

Volume 002 Issue 09

The Drum

The beat of Black Catholic Chicago

September 2014



Mass at Sunrise Praying for nonviolence

Priests, deacons and faithful from across the Archdiocese join Bishop Joseph N. Perry for special Mass at sunrise on Saturday, August 30th. Sponsored by the Black Catholic Deacons in cooperation with the Office for black Catholics, this was the fourth year for this annual event. See a video of the Mass on the OBC Website: www.BlackCatholicChicago.org. See photos on pages 4-5.

Prayer Service with Cardinal George and the Catholic Communities of the African Diaspora

On Friday, August 8, 2014 more that 300 gathered in the chapel at St. Rita High School to pray with Cardinal Francis George. Most significant about this event was that it brought together Catholics from African Diaspora, something that hasn't happened before in this Archdiocese. To hear the homily by Fr. David Jones, and the remarks by Cardinal George go to <http://obc-chicago.org/2014/08/12/prayer-service-with-cardinal-george-and-the-catholic-communities-of-the-african-diaspora/>. To view a video of the service go to www.blackcatholicchicago.org. Below is the text from the welcome address that was presented by Andrew Lyke, the Director of the Office for Black Catholics.

Welcome Address by Andrew Lyke

Your Eminence, Cardinal George; your Excellency, Bishop Perry, Father Jones, members of the Catholic Communities of the African Diaspora; and all you people of God who are part of this glorious assembly:

We come together to give praise and thanks to our God and to show our appreciation for our shepherd, Francis Cardinal George, OMI, for his leadership and pastoral care over the past 17 years.

Cardinal George, it was in 1997, very shortly after arriving in Chicago as our new archbishop when you spoke at DePaul University, the first speaker in a series by the Catholic Studies Department. I was part of the University Ministry staff and one of the responders to your lecture. Honestly, I don't remember the topic of the series or your presentation. I do remember the question I asked you and your response. My question was, "With Chicago's history of racial tensions, even in the Church, what will you do to help bring healing in this racially torn community?" This was in the wake of the Lenard Clark beating, which had spurred a strong, proactive response from the Archdiocese.

Good work had begun toward racial healing and there was concern, at least on my part, about whether the new archbishop would support and continue what had begun. Your response to my question was a sharp turn from the academic discourse of your lecture to a pastoral, passionate and personal response. You shared stories from

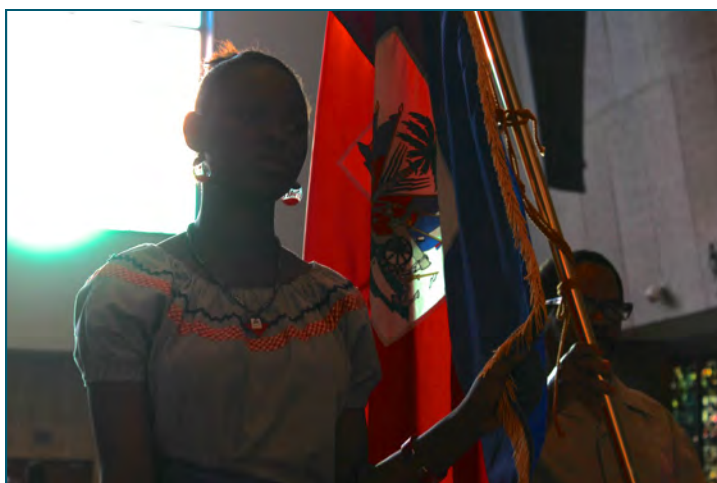


your own life, stories that would be part of your ground-breaking pastoral letter on racism "Dwell In My Love", which was foundational to the strategic anti-racism work of the Archdiocese that you would initiate. While there is still much more to do in that work, your leadership has greatly advanced anti-racism as part of the mission of the Church.

Under your pastoral care the Augustus Tolton Pastoral Ministry Program at Catholic Theological Union, which provide financial support, ministerial formation, and scholarship for Black Catholics, has flourished. In 2011 you set forth the Cause for Sainthood of Fr. August Tolton, one whose life is

an important chapter in the story of Africans in America, particularly those who are Catholic of Chicago. The Cause lifts up the life this holy man, Fr. Tolton, for the world to appreciate. We Black Catholics feel lifted as well.

Thank you, Cardinal George, for your commit-



(Continued on page 3)



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ment to all these initiatives and more, and for your steadfast support of the Black Catholic community of the Archdiocese, the Office for Black Catholics, the Black Catholic Deacons, the important work of anti-racism through the Office for Racial Justice and the Anti-Racism Taskforce.

Assembled here this evening are members of the Catholic communities of the African Diaspora, people of African ancestry, whether from the Caribbean, the Continent of Africa, or the progeny of African slaves in America. We claim our common ancestry as one reason to seek communion with each other. Our common Catholic Faith is the means by which we find communion. Our love for Christ, which compels us to glorify him in the Church, and our gratitude for your leadership, Cardinal George, are our reasons for coming together this evening. Our purpose is to bless you and

be blessed by you, to pray with you and pray for you, to thank you for your service to the Church, and celebrate your priesthood in Christ.

So, let us begin!



BACK TO SCHOOL SUNRISE PRAYER SERVICE AND MASS AT CHICAGO LAKEFRONT ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 30

The Black Catholic Deacons of the Archdiocese of Chicago hosted the fifth annual Back to School Sunrise Prayer Service and Mass .

- Expression of U praise dancers add to the worship experience (3rd row left).
- Stephanie Brown, mother of Darius Brown, Holy Angels eighth-grader murdered in 2011, inspires the assembly with a message of hope (bottom left).





- Adrian Dominican Sister Jamie T. Phelps, O.P. Ph.D. was among the throng of worshipers (top left).
- Frs. Larry Duris (St. Aible) and Bob Miller (St. Dorothy) were among the pastors concelebrating (row 2 left).
- Bishop Joseph N. Perry was the main celebrant (row 3 left).
- Fr. Andrew C. Smith (Holy Angels) gives a rousing homily (row 3 right).
- Deacon LeRoy Gill (St. Dorothy) was the principal coordinator of the event (bottom row).



