



Reaching Back For Our Young Adults

by: Cheryl Cattledge



Our cherished youth have grown up in the church and navigated catechism class, altar serving, vacation bible camp, choir, youth ministry retreats, etc. They learned and prepared for their adult life that we guided them to achieve. Then, they make it to young adulthood and they're launched into the world navigating life's joys, achievements, bills, relationships, pressures, defeats, unexpected turns and losses. Mental chaos, overthinking, fear and anxiety can take up residence in their mind and hinder them from maintaining internal peace.

Nigerian singer-songwriter, Tems relates to this in her song *Free Mind*:

“And behind my mind it runs

All these thoughts have troubled me

Fighting to give up my pain

Fighting to be on my lane

My mind running to the other side

When it's time to live my life

Then it tries to take me out

Tell you what I need right here.”

It's no secret that social media dependency and getting caught up in the 'Grind Culture' (the false-narrative that one's value or worth is dependent on how productive one is) can lead to a weakening of internal peace.

Moreover, the heartbreaking statement in an essay from the late Cheslie Kryst, former Miss USA 2019, who suffered from high-functioning depression, may resonate with some of our young adults: “Each time I say, ‘I'm turning 30,’ I cringe a little...feels like a cold reminder that I'm running out of time to matter in society's eyes.”

My concern about our young adult population has led me to survey several of them who have grown up attending church and/or Catholic schools. The results are below:

When asked what are some challenges that young adults face today, ‘comparing their lives to other peers’ and ‘impatience with success’ ranked the highest.

When asked if they ever felt feelings of depression or anxiety, there was a tie: 35% replied ‘often’ and ‘sometimes’ (seldom = 20%; never = 10%)

When asked what coping or self-care mechanisms they use when managing depression or anxiety, ‘praying’ ranked the highest (Kudos to our parents, youth ministers, pastors, catechists, etc. who taught about prayer!), followed closely with ‘therapy’, ‘journaling’, ‘music’, ‘friends’, and ‘cannabis use’.

When asked about their faith in God, 60% stated that their faith has gotten stronger since high school; 20%=weaker; 20%=remained the same.

Below are some comments stated from the surveyed adults regarding their faith:

“I've reflected on my past years and realize that much of what I was able to accomplish couldn't have been done without a higher power and faith in myself.”

“Experiences and life situations helped me grow.”

When asked if the church was helpful to them, 30% replied yes; 35% replied no; 35%=included a mixture of replies: “I don't go consistently”, “I don't attend church”, “the church needs reform to be inclusive of all people.”



Continues on page 2



Below are some comments that were stated regarding their view of the Church today:

"The church is full of experienced people from many walks of life that can enrich my life professionally as well as spiritually."

"The churches I attended made me feel judged and uncomfortable so I stay away from them."

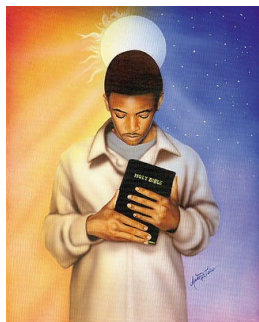
"The churches' view hasn't spoken to what I go through on a daily basis so I had to seek God on my own."

"The church I attend has a strong community and lots of young adults my age."

"I've mostly doubted the God that was being presented to me for many reasons: death in my family; how it was taught by white men to my Black enslaved ancestors; believers not living by the Word; I just eventually dropped it."

The "What We Have Seen and Heard" pastoral letter from the Black Catholic Bishops highlights the four major characteristics of Black Spirituality: **joyful, holistic, communal and contemplative**. I firmly believe that these characteristics can be a starting ground for youth and young adult outreach.

As stated by Rev. Maurice J. Nutt, C.Ss.R. in his book, *"Down Deep in My Soul" An African American Catholic Theology of Preaching*, "It [Black Spirituality] is at once a response to and a reflection of African American life and culture. It is rooted in African heritage and religious traditions, with its ways of perceiving and valuing reality, its style of expression, and its mode of prayer and of contemplating the divine." Divine 'joy' creates a feeling of celebration, connectedness and emotional safety that can't be achieved from tats, piercings or worldly possessions. We need to affirm what makes our young adults feel like celebrating or what brings them peace.



To keep things real, in our human flesh, NONE of us want to go through trials. Nevertheless, trials in life are inevitable. We must reassure our young adults that in seasons of challenge, something is transforming on the inside of us: strength is developing; the desire for material significance gets loosened; 'holistic' healing takes place. Encourage them to trust the process.

