



The Joy of Family

by: Tanya Bolen



When I think of family, I think of home and a place where there is love overflowing. A place where there are people who genuinely care and support you unconditionally. Families are universal because they are found in more societies than any other social institution. Yet this universal term conveys a variety of images. For some it suggests the work of the American painter, Norman Rockwell with white picket fences and freckled boys and girls playing while parents and elders are watching. The word family may mean something different to an African-American, an American Indian, a refugee, a stepparent, or a foster parent. A simple nuclear family structure has been defined as a married couple with children. My

nuclear family growing up was my Mom and Dad and me, an only child. In the summers, my cousins from the South would come to Chicago to spend the summer. We would spend the summers riding bikes, playing softball, roller-skating, going to the movies and museums, eating ice cream and enjoying each other fully for the 2 ½ months they were in Chicago.

The traditional definition of family entails a man and a woman married with biological children. However, what each family identifies with can be more inclusive or look different than family stereotypes. There are many different types of family. There are nuclear families with a man and woman married with biological children, extended families with aunts, uncles and cousins, blended families or stepfamilies like the Brady Bunch, same sex families and childless families where a couple cannot have or does not want children.

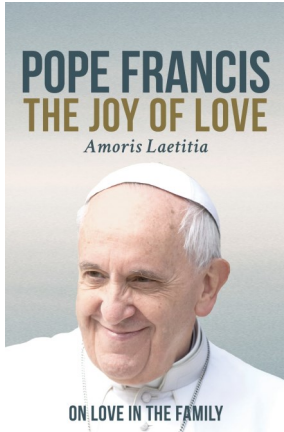
While many people would identify the nuclear family as being the “traditional” type, This differs from culture to culture. In African culture, elders are held in reverence and many extended families are found. There are several factors that play into the family dynamic and speak to “living arrangements” like economics and aging parents.

Whatever your family structure, simply put a good family is a stable environment that provides security for an individual, which enables the person to fulfill the highest aspirations. A good family provides a sense of belonging. In order to do well out in the world, it is extremely important that an individual feel accepted and integrated. In society the family plays a central role as it shapes daily experiences that include how and where individuals live, how they interact with people around them and in some cases who they marry. The family network consists of structures that are designed to equip individuals with life skills and coping mechanisms.

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The fundamental concept of family to the Catholic church is the first natural society and it is placed at the center of social life. The family is the cradle of love where individuals can grow. We've all heard the saying "it starts at home" and in fact the family unit is where we learn about truth and goodness and where moral values are taught. Likewise, the spiritual and cultural heritage of society are passed on. It is in the home where a child learns to be a good citizen" and a functioning member of society. Children are also taught wisdom and virtue within the family.



The family is a community of persons, a husband and wife, parents and children and relatives. The Pope highlighted family in the Apostolic Exhortation *Amoris Laetitia (The Joy of Love)*. He stresses that family is relational love and a place of welcome that is particularly evident when there are frail or disabled members. These types of families develop special virtues because they call for patient endurance in the sight of life's difficulties. He especially noted adoptive and foster families a special benefit and offered these types of families as anecdotes to poverty. Pope Francis states in paragraph 57 of *Amoris Laetitia* "I thank God that many families, which are far from considering themselves perfect, live in love, fulfil their calling and keep moving forward, even if they fall many times along the way. The Synod's reflections show us that there is no stereotype of the ideal family, but rather a challenging mosaic made up of many different realities, with all their joys, hopes and problems. "

In an article published in *Parents* it speaks to the unapologetically Black tradition of expanding the definition of family. Black Americans have been defining family through love and connection, as opposed to biology alone for centuries. It reflects the sense of community and collective responsibility Black people feel toward each other, Many people consider friends to be as close or even closer than extended family members. People who have lost close family members or have become removed from them may create a family unit of friends with similar interests and goals. While this type of family unit may be untraditional, it can be just as close, if not closer. You can't choose your blood relatives, but you can choose your friends.

My family growing up was close knit and we spent weekends and summers together. We came together for family events like birthdays and anniversaries and on more solemn occasions, funerals. We slept over and started all over again the next day and really embraced and enjoyed everybody. There were times when there may have been a disagreement or argument, but we got over it and sometimes didn't but for the most part we are a family that keeps in touch and comes around. Over the years there was an aunt that lived with us, and a cousin that was raised with me. My Mom and Dad welcomed anyone and everyone and everybody was fed until they couldn't eat anymore. There was no difference made between my cousin and I. We went to the same Catholic school and we were more like sisters than cousins. We had our moments when we wanted to be alone, but we always found our way back to each other.