The Deacon Speakin'

We Don't Have Time *Not* To

Deacon Bruce McElrath

Things we ought to do, but we don't take the time to do: Balance our checkbook. Change our car's oil and filter. Get a physical examination. Pray.

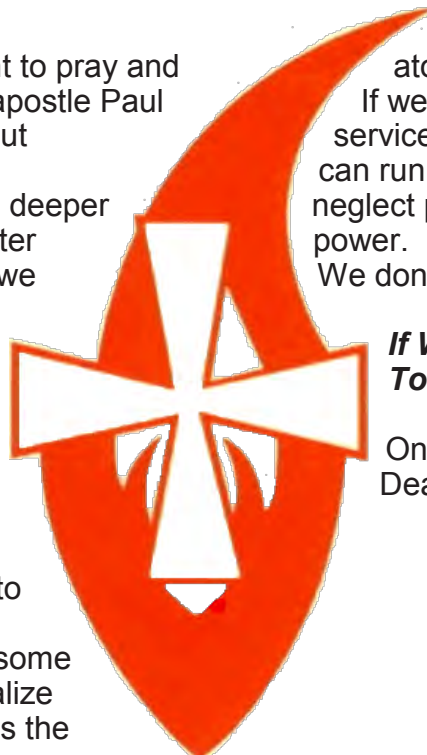


That's right, pray!

Jesus said that we "always ought to pray and not lose heart" (Lk. 18:1). And the apostle Paul encouraged believers to "pray without ceasing" (1Th. 5:17).

We know that our lives would be deeper and fuller, and that we would be better prepared to face life's challenges if we would talk to God. But so often we do not take the time, and as a result we feel spiritually dry and weak.

In his book *Prayer: A Holy Occupation*, Oswald Chambers wrote, "We can hinder the time that should be spent with God by remembering we have other things to do. 'I haven't time.' Of course you have not time! Take time, strangle some other interests and make time to realize that the center of power in your life is the



Lord Jesus Christ and His atonement."

If we fail to balance our checkbook, service our car, or get a physical exam, we can run into serious problems. But if we neglect prayer, we will lose our spiritual power.

We don't have time *not* to pray.

If We Are Too Busy To Pray, We Are Too Busy.

On The Battlefield!
Deacon Bruce



Semi-Retired? Retired? Eager to "give something back?"

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

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

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

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

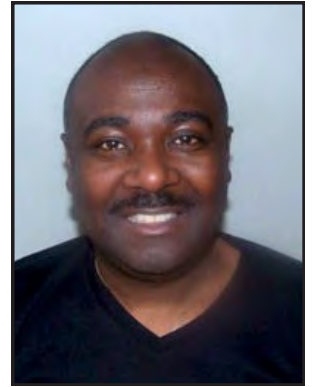
Detailed information is online at www.ivcusa.org/chicago. To inquire, please contact Jackie Fitzgerald at 312-961-6206 or jfitzgerald@ivcusa.org.

To see a video of our volunteers in action, click on https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=nxujTxN2qi4

Put your hands up . . . but keep your eyes on the prize

Dr. Keith Wilson

On a hot sunny day on a street in suburban St Louis, a common encounter with the police occurred resulting in the death of a young African-American man. Unfortunately as a society we have grown accustomed and immune to this event as it appears to occur with rhythmic regularity. Sometimes when we look at the local news and see ANOTHER black man choked



in New York or and elderly grandmother beaten on the side of the highway in California, we almost only can respond with who next? Even college professors are not immune as was the case with the African-American professor during her unfortunate encounter on the campus of Arizona State University where she also taught.

None of us can answer the question unequivocally whether excessive force was involved as we were not present at any of these occurrences. What I can attest to as an African-American man is that a very early age I was taught to have a certain demeanor and response during encounters with law enforcement. I never will forget my father the former Marine being very quiet with minimal eye contact during a traffic stop when I was a youth traveling with him.

He kept his eyes fixed forward with his hands on the steering wheel after making it was very clear that it was his wallet that he was reaching for as he was looking for his license and registration. The song that was jamming on WJPC was long since turned off and I was implored to be quiet. I will always remember thinking "What is wrong with my dad?" until he gave me the "talk" right before I received my driver's license. Don't drive through Cicero or Bridgeport after dark because the police will stop you. If the police are following you . . . Don't look back . . . Don't run . . . Don't get smart . . . "Yes sir" or "No sir" . . . no sudden moves, etc. If you get a ticket . . . don't act mad. The only time as a man, I was instructed not to make eye contact was with police officers, especially young white male officers in the south.

I will never ever be comfortable saying that all police shootings are justifiable, but I will go on the record and state that as long as most instances where African Americans encounter law enforcement with white officers in particular fairly or not, WE have to turn off what WE all know are our basic instincts. I know "I did not run that light, stop sign etc." and want to immediately jump out of the car and get in the officer's face. But as a 6'2" 235

pound African-American man, that can't happen. I just can't raise my voice or move suddenly, because many whites still fear and resent black people. I drive through our neighborhoods all the time where the sidewalk appears to be optional for many of our youth. Many of us have to wait for the double-dutch ropes or bouncing ball to be moved often because there is no local park. How many of us WANT to blow our horns but don't out of fear?

Again, I am not in Law Enforcement. But as a brother to a Chicago police officer and a friend to many that are in Law Enforcement, all I hear is "I want to go home to my family" Are there racist, brutal cops? Absolutely! Are there kids that under normal circumstances walking down the street scare the hell out of the average person including most of us? The answer is yes. I never want to be a police officer and quite frankly am annoyed at the dance that I know I often HAVE to perform when on a traffic stop. As recently as February I was rear ended and called the police. During the encounter I was asked to raise my shirt in front of two white officers in Tinley Park in 10 degree frigid, weather to prove that I DID NOT have tattoos. Allegedly there was a person who had an arrest warrant with the same name. I was mad as hell, but pulled up that shirt though I was a dentist in the very community so I could go home!

