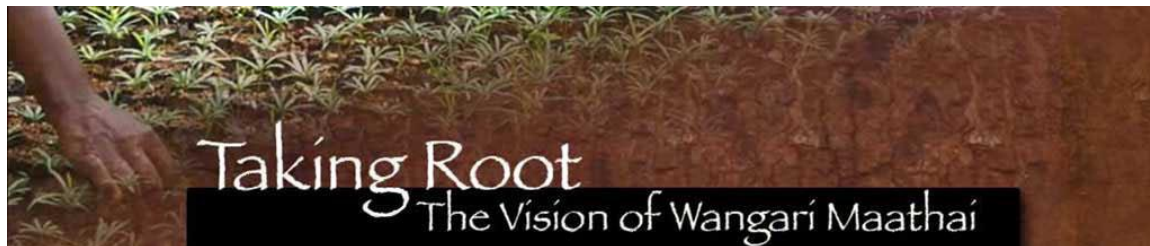
Black Catholic Initiative
On Care for Our Common Home

**This year we join the
ONE EARTH FILM FESTIVAL**

**Next year we hope to have
A parish in each Vicariate participate
Then a parish in each Deanery**

**Don't forget to
SAVE THE DATE OF
ALL SOULS DAY
For the Annual Conference on
Climate Change**

**Our Chicago priests born on the continent of Africa
have a lot to say and teach about this issue.**



Taking Root tells the inspiring story of the Green Belt Movement of **Kenya** and its unstoppable founder, **Wangari Maathai**, the first environmentalist and first African woman to win the Nobel Peace Prize (2004).

The 80-minute film weaves a compelling and dramatic narrative of one woman's personal journey in the context of the turbulent political and environmental history of her country.

[Reserve free tickets here.](#)



TAKING ROOT
at 12:30 p.m.
Sunday, March 6

**St. Benedict the African-East
Catholic Church**
340 W. 66th St., Chicago

One Earth Film Festival showcases 35+ environmental films across Chicagoland for its milestone 5th annual event. All screenings are free, but a \$5 donation is appreciated. More information at oneearthfilmfest.org

COMING SOON

ONE EARTH FILM FESTIVAL

Moving Planet, Moving People



**For Full Chicagoland Schedule see
oneearthfilmfest.org**

CATHOLIC PARISH OFFICIAL EVENTS

Green Carpet Gala: Friday March 4, 6:30 pm: Film Preview & Program, 4th Presbyterian Church, 126 E Chestnut St, Chicago. Food and drinks served. Tickets: \$50

March 5, 3 pm: Catching the Sun, Trinity United Church of Christ, 400 W. 95th St, Chicago

March 6, 12:30 pm: 3 Film Screenings- Bomb Trains on the Hudson, Backyard, The Sustainable Ascension Catholic Church, 808 S. East Ave, Oak Park

March 6, 12:30 pm: Taking Root: The Vision of Wangari Maathai (Encore Screening!), St. Benedict the African- East Catholic Church, 340 W. 66th St, Chicago

March 6, 3:30 pm: 2 Film Screenings- From Gangs to Gardens & Inhabit: A Permaculture Perspective, Windsor Lutheran Church, 2619 E. 76th St, Chicago

March 6, 3:30 pm: The Breach, Sixth Grace Presbyterian Church, 600 E, 35th St, Chicago

3:30 pm: Food Patriots (Spanish subtitles), Resurrected Life Church, 4538 W. Fullerton Ave, Chicago

*All Screenings are free unless otherwise noted, \$5 donation per screening appreciated. Schedule subject to change. For current info on this & 40+ other film events-- and to reserve tickets-- see oneearthfilmfest.org

