



### Am I My Brother and Sister's Keeper?

by: Stephanie Garrison



In Genesis 4:9, the discourse between God and Cain went something like this: Then the LORD said to Cain, “*Where is Abel your brother?*” He said, “*I do not know; am I my brother’s keeper?*” Today if Christians were posed with the same question, it is assumed that our answer would be “I AM” my brother and sister’s keeper. However, is this really the case when we are allowing the continued sell and distribution of assault weapons which lead to the senseless killings of our brothers and sisters by the hands of those using these arms of mass destruction? The Columbine High School massacre in Columbine, Colorado in 1999, was the first mass shooting to draw national attention. Since then, there has been a steady increase.

According to the FBI, “there were 345 ‘active shooter’ incidents in the United States between 2000-2020, resulting in more than 1,024 deaths and 1,828 injuries.” Already this year, three mass shootings have ripped through the nation. The first took place in Buffalo, New York and left 10 African Americans, mostly elderly, dead. Then, 21 people—primarily children were lost in Uvalde, Texas; and in Highland Park, Illinois, a mass shooter took the lives of several parade goers on the Fourth of July. In all these cases, assault weapons were used.

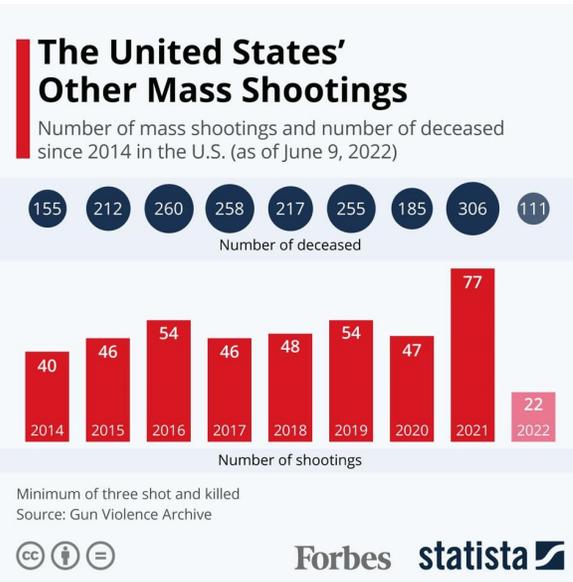
Because of incidents like these, some Americans believe the U.S. needs more comprehensive gun control laws. It took 30 years, on June 25, 2022, President Joe Biden signed into law S. 2938, the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act gun safety bill. For those who believe in gun control, this is a step in the right direction as it could eventually lead to the ban of assault style weaponry. However, those not in favor, especially advocates of assault weapons, feel that laws like this will impede on their Second Amendment right to bear arms for the purpose of self-defense. Moreover, they describe these kinds of weapons as having practical value, like hunting. Self-defense and hunting are the two major selling points for AR-15 type weapons. However, in regard to hunting, some insist that assault rifles are not ideal. In an article on [americanhunter.org](http://americanhunter.org), a veteran hunter states, “a hunter does not need [an assault weapon] to hunt, [and] if he does, he sucks, and should go play video games. I see more men running around the bush all cammo’d up with assault vests and face paint with tricked out AR’s. These are not hunters but wannabe weekend warriors.” Assault weapons are also not appropriate forms of self-defense. In fact, some military specialists admit that these are weapons of war, designed to kill people quickly and in large numbers.

The damage to the body caused by assault weapons is so devastating that the chance of survival is slim. When the bullet of an AR-15 style weapon enters the body, it creates a wave and a blast. In the article, “What the AR-15 Does to a Child's Body,” Charlie Sykes writes, “the high-velocity bullets [assault weapons] damage flesh inches away from their path, either because they fragment or because they cause something called cavitation. When you trail your fingers through water, the water ripples, and curls. When a high-velocity bullet pierces the body, human tissues ripples as well—but much more violently. The bullet from an AR-15 might miss the femoral artery in the leg, but cavitation may burst the artery anyway, causing death by blood loss.” For children, the damage is much more substantial because they are smaller. When hit by a high velocity bullet—or multiple rounds, as in the case of assault weapons, the force of the bullets annihilates their major organs in seconds. For instance, it was reported that, many of the children’s bodies in the Uvalde tragedy were so mutilated that they had to obtain DNA from parents for identification.