Supportive relationships matter. Our young adults find it empowering to 'commune' with people that listen to their thoughts, their ideas, and their complaints in a non-judgmental way. Also, no offense to my beloved preachers but we can't just *talk about it*, *BE about it*: let them see us (older adults) take accountability for our mistakes; let them see us admit when we need help; let them see us gracefully take a defeat; let them see us pray to God.

Finally, this leads us to the ritual that our mothers, grandmothers and ancestors did: 'contemplative' prayer. Amidst the young adult socials, pizza-with-the-pastor gatherings and movie nights, model with certainty that it's not lame to humbly come to God and say, *"Father God, I need your protection; I need your grace; I need your healing; I need you."* Therefore, our ministry does not stop after high school or college graduation. The young adults are a part of our family in Christ and we need to cherish them. With the Holy Spirit, we are ministering to our future educators, politicians, athletes, doctors, lawyers, pastors, entertainers, entrepreneurs, and enlisted service men/women. It is time that we utilize our Spiritual Gifts and encourage our young people to do the same. Spread God's joy to sustain them through life's chaos. Meet them where they're at and journey with them to holistic wellbeing. We must create an environment that invites them to commune with Christians who will welcome them, listen to them and remind them that they are valued and loved. Lastly, pray for and pray with our young adults to foster internal peace.

As Servant of God Sr. Thea Bowman stated in her Address to the U.S. Bishops' Conference, June 1989:

"The Church teaches us that the Church is a family of families and the family got to stay together and we know, that if we do stay together, if we walk and talk and work and play and stand together in Jesus' name – we'll be who we say we are – truly Catholic and we shall overcome – overcome the poverty – overcome the loneliness – overcome the alienation and build together a Holy city, a new Jerusalem, a city set apart where they'll know that we are here because we love one another."



Cheryl Cattledge is the Director of Campus Ministry at Christ the King Jesuit College Preparatory School and Tolton Alum. She serves on the board of directors for National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry and is a parishioner at the Faith Community of Saint Sabina.

Writing the Vision: Our Time to Thrive

Reflections on the XIII National Black Catholic Congress

by: Tina L Carter

There is an appointed time for everything and a time for every affair under the heavens.
- Ecclesiastes 3:1



The past couple of years have tested our faith, commitment, and endurance to live out our prophetic mission to serve God and God's people. In the past three years, we have gone through a global pandemic, seen our parishes shrink in size and number, create new church families, and say goodbye to others. We have welcomed new family members through the birth of baptism and celebrated the lives and legacies of those who have gone on to Glory. Cardinal Wilton Gregory reminded us in the keynote that opened the Congress, we have an enduring, unshakable faith that calls for us to a renewal of heart, mind, and spirit as we build new relationships with one another. We must walk, not faint. We must not get weary.

The XIII National Black Catholic Congress was filled with sessions about the renewal of mind, body, and spirit as well as a call for openness about how we communicate with each other. The opening session was filled with the joy and excitement of a family reunion as the roll call acknowledged the various dioceses from around the country and territories who came to worship together as one, holy, apostolic, and authentically Black Catholic church. The Mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception was filled as Cardinal Wilton Gregory was the celebrant. The procession took over ten minutes as clergy from across the country joined Cardinal Gregory at the altar. His message was a reminder to the larger church that the Black Catholic community in America is alive and an integral part of the story and testimony of our worldwide Catholic faith.

Leaders from the Archdiocese of Chicago presented or served on panels. ***Renew My Church: The Archdiocese of Chicago Experience*** was given by Valerie Jennings, the Archdiocese of Chicago Program Coordinator, Deacon James Norman, Vicar for Deacons, and Fr. Matthew O'Donnell, pastor of St. Moses The Black. Fr. Michael Trail, pastor of St. Thomas the Apostle was on the panel ***Black Priests Living Priesthood***. ***Made for Such a Time: Gifts of Black Catholics for the 21st Century Church*** was led by Shannon Schmidt, Parish Vitality Coordinator for Vicariate 6 and her podcast partner Marcia Lane-McGee. They are hosts of the podcast ***Plaid Skirts & Basic Black***. Fr. Carl Gales, SVD, pastor of Our Lady of Africa Parish, helped lead the discussion on ***Living Your Best Life***.

