



▶ UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE BLACK CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO.

○ Iss. 3 | ○ Vol. 1 | ○ 2013



▶ MESSAGE FROM BISHOP JOSEPH N. PERRY ON THE SEASON OF LENT



▶ A BLOG ON BLACK HISTORY MONTH BY ANDREW LYKE.



The Drum

March 2013

THE BEAT OF BLACK CATHOLIC CHICAGO

Battered but not broken

By A. Gerard Jordan, O.Praem

Hope has been described by some as a “fragile gift” that brings forth revelations of the possibilities that can exist in tomorrow’s world. This expectation and grace-filled longing has the power to transform us and our situation wherever Jesus Christ can be found. Hope can visit our lives and energize us if we but accept it as grace. Conversely, false hope can visit us and divest of that same energy that is of God and the love that comes only from the Divine. My recent travels to Haiti allowed me to see both faces of this longing we call hope. My sojourn put me face to face with a special branch of the People of God... a people that some say are broken. But I say they are not broken, just battered from the earth moving and the storm that followed. Why? Because they are a hopeful people.

I returned from my mission trip to Haiti, and in my theological reflection, I had to realize that the People of God present in this tiny republic

had ministered to me in a way that introduced hope to me like I had never experience before in my life. There was a “sacredness” of hope that was revealed in my experience while on the island, almost three years to the day that the earthquake of January 2010 took place. It is no secret that Haiti was hit by the most powerful earthquake to strike the country in 200 years. The news reports told us that more than 250,000 people were killed by the tragedy. But what they did not tell the world in their account of this catastrophe is that another 200,000 drowned in the capsized boats as they attempted to leave Port au Prince and head to safety. Most of us realize that 300,000 survivors were injured and more than one million were made homeless. What the world may not want to see is that same million, many of which are still living in tents, who are living on less than one dollar a day to survive a wretched poverty such as this. Haiti is the poorest country in the western

hemisphere. Among, what my “American” eyes would call abject poverty and squalor on the street, my true self saw the joyful hope of the people still living in the camps. Why do so many start their day with the holy sacrifice of the Eucharistic celebration or why do most even find the breath to sing and smile? When asked these questions the people smile and tell me, ...because they have life, each other and hope....but most of all because “our God has not abandoned us!” This immediate and jubilant response is all said in the thick creole tongue that has a meaning that translates to “our God lives with and inside of us to keep us.” You very readily realize that Port au Prince has a lot of very young smiling faces in the people they call their “new citizens”. The teenagers and young adults all come from the countryside to attend school in the city. The average age of the citizen of Port au Prince is 35 years old. I could count on both hands,



Frater A. Gerard Jordan, O.Praem.

the amount of elderly people I encountered in Haiti. The new citizens are the children that have been born since the tragedy and that number more than 500,000 who share their happiness because of this sacred hope. The little ones made me more aware of the presence of God on the island. They sing, dance, run and play. Their innocence allows them to convey a light that transcends all understanding, a light only possible when the Divine is the giver of that light.

Up until now, hunger in the country was not the main challenge, but Haiti is also facing a second consecutive

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Lent

Bishop Joseph N. Perry

Along life's journey, seldom do we travel in a straight line. It is rare that a journey follows a single road or highway. The challenge and stress of traveling come when we have to leave one road for another. We ask directions, we study maps: *Where do we turn? What exit do we take?*

Our lives are filled with turns. Some turns take us to exciting new places: learning to read for example, opens up to us the world of literature and knowledge. Some turns are more difficult and traumatic: the death of a spouse means journeying on alone. Other turns we make lead us down unknown roads and destinations: falling in love we know, can turn our world upside down.

Lent is the season for *turning*. The earth completes its spring *turning* toward the sun; farmers soon begin the *turning over* of the ground for spring planting. The Lenten springtime is also a *turning* of our souls and spirits. Lent calls us to *conversion* – from the Latin word for *turning*: to turn away from whatever unjustly and unfairly steals our time and energy and return to the loving embrace of family and friends; to turn away from those pseudo-idols of wealth and prestige that take the place of God in our lives and *re-turn* to the things of God we hold in the depths of our hearts. Indeed, Lent calls us to the hard but never completed work of *conversion* – the every day struggle to *turn* toward the life and things of God. This is refreshing, energizing labor for every Christian.