Continued on page 2



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Mass shootings take a toll on not just bodies but also on the victims' family and friends, and the viewers that watch these tragedies unfold on their TV screens. These shootings have a traumatizing effect. Some become desensitized to violence, while others are driven to purchasing their own assault weapons. To date, it is estimated that about 20 million assault type weapons are now owned by Americans.

Research shows that gun sales increase after mass shootings and those profiting include gun manufacturing companies and organizations like the NRA. Over the last decade, gun manufacturers have raked in \$1 billion in revenue from the sale of assault weapons. In the article "House Committee Finds AR-15 Style Guns Brought in Over \$1 Billion in Last Decade," Carlene Coombs reports that the gun company, Daniel Defense, which manufactured the weapon used in the Uvalde shooting, tripled their gross earnings from \$40 million in 2019 to 120 million in 2021 based on the sale of AR-15 style weapons. The NRA has poured millions into lobbying, campaign contributions and outside spending to

advocate for the right to bear arms. For example, lobbying efforts tripled in 2013 after 26 people, including 20 children were murdered at Sandy Hook Elementary in 2012. Organizations like this consistently spend more money than gun control organizations to influence government policy. In 2021 they spent a record \$15.8 million on lobbying over gun control's effort of 2.9 million. Just as Cain in the Bible showed no regard for Abel and no remorse over what he had done, these gun companies and advocates of assault weapons, seem to be indifferent and have no regard for those lost to mass shootings.

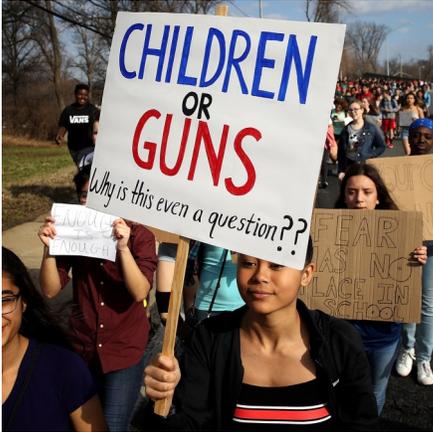


There is no debate, the Second Amendment is intended to grant certain inalienable rights to all the citizens of our country. However, is it necessary to "tote" around weapons of combat when we are not in a physical war here in the United States? Does human life come in second to weapons of mass destruction? In a speech shortly after the Uvalde tragedy, Pope Francis urged a call to action for legislative gun control measures and limiting the sale of arms: "It is time to say enough to the indiscriminate trafficking of arms. Let us all commit to ensuring such tragedies can no longer take place." Cardinal Blase Cupich reflected: "What do we love more; our instruments of death or our future? The Second Amendment did not come down from Sinai. The right to bear arms will never be more important than human life. Our children have rights too. And our elected officials have a moral duty to protect them."

As Christians, it is a given that we are our brother and sister's keeper. 1st John 4:20-21 says: "Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. This is the commandment we have from Him: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister." As Christians, we are our brother and sister's keeper, and are to love our brother and sister. We are also called to an awareness to be people of action that stand for gun control laws that must include bans on assault weapons.

# Are We Our Brother and Sister's Keeper? Real Talk About School Safety.

By: Jennifer Davis



It is mind jarring to learn that there have been 245 school shootings in the United States, ending with Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas, on May 24, 2022. Before Columbine and Sandy Hook entered our consciousness, the first school shooting was at Thurston High School on May 21, 1998, in Springfield, Oregon, when a 15-year-old freshman Kipland Kinkel entered the high school he attended, killing two of his classmates and wounded twenty-five others. This heinous crime ended when a group of heroic classmates of Kinkel's wrestled him to the ground, which led to his arrest.

In two decades, innocent lives have been lost in school shootings, which is unacceptable! Has anything been learned through these tragedies? No! Keeping our schools safe is crucial; innocent lives are at stake, and there's no room for error. We are living in different times that call for other measures. This is experienced

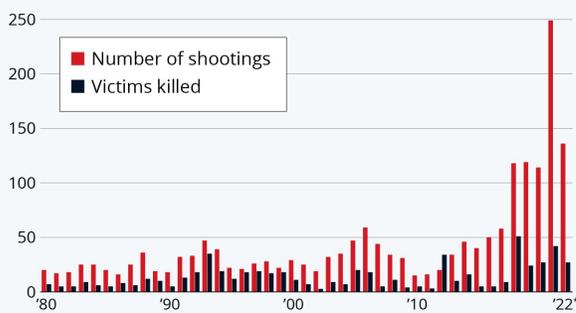
through the regulations and security at airports and now in our schools. The Texas Tribune reported the failure of law enforcement and Mandy Gutierrez, a first-year principal at Robb Elementary. Gutierrez was suspended because of the school shooting.