Dr. Omekongo [Dibinga](#), a motivational speaker, trilingual poet, TV talk show host, rapper, professor of cross-cultural communication at American University, and author of the book ***Lies about Black People: How to Combat Racist Stereotypes and Why It Matters***, provided the general keynote session "***A Prophetic Call to Thrive: "g.r.o.w. towards your greatness"***". G.R.O.W. is an acronym for Give, Release, Overcome, and Win. Remember Who We Are, a call to tap into our innate greatness and power, was his message to us. He told us that we should use our past as a place of reference and not a place of residence.

Dr. Dibinga also reminded us we should be willing to stand out in living our lives and in our faith, not blend in and conform. We were validated at birth as children of God with our own unique gifts and talents. In life there is no middle ground, people will help you up or keep you down. It is through the grace and mercy of the living God that you have been given the tools to help you discern who is for you or who is working against you. By creating places and spaces for us to live out our baptismal call and encourage others to do the same, the kingdom of God will grow. As children of the light of Christ in this world, we are called to help our fellow people up without judgment or prejudice. St. Francis of Assisi reminds us to "Preach the gospel at all times and if necessary, use words."

The gathering of the XIII National Black Congress was a plea for all of us to follow the call to thrive in our parishes, communities, and dioceses. We only need to answer the call and use our time, talents and resources together to build a strong Black Catholic community that will have a strong and vibrant future.



Sankofa Spotlight



Fred Hail III is a 19-year-old sophomore majoring in psychology at Chicago State University. He serves at Our Lady of Africa parish as an usher and is a part of the Knights of Peter Claver. His family has deep Catholic ties as they were members of Holy Angels church for over 45 years before the unification with four other parishes to form Our Lady of Africa in 2021. Fred attended the Deneen School of Excellence and is a graduate of Johnson College Prep class of 2021.

Fred fondly remembers his time in the little kids' and older choir. He is taking a break from the Eucharistic Ensemble due to his school commitments but plans to join again. While Fred is a cradle Catholic who credits his teacher Barbara Edwards Hill for helping him to develop a strong faith identity, she was his 1st communion and confirmation teacher, his family's involvement in various parish and national ministries also helps to keep Fred grounded in his Black Catholic identity and in the importance of service to others.

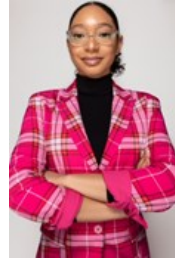
Thanks to his godfather's influence, Fred is an active member of the Knights of Peter Claver. His parent Stephine Inis currently serves as the National Secretary of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of Peter Claver as well as a member of the Blessed Sacrament Society at Our Lady of Africa.

When asking Fred about what has more influence on young people, Hip Hop or the church, Fred believes that the church ultimately has more influence because Hip Hop is not going to be as strong an influence on someone once they are in church.

Fred offers these words of advice for us, be open to others, allow them to explore their faith and what it means to them, and support them without judgment. For elders, he asks them to be patient with young people and understand that they are young adults trying to figure it out at their own pace. For the youth, Fred reminds them to be patient with their elders. Keep an open mind. It may take a little more time and understanding to deal with them. If it takes time to help them, take the time. A final piece of advice goes to our church. Have more young people helping and not be so strict.

May this young and future psychologist continue to bless us with his work in his ministries and his sound advice.

-Tina L Carter



In 1970, the great songstress Nina Simone, released a single, To Be Young, Gifted and Black. Even though this is way before her time, Autumn Harmon, epitomizes that song. Autumn was born on October 31, 2004. This young 18-year-old young lady has accomplished great things in her young life and has a bright future ahead of her. Autumn is from South Holland, Illinois. In June, she graduated from Thornwood High School (my alma mater) and will be leaving next month to attend college at Jackson State University, in Jackson, Mississippi to major in entrepreneurship as well as being a member of the JSU J-Suede Dance Team. She has received several scholarships for college, including the Golden Rose scholarship from the ACCW.

Autumn started at the age of 3 dancing at The Sammy Dyer School of the Theatre. She grew over the years to be a dynamic dance leader and choreographer, assisting choreographers on numerous occasions, demonstrating an exceptional commitment to the work and the art. Her character, stage presence, energy, and her level of performance has always been impressive, and she continues to amaze parishioners at the Faith Community of St. Sabina every time she dances during services. Autumn is also a member of Selah Youth Choir.

