

# THE PULSE

of Black Catholic Chicago

Issue 11 December 2022



## Seasons of Change: What is in a Name

By: Tina L Carter



*There is an appointed time for everything. And there is a time for every matter under heaven—Ecclesiastes 3:1*

Abram to Abraham. Sari to Sarah. Saul to Paul. These are but three instances in the holy scriptures when we see someone transition from one name to another. The name change represents a season in that person's life when the mission that these people of faith were called to be a part of, becomes larger than themselves. Abram was a simple nomad in the middle east with his wife Sari taking care of each other and their extended family. God invited Abram to become a part of the greater Divine plan and, with

Abram's 'yes', God anointed him with a new name that would raise Abraham as a paragon of faithfulness, giving birth to descendants as numerous as the sands on the beach and the stars in the sky. Not an easy transition for Abraham, but a lasting one. Saul's name and mission also changed on that road to Damascus. No longer was he a zealot intent on stamping out "The Way," Paul became a crusader for God and Christ as one of the leaders in the newly formed Christian church.

The names that were chosen for the newly formed parishes represent a refocus on a mission that is larger than any individual parish. This realignment has not been easy, and some still feel uncertain about the future. Yet, we are being called to reimagine ourselves as stronger and more vibrant communities of faith that will continue to engage and fulfill our role in the mission that God first gave to Abraham and, later, St. Paul.

In 2016 there were twenty-eight historic Black Catholic Parishes on the South and West Sides. By the end of 2022, that number has been reduced to ten. The following is a list of the consolidated parishes, their new names, website addresses, and where they are located.

**St. Benedict the African**, located at 340 W. 66<sup>th</sup> street consolidated the East and West parishes prior to Renew My Church. The church is named for St. Benedict the African 1526 – April 4, 1589, a Sicilian Franciscan friar. Born of enslaved Africans in San Fratello, St. Benedict was freed at birth and became known for his charity. His feast day is April 4. <https://benedicttheafrican.org/>

**Our Lady of Africa** was created out of Corpus Christi, Holy Angels, St. Ambrose, St. Anselm, and St. Elizabeth parishes in Bronzeville, Kenwood, and Washington Park neighborhoods. The site of the new parish is located at 615 E Oakwood Blvd. Named after the Our Lady of Africa Basilica located at a height overlooking the Bay of Algiers, it took fourteen years to construct, and the church was consecrated in 1872. The feast day is April 30<sup>th</sup>. <https://www.ourladyofafricachicago.org/>

**St. Moses the Black** is the unification of St. Clotilde, St. Dorothy, and St. Columbanus parishes. The current site of the new parish is 371 E 71st. Street. Moses the Black was an ascetic monk and priest in Egypt in the fourth century AD, and a notable Desert Father. According to stories about him, he converted from a life of crime to one of asceticism. He is the patron saint of Africa and nonviolence. His feast Day is August 28<sup>th</sup>. <https://www.stmosesparish.org/>



**St. Josephine Bakhita** is the unification of St. Bride, St. Phillip Neri, Our Lady Gate of Heaven, and Our Lady of Peace. The newly formed parish is located at 2132 E 72<sup>nd</sup>. St. Josephine Bakhita, 1869 –February 8<sup>th</sup>, 1947, was a Sudanese-Italian Canossian religious sister who lived in Italy for 45 years, after having been a slave in Sudan. In 2000, Josephine was declared a saint by the church, the first Black woman to receive the honor in the modern era.  
<https://www.stbakhitachicago.org/>

Located at 11159 S Loomis St, **Our Lady of Kibeho** is the unification of Holy Name of Mary, St. John de LaSalle and Saints Peter and Paul parishes. This new parish is named after Our Lady of Kibeho, also known as Our Lady of Sorrows of Kibeho. The only officially recognized Marian apparition in Africa, the apparition was experienced and reported in the 1980s by several teens in Kibeho, Rwanda. The apparitions communicated various messages to the schoolgirls, including an apocalyptic vision of Rwanda descending into violence and hatred, foretelling the 1994 Rwandan genocide. The feast day is November 28<sup>th</sup>. <https://hnm.archchicago.org/>