A report by a state house committee in Texas found that Gutierrez and others knew of the facility issues in the school. Arnulfo Reyes, a teacher at the school, reported that the lock on his classroom door, room 111, was not working properly; this was the classroom the shooter entered and took innocent lives. This would not have occurred if someone had prepared the work order.

The report continues that Gutierrez never attempted to use the school's intercom to warn teachers and students that a shooter had entered the school but instead used an app called Raptor to initiate a lockdown "but had difficulty making the alert because of a bad Wi-Fi signal." The report detailed many security failures by school staff that allowed the shooter to enter the school.

## Gunfire on School Grounds Sees Sharp Increase

Number of shootings at K-12 schools and their victims in the U.S. (1980-2022)



\* prior to May 24, 2022

Source: Department of Homeland Defense and Security K-12 Shooting Database



statista

Safety in our schools should never be overlooked and compromised, and those we trust to keep our schools safe and in working order cannot afford to make unconscionable mistakes repeatedly. Hopefully, this school shooting has given valuable information on what schools should be doing to ensure the safety of those in their care. Everyone has a role to play, for we are our brother and sister's keeper. School buildings need to be secure for no possible entry. Schools need to revisit their contingency plan to see what they may be lacking in the procedures and address those weak areas in security within the school building. The intercom should be a quick line of defense, not a text to initiate a lockdown. What teacher looks at their phone while teaching? Classroom door locks should be in working order. Everyone in the school building should be valiant – stopping a stranger walking down the hall who does not have a visitor badge and being escorted. Report any student showing any indication of being a threat to the school, drawing guns, talking about bringing a weapon to

school, or having a weapon, or what the student may be saying that will cause alarm. Defending yourselves if a shooter should enter the classroom is a good defense, for it is the ultimate surprise to a shooter, and it will save lives, just as those courageous students did at Thurston High School.

A list of 245 schools was published by Above The Law, a website containing school shooting incidents. Chris Williams, the assistant editor of Above The Law, wrote, "And God bless parents from these schools who couldn't hear their children's breathing again!" Then he listed the names of 245 schools. Let us all hope and pray that there will not be a 246.



## Sankofa Spotlight



Dr. Denise Spells is a veteran educator whose faith in the Catholic tradition has guided her professional career. She not only sees the benefits of the Catholic faith in her own spiritual life but also in the education of black children within the Catholic Schools.

Throughout her fifty plus years working in the Catholic Schools, Dr. Spells has worked tirelessly to bring to her students the ad-

vantages of Catholic school education. She also continues to fight for the legacy of Catholic school education as it seems to be going through some difficult times.

Born in Chicago, Dr. Spells is a Cradle Catholic who initially grew up on the West Side where she attended Our Lady of Perpetual Help. Later in her adolescent life, her family moved to the South Side where she attended St. Killian. She was so absorbed into the Catholic faith that at an early age she considered a religious vocation for her adult life. Unfortunately, her hopes got dashed as she experienced her first encounter of racism within the Catholic Church. When she was in 6th grade, Dr. Spells wrote a letter to the Mantellate Sisters Servants of Mary to express her desire to join their order when she became of age. The order wrote her back and informed her that they did not accept girls of "her kind." This did not discourage her from her faith or destiny to serve in the Catholic faith. It motivated her into bigger and better things down the line.

Immediately after graduating from college, Dr. Spells worked as a teacher in the Chicago Public Schools. However, she only did that for a short time. After her short stint with Chicago Public Schools, Dr. Spells began her Catholic school career at St. Margaret of Scotland, where she was a teacher at the school for 14 years.

Dr. Spells heard about the Oblate Sisters of Providence, the first female religious order for black women. Thinking about her incident in 6th grade where she was rejected by a religious order based on her race, she was intrigued by this and wondered if any of the sisters were in Chicago. She discovered that some of the sisters of the order resided at Holy Name of Mary, a parish also built by black people. This drew Dr. Spells to the parish where she left St. Margaret and began teaching at Holy Name of Mary. She stayed there for 6 years and was vice-principal in her last years there.

In 1991, Dr. Spells accepted the position of principal at St. Ethelreda school where she still is to this day. As a dedicated educator, she has guided the school through its glorious years and through its difficult times. No matter what the situation, she dedicates much of her time and effort to make sure her school delivers the best education.