Autumn's passion is dance. She has turned her passion into a business as well as a ministry. After taking introduction and intermediary classes in Entrepreneurship, she established her own business, Express Yourself Studio to provide a safe space to let children, teens, and young adults to use dancing and singing as an artistic emotional outlet from their outside life. "We are helping people with mental health / stress by providing a location for people to be happy and express themselves." She currently operates out of her parent's basement and plans to open a studio once she completes her studies at Jackson State.

Autumn has won numerous awards for her entrepreneurship skills. In the spring of 2022 Autumn won the NFTE Midwest Regional Finals in Chicago and went onto New York in the fall of 2022 to compete in the Nationals. Thornwood High School as well as District 205 was proud of her accomplishment and honored her with a District 205 Medal of Honor at the June 2022 school board meeting. Just recently Autumn received the South Suburban Small Business Association's 2022 Annual Summit Award. Also she was asked to Emcee the Spring 2023 NFTE Midwest Regional Competition in Chicago. She came in second place for the WDB Marketing L.E.G.A.C.Y Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award. Autumn was the youngest panelist to speak at the She Owns It, She Biz Conference and a Shark/Judge for TF North High School Shark Tank Competition.

Autumn not only possesses beauty but also brains. She is a remarkable young woman who has managed to dedicate her time between educational studies and extracurricular activities during her high school career. She was part of the Marching Thunderbird Auxiliary Team, and she was the captain for three years. Autumn was in the National Honor Society and Freshman Student Ambassador.

"Oh but my joy of today Is that we can all be proud to say to be young, gifted and black...Is where it's at!" God has an extraordinary plan for this creative, young, gifted, and black, young lady entrepreneur.

- Dr. Kim Lymore



Unleashing the Holy Fire: Reaching Our Youth through Social Media



Reaching out and relating to youth and young adults was one of the key themes that was addressed at the XIII Congress.

In the session “*Oh Lord Jesus It’s a Fire’: Reimagining Pastoral and Church Ministry in the Digital Age*” Dr. Teddy

Reeves, producer and curator for the National Museum of African American History and Culture, said that we must understand millennial and Gen Z generations to communicate with them.

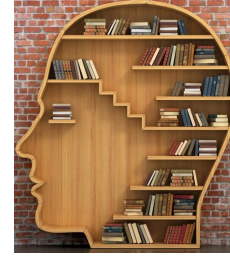
Black youth and young adults believe in God and Jesus as much as their parents and grandparents before them. After all, the youth had to experience the normalcy of active shooter drills in their classrooms, navigate classes during a worldwide pandemic, and the realities of isolation in a world connected on the world wide web at a higher rate. Their faith in God and the promises of Jesus Christ is strong. But they also have a strong and, in some cases, justified skepticism towards brands, labels, and organized religion.

We will have to be willing to meet with youth and communicate with them about Jesus and the faith without labels. Several young people desire to have rich and fulfilling relationships with others but they must be authentic and without judgment. Generation Z, for example, are fluid in their identities and don’t wish to be labeled or put in a box. (Think of the intentional use of pronouns.) We must be willing to adapt with an open mind and an open heart. It may go against one’s own conventional wisdom, but we are called to accompany and testify about our relationship with God, not criticize those who do not see the world as we may want them to. One idea included hosting a Kickback party. It is a gathering where people know one another but the focus is spending time with one another relaxing with food and drink. From watching a movie together or having a light discussion about God, the goal is to have a safe space for light conversation and comfort.

Heed new lessons about the tools that are available to interact with one another. Be open to new perspectives to thrive in the 21st century. One lesson is that church is no longer about the buildings where we hold mass and have sacraments, it is important to use modern technology to reach out and communicate with others, thereby creating new communities. The church experienced a similar shift with the printing press, radio, and television. We must embrace it now with live streaming and social media. Invest in new equipment to use, and train ministers. Develop content on media that will reach audiences. Invite experts, your youth, to help you develop programming that is both meaningful and engaging. YouTube is used across generations for information, education, and entertainment. One suggestion was to create a Tiktok video of previous homilies. It is up to us to produce content that is informative and non-judgmental. If we build it, they may come.

—Tina L. Carter

Literary Corner

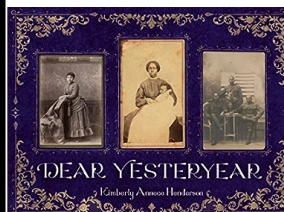


Down Deep in My Soul by Rev. Maurice J. Nutt, CSsR is a homiletical masterpiece. This book emanated from his being named a Delaplane Preaching Scholar by Aquinas Institute of Theology through a grant from the Lilly Foundation to produce literature that strengthened Christian preaching. Preaching is an important aspect of liturgy and worship. There has not been enough written about Black preaching and Fr. Maurice has written a book authenticating, validating and encouraging the use of the Black preaching style by those blessed to preach in African American Catholic settings.