In commenting on the meaning of this sacred season, our holy father, Pope Benedict XVI says: Lent is a sacred time to “*free the longing that dwells in the heart of every human being so that it can reach its true height.*”

May our journey with Jesus from the desert to the mount of transfiguration, from Jerusalem to Calvary, be an experience of *turning* for us – a *turning* from despair to hope, a *turning* from barrenness to fullness, a turning from a lack-a-daisical attitude toward our spiritual lives, a turning from the wrong choices to the right choices, a *turning* from bad decisions to good decisions, a *turning* from death to life.



2013 Bishop Joseph N. Perry



Bishop Joseph N. Perry

DID YOU KNOW...

...that the March 17, 2013 is **Black Marriage Day**? Black Marriage Day is the fourth Sunday in March. It is during



Black Marriage Week starting the last week in March. For more information go to www.blackmarriageday.com.

...that in 1991 on March 3rd **Rodney King** was beaten by Los Angeles police during a traffic stop? That beating was caught on video tape. Violence erupted in Los Angeles when the officers were acquitted of criminal charge.

...that in 1857 on March 6th the U.S. Supreme Court in the **Dred Scott Decision** ruled that people of African descent cannot be U.S. citizens?

...that in 1965 on March 25th **Viola Liuzzo**, a white housewife from Detroit was shot and killed after driving voting rights activists to Selma, Alabama?

...that in 1964 on March 30th the U.S. Supreme Court reversed civil rights activist **Mary Hamilton's** contempt conviction for refusing to answer Gadsden, Alabama prosecutors' use of her first name while call whites "Mrs." and "Mrs.?"

Annual Black Catholic Lenten Vespers Service

March 1, 2013

St. Malachy + Precious Blood Church

2248 West Washington Boulevard

Chicago, Illinois

Light meal and fellowship at 6:00 PM
Vespers at 7:00 PM

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below average harvest due to early season dryness and flooding caused by Hurricane Sandy in November 2012, which affected more than 1.5 million people who went back to work in the rice fields of the north and the banana plantations of the south. Yes, despite being slaughtered by the earthquake and beaten by the hurricane these people continue to move forward. Hope is what moves them. It is a hope that my great-grandfather talked about when slavery had ended. It was the hope energized my grandmother and mother after the civil rights movement. That same hope was on the face of my sister after she

survived hurricane Katrina and Rita. I now understand it and recognize it to be such. You see, like many of us, the Haitian People have never stopped working or living because of the Incarnational grace that they received from the sacredness of their hope. Unlike most of us, they do live in a poverty that words cannot describe because that same poverty is surrounded by devastation. Despite new sufferings like the cholera outbreak, lack of resources and still not infrastructure that is sound, they have allowed God to live in this hope, therefore they continue to live in God. Again, their ability to move in Christ, with Christ and

through Christ, is a result of their Incarnational, fragile, grace-filled hope. They are a beaten people but not broken!

A. Gerard Jordan, O.Praem. Is a member of the Norbertine Order and a student at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. Brother Gerard recently participated in a mission trip in Haiti. He shares some reflections about that experience.

Why did we celebrate Black History Month?

By Andrew Lyke

In 1926 Carter G. Woodson, an African-American historian, author, journalist, and founder of the *Association for the Study of Negro Life and History* (1915), and founder of the academic

sports, science, education, politics, business, religion, community uplift, and other areas of success. Marian Anderson, Book T. Washington, W.E.B. DuBois, George Washington Carver,

to say "Because they did we can."

In my childhood *Negro History Week*, which in 1976 was expanded to *Black History Month*, served to negate the inferiority complex that had gripped the psyche of Black people. Achievement was not just for the purpose of personal success or even the uplift of a race; it was also proof, to others and ourselves, that we are equal.