For the record, police officers are taught to shoot one way. The technique is to shoot into the center of mass in the torso of your body where all the important life sustaining organs reside. Shooting in the leg or arm is television fantasy! If you encounter the police and they draw their weapon and shoot and YOU DO NOT die or are disabled, that was a bad shooting. Virtually anything a sworn officer asks you to do is a lawful order that MUST be complied with. Are some officers bad? Certainly, but that is the minority. I am not here to defend officers, but they deal with very bad things and have to make split decisions in an instant. There is a case right now of an African-American police of-

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)

ficer and commander in Chicago who allegedly placed his service revolver in the mouth of an assailant. WE were not there and don't know what happened, but both involved were African - American and a questionable situation ensued.

EVERY story has many sides to it. In Ferguson, Missouri during the last election on 6 percent of blacks voted in the last election. The town is 67 percent black and 33 percent white. The mayor, the sheriff and most of the local school board and city council are almost all white. The police force out of 58 officers only has 3 black officers with only one being a male. Nothing in life happens in a vacuum. Suppose if that community had participated more fully in the electoral process and used its majority to elect a more representative government. The elected mayor (who could easily be a person of color under that voting demographic) and council could influence the election and/or appointment of the police chief. Perhaps more officers who looked

like Mike Brown such as Missouri State Trooper Ron Johnson, who was a Ferguson native the situation may have had a different outcome.

Again, no one will probably ever know what happened between Mike Brown and that officer that fateful summer day. But imagine if African Americans in that community had exercised their "PRIZE," that is the vote, so that perhaps could had at least one person on that fateful day that could see from the vantage point of similar "EYES" what the situation transpiring really was. WE still need to be willing to put our hands up when the time comes, but also not be hands off in the meantime.

Dr. Keith Wilson is a dentist with a practice in Frankfort, Illinois, a lay leader at Holy Angels Church in Chicago, and a regular contributor to The Drum.

Visit the OBC Website!

Go to **www.BlackCatholicChicago.org**.

While you're there subscribe to the OBC Podcast to catch every edition of *God's Praises Tell: The Voice of Black Catholic Chicago*, the weekly radio program that showcases people, events, and issues important to Black Catholics. The show is hosted by Andrew Lyke, Director of the Office for Black Catholics.



St. Felicitas Taste 2014

Let's connect with family, friends and community.

St. Felicitas has a special treat for you

Sunday, September 28th
from noon to 4:00 p.m.

Fun for ALL!

Music . . . Singing . . . Prizes

School Hall
1500 E. 83rd Pl.
Chicago, Illinois
Fr. Greg Rom, Pastor



The right response is Catholic.

Willie Cobb

The problem in today's society is that secularism and nihilism is taking over the world. Society has removed prayer from our schools and, just as bad as this, society is no longer teaching morals. The current discussion in the media is over why so much violence is happening. When we live in a society where anything is ok, then we live in a society where violence can occur on a regular basis. Every time another

tragedy happens within the United States, every time a child is injured, every time a person is murdered, someone suggests that if only men were more involved with their children these things simply would not occur.

These conversations drive me out my mind because they make it seem as though there is a magical man who is going to come along and solve the problem; there's a magical man out there who if only he just spent more time with his son, with his neighbors' kids, with some organization where he volunteered, then this type of violence that injures communities and kills nine-year-old boys simply would not occur.

There is no magical man out there; there is no magical person who's going to come along, raise his arms and wave his hands and make it all okay. There are much more practical ways in which we can help solve the current crisis and epidemic of young people being murdered. In my last article I gave some suggestions on how to deal with the problems we're having in the world today. I have more suggestions about how we as Catholic Christians should respond to individuals who seek to do us harm.

The answer is quite clear. We need a return to our Catholic Christian values. We are not the people of revenge, we are not a people of violence, and we are not a people of an eye for an eye. We are people of forgiveness, a people of kindness, a people of love, and a people of second chances. How do we respond properly to the constant violence that our community faces? We respond quite like Christ did: with love. We respond like Dr. King did: with peace. We respond like Mother Teresa did: with hard work.

Our responses to violence, whether it's violence from gang members, police officers, or racial groups, our response has to be different than others. Our response has to be out of our Catholic Christian values. Healing this world will happen through our Catholic Christian values. The first place to start is with prayer. We must pray con-

stantly; we must pray always. This is our first and our last place to go. But there are other things to do after we begin our prayer. We need to respond with Catholic Christian values and the first of those values are the corporal works of mercy. It is our job to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, house the homeless, visit the sick, visit the prisoners, and bury the dead. This is how we respond; by loving them like Christ did. It is our job to respond with the spiritual works of mercy: to instruct the ignorant; to counsel the doubtful; to admonish sinners; to bear wrongs patiently; to forgive offences willingly; to comfort the afflicted; and, to pray for the living and the dead. Practicing these things can save the world.

Corpus Christi Visionary for Catholic Practice

Workshop and Reflection on

"THE POWER OF PRAYER"



Saturday, September 6, 2014
2:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Corpus Christi Social Hall
4910 S. King Drive
Chicago, IL. 60615

Parish Office: (773) 285 - 7720
Pastor: Rev. Anthony Ita Bassey, MSP

Guest Speaker

WILLIE COBB

Sponsored by
Corpus Christi Catholic Church



CONNIE'S CORNER

Does God Need a Hearing Aid?

By Connie Reden

During these economic times everyone is feeling the impact of being in a financial desert. Those who have jobs are praying that there will be no layoffs. Those who are already unemployed are praying for a job. Those facing foreclosure are praying God will make a way. We are all praying for something or other and it may seem God is not hearing our prayer.