My nuclear family today consists of my Mom, myself and my daughter. My daughter is 28 and lives in Atlanta. She is a very successful and productive entrepreneur. When my Dad got sick I moved back home to help my Mom. My Pops passed in 2011. Families exist in all shapes, sizes and colors and endure ups and downs because that's what a true family does. Family loves you unconditionally and supports you when needed. There are additions to families with new birth, and there are home goings but whatever type your family is nurture and cherish your everybody in your family.

The Spirituality of Venerable Fr. Augustus Tolton

by: Tina L Carter



When Fr. Augustus Tolton died of exhaustion and heat stroke on that fateful day in July of 1897, the world lost a great and modest man who answered the call to serve God. Now, 126 years later, people around the world are learning how to deal with injustice, racism, and discrimination through the witness and experience of this humble man of God.

The Tolton Spirituality Center held 5 weeks of *Evenings With Tolton* that began 2 weeks during the Lenten season and ended during the last 3 weeks of the Easter season. Bishop Joseph Perry, the postulator for the cause of sainthood for Venerable Fr. Augustus Tolton, led these discussions about the life and legacy of Father Augustus Tolton. Each night focused on a different aspect of Fr. Tolton's life.

The first night looked at Fr. Tolton as a man and not the myth that was created about him. Excerpts from a movie about the life and legacy of Fr. Augustus Tolton were shown followed by a discussion with members of the audience. The second night

covered his spirituality. It was noted that seven elements of Fr. Tolton's spirituality emerged. They are long-suffering where grace is obtained, Eucharistic prayer life, prophetic life put into action, humble heart and spirit, family values shared and strong family support, scripture lived after it is preached to the world to build community, and baptismal priesthood as a gift to the community. Bishop Perry talked about those young African American men and women who may be interested in religious vocations experiencing similar obstacles as Fr. Tolton faced over 140 years earlier. Bishop Perry encouraged them and the audience to look to Fr. Tolton's example. Despite the impediments that Fr. Tolton faced in a racist, fallen, broken world, he overcame them. The third night covered spreading the word about Fr. Tolton. Bishop Perry spoke about the wonderful work that Tolton Ambassadors were doing around the country sharing the story of the first recognized African American priest and the possibility of restarting the Tolton pilgrimages in Quincy and Chicago since the pandemic. Night four looked more closely at how in spite of Fr. Tolton's experiences with slavery and racism, he was able to embody profound forgiveness against those who wronged him, and it was through this gift of forgiveness that he was able to lead a life of hope and grace enabling him to serve God and God's people more intentionally. The final night, titled *All Things Tolton*, discussed more deeply Fr. Tolton's own heritage and the people in his life that helped him, as well as some of his descendants who are sharing his legacy with others.



Bishop Joseph Perry, postulator for the cause of sainthood for Venerable Fr. Augustus Tolton.

Currently, the Tolton Spirituality Center is collaborating with the Office of Catholic Schools to provide Catholic identity virtual development pathway programming for the Office of Catholic Schools system-wide professional development days four times during the 2023-2024 school year. They will be using the book *Augustus Tolton: The Church Is the True Liberator* by Joyce Duriga as a guide for teachers to share with their students. Reflection questions first developed by Dr. Thomas Howard, the director of religious education at St. Therese Chinese Catholic School in Chicago will be expanded to include elements of *the Joy of the Gospel*, *Divine Renovation*, and *Building the New Reality* in order to have a wholistic understanding of how the life and legacy of Father Augustus Tolton helps us today. If you are interested in viewing *Evenings With Tolton*, please go to the following link for the recorded gatherings on YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/@toltonspiritualitycentermo2020>.

Venerable Fr. Augustus Tolton, Pray for Us.

-Tina L Carter



Willa Shegog-Neely is a Chicago native that currently works as the Evangelization Coordinator for the Archdiocese of Chicago. She converted to Catholicism on Easter Sunday in 1992 at St. Ailbe (now St. Katharine Drexel) Catholic Church along with her husband, Dalandis and two children Dalandis C. Neely II and Kara by Fr. John Breslin.