Dr. Spells feels that Catholicism is the true religion, which is what keeps her in the faith. She does feel that blacks in the Catholic Church are trying to find their place. However, she encourages Black Catholics to never give up who we are and to rightfully take our place in the church. Dr. Spells feels that the church needs to focus more on evangelizing to children. She understands that they are the future of the church. Dr. Spells takes this necessity to heart, which is why she has had a long vocation in Catholic School Education.

- Gardis Watts



On Wednesday, August 10th, Rickey Harris was elected by the LSC as the new principal of Whitney Young High School, an academically acclaimed selective enrollment school.

Rickey Harris has a strong Catholic educational background. He attended Catholic School from kindergarten to high school. He went to the St. Charles Lwanga Elementary School then Quigley South High School. After graduation from Quigley, Rickey enrolled at University of

Illinois at Urbana Champaign, where he attended for two years. His mother relocated to Houston, but he did not want to relocate with her. He then transferred to Chicago State University. He did not go to college knowing what to major, but it was certainly not teaching. A friend's mother who was an educational professional encouraged him to take an introductory course in teaching. He loved it and never looked back. That was 27 years ago.

Rickey received a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and master's degree in Administration both from Chicago State. He is completing his Doctorate degree at DePaul University in Education Leadership. His teaching credentials include being a teacher and assistant principal at St. Sabina Academy, principal at St. Margaret of Scotland, Dean of Students at Whitney Young, Dean of Faculty at University of Chicago Laboratory School. After a 10-year absence from Whitney Young, Harris returned to Whitney Young as Assistant Principal.

Rickey is a long-time member of the Faith Community of St. Sabina where he is the team leader and artistic director the Spirit of David Liturgical Dance Ministry since 1993. In his spiritual grounding he grew up seeing, learning, experiencing, struggling, and yes, sometimes wrestling with God. Rickey's favorite scripture is Romans 8:28, which states, "For God works all things together for good to those who love him and are called according to his purpose." Rickey is a man of faith who believes that this appointment has been preordained by God. During this process of being nominated to be principal, he kept hearing God say, "wait on the Lord and I shall renew your strength."

His strong faith and reputation of Whitney Young has inspired the theme for 2022-2023, "Don't Stop Believing." He said Whitney Young High School "has been great...the school of champions. Don't stop believing that. We're going to continue in that vein and to continue this road to success and greatness." The entire Faith Community of St. Sabina was elated when the principalship announcement came. We could not be prouder of him and are looking forward to the future God has in store for him. Rickey Harris will be the guest speaker at our Education Sunday Worship Service on September 25, 2022 at 10am.

-Dr. Kimberly Lymore

## 9/11 and Lessons about “Othering”

September 11, 2001



For those of us who were old enough to remember, September 11, 2001 will be seared into our collective memories. 2996 people died in a coordinated attack on U.S. soil not seen since Pearl Harbor in 1941. I can tell you exactly where I

was when the first plane hit the World Trade Center in New York. I distinctly remember the conversation that I had with my brother and his best friend on that September morning as we were trying to figure out who did the United States government anger that they wanted to drive planes into buildings. Downtown Chicago was on lockdown as bus drivers were looking for guidance from their supervisors on ever changing routes. A man at the library that I work at was glued to the computer waiting and praying for word from his brother in New York. At 6pm, his brother sent him an email that he was ok.

For about a week, it didn't matter who you were or where you came from in the world, we were all Americans and this great tragedy affected us all.

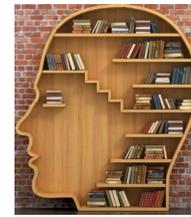
Then, as we began to collectively process the grief and anger over what happened, the need to blame someone for such great loss of life and seek vengeance took over. Who is responsible was the question? Suddenly, Americans of Middle Eastern background were targeted. If you were Muslim, you were looked at with a jaundice eye. If you looked different than the majority, you were a suspect.

Unfortunately, our brothers and sisters who are Middle Eastern and/or Muslim experienced the default emotion of a American society that is scared and fearful. The sentiment is not new and have had dire consequences to those who are affected. Fear of enslaved men and women in the 18th and 19th centuries in this country led to individuals getting maimed, murdered and split from their family units. Fear of newly freed slaves led to racist laws, riots, lynchings and second class citizenship. Native Americans that were not killed were forced on to reservations and forced to abandoned their culture because of fear. Fear of whites becoming a minority in the American West led to more racist laws, the establishment of quotas and murders of our brothers and sisters of Mexican and Chinese descent. In the 1940s, a world war was the excuse used to jail (it was called internment) Japanese Americans for the duration of the war.