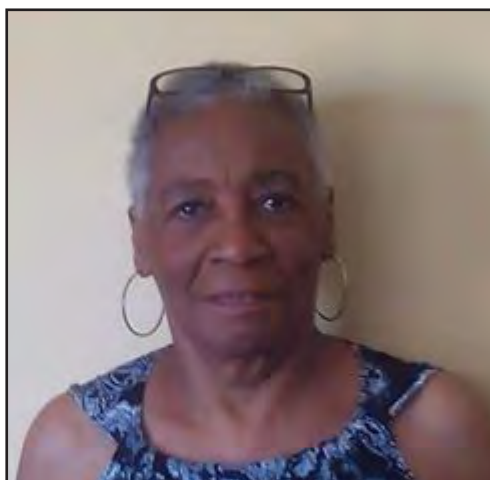
Senior citizens are anxious about their Social Security and Medicare benefits being cut by a dysfunctional United States Congress. Everyone in the world is praying for something or someone and we think God has not heard our prayers. We are so distraught by seemingly unanswered prayers we wonder if God hears us.

This is the time we begin to doubt ourselves and begin to think we are unworthy of His goodness. We begin to be skeptics. Does He hear my prayers? Has He forgotten me? Our prayers become vocally loud as if God can't hear. We become scared, frustrated, and uncertain of His ability to answer our prayers.

Because our God is an awesome God. His need for a hearing aid is nonexistent. He hears all of us at the same time begging and crying for His help. Yet as we pray, have we admitted we are sinners and ask His forgiveness? Do we pray without thanking Him for what He has given us in the past and present? When things are going well we forget to praise His name. When things are bad we fail to hear His voice for guidance because we are so self-centered.

God speaks in high frequency through the Holy Spirit. We seldom sit in a quiet place without the cell phone or television. We want all the comforts of this material world while we pray. We're the ones who need a hearing aid. We have the "pity party" alone without hearing His voice. We don't have time to read His word and remember His promise to us. He promised never to leave us and always provide for us. God loved us so much His Son was sacrificed for us so we could make good

choices that lead to eternal life. We seldom wake up with the words, "Thank You, Jesus". Chapter 3 and 4 of Hebrews can be summarized with this phrase, "Today if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts" Our panic of today will be the panic of tomorrow and tomorrow brings on the same panic with new panics. Find the quiet place and listen for His voice. Let's not harden our hearts. Many of us have done this for so long we can't discern when He is speaking. Do this daily and our hearing aids will begin to operate at full capacity. Sometimes His voice is soft and mellow and sometimes it is blaring. The low or high frequency of His voice will depend on us. The Holy Spirit will intervene with a radio volume fit for each of us and what's so wonderful is we don't need earphones.



Connie Redden

*In the Name of the Father who loves us,
the Son who lives within us, and the Holy
Spirit who empowers us.*

Constance "Connie" Reden is a parishioner at Holy Name of Mary Church and a regular contributor to The Drum. Connie's new book *Inspirations* from Connie's Corner is on Amazon, Barnes and Noble, and Author House websites available for purchase.

Governor's Education Forum to make sense of the chaos

Trey Cobb

Education is one of the most important decisions a parent makes for their child. Navigating all of the options in Chicago can feel chaotic. Many traditional public schools have been closed. Remaining traditional public schools are near or far; some offer STEM, military, and alternative curriculums, while others are difficult to gain entry due to selective enrollment. More than a hun-

dred public charter schools offer hope, but have hundreds of children on their waiting lists. Private schools offer a whole new set of options, although for most, these high quality options can be financially out of reach. All of those options don't even include home schooling, emerging education technology, and online learning services.

Through public policy, elected officials have control over what educational options parents have. Policy changes affect the number and quality of charter public schools, the freedom of traditional public schools to personalize learning, and the financial support parents receive from the public to attend private schools.

Pat Quinn and Bruce Rauner will face off in the November gubernatorial election, and education is guaranteed to be a contentious issue. It's important that parents understand the education agendas of both candidates, because this election's outcome will help shape the future of Illinois' education system.

On October 5, Bruce Rauner will speak at the "GOVERNOR'S EDUCATION FORUM", co-sponsored by 32 education focused non-profits (www.choice4kids.org). The "GOVERNOR'S EDUCATION FORUM" will bring together national black leaders to discuss Mr. Rauner's policies and how they affect the black community. On October 3, Pat Quinn has been invited to join national education leaders at "NUESTRO DESTINO", an event dedicated to discussing issues in education relating to the Hispanic community. "NUESTRO DESTINO" is open to the public, and all readers are encouraged to attend (at the time of this publication the coalition was still awaiting Quinn's expected confirmation into the event).

Both events are coalition-led and executed by Ed Choice Illinois (ECI), a not-for-profit public charity dedicated to advancing quality education options for students.

The black community has a unique opportunity to hear from Illinois' next potential governor. Too

often our voices are ignored and our votes are taken for granted.

These forums will help black parents equip themselves to cast a vote in November for whichever candidate will fight harder to guarantee quality options for our kids.

With hundreds of education options, and policy issues that affect our ability to access them, we must be informed on the positions of candidates. Find out where each candidate stands on education, and how his administration would affect our community. RSVP today for the "GOVERNOR'S EDUCATION FORUM" with Bruce Rauner by emailing community@choice4kids.org (and check choice4kids.org for details on "NUESTRO DESTINO").

Every child has the RIGHT to a high quality education.



Trey Cobb is senior at DePaul University and Ed Choice Illinois Youth Director. Trey was a guest on "God's Praises Tell: The Voice of Black Catholic Chicago on April 29th. To listen to that show go to <http://files.archchicago.org/podcastfiles/podcastgodspraisestell/20140429GODSPRAISES.mp3>.