Down Deep in My Soul offers a deeper understanding of the African American culture and preaching style. He begins with the uniqueness of the African American culture, spirituality and religious experience from slavery and slave religion and takes us through the origins of Black preaching, the language, method and technique with an analysis of the African oral tradition. He speaks to the purpose of the homily in Catholic worship to inform, inspire, motivate and celebrate. He speaks of effective evangelization only when the aspects and techniques of the black preaching style are utilized. There can be no evangelization if no one preaches for justice in the pulpit!

In his book, Fr. Maurice points out the various techniques of the Black preaching style: call and response, rhythm, alliteration, repetition and musicality. Black preaching in order to be effective must be radical and prophetic, uplifting and liberating and usher in hope in the face of racial discrimination and inequality. Black preaching done effectively will have the congregation enthusiastically responding Hallelujah and Amen!!

— Tanya Bolen



“Stony the road, you’ve walked this earth and paved the way I now call home” begins *Dear Yesteryear* by Kimberly Annece Henderson. In a conversation with archival photos of African Americans from the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the reader ponders about the lives and dreams of those who lived so long ago. The book is reminiscent of a photo album of men, women and children trying to live their lives and obtain the American Dream. The sparse text is a great starting point for intergenerational conversations between grandparents and grandchildren.

Tina L. Carter

Habari gani What's the News?

Getting Excited About NBCMC Louisville

by: Fr. Ken Hamilton, S.V.D.



**BOWMAN-FRANCIS
MINISTRY**

The other day I was remembering the historic 1968 strike of the Memphis garbage workers and, specifically, recalled the powerful signs they marched down the streets with four simple words on them: "I Am a Man!"

That strike came about because these black men were not being treated like human beings. Their subsistence wages were so low they were all eligible for food stamps; their lives were so devalued that the final straw came when two of their brothers were crushed beneath one of the garbage trucks. It sparked a protest that would lead to the assassination of Dr Martin Luther King Jr and the explosive riots that rocked the nation afterwards. What inspired the protest was also the fact that one of the fallen garbage workers had tried so desperately to save his brother and when the mutilated bodies of the two men were removed from underneath the truck, their

hands were still gripped together.

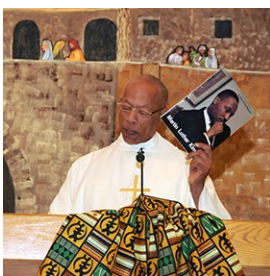
There could be, there can be, no greater or more rooted way to live in this world outside of the simple statement that you are a human being; and being a human being, you are entitled to all the rights and opportunities and dreams---and responsibilities—that come with that "manhood." There can be no greater testament to this humanity than when one lays down his very life for his brother. That is something Jesus taught us a long time ago. And ain't it still the truth?

For me, from the very first moment myself and Frs. Chester and Charles Smith inaugurated the National Black Catholic Men's Conference to this the 20th anniversary of that beginning, the essence of it all is love for our brothers. Not just love, empathy. Not just empathy, understanding. Not just understanding, solidarity. A love and empathy and understanding and solidarity so deep in me that it has brought me through and kept me going all these years in ministry in the black Catholic community!

Almost every year for these last two decades, brothers, we have made the journey to each other. It has not always been easy. Some of us lost so much in the year between the meetings. Some suffered health challenges. Some found the trip expensive. Some harbored doubts and disappointments. But, though the challenges were huge, these brothers came anyway....or, at least tried to attend. So, I'm excited about coming to Louisville Oct 12-14. I need to see my brothers....to meet with our new black archbishop....to learn more how I can be of service to "the least of these."

I don't know about you, but I come to the men's conference each year to do what our black fathers and brothers and sons have always done: stick by each other. Stand up for each other. Show love and support for each other. Have a few days of fun with each other. Praise the God and Father of us all together!

We do this because we are men. Black and Catholic men. Spirit filled, loving, empathetic men in solidarity with each other...with our families...with our faith. Men! See you in Louisville.