5. JUBILEE of MERCY

MERCY MONDAYS

MERCY CHALLENGE

DAYS OF MERCY AND FORGIVENESS

PILGRIMAGE SITES IN THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY

Holy Name Cathedral

State and Superior Streets

www.holynamecathedral.org

St. Anselm Parish

6045 South Michigan Avenue

st_anselm1.tripod.com

St. Anthony Parish

11533 South Prairie Avenue

St. Columbanus Parish

331 East 71st Street

www.stcolumbanuschicago.org

Our Lady of Sorrows Basilica

3121 West Jackson Boulevard

www.ols-chicago.org

St. Peter's in the Loop

110 West Madison Street

www.stpetersloop.org

St. Joseph

17951 Dixie Highway

www.posjhomewood.org

Go to <http://jubileemercy.org/> for lots of information

6. JUNETEENTH RETREAT

A Catholic retreat with the
African American community.
SAVE THE DATE June 17th – 19th

ANNOUNCING THE RETREAT MASTER

SISTER CORA MARIE BILLINGS, RSM
CHILD OF GOD
SISTER OF MERCY

*The great-granddaughter of a man enslaved by
Jesuit Priests*

*The first and only African American student in her
West Philadelphia Grade School*

*The first African American to join
The Sisters of Mercy*

*The first African American nun to teach who Christ is in
Philadelphia Catholic schools*

*The first African American woman religious member of
The Canon Law Society*

*The first African American woman to be the lead
a Parish in the United States*

*The only African American nun to be an answer
to a question on Jeopardy*

THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD

7. THE NATIONAL BLACK CATHOLIC CONGRESS

In preparation for Congress in 2017

Visit <http://nbccongress.org/>

Be sure and check out or review the 2011 survey
of Black Catholics in the USA.

WE THE BAPTISED HAVE WORK TO DO!

8. WE WISH ALL CATHOLICS A PRODUCTIVE LENTEN SEASON

**A perfect time to get ready to
“Come out the wilderness”**

and

be ready to die and RISE with the Lord!

9. PARISH LIFE AND FORMATION EVENTS

The BCI received the following announcements from parishes, schools and organizations for the purpose of sharing information and invitation.

Please seek permission to publish items in this newsletter from the pastor or person responsible for the sponsoring agent. Please take care not to violate copyrights.

FROM ST. AMBROSE

What regrets do you bring before God?

Our lack of KUJICHAGULIA, self-determination. For the lack of courage to fight racism without and within. For our sins of complacency. For our unashamed acceptance of empty promises. For our neglect to be true to our God. For our will to accept the dehumanization of our black men. For our silence on the face of adversity as family is destroyed. Our lack of KUJICHAGULIA, self-determination. For the lack of courage to fight racism without and within. For our sins of complacency. For our unashamed acceptance of empty promises. For our neglect to be true to our God. For our will to accept the dehumanization of our black men. For our silence on the face of adversity as family is destroyed.

February 17, 2016

6:30 PM

Fr. David Jones Presider

St. Ambrose Catholic Church

Fr. John Owusu, CSSp. Pastor

1000 East 47th Street

Chicago, IL

773-624-3695

Remembering Our Past
Celebrating Our Present
Looking to the Future



St. Ambrose Parish Presents
An
African-American Heritage Month Concert

Musical Selections from the Choirs of St. Ambrose
Guest Chorus - Chicago Community Chorus
Sunday February 21, 2016
4:00 PM
St. Ambrose Catholic Church
1000 East 47th Street
Chicago, IL
773-624-3695

FROM THE BLACK DEACONS OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



The Black Deacons of the Archdiocese of Chicago

invite you

to

A Social Justice Social Action Prayer Service

Keynote Address

by

Father David Jones,

Pastor, St. Benedict the African East

Director of the Black Catholic Initiative

join

Priests, Deacons, Religious and Faithful from across Chicago

Praying for our children, families and communities

On

Saturday, February 20, 2016

At

St. Agatha Catholic Church

3151 West Douglas Boulevard

Chicago, Illinois 60623

From

9:00AM – 12:00 Noon

Invite your family and friends to this day of prayer and inspiration

Refreshments will be served

FROM ST. AILBE PARISH & ST. FELICITAS PARISH

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

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



Awards Luncheon

Georgios Banquets

8800 W. 159th St., Orland Park, IL.

Sunday, February 28, 2016

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

Donation: \$50.00

Dicie Moore, Grand Lady

Support our honorees by purchasing a ticket or an ad for more information

If you have any questions, please contact Dicie Moore, 773-643-7511 or email kpclacourt181@gmail.com. Visit us <http://www.knightsofpeterclaverlacourt181.com>