Willa and her family originally belonged to New Friendship M.B. Church located at 844 W. 71st. Willa and her husband grew up in NFMBC and were both baptized there. Her husband was a boy scout, and she was in the children's choir. Both of their children were also christened there at the age of 3-4 months. Her husband's uncle and aunt and their children on his father's side was Catholic and belonged to St. Felicitas parish. While Willa attended public school as a youth, both of her children attended St. Ailbe's Catholic School from preschool thru eighth grade.

When Willa's husband Dalandis, became a member of the Men's Club at St. Ailbe's that was when he made the decision that the family would join the church. He also worked with the Emmaus Retreat group for men and Willa joined the Emmaus Retreat ministry for women.

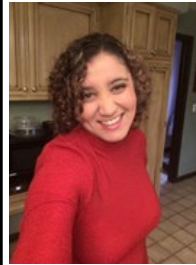
Willa found comfort and solace in the Horizon ministry following the death of her son Dalandis II at the age of twenty-one from a rare form of kidney cancer. The Horizon ministry worked with the late Fr. Lawrence Duris to assist with funerals that were held at the parish. She served as an usher, Eucharistic Minister, and lector for funeral liturgies. Willa also joined the bereavement ministry, Compassionate Friends, which was organized by Ms. Norma Mullons, one of the parishioners. The Compassionate Friends transitioned to St. Ailbe's Bereavement Ministry around 2017. Ms. Mullons asked Willa to take over the group following her graduation from Catholic Theological Union in 2019 when she retired and moved to California.

Willa's work with the St. Katharine Drexel Bereavement Group is particularly important to her. They meet on the second Saturday of each month. It is important to her to help members deal with the loss of their loved one and to watch them grow and learn how to help others who experience a similar loss. Following her graduation from Catholic Theological Union she worked as a Chaplain for Advocate Trinity Hospital and later for a Chaplain at the Star Hospice Home Health care agency for the terminally ill.

Willa states "I am given Christ's Peace when I work to help others. My personal spirituality is fed when I participate in the Emmaus Retreat Ministry. It is difficult to get others to talk about their grief following the loss of a loved one. Many would prefer to suppress their feelings and find ways to keep themselves busy and occupied with activities to distract them from their grief/pain. It is particularly difficult to walk with people while they are waiting for their loved ones to make their transition."

Willa is always willing to share her faith journey with others in the hope that they will be able to identify with elements of her personal story. Her advice to young people is that they must make their own decisions about their faith journey and open their hearts, mind, and soul to allow God in and work to nurture their OWN PERSONAL relationship with God, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. Her personal prayer that helps her get through the day is "for God to grant me humility so that I can serve Him and his people with all of the Gifts I have at my disposal."

-Tina L Carter



Shannon Schmidt, wife, mother, author, podcast co-host, and the current Vicariate VI Parish Vitality Coordinator. Shannon spent a lot of her adult life in Indiana. When she left Illinois to attend Notre Dame, she aspired to be a youth minister. That was her passion and she also wanted to delve deeper into her relationship with God. She worked as a youth minister for 10 years at different churches in Indianapolis before moving to a town in rural Indiana. That is when the reality of racism and the political polarization in our nation and church hit home. She felt uncomfortable and disconnected and felt God was calling her back to her first love of helping youth encounter Christ.

Shannon felt God was pulling her back to the Chicago area, where she grew up. Beyond youth ministry she wanted to assist in adult faith formation as well as be in a leadership role so that her skills can be utilized in local faith communities, especially in under resourced neighborhoods. God granted her heart's desires by calling her back to a place and communities she loves, in a position that allows her to assist in empowering churches to be the voice and face of Christ and equip others for ministry.

The reward for Shannon, that she has discovered over the year she has been the Parish Vitality Coordinator is being able to see the way the Holy Spirit works in different neighborhoods, cultures, and people and that keeps her grounded and excited. The challenge is in achieving the parish renewal required to be a vibrant community where clerical and lay ministers can co-labor in doing the heavy lifting of building a community despite population loss, change in cultures and not having the resources necessary to accomplish it all. As she stated so eloquently, "African Americans have a long history of transforming our darkest moments into hope and perseverance."