Rev. Kenneth Lewis Crowe-Hamilton, SVD, PhD joined the Society of the Divine Word in Epworth, IA and also earned a Ph.D. in History of Religions and Cultures with an emphasis on AIDS and Africa. Hamilton is currently pastor of St. Columba Catholic Church in Oakland, CA. In 1993, Hamilton and two other SVD priests (Frs. Charles and Chester Smith) founded the Bowman-Francis Ministry team, in honor of three memorable Black Catholics: Fr. John Bowman, SVD; Bishop Joseph Francis, SVD; and Sr. Thea Bowman. They seek to evangelize African American young adults and youth through preaching, teaching, Rites of Passage, Ambassadors of the Word (AOW) youth programs, Black Catholic Men's Conference, Khrist-Kwanzaa and other Afri-centric ministries.

Habari gani

What's the News?



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EMILY CORTINA
 Coordinator of Outreach
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Tuesday 8/22
DR. KIMBERLY LYMORE
 MDiv, EdM, Associate
 Minister, Faith Community
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Tuesday 8/29
KEVIN PEASE
 Director of IPS Scripture School
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Peace Fellowship Breakfast: 9 – 10 a.m., Our Lady of Africa Church
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Peace Symposium: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m., Our Lady of Africa Church

Since 2010, on the shores of Lake Michigan, the BCDC has hosted annual sunrise services to pray for the protection of our children. The BCDC prays for non-violence in our hearts, schools, families and streets.

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What's the News?

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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



1-800-TRUCK WRECK
WITHERITE LAW GROUP

Peace IN THE STREETS

SUMMER BLOCK PARTIES AND RESOURCE FAIR

SATURDAY | 12 PM-3PM ST. SABINA CHURCH
AUG 19TH 1210 W 78TH PL

BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY OUT FOR THIS FREE EVENT
FEATURING FOOD | BOUNCE HOUSE FOR THE KIDS | LIVE DJ | AND MORE!

Faith Community of St. Sabina
www.saintsabina.org



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?



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/nationalblackcatholicmens23)
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



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 1:28-27



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

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)

Prayer for August

Father God,

As one, we come to you with open arms, open minds, and open hearts; to humbly ask for your guidance as we go about our day.

Walk with us Lord, and guide us towards clarity, peace and rejuvenation.

Father, let our senses be in tune with you. Let us hear you, Let us see you, Let us feel you, and be comforted by your faithful promises that proclaim you'll never abandon us, and will forever remain by our side.

Father, let us find strength in every sacrifice and be reminded that each new day will lead us closer to you.

Father, let us have faith, find peace, find comfort, and find our way back home. In Jesus name we pray,

Amen.



-Shannon Ambroise

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:

- **Dr. Kimberly Lymore** DMin, is the director of the Augustus Tolton Pastoral Ministry Program at Catholic Theological Union and Associate Minister of the Faith Community of Saint Sabina.
- **Shannon Ambroise** MAPS, is a Tolton Alum, facilitator of St. John XXIII parish Evanston Black Catholics and member of St. John XXIII Parish, Evanston, IL.
- **Tanya Bolen** is a Tolton Scholar and part-time student at Catholic Theological Union pursuing a Masters of Arts in Pastoral Studies. She serves and worships at St. Moses the Black Parish as a Eucharistic Minister, Hospitality, and the Women's Guild.
- **Tina L Carter**, M.Div.; MLIS, is a public librarian, graduate of Catholic Theological Union and Tolton Alum. She is a parishioner, catechist and serves on the technology ministry at Our Lady of Africa Parish in Bronzeville.
- **Jennifer Davis** is a Tolton Scholar, pursuing a Doctor of Ministry degree at Catholic Theological Union, a theology teacher at Mount Carmel High School, a liturgist, and a parishioner at St. Benedict the African Parish in Englewood.
- **Stephanie Garrison** MAPS, is a retired teacher, graduate of Catholic Theological Union and Tolton Alum. She attends St. Moses the Black Parish, serve in the ministries of Lector, Catechism and RCIA.
- **Gardis Watts** is a Tolton Scholar and part time seminary student at Catholic Theological Union pursuing a Master in Divinity. He attends Our Lady of Africa Parish in Bronzeville.
- **Latrece Winfield** is a part-time student (Augustus Tolton Scholar, M.A P.S. program) and a part-time library assistant at Catholic Theological Union; Latrece attends St. Benedict the African Church, ministers as a commentator and proclaimer.

This is a publication of the Chicago Black Catholic Alliance!