This playbook came out again in the weeks following 9/11 and led to the death of Shik man, mistaken as a Muslim, young children being called terrorists, threats against Mosques and questions about the loyalty of Muslim Americans. Like other minority groups before them, Muslims had to prove to the larger cultural group that they are not dangerous, or a threat and desire the same rights as any other American living in this country. It is a matter of survival to provide this proof of “Americanness” in order to thrive in a country where your racial or ethnic difference can be held against you.

Now as we begin to remember 21 years after 9/11, we the people have to learn not to move to the default of fear and revenge. We must learn to listen and understand each other. We need to see each other as children of God and act accordingly. -Tina L Carter

## Literary Corner



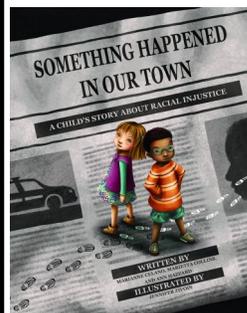
*\*\*The following books have been banned or challenged in schools and libraries in communities around the country for promoting discussions of race and Critical Race Theory or anti-police views.\*\**

White fragility is the phenomenon by which white people become angry, defensive, or hostile when confronted with the idea that they are complicit in systematic racism. In the book *White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism*, author and anti-racist educator Robin DiAngelo explores white fragility. As a white woman herself, DiAngelo examines and documents the ways in which white Americans are unable to emotionally withstand even minor amounts of racially triggered stress and become defensive. She examines the racial hierarchy and further asserts that it is the responsibility of white people to do the work of challenging white supremacy.

This is a must-read for those wanting to better understand race relations, white supremacy, and for all people working toward social change and racial equity. This is a vital book that calls on white people to see their whiteness for what it is and seize the opportunity to do better.

-Tanya Bolen

Discussions about race and policing are featured in the book *Something Happened in Our Town* by Marianne Celano, Marietta Collins and Ann Harzard. Two children, one Black and the other White learn about the police shooting a Black man in their town. Each family talk about what happened and why as well as the lessons that can be learned from the tragedy. Later, when a new student joins their classroom, they use the messages of fairness that they received from their parents to help the new kid feel included during a soccer game. This picture book provides a jumping off point for further discussions about bias and injustice for children ages 4-8. There are extensive author notes to help parents, teachers, and caregivers have a rich conversation with children about racial injustice and what to do when encountering discrimination. -Tina L Carter



# Habari gani What's the News?

**SILAS PURNELL  
16<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL**

# COLLEGE EXPO!




- ✓ COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY, TRADE SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES
- ✓ LIVE SEMINARS ON SCHOLARSHIPS, HBCU LIFE, APPRENTICESHIPS
- ✓ REGISTER ON EVENTBRITE

- ✓ FREE ADMISSION
- ✓ GIVEAWAYS
- ✓ FOOD TRUCKS

**SATURDAY  
SEPTEMBER 10, 2022**  
11 AM to 2 PM  
Tuley Park Fieldhouse  
90<sup>th</sup> & King Drive

THE OFFICE OF  
**ELGIE R. SIMS, JR.**  
STATE SENATOR • 17<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT

**PROVIDENCE**  
BANK & TRUST

*Garrett*  
popcorn shops

**CHESTERFIELD**  
COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
BUILDING A BETTER COMMUNITY  
ONE PERSON AT A TIME

DISCOVER

For information: [www.chesterfieldcommunitycouncil.org](http://www.chesterfieldcommunitycouncil.org) | 773-651-3958 | [Chesterfield@Ameritech.net](mailto:Chesterfield@Ameritech.net)



**NATIONAL KIDNEY FOUNDATION.**

of Illinois

Presenting the

## KIDNEY HEALTH *For Life*

### Community Health Talk

**Sunday, September 18, 2022 | 12:30 – 2:00 PM**




**HEAR WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT KIDNEY DISEASE**

The National Kidney Foundation of Illinois has launched a focused campaign to educate people of color on kidney disease and promote healthy kidney nutrition and lifestyle practices. Kidney disease often has no symptoms in its initial stages and can go undetected until the advanced stages.