Shannon's husband, Eric, is a school principal. She has 4 children aged 6 – 13. Her and Eric are raising their children to know and love Jesus. Shannon is bi-racial, and her children are bi-racial. She knows and appreciates the importance of passing on and understanding both races and cultures that make up their family ethnic dynamics. She balances her family/work/ministry life with the help from extended family members, being able to bring the children with her to the different faith community sites she visits, which helps in their exposure to different cultures and her husband who is supportive of her work and willing to be flexible.

Occasionally our life is stressful. Shannon says, "that is time when we all need to decide what things to pick up or what things we need to let go. The lie that is perpetuated, especially to women, that everything we do needs to be perfect. In ministry and motherhood, you must be OK with not being perfect. God calls us to be still, rest, take sabbath time because all our work is God's work."

Shannon Wimp Schmidt is a Parish Vitality Coordinator for the Archdiocese of Chicago, co-host of *Plaid Skirts and Basic Black Podcast*, and co-author of the award-winning book *Fat Luther, Slim Pickin's* (Ave Maria Press, 2022). In her free time, she also serves as the Communications Director for Catholics United for Black Lives, a not-for-profit which works for racial justice in keeping with Catholic Tradition. Shannon lives in Chicagoland with her husband, Eric, and their four children.

-Dr. Kim Lymore



Ministry in Action:

St. John XXIII Black Catholic Discussion Group of St. Mary's in Evanston



The St. John XXIII Black Catholic Discussion Group examines issues of inclusion, social justice, and history within the Catholic Church, formerly known as the "St. Mary Evanston Black Catholics Discussion Group" came about in 2019 while I was working as an Office Assistant for St.

Mary Parish and wrapping up my final year of studies at Catholic Theological Union.

After conversing with different parishioners within our parish community, it saddened me to learn many people were unaware of the contributions many Black Catholics have made to the Catholic Church. In addition to this, many people lacked knowledge of Black Catholic History.

With the growing numbers of Black and Brown minorities within our parish, I thought it would be a great idea to establish a discussion group that was open to "all". I thought it was important to create a safe space for "everyone" to have the opportunity to gather and discuss their personal experiences within the Catholic church while learning about Black Catholic History, Black Catholic current events, and issues related to Social Justice.

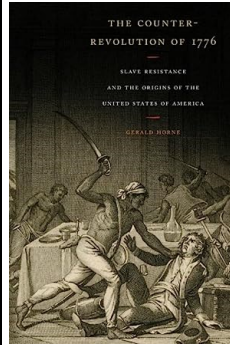
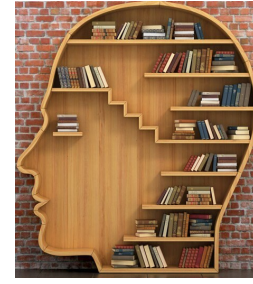
Prior to Covid, our discussion group gathered monthly inside our parish center; we have since been meeting virtually every Wednesday at 1:00 pm, and every third Wednesday at 1:00 pm and 6:30 pm.

We are currently a small group of diverse parishioners, and with our parish's recent merger and recent group advertisements, we hope to grow into something bigger! In addition to discussing articles, we also have book discussions and recently completed the book "*God is A Black Woman*" written by author Christena Cleveland.

What I am most proud of as it relates to our discussion group, are the members who have personally reached out to me and personally revealed how our group discussions have played a significant role in bringing light to the misconceptions they previously held. At the end of the day, if our discussion group can provide knowledge, establish understanding, and bring more parishioners together, we are doing our job. For more information and to join our discussion group, please reach out to Shannon Ambrose at stmaryevanstonbc@gmail.com

-Shannon Ambrose

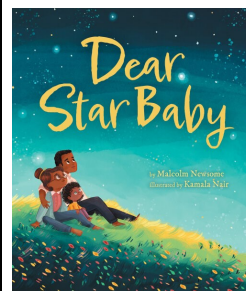
Literary Corner



Dr. Gerald Horne breaks the myth of colonists standing up for liberty and freedom in his book, "*The Counter-Revolution of 1776: Slave Resistance and the Origins of the United States of America*". Horne argues that the biggest reason the American colonies revolted against England was to preserve the institution of slavery. The slave holding colonists got word from London that England was looking to abolish slavery. This news

sent shockwaves to the American colonialists. African slave labor was the primary institution driving their economy. If the British were to abolish slavery, this would collapse their economy. Horne explains that the early Americans were not going to let the British infringe on their economy and have them dependent on the British Government. This is why an armed revolt was encouraged against England. Other historians have also put together the thesis of the preservation of slavery as a reason for the Declaration of Independence in 1776. Horne does a great job of documenting the process of the political reasons of why England was looking to abolish slavery and projected ramifications. He also does an excellent job of capturing the political climate of the American colonists and their feelings on the British Empire's decision to end slavery.