Ed Choice Illinois
choice4kids.org

a **CLUB**  event

GOVERNOR'S EDUCATION FORUM

OCTOBER
5
4:30 PM

DOWNTOWN CHICAGO LOCATION
TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON



BRUCE RAUNER
ILLINOIS CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR



Kevin Chavous
American Federation for Children



Derrell Bradford
NYCAN



Nakisha Hobbs
Village Leadership Academy



Trey Cobb
ECI

RSVP TODAY

community@choice4kids.org

GOV. PAT QUINN

We've also invited gubernatorial candidate, Pat Quinn, to attend our other event on **October 3rd** (check choice4kids.org for confirmation and more details).



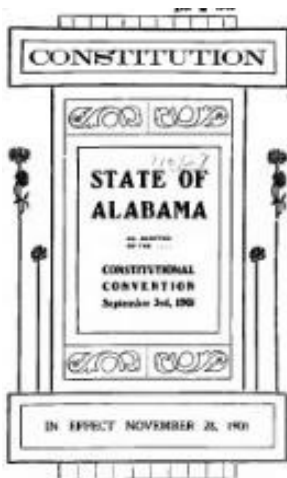
PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS (IN DEVELOPMENT)



DID YOU KNOW...



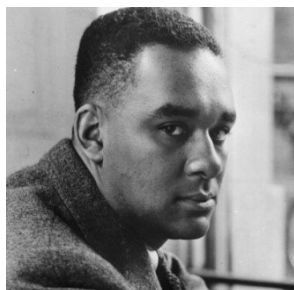
... that on September 2, 1993 Bishop Carl Fisher, SSJ, Auxiliary Bishop of Los Angeles, CA, died at the age of 48 in his home in Lakewood, CA? In a letter he wrote to his Church colleagues in August that year, Bishop Fisher stated, "I know that almighty God is a God of mystery, but after two years of struggle and suffering the time has come when our blessed Lord is calling me to an eternal reward in Heaven."



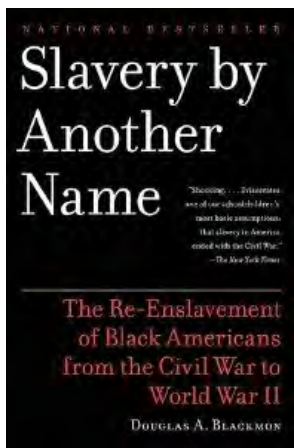
... that on September 3, 1901 Alabama adopted a new state constitution that outlaws interracial marriage and mandates racially segregated schools?



... that on September 3, 1838 abolitionist Frederick Douglass escaped from slavery?



... that on September 4, 1908 novelist Richard Wright was born in Roxie, Mississippi?



... that on September 6, 2010 Alabama prison officials ban all prisoners from reading Douglas A. Blackmon's *Slavery by Another Name*? This literary work is a Pulitzer Prize-winning history of re-enslavement of African Americans in the 19th Century. Did you also know that the ban is still in effect?



... that on September 9, 1968 tennis star Arthur became the first African American to win the U.S. Open?



... that on September 12, 1992 astronaut Dr. Mae Jemison became the first African-American woman in space?



... that on September 10, 1947 John R. Lynch was born? Lynch was an American politician, attorney, writer and military officer, who was elected as the first African-American Speaker of the Mississippi House of Representatives in 1873. He was among the first generation of African Americans elected to the U.S House of Representatives during Reconstruction, the period in United States history after the Civil War.

In his 50s he studied law and was admitted to the Mississippi bar in 1896, but he returned to Washington, DC to practice law, and later moved to Chicago, Illinois, where he lived for more than two decades. He served in the United States Army during the Spanish American War and for a decade in the early 1900s, achieving the rank of major. He was active in law and real estate in Chicago after his military service.

... that on September 12, 1974 Eugene Marino (May 29, 1934 – November 12, 2000) was ordained Catholic Bishop of Washington, DC? Marino served as Archbishop of Atlanta, Georgia from 1988 until 1990, becoming the first African American archbishop in United States of America. He was of both African American and Puerto Rican descent.



He was also the fourth African American to become auxiliary bishop for Washington, D.C. and the first to be secretary of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. As archbishop of Atlanta, he tackled the conduct of other priests until his resignation after his affair with a lay-minister became public knowledge.



... that on September 29, 1948 journalist and TV personality Bryant Gumbel was born in New Orleans, Louisiana. Did you also know that Gumbel and his brother Greg grew up on Chicago's Southside and graduated from De La Salle Institute?

DID YOU KNOW...



CYNTHIA WESLEY



ADDIE MAE COLLINS



DENISE MCNAIR



CAROL ROBERTSON

... that on September 15, 1963 four little girls were killed in the bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, AL by White supremacists? Their names: Denise McNair, Carole Robertson, Cynthia Wesley, and Addie Mae Collins.



... that on September 19, 1881 Tuskegee Institute in Tuskegee, Alabama holds its first classes with 30 Black students and one teacher: Booker T. Washington?



... that on September 16, 1925 legendary blues guitarist and singer B.B. King was born in Itta Bena, Mississippi?



... that on September 23, 1926 jazz composer and master saxophonist John Coltrane was born in Hamlet, North Carolina?



... that on September 24, 1957 nine Black students, under the protection of the National Guard, integrated Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas?



... that on September 27, 1912 blues composer W.C. Handy, widely known as the "Father of the Blues," published *Memphis Blues*?



... that on September 30, 1935 pop crooner Johnny Mathis was born in Gilmer, Texas?



for the Healthy Marriage Initiative. Also on campus is the historic Emancipation Oak. In 1863, the Virginia Peninsula's black community gathered under the oak to hear the first Southern reading of President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, leading to its nickname as the Emancipation Oak. In 2009 the NCAAMP hosted a national summit on marriage. It was under the Emancipation Oak where the Hampton Proclamation on Marriage was signed by national leaders in marriage and family. Among the signatories were Andrew & Terri Lyke, national Black Catholic pioneers in marriage ministry.