**JOIN US!**

**Saint Sabina Catholic Church**  
1210 W 78th Pl, Chicago, IL 60620

*Refreshments will be served.*



# PET FOOD PANTRY

**24TH SEPTEMBER, 2022**  
10:00 AM TO 2:00 PM  
VENUE: SAINT SABINA'S CHURCH  
7811 SOUTH RACINE

SUPPORTED BY







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CALL US ON (217) 518-6428 | [WWW.PAWSALVATION.COM](http://WWW.PAWSALVATION.COM)



September 3, 2022
**SAVE THE DATES**
September 4, 2022

We are celebrating Fr. Paul Whittington's 25th Anniversary as a Priest this year.

The schedule is as follows:



Saturday, September 3, 2022  
4:00 PM Anniversary Celebration Mass  
Fr. Maurice Nutt, CSsR, Homilist

Reception in Church Hall following Mass

Sunday, September 4, 2022  
9:00 AM Mass celebrated by  
Bishop Joseph N. Perry

Gala Celebration Luncheon  
1:00 – 5:00 PM Oak Lawn Hilton  
9333 S Cicero Ave.  
Oak Lawn, Illinois

Information about tickets to the Gala Celebration Luncheon coming soon.



# 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



**St. Moses the Black Parish**  
331 E. 71st Street  
Chicago, IL 60619  
773.224.1022

## **Join a conversation...**

**Explore faith together.**

Alpha is a series of group conversations that explore the basics of the Christian faith in a friendly environment.

**YOU'RE INVITED**

Alpha @ St. Moses the Black Parish begins Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.  
Meetings will take place every Wednesday through November 9<sup>th</sup> in Wilson Hall.  
Dinner will be served.

- Connect with new people
- Watch an episode on a question of faith
- Share your thoughts & hear from others



The South Side Jazz Coalition Presents

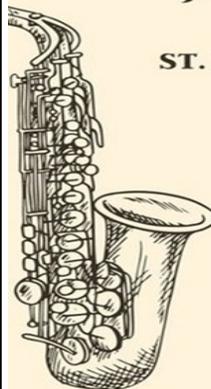
### **JAZZ'N ON THE STEPS SUMMER 2022**

**ST. MOSES THE BLACK PARISH**  
331 EAST 71ST STREET  
4PM TO 630PM

**Fourth Sundays**

May 22  
June 26  
July 24  
August 28  
September 25

**FREE EVENT**



Sponsored by: Safe and Peaceful Communities  
St. Moses The Black Parish

# 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)

Mercy Hospital Mammogram Screening

## Fun In The Sun

JUST TO NAME A FEW

Our Lady of Africa Catholic Church  
and  
Community Senior Business Institute

Host A FALL Holistic  
*Cancer Awareness*

# HEALTH & WELLNESS

FAIR

Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022 from 10am—4pm  
615 East Oakwood Chicago, IL 60653

There will be light refreshments,  
Games and Prizes  
Exercise, Line Dancing and More

Don Doty Veterans Affairs  
Personal Gifts  
Prize Givaway  
Legal Mills and Resources  
Tomi Moore Nutrition Specialist

Register Early 773 919 1687  
Seniors arrive Early  
Pace Bus Service  
Hearing Screening  
Home Maker  
Horse Shoe & Bean Bag Prizes  
Free Resource Booklets  
Diabetic Supplies  
Diabetic Screening  
Free Cell Phones  
Medicare & Life Insurance  
Chicago Fire Safety

This space is available to  
share your events.

For more information please  
email us at

[chicagoblackcatholics@gmail.com](mailto:chicagoblackcatholics@gmail.com).

## Prayer for September



Father God,

We seek your protection and guidance as we prepare to send our children back to school this year. We ask that you cover our children with your blood, and protect them from the evil wrath of violence. Father God, please see that our children journey to and from school safely, and build upon them a wall of protection as they learn in their classrooms.

Father God, fill our children with an abundance of peace, confidence, and love; and uplift each parent and caregiver; for their job is never easy or undone.

Father God, we pray for our teachers, and ask that you fill them with patience, strength, compassion, and wisdom as they lead our children to success.

Father God, we pray for our community and churches, as we seek their understanding, love and support; for we are all in this together, and it takes a village to raise our tribe.

Father God, we trust you, we need you, we thank you.

In Jesus name we pray,

(Amen )

-Shannon Ambroise



### Who are we?

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 Ambroise** 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.
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