-Gardis Watts



Dear Star Baby by Malcolm Newsome is a quiet yet powerful book to help young children deal with the devastating loss of a brother or sister through miscarriage. A young boy writes a letter to his sibling about the excitement of their meeting and buying a toy (or two) for them. But, when Mama must go to the hospital, he learns that his sibling won't be coming home with him. He talks about all the things that they would have done together and how his parents are different. But on a moonlit night, his father and mother look to the sky to see that their Star Baby is so far away but also right there with them. With simple text and colorful illustrations, *Dear Star Baby* is a beautiful book to help our youngest readers deal with family grief after a miscarriage.

-Tina L Carter

Habari gani

What's the News?



ST. MARY EVANSTON BLACK CATHOLICS

JOIN US, AS WE GATHER FOR A PEACEFUL
AFTERNOON DISCUSSION, EXPLORING A
VARIETY OF ARTICLES AND TOPICS
RELATED TO BLACK CATHOLIC HISTORY,
SOCIAL JUSTICE, MINISTRY, & MORE.

WEDNESDAY'S VIA ZOOM @ 2:00 PM!
PLEASE CONTACT SHANNON AT
STMARYEVANSTONBC@GMAIL.COM
FOR THE ZOOM LINK AND ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION



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THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN ENGLEWOOD

340 W 66th St, Chicago, IL 60621

(773) 873-4464

Parish office: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

*<https://benedicttheafrican.org/>

Join us for Mass:

In-person on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. or via Zoom at 11:00 a.m.

Meeting ID 86894110061

Passcode 722 722

Join us by Zoom Daily

Monday – Friday at 12 Noon

- ◆ *Connections with the Continent* with Rev. McCay
- ◆ *Know Your Faith* with Deacon Kurt Davis
- ◆ *Writing* with Fr. Lee
- ◆ *What Just Happened?* with Fr. Tom Jackson O.P.

Meeting ID 86894110061

Passcode 722 722



SAINT SABINA FRIDAY NIGHT PEACE WALKS AT 7PM

JOIN US EVERY FRIDAY AS WE MARCH
THROUGH THE AUBURN GRESHAM
COMMUNITY CALLING FOR
PEACE

AN END TO GUN VIOLENCE
RESOURCES FOR OUR CHILDREN &
COMMUNITY

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
ENDING THE TALE OF TWO CITIES

For more info call 773-483-4300

It's a BLOCK PARTY

Join us for our first Block
Party of 2023

A Faith Community of Saint Sabina Event

EVERYONE IS INVITED!
BRING YOUR FAMILY
AND FRIENDS!

Friday, July 7th

6pm-9pm

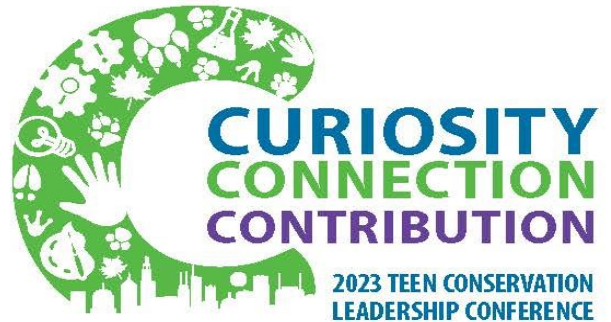
Renaissance Park
1300 West 79th Street

LIVE MUSIC FREE FOOD GAMES BOUNCY HOUSES

For more info call 773-483-4300

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What's the News?



July 21, 2023: Conference Sessions at Brookfield Zoo, Brookfield, Illinois

July 22, 2023: Community Action Day

The conference is being hosted by the Chicago Zoological Society's King Conservation Science Scholars with support from Lincoln Park Zoo's teen leaders. This year's theme, "Curiosity, Connection, and Contribution," is based on a natural leadership journey that inspires teens to champion, work toward, and make change. Conference attendees will connect with hundreds of emerging and seasoned teen leaders from around the Chicagoland area and beyond, and also have fun.