DID YOU KNOW...



... that on September 5, 1877 Benjamin "Pap" Singleton (1809–1900) founded Singleton's Colony in Kansas. Singleton was an American activist and businessman best known for his role in establishing African-American settlements in Kansas. A former slave from Tennessee who escaped to freedom in 1846, he became a noted abolitionist, community leader, and spokesman for African-American civil rights. He returned to Tennessee during the Union occupation in 1862, but soon concluded that blacks would never achieve economic equality in the white-dominated South. After the end of Reconstruction, Singleton organized the movement of thousands of black colonists, known as Exodusters, to found settlements in Kansas. A prominent voice for early black nationalism, he became involved in promoting and coordinating black-owned businesses in Kansas and developed an interest in the Back-to-Africa movement.

... that on September 8, 1957 Althea Gibson (August 25, 1927 – September 28, 2003) became the first Black athlete to win the U.S. National Tennis Championship? Gibson was also a professional golfer, and the first African-American athlete of either sex to cross the color line of international tennis. In 1956 she became the first person of color to win a Grand Slam title (the French Open). The following year she won both Wimbledon and the U.S. Nationals (precursor of the U.S. Open), then won both again in 1958, and was voted Female Athlete of the Year by the Associated Press in both years. In all she won 11 Grand Slam tournaments, including six doubles titles, and was inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame and the International Women's Sports Hall of Fame. At a time when racism and prejudice were widespread in sports and in society, Gibson was often compared to Jackie Robinson.



... that on September 20, 2007 up to 15,000 people in Jena, Louisiana protested the attempted murder prosecution of six Black teens for fighting with White students who hung a noose from a tree on their high school campus?



... that on September 21, 1989 General Colin Powell was confirmed Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the highest ranking position in the U.S. Military?

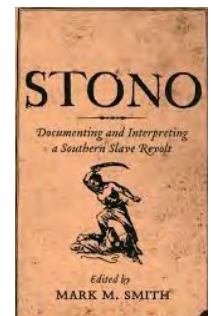


... that on September 8, 1982 Emerson John Moore was first African American to be ordained Catholic Bishop of New York? Moore suffered from a substance abuse problem for several years, and was addicted to alcohol and cocaine. He would disappear periodically from his public ministry to seek treatment, often missing events and suffering from financial difficulties. He also suffered from acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS); however, it is unknown how he contracted the disease.

In early 1994, Moore entered the Hazelden Foundation, a drug and alcohol treatment center in Center City, Minnesota, as a long-term patient. He later died there due to complications with AIDS, at age 57. The Archdiocese of New York, in an official announcement following his death, said Moore had died of "natural causes of unknown origin." Cardinal O'Connor said he could not discuss the circumstances of Moore's death but he would not be ashamed if one of his priests or bishops had AIDS.

At his funeral at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Cardinal O'Connor spoke of the hardships that Moore face as an African American bishop in the Catholic Church, saying, "It is not enough that a black bishop be ordinarily intelligent. He is expected to be extraordinarily intelligent. It is not enough for him to preach adequately; he must preach brilliantly. It is not enough for him to be polite; he must be the essence of courtesy. If he speaks with pride of being black, he's racist; if he supports civil rights, he's a threat. If he praises white people, he's an Uncle Tom. He is expected to be a paragon of priestliness, yet be more human than the weakest among us. In short, if he cannot walk on water, he's an utter failure; if he walks on water too easily, he has forgotten his 'place'."

... that on September 9, 1739 enslaved Africans carried out the Stono Rebellion (sometimes called the Cato Conspiracy and Cato's Rebellion), the largest slave revolt in colonial America? All 50 participants were killed or imprisoned.



... that on September 21, 2011 Troy Davis was executed in Georgia despite recanted witness statements and a global campaign for commutation due to innocence?



... that on September 22, 1950 Ralph Bunche won the Nobel Prize for Peace for his work as a mediator in Palestine?

Accompany Bishop Joseph N. Perry on a pilgrimage to the boyhood hometown of Fr. Augustus Tolton. Trace the historical path on which Fr. Tolton journeyed from slave to priest.

September 26 – September 27, 2014

Sponsored by:

The Office of Bishop Joseph N. Perry
The Office for Black Catholics
The Augustus Tolton Pastoral Ministry

This pilgrimage will take you to many places of interest in Illinois and Missouri.

Relax and enjoy the ride on a comfortable air-conditioned coach bus.

Overnight hotel accommodations by Quincy Inn &
Suites \$67.26 (incl. tax)

Call (217) 228-8808 to book your room.

30 Spaces Available!

Package includes:

Bus transportation, continental breakfast, and lunch
(Dinner on your own)

Total Package Price: \$99.00 (not including lodging)

Registration Deadline: September 8, 2014

Please pay by check or money order payable to Catholic Bishop of Chicago. Mail your registration payment to:

The Archdiocese of Chicago
Office for Black Catholics
3525 S. Lake Park Ave.
Chicago, IL 60653
Attn: Andrew Lyke

For more information, please call The Office for Black Catholics at 312-534-8376
For more information on Fr. Augustus Tolton, please visit the O.B.C. website at www.blackcatholicchicago.org

The Archdiocese of Chicago requests
the honor of your presence at the
Gala Benefit Fundraiser
for the
Cause for Sainthood
of
Father Augustus Tolton

Sunday, October 5, 2014

(Reception & Silent Auction 1.00pm)
[Luncheon Program 2.30pm]

Admittance by pre-paid Ticket Only
\$100

The Union League Club
65 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois

Sponsored by:
The Father Tolton Guild
Office for Vicariate 6 Bishop Joseph N. Perry
The Office for Black Catholics

Call/Write for Tickets: Vicariate 6 Office 708-339-2474
PO Box 733 South Holland, Illinois 60473
www.toltoncanonization.org
www.blackcatholicchicago.org

Registration Form

EVANGELIZATION IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY

Sister Jamie T. Phelps, O.P., Ph.D.