Now in my sixties, I can add so many other names to that long list of Black achievers, most notably President Barack Obama. For me today, that list is no longer as much a body of proof than it is a legacy. My pride is less to negate an internal sense of inferiority and more to give

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Carter G. Woodson "Father of Black History"

quarterly, *Journal of Negro History* (1916), founded the second week in February as *Negro History Week*. For me, growing up in the 1950s and 1960s, *Negro History Week*, was one week in the year when we focused on the achievements of Americans of African ancestry – achievement in the arts,

Harriet Tubman, Ralph Bunch, Sammy Davis, Jr., Ella Fitzgerald, Duke Ellington, Sidney Poitier, Jackie Robinson, Dorothy Dandridge, Father George Clements, Father Rollins Lambert, Bishop Harold Perry, and so many other individuals living and dead were lifted up with pride as if

DID YOU KNOW...

...that in 1875 on March 23rd Tennessee passed laws authorizing racial discrimination in hotels, public transportation, and amusement parks?

...that in 1807 on March 2nd Congress banned importation of slaves effective January 1, 1808, but established no remedy for Africans illegally smuggled into the country after enactment of the ban?

...that in 1851 on March 17th Southern physician Samuel Cartwright claimed discovery of "Drapetomania," a disease that makes African Americans want to run from slavery, and prescribed whipping and amputation as treatment?

...that in 1995 on March 16th Mississippi ratified the Thirteenth Amendment, abolishing slavery, after having rejected it in 1865?

...that in 1852 on March 20th Harriet Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin* was published?

...that in 1965 on March 14th Bus service in Montgomery, Alabama was desegregated?

...that in 1770 on March 5th Crispus Attucks was the first American to die in the Boston Massacre?

...that in 1913 on March 10th **Harriet Tubman**, leader of the Underground Railroad died?



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praise to God for giving us such bright lights in our dark history as a nation. I suppose that I have evolved as have so many of my generation.

Yet, today internalized racism still grips the psyche of so many African-Americans. Living conditions for African-Americans on many levels lag that of White Americans. While many Whites have evolved beyond their "burden" of internalized superiority, there are still many who consciously and subconsciously see themselves as the primary race for whom our nation's founders intended those inalienable rights of life,

liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Racism in America, from the beginning of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade in the 16th Century to today, did a number on all of us. While we have come a long way since slavery, Jim Crow, and legal apartheid in our country, we still have a long way to go.

For Catholic people of faith who uphold the dignity of every human person, what can this February focus on African-American History do for us? It can help us all appreciate the worthiness and giftedness of all people regardless of race, economic class, sex, and sexual orientation. It can also help us

appreciate that within those categories there are unique gifts that add to the richness of life in community. We are more when we are inclusive.

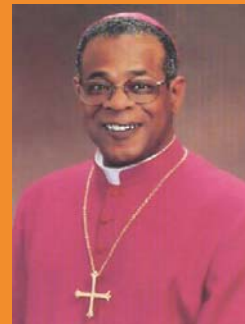
I take great pride in being African-American. That pride isn't to inflate my sense of self or to boast; rather it is to share with others what God has done despite our nation's ignoble history. African-Americans, especially during *Black History Month*, are a prophetic people who point us all toward God. And that's what we all celebrate.

Andrew Lyke is the Director of the Office for Black Catholics in the Archdiocese of Chicago

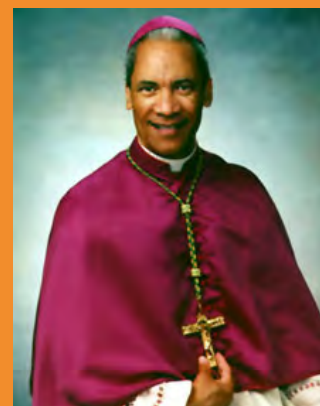
To hear an audio presentation on *Black History Month* by Andrew Lyke click [here](#) or go to <https://www.dropbox.com/s/2ugvzbz8hcnfy9kk/Black%20And%20Catholic%20And%20Prophetic.mp3>.

DID YOU KNOW...

...that in 1988 on March 2nd Gordon D. Bennett, SJ was ordained Auxiliary Bishop of Baltimore?



...that in 1997 on March 13th John H. Ricard, SSJ was installed Bishop of Pensacola-Tallahassee?



...that in 1995 on March 20th George V. Murry, SJ was ordained Auxiliary Bishop for the Archdiocese of Chicago?



Come celebrate
Harambee!