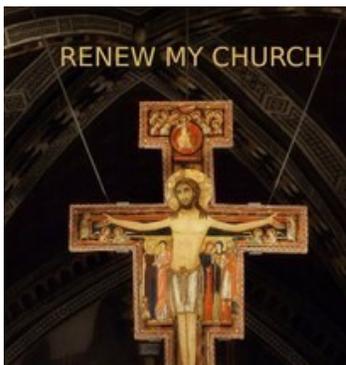
**St. Katharine Drexel parish** located at 9015 S Harper Ave unified St. Ailbe, St. Felicitas, and St. Joachim parishes. Named after St. Katharine Drexel, November 26, 1858 – March 3, 1955, she was an American heiress, philanthropist, religious sister, educator, and foundress of the sisters of the Blessed Sacrament. Katharine was the second person born in the United States to be canonized as a saint and the first one born a U.S. citizen. The patron saint of philanthropy and racial justice, her feast day is on March 3. <http://stailbechurch.org/>

**Saints Martha, Mary, and Lazarus parish** located at 9830 S Vincennes Ave. unified St. Killian, St. Margaret of Scotland, and St. Thaddeus parishes. Named for Martha, Mary, Lazarus, siblings, and close friends of Jesus. Their story can be found in the gospels of Luke 10:38-42 and John 11: 1-44. Their feast day is July 29<sup>th</sup>.  
<https://www.smmlparish.com/>

Located at 1210 W 78th Place, the **Faith Community of St. Sabina Catholic Church** is the only Black Catholic parish on the South side that did not unify with another parish. Saint Sabina was a saint and martyr of the early church at the beginning of the second century in Rome. Her feast day is August 29<sup>th</sup>. <https://saintsabina.org/>

**St. Agatha/St. Martin de Porres** is the last of the Black Catholic parishes in Chicago going through the season of Renew My Church. It is the only parish with two sites. St. Agatha is located at 3147 W Douglas Blvd. and St. Martin de Porres is located at 5112 W Washington Blvd. To date, a new name has not been chosen for the unified parish.  
<https://www.stmartindeporresparish.com>

**Our Lady of Sorrows Parish and Basilica**, located at 3121 W. Jackson Blvd., did not experience a merger, but will collaborate with St. Agatha-St. Martin de Porres Parish in areas of evangelization and youth, young adult and adult lifelong formation. Her Feast Day is September 15<sup>th</sup>. [www.ols-chicago.org](http://www.ols-chicago.org)



The Season of Renew My Church has changed our parishes in a radical way. It is fair to say that this experience has been filled with a season of dryness, waiting for a response from God; waiting-for-something season, not knowing what will happen and being stuck in limbo; a grinding season; time to bring all of our resources and skills to bear in order to create something new and lasting; tests-and-trials-at-nearly-every-turn season; from building issues to figuring out one's place in this new environment, and spiritual warfare season because we all know that the devil can be most active when we are at the weakest point. Yet, if we remember the ultimate mission that we are called to be on, which is to serve God and God's people, these seasons of uncertainty will become, with our faithful participation, a season of happiness, contentment, and fulfillment, and the example and heavenly prayers of those patrons and patronesses chosen by these newly formed parishes will strengthen our resolve to do our part in creating the Kingdom the Heaven on earth.

## Reflections on the Institute for Black Catholic Studies

by Gardis Watts



This past summer, I was fortunate enough to participate in the Institute for Black Catholic Studies (IBCS) at Xavier University of Louisiana. It is a program that has been around since 1980 and is an institution that develops and cultivates ministers who serve the Black Catholic Community. The IBCS runs every year for three weeks starting in late June. It comprises of intense study, meaningful reflection, and spiritual formation in the Black Catholic Tradition. The program offers participants a Master of Theology degree from the only Catholic HBCU (Historically Black College and University) in the country. It also offers continuing education classes for those not pursuing a degree.

As a member of the Augustus Tolton Pastoral Ministry Program, another group that educates Black Catholic Ministers, I was privileged to participate in the program. The Tolton Program and the IBCS has a partnership where Tolton Scholars, like me, are encouraged to participate in the program. A few years ago, a Tolton alum had just come back from the IBCS and had encouraged me that I should go. I made plans to go in 2020 but the COVID-19 pandemic put a halt to it. The program still ran in 2020 and 2021 but it was virtual only. I was not interested in participating virtually because I wanted to immerse myself in the actual environment of Xavier University and New Orleans. When the program resumed in-person this year, I immediately jumped on the opportunity.