Kicking off this leadership conference will be a keynote speaker. Interactive sessions led by experts in community, conservation, and sustainability will encourage curiosity, amplify connections, and empower contributions that are authentic and personal.

The hybrid (live and online) Expo area will connect young people with internships, jobs, youth programs, and volunteer opportunities that promote connection and grow leadership skills. After interacting with a multitude of diverse voices, faces, and experiences, they will leave feeling invigorated and excited about their future contributions to the natural world.

There will also be the unique opportunity to join us at multiple locations around the Chicagoland area for a day of service known as our Community Action Day! Locations to be announced.

This year's conference is FREE!

Registration is essential as it covers:

- Admission to all sessions • Notification of all special events
- Conference Swag Bag • Lunch and snack • Raffle entry

Register at CZS.org/TeenConference



Habari gani

What's the News?



The South Side Jazz Coalition
Presents



JAZZ'N ON THE STEPS 2023
St. Moses The Black Parish
331 East 71st Street
4th Sundays - FREE

Save The Dates!

May 28

June 25

July 23

August 27

September 24

4pm to 6:30pm

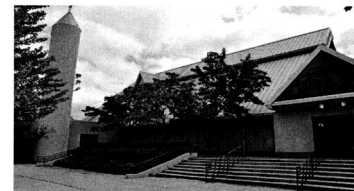
Contributing Partners:

The Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events
Safe and Peaceful Communities
St. Moses The Black Parish



Our Lady of Africa Parish

THE CHICAGO
HELP
INITIATIVE



What: Community Meal & Resource Assistance

- Referrals and Assistance for Essential Resources like:
 - Medicaid and SNAP signup help
 - Government phone signup
 - CHA housing application help

Where: Our Lady of Africa Parish
607 E Oakwood Blvd
Chicago, IL 60653

When: 1-3 PM, First Thursday of each month,
starting July 6th & August 3rd 2023

Interested in volunteering at a meal?
Contact Father Carl Gales at 773-624-5375

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20%
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July 19, 2023
4:00 pm to 8:00 pm CST
10553 South Cicero Avenue

Use code **FUND4U** at online checkout, in the Panera App,
or at the kiosk in-cafe.*

Bring this flyer or show a digital copy to your cashier when ordering at the cafe or enter the
promo code **FUND4U** at checkout on Panerabread.com or the Panera App to ensure your
organization gets a portion of the proceeds.**

Learn more at fundraising.panerabread.com

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*Gift card and catering order placed on Panerabread.com, and delivery orders placed through third-party sites are excluded and will not count
towards the event. Other restrictions apply. For complete details, visit: <http://fundraising.panerabread.com/terms-conditions/>. **Services vary by cafe.

ST. PETER CLAVER DAY

HOSTED BY ST. EULALIA
COURT 356

INVITING ALL KNIGHTS, LADIES AND JUNIORS TO A CLAVER
DAY MASS AND RECEPTION TO CELEBRATE AND HONOR
OUR PATRON ST. PETER CLAVER.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 10, 2023

ST. EULALIA CATHOLIC CHURCH
1845 S. 9TH AVE, MAYWOOD, ILLINOIS

9:30 A.M. - LINE-UP/SEATING
10:00 A.M. - MASS

RECEPTION/LUNCHEON: MARION HALL AT SACRED HEART CHURCH
819 N. 16TH AVE. - MELROSE PARK, IL
(2 MILES FROM ST. EULALIA)

QUESTIONS CONTACT: GRAND LADY YVONNE SYKES (630)408-3962



MEAL - \$25.00 PER PERSON (ADULT)
\$12.50 (YOUTH 10& UNDER)

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What's the News?