An evening of prayer and celebration for the Augustus Tolton Pastoral Ministry Program at Catholic Theological Union

A Leap of Faith

Featuring Joel Hall Dancers & Center, Youth and 2nd Companies

Saturday, March 2, 2013
5:30 p.m.

Catholic Theological Union
Academic and Conference Center
5416 South Cornell Avenue
Chicago, Illinois



Harambee! Reservation: \$60 per person
RSVP by Friday, February 22, 2013

Phone: 773.371.5411 or e-mail: rsvp@ctu.edu

To register, pay online, purchase raffle tickets, or make a donation, visit www.ctu.edu/harambee

The Augustus Tolton Pastoral Ministry Program at CTU, co-sponsored by the Archdiocese of Chicago, is the only program of its kind that offers Black Catholic lay women and men a full-tuition scholarship for a professional graduate theology degree.

For details, visit www.ctu.edu/toltonprogram.



6th Annual Inter-Parish Marriage Enrichment Conference
MARRIAGE ON A LAMPSTAND: 12 WAYS TO LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

About the Conference

Marriage on a Lampstand is a renewal experience for Christian married couples. Marriage is a visible sign of our invisible God. For modern marriages to thrive, couples have to engage in the mission of the Church.

Couples will learn 12 ways sacramental marriages let God's light shine through them. The Lykes will address topics such as, laughter, celebration, living in the now, knowing where the treasure is and making room for each other. Join us for an event that

will be a highlight for your marriage!

About the Speakers

Andrew and Terri Lyke, who married in 1975, have been leaders in Christian marriage preparation, education and enrichment since 1982. They have nationally presented keynote addresses, workshops, retreats and seminars on Marriage and Family issues. In September 2009 they were invited by the Pontifical Council for the Family to travel to Rome, Italy to consult in the planning

for an International Conference for the Family. The Lykes are a regular feature on American Catholic Radio's weekly segment "Marriage Moment."



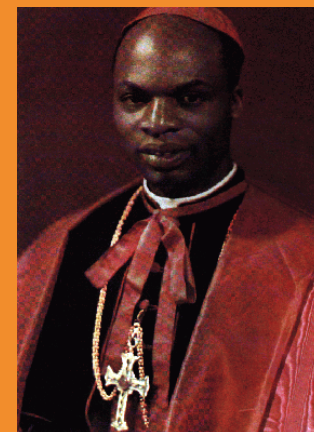
Wentz Hall, North Central College
471 E Chicago Avenue, Naperville
MARCH 9, 2013 - 8:30 - 12:30 (DOORS OPEN AT 8:00)
Tickets \$30 per couple
Includes light breakfast.

DID YOU KNOW...

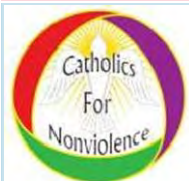
...that March 3rd is the Feast of **St. Katharine Drexel**, the foundress of the Sister of the Blessed Sacrament?



...that in 1960 on March 28th **Lauren Rugambwa** was named the first African Cardinal?



...that in 1990 on March 30th Black Catholic evangelist, scholar and Franciscan Sister of Perpetual Adoration **Thea Bowman** died?



Blessed are the Peacemakers
March 16, 2013 9:30am-4pm
Registration & Continental Breakfast at 8:30
Workshop starts at 9:30
Closing Prayer Service at 3:00

A Catholics for Nonviolence Workshop, facilitated by Ken Butigan, professor of Peace & Justice Studies at DePaul University and leader of the Pace e Bene Nonviolence Service

Holy Family Church (Damen hall)
1080 W. Roosevelt Rd., Chicago IL

Explore the importance of gospel nonviolence in Jesus' life and learn tools to introduce change through nonviolence in our parishes and communities.

For more information visit www.c4n.archchicago.org/en-us/blessedarethepeacemakers.aspx

Seton Star Awards
March 15, 2013
6:00 PM

16100 Seton Drive, South Holland, IL 60473
 Annual Gala Fundraiser for Seton Academy
 For more information call (708) 333-6300



Arusi

Marriage on a Lampstand
An Overnight Transformation Retreat for Christian Couples
April 26-27, 2013
Hilton Garden Inn
Tinley Park, Illinois

Space is very limited. So, register on-line or go to <http://fs7.formsite.com/arusi/form126213550/>. Or call (312) 534-8377 to register by phone.