On my first day, I attended Sunday morning Mass at St Augustine Parish, the oldest Black Catholic Parish in the country. The Mass was held in the hall because the church was undergoing repairs from damage done from Hurricane Ida in November 2021. The priest who served the Mass, Father Emmanuel Mulenga, was a great celebrant. His homily had a very thought-provoking message that challenged his listeners to reflect on. During that time, the mainstream media was covering the U.S. Supreme Court's decision to overturn Roe vs Wade. The abortion debate was drawing solid lines between people and causing relationships to fracture. Father Emmanuel challenged the congregation to go further on the debate. He wanted the listeners to look deeper at what is going on in our society today and how this debate has fractured our relationships with each other. He also challenged the Catholic Church in this as well. While the Catholic Church claims to be "pro-life", they are only "anti-abortion" in their stance. If we concern ourselves more with issues that are connected to decisions to have abortions like poverty, inadequate healthcare and sexual promiscuity, then abortions would be far less than what they are now. I was encouraged to hear him say this because he did not toe-the-line of many Catholic ministers who just tell the people to be against abortion without dealing with the systemic issues that lead up to it. This was a good sign for me to hear the first priest I met in New Orleans that was progressive in his thinking.

The IBCS had an impressive lineup of professors for this year's session. The director of the program, Dr. Kathleen Bellow, is a well-respected scholar and maintains its dignified status. The program invites many scholars around the world to teach the courses. This year's session featured many members of the Black Catholic Theological Symposium. People like Dr. Craig Ford, Dr. Kim Harris, Dr. Cecilia Moore and Dr. Vanessa White just to name a few. My professors were Dr. Modeste Malu Nyimi and Dr. James Okoye. Dr. Modeste is a well-known African theologian and Dr. Okoye is a prominent biblical scholar. Both professors challenged me to ideas and methods of theology and biblical studies that speaks to the black experience.

One of the more impactful events I was a witness to was on the first Saturday of July where the city of New Orleans has the “Maafa Walk.” It is a walk that commemorates the African ancestors who were captured into slavery. This walk started in Congo Square and led all the way to the Port of New Orleans where many enslaved Africans were dropped off. During the walk, there were stops at many historical sites and there were historians there to narrate the significance of the site. Learning about the sites gave me a powerful narrative of how important New Orleans was. At Congo Square, and during the walk, there was African dancing and drumming. The sounds and sites of those dancers and drummers took me to a place I never visited but felt like I have been there before.

During the weekday, there was a morning prayer service before classes and a daily noon Mass right before lunch. The Masses were celebrated by local priest from the New Orleans area and clergy that were part of the program. The music was led by Ms. Veronica Downs-Dorsey, an alum of the IBCS and an extremely talented musician. Daily readings were done by various students of the program. These exercises in spiritual formation were vital to me. To be in collective worship with the professors and my classmates was inspiring and brought some of us together.

The classmates that I got to know was the biggest benefit for me. I met some awesome and inspiring people from not just this country but from around the world. It’s one thing to learn from professors about the subject we came to study, but it’s another thing to learn from each other on how we live as Black Catholics in this society. I received so many different viewpoints on society that my learning did not stop in the classroom. The learning continued with my classmates during our times at lunch and after classes. The program selects not only the best credentialed scholars to teach the class but they pick some of the most astute students to participate. If I started naming the classmates that I have formed productive relationships with, I would have to take out another page in this writing. But since I have limited space for this article, I want to thank all of my classmates who made an impact on my experience at the IBCS.

Two significant feelings are drawn out of me when I reflect on my experience at the IBCS. The first is a feeling of inspiration. That an archdiocese like New Orleans still upholds the Black Catholic tradition and is proud of the way they celebrate it. I had a chance to talk to Bishop Fernand Cheri one Sunday at my wonderful visit at St. Peter Claver Church and he expressed to me how important it was to him that the Black Catholic churches he oversees maintain a freedom of expressing Black Catholic worship. The second feeling I had was depression. It was depressing because the experience of Black Catholic worship I had in New Orleans was reminiscent to what Black Catholic Chicago used to be in the 70s and 80s. A vibrant celebration of blackness through the Catholic tradition. And not just at a few churches but several churches. But after decades of closing Catholic Schools in black neighborhoods, the decima-

tion of the Office of Black Catholics, and the closing and consolidating of Black Catholic Parishes, Black Catholic Chicago is a long way from its glory days of decades ago.

There are very few programs in this country that specialize in training Catholic ministers to serve in parishes with a predominately Black American congregation. The IBCS is the first and is still a strong institution. I would recommend this program to anyone who is looking to minister to a predominately Black Catholic congregation in the United States.