Saturday September 6, 2014 • 9:00 am 3:00 pm.

Assembly Hall Catholic Center

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Diocese/Archdiocese: _____

Parish: _____

Position: _____

Phone (Office): _____

Phone (Home): _____ Cell: _____

E-mail: _____

Workshop Fee: \$25.00 per person

Registration Fee includes session, materials, lunch, and refreshments

Make checks payable to Archdiocese of Indianapolis and mail to:

Sr. Jannette Pruitt, OSF

1400 N. Meridian

Indianapolis, IN 56202

Please include payment with registration and mail them by Sept. 1

For questions and more information:

Sr. Jannette Pruitt, OSF, Black Catholic Ministry Coordinator.

jpruitt@archindy.org • 317-236-1474

Br. Moises Gutierrez, OFM, Director Intercultural Ministry Office.

mgutierrez@archindy.org • 317-236-1562

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE HOLY NAME CATHEDRAL PARISH

LIVE WELL FAIR

Sunday, September 7, 2014 8 AM - 2 PM



FOR ADULTS & CHILDREN

20 Minute Health Screenings



LIVE SMARTER

Receive Vital Information From:

- American Cancer Society,
- Chiro One Wellness Centers
- Horizon Hospice & Palliative Care
- Lupus Foundation, pending
- Mercy Hospital
- Sickle Cell Disease Association of Illinois
- University of Chicago Hospitals
- Walgreens
- Warren Barr

HOLY NAME CATHEDRAL

PARISH CENTER

751 N. STATE STREET, CHICAGO, IL



LIVE BETTER

- Knowledgeable Presenters
- Helpful Consultation
- Flu Shots Available



LIVE HEALTHIER

- Blood pressure screenings
- Flu shots
- Diabetes screenings
- Spinal screenings
- Vaccinations for adults and children (a great opportunity for kids to get their required vaccinations)
- Information on rehabilitation and hospice care.



LIVE WISER

Learn About Prevention,
Early Detection and
Healthy Lifestyles

PRESENTED BY



BLACK CATHOLIC PARISHIONERS

PART-TIME JOB OPENING

OUR CHILDREN ARE CALLING!!!

The Jim Fisher Development Center at St. Anselm Parish (6045 So. Michigan Av) has been answering the call of our neighborhood children for the past 19 years. It is an Arts and Cultural Development Program for children ages 5 to 14.

We provide a physical and emotionally safe environment.

We strive to awaken the creative talent within all children of all abilities.

We affirm their achievements, assist with school homework.

We encourage and guide their growth.

We now need help

We need an Interim Executive Director

Join us...

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



Position Open: Interim Executive Director (Starting September 2, 2014)

Requirements: College degree with minimum 3 years experience working with a children's program (teaching or administration or related).

Job Description: Included with this announcement

To apply.... send resume by August 22, 2014 to: jimfisherinfo@gmail.com

Interviews for position will be held until position is filled.

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

God's Praises Tell

The Voice Of Black Catholic Chicago



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

Subscribe to the OBC Podcast and catch each show to listen at your leisure.
Go to www.BlackCatholicChicago.org.

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.

Robin Watson Combo

@

Pete Miller's-Evanston
Fri & Sat, Sept 19 & 20
8 pm -Midnight



Pete Miller's-Evanston

1557 Sherman Avenue
Evanston, IL 60660

Fri & Sat, Sept 19 & 20
8:00 pm - Midnight
No Cover

Press Release

For more information contact Elaine Johnson

Now through September 9, 2014
708.333.3240, eljohnson8@juno.com

The parishioners of Ascension-St. Susanna Church extend an invitation to the residents of surrounding communities to attend an ecumenical prayer service for **first responders** (including police, firefighters and paramedics) **and the victims of violence**. The service will take place in the church which is located at 15234 Myrtle Avenue, Harvey, Illinois, starting at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 10th. Refreshments will be served starting at 6:00 p.m. in the parish center, located across the parking lot behind the church. The parking lot can be accessed from the driveway between Vine and Myrtle Avenues off 153rd Street.

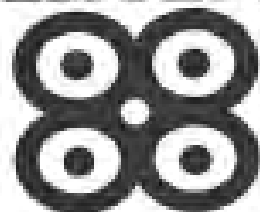
MAWUSI on the move...

Mawusi, in Ewe, a language from Ghana and Togo, means "in the hand of God."

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

TELLING OUR
STORY WITH
ARTFUL VOICES

LISTEN



MATES
MASIE

"We're / From / Always / Unbroken"



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



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

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

For more information on dates and places, check the OFCYM website and Facebook page, www.chicago-catechesis.org or the Office for Black Catholic website www.blackcatholicchicago.org

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

Our facilitator will be

Sr. Teresita Weind

Congregational Leader, Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur



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

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

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

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

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

Parking: 3 parking options are available:

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

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

RETREAT REGISTRATION

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

I enclose \$20, plus a contribution of \$_____ to assist those with fewer financial resources to attend. TOTAL enclosed

\$_____ Checks should be made payable to St. Catherine of Siena-St. Lucy Parish and note "Retreat" on the memo line.

_____ I will pay at the door with cash, check, or credit card.



CHICAGO INTER-COUNCIL
KNIGHTS OF PETER CLAVER &
KNIGHTS OF PETER CLAVER LADIES AUXILIARY
“IN THE SPIRIT OF CLAVERISM”

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2014

10:00 A.M.

**ST. ANSELM CATHOLIC CHURCH
6045 S. MICHIGAN AVE. CHICAGO, ILLINOIS**

**CELEBRANT
REV. CHESTER SMITH SVD**

LUNCHEON: TO FOLLOW (12:30 pm) ST. ELIZABETH HALL

41st Wabash

Music by: Robin Watson Combo

TICKETS: \$20.00 per person

CONTACT PERSON(s)

Chair Michelle I. Tines at 312-213-3851 or illena0071@yahoo.com

Co-Chair Grace Dawson 708-9895183 or gmdawson251@yahoo.com

Kermit Taylor 312-315-7601 or kermik@att.net

Council/Court check made payable to Chicago Inter-Council

Revival!