\$75 per couple

Price Includes:

- comfortable overnight accommodations,
- light dinner on Friday evening,
- breakfast & lunch on Saturday,
- all materials

Sponsored by the Office for Black Catholics of the Archdiocese of Chicago through grants from the Lila & Violet Zaranti Foundation and Arusi Network, Inc.

Co-Sponsored by
Bishop Perry's Office
Office for Black Catholics
Augustus Tolton Ministry Program

Tolton Events 2013

Augustus Tolton Essay Contest "A Man for All People"

1st Place \$500 ~ 2nd Place \$300*
Deadline: April 8, 2013



A slave who escaped to freedom along the Underground Railroad, Fr. Augustus Tolton (1854-1897) was the first black priest to identify as a leader of African American Catholics and to address American racial prejudice. A leader of the First Black Catholic Congress in Washington, DC, he spent the majority of his life and ministry in Quincy, Illinois, and later, Chicago. In February 2011, the Archdiocese of Chicago began the cause for his canonization.

This essay contest asks DePaul undergraduates to address one or more of the following:

- (1) Investigating the historical contexts that shaped Tolton's challenges, perseverance & leadership, what do we learn about the complicated intersections between religion, racial prejudice, civil rights & benevolence?
- (2) What messages & insights do we uncover if we reflect on Tolton's determination & devotion, as well as the compassion & faith of those who supported & inspired him?
- (3) Fr. Tolton's story is just one example of the unsung, unwritten & unknown history of Black Catholics. You are welcome to submit any essay on the story & witness of African American Catholicism that speaks to the courage & faith embodied in the person of Fr. Tolton.

For more information on Fr. Tolton's life and the contest rules:
<http://las.depaul.edu/CWCIT/StudentResources/Undergraduate>

*Winners will present their essays on **May 2** in a special awards ceremony with Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago Joseph N. Perry. Additionally, the 1st place essay will be published in the next edition of *Creating Knowledge*.

CHICAGO PILGRIMAGE

Visit the ministerial sites important to the life of Fr. Augustus Tolton.

MAY 11, 2013

9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

QUINCY, IL & BRUSH CREEK MISSOURI PILGRIMAGE

Pray at the birthplace and burial site of Fr. Augustus Tolton. Journey in the footsteps of his family from slavery to freedom.

SEPTEMBER 20—21, 2013

Cost: TBA

THE GALA

Fundraiser to support the canonization cause of Servant of God Fr. Augustus Tolton

OCTOBER 21, 2013

Time/Cost: TBA





ARCHBISHOP JAMES PATTERSON LYKE CONFERENCE

2013 LYKE CONFERENCE

Save the Date!
www.lykeconference.com

June 19—23, 2013

Holiday Inn Hotel & Tinley Park Convention Center
 18451 Convention Center Drive
 Tinley Park, IL 60477

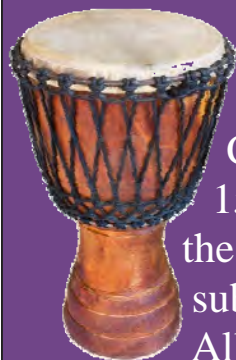
ABOUT THE LYKE CONFERENCE

The Lyke Conference is a Roman Catholic liturgical conference with a focus to enhance worship through enculturation and education in an environment that is richly African-American and authentically Catholic. The Conference Goals are:

- To provide a culturally rich atmosphere encompassing music, art, ritual and other activities and experiences that will inspire and enable participants to enrich worship services in their own parishes
- To provide participants with spiritual uplifting and unifying knowledge that can be shared with their parish communities and families
- To facilitate an ongoing dialogue involving the African-American community and the Catholic Church
- To grace the prayer life of God's people through the development of liturgical resources that are rooted in the Black experience and truly Catholic
- To teach, train, and form liturgical ministers
- To develop and inspire our youth spiritually and culturally to recognize and share their giftedness and to share their time and talent in fostering Christian Values
- To promote and develop lay ministerial leadership as well as vocations to the priesthood and religious life in the African-American community
- To evangelize within the African-American community and other communities

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

Editor, layout design, 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.

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