The Institute for Black Catholic Studies Summer 2023 dates are June 25-July 14. Please go to <https://www.xula.edu/ibcs/> for more information about the program.



Faculty and students at the St. Katharine Drexel Chapel at Xavier University

Source: [www.xula.edu/ibcs/](http://www.xula.edu/ibcs/)

## It's Kwanzaa!

by Yvonne Smith



Maulana Karenga created Kwanzaa as a way of uniting and empowering the African American community. The first Kwanzaa was celebrated in 1966. Karenga modeled the holiday on the traditional African harvest festivals. The name “Kwanzaa” comes from the Swahili phrase, “matunda ya kwanza,” which means “first fruits.” While often thought of as an alternative to Christmas, many people celebrate both. Kwanzaa is a celebration of family and community values. Kwanzaa is a seven (7) day celebration from December 26 to January 1 st .

St. Nicholas Catholic Church celebrated Kwanzaa for the first time in 1999 to acknowledge the rich cultural contributions of African Americans to our faith. We are all made in the image and likeness of God and we raise our voices in praise with joyous music that reflects our African roots. The choir from Holy Angels Catholic Church has joined the St. Nicholas Choir for many years to elevate our voices and to share fellowship.

Each of the seven days is dedicated to one of the seven principles or the Nguzu Saba. The seven principles of Kwanzaa, each in Swahili, are umoja (unity), kujichagulia (self-determination), ujima (collective work and responsibility), ujamaa (cooperative economics), nia (purpose), kuumba (creativity) and imani (faith).



Kwanzaa has seven symbols—mazao (crops), mkeka (mat), kinara (candleholder), muhindi (corn), kikombe cha umoja (unity cup), zawadi (gifts) and mishumaa saba (seven candles)—that are traditionally arranged on a table.

The Kinara or candle holder contains seven candles corresponding to the seven principles. Three of the seven candles are red, representing struggle; three candles are green, representing the land and hope for the future; and one candle is black, representing the people of African descent.

During the candle lighting ceremony that takes place before the mass begins, a candle is lit as each principle which is recited along with a scripture reading and prayer as we lift our intentions to God. After mass we gather for a feast, Karamu, sharing traditional foods eaten by African Americans, such as fried chicken, sweet potatoes, collard greens, peach cobbler, etc. in addition to other pot luck offerings. A wonderful celebration of fellowship is had by all.

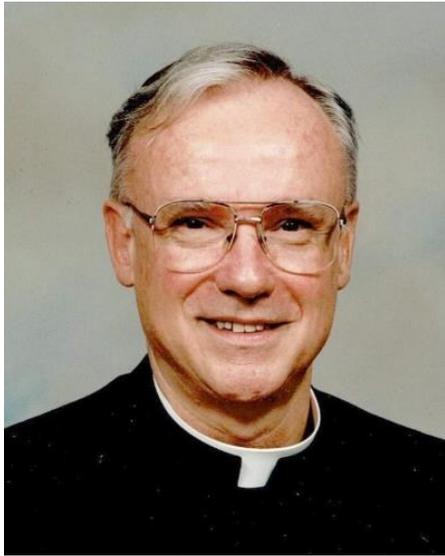


This month's Sankofa article features an article written about Kwanzaa by author Yvonne Smith, a longtime parishioner of St. Nicholas parish in Evanston, IL, and a dedicated member of The Evanston Black Catholics. St. Nicholas parish is well known for its outstanding Kwanzaa celebration service. The celebration is well attended by several parishioners, visitors, and members of the Evanston Community. When speaking to Yvonne about her Catholic faith Yvonne stated, "I would like to see the Catholic Church speak out openly on matters of social justice. Jesus came to change the status quo and to speak for the marginalized. I believe the church should speak more openly about injustice in the world. I would also like to see a greater role in the hierarchy and decision making for women.

Allowing women to become members of the diaconate would be a great beginning to welcoming women fully into the church."-Shannon Ambrose

## In Memoriam:

### Remembering Rev. Don Senior, CP



On November 8, 2022, Rev. Don Senior, CP enter eternal life. He was a world-renowned biblical scholar, prolific writer, and an extraordinary pastoral leader.

In 1989, when Sr. Dr. Jamie T. Phelps, OP approached Rev. Don Senior, then president of Catholic Theological Union, with the idea of providing scholarships to African American lay people, he did not hesitate in offering his assistance in making that dream into a reality. Rev. Don contacted the Archdiocese of Chicago with the idea of a partnership with CTU. Cardinal Bernardin agreed, and the rest is history. In 1990 the Augustus Tolton Pastoral Ministry Program was birthed.