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

FROM THE ARUSI NETWORK

Marriage On A Lampstand

National Black Catholic Marriage & Family Symposium

March 4-5, 2016

Hyatt Regency

Schaumburg, Illinois

www.marriageonalampstand.org

Presenters:

Bishop Joseph N. Perry
Bishop Fernand Cheri, OFM
Fr. Bryan Massingale
Dr. Linda Malone-Colón
Andrew & Terri Lyke
Damon Owens
Fr. Arthur Anderson, OFM
Dr. C. Vanessa White
Dr. Kathleen Dorsey-Bellow
And more . . .

"The most powerful, transforming, miracle-making love is given when the beloved is least deserving. For it is then that our love reflects God's."

Andrew & Terri Lyke



Explore Sacramental Marriage through the lens of social justice and the historical, cultural, and spiritual narrative of Black Folk.

Who should attend?

Couples

Married
Engaged
Searching
Interracial
Empty Nest
Later Years

Pastoral ministers

Catechists
Wedding coordinators
Marriage preparation ministers
All stakeholders of marriage



Register Today

www.MarriageOnALampstand.org

Sponsored by

ArusiNetwork, Inc.

National Black Catholic Congress

Black & Indian Mission Office

National Association of Black Catholic Administrators

National Association of Catholic Family Life Ministers

CONTACT THE BCI TO WIN A FREE HOTEL ROOM FOR THE SYMPOSIUM

BCI@archchicago.org

FROM CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL UNION



TOLTON LECTURE: *Subversive Habits: Experience of Black Women Religious in the United States* by Dr. Shannen Dee Williams

Hosted by the Augustus Tolton Pastoral Ministry Program

Shannen Dee Williams
Assistant Professor of History
University of Tennessee

Dr. Williams's lecture is a part of the annual Tolton Week Events at CTU which highlight and promote the Augustus Tolton Pastoral Ministry Program, a theological education, formation, and scholarship program for Black Catholics in the Archdiocese of Chicago. Events include the Tolton Lecture, Holy Hour, Open House, and Marketplace.

All events are free and open to the public.



March 1, 2016
4 p.m.

Reception to follow

Room 210 B/C
Catholic Theological Union
Academic and Conference Center
5416 S. Cornell Ave., Chicago

Complimentary parking available

For more information, contact
C. Vanessa White, Director
tolton@ctu.edu
773.371.5440
www.ctu.edu

Dr. Williams has spent the last nine years of her life researching, writing and lecturing on the little known history of Black Catholic Religious Sisters in the United States. Her book *Subversive Habits: Black Nuns and the Struggle to Desegregate Catholic America after World War I* is forthcoming. Her ground-breaking study chronicles the epic journey of black Catholic sisters in the United States from their fiercely contested beginnings in the nineteenth century to the present day. It also unearths the largely hidden history of black sisters in the fight to dismantle racial and gender barriers in the U.S. Church and wider American society.

This lecture is presented in collaboration with the Center for the Study of Consecrated Life (CSCL).



**Don't miss BRONZEVILLE THE MUSICAL.
There's a lot of Catholic participation and history in that
neighborhood.**

FEATURING

**Our own Horn Blowing Preacher Timothy Walker from
St. Thaddeus as a director.**

**The Deacon's Wife – Robin Watson as Ms. ELLA!
And our Dr. King animator, Brandon Sapp as THE DUKE!!
Call into RADIO BCI to win tickets!!!**

10. THE BCI AND YOU

All are welcome to bring ideas and gifts to this collective work of baptizing matrimony and anointing, this effort of kujichagulia, umoja and imani. This is a meeting of the seven sacraments of the church and the seven principles of kwanzaa. This is a meeting of the church. That is what makes it and us truly catholic. Stay tuned, stay close, get involved, walk together and don't you get weary! There's a great camp meeting in the Promised Land. Believe that you are in the camp.

Thanks

be to

GOD

!!!