Do You Know Who You Are?

Saint Ailbe Catholic Church



St. Ailbe Inspirational Choir and Praise Dancers
Rev. Paul Whittington, O.P., Preacher
Sunday, September 21, 2014: 8:00 & 11:00 AM Masses
Monday & Tuesday, September 22 & 23, 2014 -7:00 PM

I'm Black & Beautiful

**BLACK CATHOLIC
WOMEN'S RETREAT**

OCTOBER 10-12 • 2014

FRIDAY EVENING TO SUNDAY NOON



Sister Addie
Walker,
SSND, PhD,
Retreat Directress

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

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

PRESENTED BY

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

REGISTRATION

Name _____
Address _____ City/Zip _____
Phone _____ E-mail _____
Parish _____ City _____

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



**THE CHICAGO BLACK
CATHOLICS CHOIR
CELEBRATES ITS . . .**

4TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

"A SOVEREIGN CALL AGAINST WAR"

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2014 • 4:00 PM
AT**

HOLY ANGELS CHURCH

**615 E. OAKWOOD BLVD, (40TH ST.)
CHICAGO, IL 60653**

FR. ANDREW SMITH - HOST PASTOR

TICKET DONATION: \$20

REFRESHMENTS FOLLOWING CONCERT

TYRONE PITTMAN, *EXEC. MUS. DIR.*

ROBERT WATKINS, *PRES.*



"Men of Courage, Conviction, Creativity"

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

Registration Form

HOTEL

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

Phone: 901-618-8200 or www.holidayinn.com/men-nofm (booking code BFM)

Name _____

Address _____

City, State & Zip Code _____

Home Telephone () _____

Alternate Telephone () _____

Email Address _____

Church _____

Ministry/Organization _____

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

Young Adult (age 18-35) _____

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

Adult Registration \$150.00

High School & College Students Registration \$75.00

Youth (age 8-13) Registration \$50.00

The conference registration fee includes lunch on Saturday

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

The Bowman Francis Ministry

SVD House

815 E. 58th Street

Indianapolis, IN 46220

Website: www.bowmanfrancisministry.com

OFFICE USE ONLY:

Payment Rec'd: Yes No

Onsite: Yes No

Date: _____

"Men of COURAGE, CONVICTION, CREATIVITY"



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



OCTOBER 23-26, 2014

Holiday Inn University of Memphis
3700 Central Avenue
Memphis, TN 38152
901-678-8200



For more information visit BFM website: www.bowmanfrancisministry.com or email mcbeeje@att.net or Gamba10333@aol.com or call 317-259-0144



**Ecumenical & Interreligious
Parish-to-Parish Learning Community**

Loving Our Neighbor ~ Knowing Ourselves



CHRISTIAN BAPTISM AS PRACTICED BY DIFFERENT CHRISTIAN TRADITIONS

- **TOUR EASTERN ORTHODOX AND PROTESTANT CHURCHES TO EXPLORE BAPTISMAL TRADITIONS AND CELEBRATE HOW OUR COMMON BAPTISM IN CHRIST UNITES US.**
- **LEARN HOW CHRISTIANS ARE RELATED IN BAPTISM EVEN WHEN THEIR CHURCHES ARE STILL SEPARATED.**
- **DISCOVER HOW FAMILY AND FRIENDS CAN WITNESS TO AND SUPPORT INTER-CHURCH PARENTS AND THEIR NEWLY BAPTIZED CHILD.**

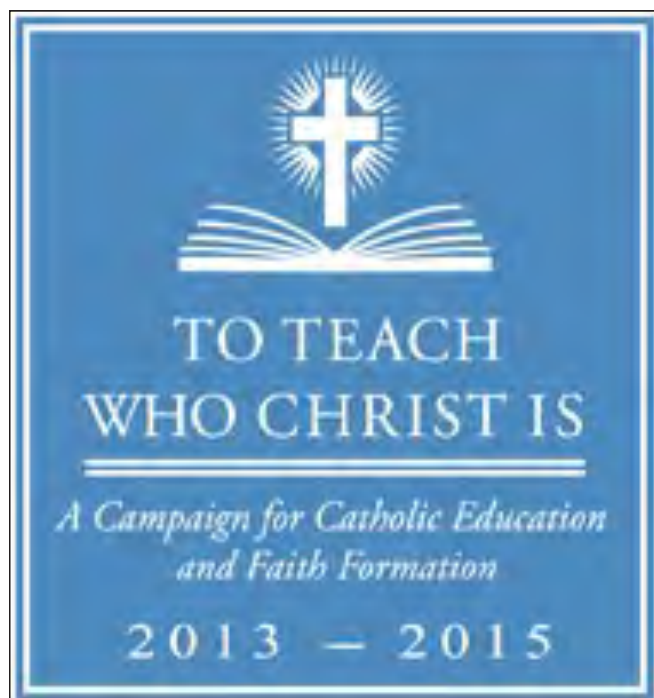


SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2014 ~ 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

**OLD ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
1500 S. MICHIGAN AVE—CHICAGO
COST: \$15.00 (INCLUDES LUNCH)**

FREE BUS PICK-UP FROM UNION AND OGILVIE STATIONS @8:45 AM

**A PARISH-TO-PARISH LEARNING
COMMUNITY BUILDING EVENT
OFFICE FOR ECUMENICAL AND INTERRELIGIOUS AFFAIRS
ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO
EIA@ARCHCHICAGO.ORG—312-534-5325**

REGISTER ONLINE—WWW.ARCHCHICAGO.ORG/DEPARTMENTS/ECUMENICAL/

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

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