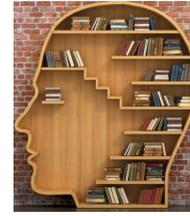
Throughout the Tolton Program history Fr. Don was a staunch supporter attending most of the Harambee fund raisers and other Tolton hosted events. He would always bring his sister, Miriam to Harambee.

In March of 2020, the Tolton program honored him with an award for his dedication and support of the Tolton program.

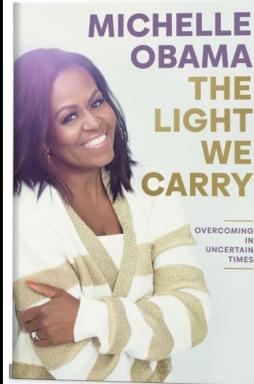
Fr. Don's infectious smile, gentle demeanor, warm and welcoming presence will be missed. We can rejoice that even though his physical presence will be missed that Fr. Don is now resting in the arms of God.

-Dr. Kimberly Lymore

## Literary Corner

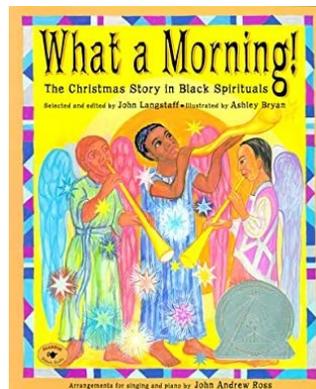


Questions of coping in times of uncertainty and strife are explored in this latest collection of stories, reflections, and good old fashion wisdom by our former first lady, Michelle Obama. *The Light We Carry: Overcoming in Uncertain Times* is a personal toolbox of sorts shared to navigate the transforming and discombobulating times of our lives. Lessons learned from her family in Chicago, reflections on what life has taught her so far, and the reminder that no person is an island are filled in this 290+ -page read that those starting out to those in the twilight of their lives can appreciate. From the very beginning, the lesson learned from her father suffering from multiple sclerosis is one that we all should take to heart: *You Fall, You Get Up, You Carry On*. This easy read is broken into 3 parts over ten chapters. With chapter titles such as *The Power of Small* to *The Armor We Wear* and *Going High*, this must-read is a wonderful gift for teens and adults alike. This would also make a wonderful book discussion selection to get 2023 started off in the right frame of mind.



-Tina L Carter

First compiled in 1987, *What A Morning: The Christmas Story in Black Spirituals*, a Coretta Scott King honor book edited by John Langstaff, introduces young children to the Christmas Story using biblical references, musical spirituals and rich illustrations by the late Ashley Bryant. For those musically inclined, music arrangements of *Go Tell It On The Mountain*, and others are included in this Christmas classic for generations to enjoy.



-Tina L Carter

# Habari gani What's the News?

**St. Sabina  
Employment Resource Center**

Working with the Community



Putting the Community  
to Work



## STAR DETECTIVE & SECURITY AGENCY INC. HIRING EVENT

**WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 7, 2022  
10AM - 2PM  
St. Sabina Church (McMahon Hall)  
1210 W 78th Place  
Chicago IL 60620**



Openings Throughout Chicago and Surrounding Suburbs

**Positions**

Unarmed Security Guard - \$16.34/Hour  
Armed Security Guard - \$18/Hour  
Retired or Off-Duty Police Officer - \$40/Hour

**Requirements**

18 Years or Older  
GED/HS Diploma  
Must Apply for PERC Card during  
first week of work

**Must Bring**

ID & Social Security Card  
If available: Security Certificates



Scan  
QR Code  
or Follow Link  
to Register

[tinyurl.com/ERCStar](http://tinyurl.com/ERCStar)

Questions? Call 773-783-3760  
Interested in Recruiting with St Sabina?  
Email: [hire@ercsabina.org](mailto:hire@ercsabina.org)



## ST. SABINA ACADEMY BREAKFAST WITH SANTA & HOLIDAY MARKET

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[HTTPS://WWW.GIVECENTRAL.ORG/LOCATION/259/EVENT/20273](https://www.givecentral.org/location/259/event/20273)

# Habari gani

## What's the News?

### St. Benedict the African Church

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN ENGLEWOOD

340 W 66th St, Chicago, IL 60621

(773) 873-4464\*<https://benedicttheafrican.org/>



### **HUSH HARBOR**

Saturdays at 11 AM

Our Hush Harbor series features spirituals and speeches from the past that speak loudly today.