BOWMAN-FRANCIS MINISTRY

2023 Fr. Chester P. Smith National Black Catholic Men's Conference

THURSDAY
OCTOBER 12TH
- SATURDAY
OCTOBER 14TH



LOCATION

MARRIOTT LOUISVILLE DOWNTOWN
280 West Jefferson
Louisville, KY 40202
Room Rates
Early Bird - \$239.00
May 1st - September 19th
\$351.00 after September 19th
Self Parking: \$40.00
Valet Parking: \$45.00

For more information, contact
The Bowman-Francis Ministry
at:
317-800-1621

Email: ministry@bowmanfrancis.org
Website: www.bowmanfrancis.org

Registration Cost:
\$150.00 Adult - \$100.00 age 17 and below

To register for the conference, go to:
www.bowmanfrancis.org

FOR ROOM RESERVATIONS CLICK ON

BOOKING LINK:
[HTTPS://BOOK.PASSKEY.COM/GO/NATIONAL
BLACKCATHOLICMENS23](https://book.passkey.com/go/national-blackcatholicmens23)

OR

CALL
RESERVATION PHONE NUMBER:
1-888-236-2427

ASK FOR THE:
LOUISVILLE MARRIOTT DOWNTOWN FOR
THE FATHER CHESTER P. SMITH'S NATIONAL
BLACK MEN'S CONFERENCE IN OCTOBER
2023

Habari gani
What's the News?



*Authentically Black & Truly Catholic:
Faith, Peace, and Love in Unity*

Save the Date!



Three Nights: October 16th, 17th, & 18th 2023

5pm-6pm

Food and Fellowship

6:30pm-9pm

Revival Service



Three Locations:

St. Simon of Cyrene Parish

(St. Martin de Porres site)

5112 W. Washington Blvd, Chicago, IL 60644

Our Lady of Africa Parish

615 E. Oakwood Blvd, Chicago, IL 60653

St. Sabina Parish

1210 W. 78th Pl, Chicago, IL 60620

One in the Spirit! One in the Lord!



Habari gani What's the News?



Black Catholic Initiative Radio
Tuesdays: 8 – 8:30 a.m.
WNDZ 750 AM

<https://radiotv.archchicago.org/>



Fr. Michael Trail hosts this weekly half-hour program that explores a wide range of topics relevant to Chicago's Black and Catholic communities. Fr. Trail is pastor at St. Thomas the Apostle Parish.



The Augustus Tolton Pastoral Ministry Program at Catholic Theological Union

The Augustus Tolton Pastoral Ministry Program provides an opportunity for Black Catholics to receive academic, personal, spiritual and professional education and training in preparation for professional ministry for the specific needs of Black Catholics.

- Applicants from the Archdiocese of Chicago are eligible for a full-tuition scholarship.
- Applicants outside of the Chicago dioceses are encouraged to apply for the Tolton program and will be considered for other scholarship funds.

For More information or to apply visit us online at ctu.edu/Toltonprogram

NOVEMBER 16-18, 2023 | INDIANAPOLIS, IN

GENESIS 1:23-27

inCYC
NOVEMBER 16-18, 2023 | INDIANAPOLIS, IN

FULLY ALIVE

The young church needs you. NCYC (National Catholic Youth Conference) is calling pastoral ministry leaders and parents to accompany the young Church as they encounter Christ in a groundbreaking way.

Purposefully and Wonderfully Made

HOSTS


Sr. Josephine Garrett, CSFN


Mari Pablo

LEARN MORE AND REGISTER NCYC.US

The Pulse celebrates you!

Is there a ministry or event that your parish is doing that you want others to know about? Please let us know at ***The Pulse!***

Send us an email at chicagoblackcatholics@gmail.com about what the ministry or event is and how it is impacting you and the communities that you serve. Please include any photos and we will feature it in our next issue !



As some of us celebrate independence in our country this month, let us all remember how we became free.

“All of you...are to know for sure that it is through Jesus...that everyone who believes in him is set free...”
(Acts 13:38-39)

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for creating us to love and be loved by You.

You gave us the freedom to choose Your love and You sent Jesus to save us and pay the price for our freedom.

Bless those who have served and given their lives and those who continue to serve and defend this country and our freedoms.

Give us the courage to embrace inclusion so that all the people of this land may have the opportunity to experience liberties in righteousness and peace.

Open our hearts so that we may be blessings to others, leading us to a way of life that will glorify You.

In the name of Jesus Your Son,

Amen.

-Stephanie Garrison



Who are we?

Created by current and former Tolton scholars, **The Pulse** is a monthly newsletter to provide information about the concerns and happenings in Black Catholic Chicago. It will be made up of articles, profiles and information about events and programs happening throughout the archdiocese of Chicago. If you are interested in contributing or have any questions or concerns please email us at chicagoblackcatholics@gmail.com

This month's contributors are:

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