In Antebellum America, a hush

harbor was a place where the enslaved Africans would gather in secret to practice religious traditions.

MEETING ID: 89415895742

PASSCODE: 636489



## 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](mailto:STMARYEVANSTONBC@GMAIL.COM)  
FOR THE ZOOM LINK AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



THE BERNARDIN CENTER presents  
**Catholic Women Preach:**  
Raising Voices, Renewing the Church  
Book Launch Event



"As you listen with the ear of your heart to the wisdom of women, may you, too, be emboldened to preach the word with persistence at all times and in all ways."

—Barbara E. Reid, OP, from the foreword

### **Catholic Women Preach:** **Raising Voices, Renewing the Church**

Wednesday, December 7, 2022 at 6:00 PM CST

The James and Catherine Denny Center  
at Catholic Theological Union  
5416 South Cornell Avenue, Chicago

**IN-PERSON AND ONLINE**



Sr. Barbara Reid, OP, PhD, President, Catholic Theological Union

Kimberly Lymore, DMin, Director, Augustus Tolton Scholarship Program, Catholic Theological Union

C. Vanessa White, DMin, Associate Professor of Spirituality and Ministry, Catholic Theological Union

Krista Chinchilla-Patzke, Faith Justice Campus Minister, Loyola University Chicago

Fr. Michael Trail, Pastor, St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church, Hyde Park, Chicago



**Elizabeth A. Donnelly**, Preacher Coordinator of Catholic Women Preach, is a frequent speaker and writer on Catholic affairs. She has served on several boards, including those of Jesuit Volunteers International, Maryknoll Lay Missioners, Bread for the World, and the Ignatian Solidarity Network.



**Russ Petrus** serves as Co-Director of FutureChurch, which sponsors the Catholic Women Preach project. He holds an MDiv from the Weston Jesuit School of Theology and the School of Theology and Ministry at Boston College, where he focused on liturgics and catechesis.

# Habari gani

## What's the News?



Our Lady Of Africa/Tolton Site  
4058 S Michigan Ave  
Chicago, IL 60653  
(773) 268-1518

### OUR LADY OF AFRICA FOOD PANTRY

Fresh fruits, vegetables, meats and non-perishable groceries.

Info for Thursday food pantry...  
Every Thursday  
@10:00AM-12:00PM  
Meats and non-perishable food

\*You can only receive once a month, identification is required and no boundaries

4058 S Michigan Ave  
Chicago, IL 60653

Info for Saturday food pantry...  
Every fourth Saturday  
@10:00AM-12:00PM

Fresh fruits, vegetables, and non-perishable groceries.

44 E 41St  
Chicago, IL 60653



### 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](http://ctu.edu/Toltonprogram)



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# CONGRESS XIII

July 20 - 23, 2023 | Gaylord National Harbor, MD

## NEW ORLEANS MISSION TRIP

Summer 2023

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Per Person

WHEN: JULY 9TH, 2023 - JULY 15TH, 2023  
Gender: Male & Female | Ages: 14 - 20

INCLUDES  
6 DAY MISSION TRIP  
AROUND TRIP TRAVEL  
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SIGHTSEEING

Registration Ends Nov 2nd

Looking for more Information Contact  
Youth Minister Ms. Kianda L. Boyd  
Email:  
[kiandalboyd@gmail.com](mailto:kiandalboyd@gmail.com)

## Advent Prayer

Heavenly Father, give us the strength to have the same trust in You that Mary had, as she awaited the birth of Jesus.

Father, just as you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way for Jesus, help us to clear a path in our hearts so that we may receive him with joy and serve you with you with pure hearts.



God of power and mercy open our hearts in welcome. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy so that we may share his wisdom and become one with him when he comes in glory.

We are wrapped like the gifts we find under our tree, waiting to be opened, to reveal Your love to us.

Restore to us the wonder that came with Jesus' birth.

He lives and reigns with us and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever, Amen.

-Tanya Bolen

### 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](mailto: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 Ambrose** MAPS, is a Tolton Alum, facilitator of St. Mary Evanston Black Catholics and member of St. Mary 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. Thomas the Apostle in Hyde Park.
- **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.
- **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; church affiliation- St. Benedict the African Church, ministers as a commentator and proclaimer.

This is a publication of the Chicago Black Catholic Alliance!

