



African African American Asian Bi-Racial Caribbean European Filipino German Greek Haitian



Archdiocese of Louisville CULTURAL UPDATE

OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL MINISTRY MAGAZINE

Hispanic Indian Irish Middle Eastern Native American Polish Rural Vietnamese

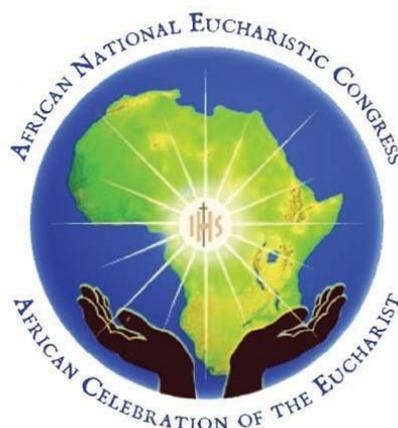
Spring 2016

Issue 44

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Third African National Eucharistic Congress



The Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church/USCCB in collaboration with the National Association of African Catholics in the United States (NAACUS) and the African Conference of Catholic Clergy and Religious in the United States (ACCCRUS) are convening the Third African National Eucharistic Congress (ANEC).

The theme of this Third African National Eucharistic Congress is *"Responding to the New Evangelization: The African Catholic Family, a Gift to the Church in America"*. This Eucharistic Congress is a powerful witness to the world of our faith in the Eucharist and the redeeming power of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. The dates are August 5-7, 2016 at the Catholic University of America, Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center, 620 Michigan Avenue, NE, Washington, DC 20064. The Opening Mass will take place on Friday, August 5, 2016 and Presided by Most Reverend Rutilio J. del Riego, Chairman, Pastoral Care of Migrants, Refugees, and Travelers, and Auxiliary Bishop of San Bernardino. A special closing Eucharistic Celebration will take place on Sunday, August 7, 2016, 10:00 a.m. at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception - Crypt Church. The Celebrant and Homilist will be Most Reverend Joseph Perry, Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago, and Episcopal Liaison to African Catholics Apostolate.

Early Bird Registration until 7/15/16
Adult: \$40.00 Youth: \$10.00 (ages 9-17)

Late Registration after 7/15/16
Adult: \$100.00 Youth: \$20.00 (ages 9-17)

The African Conference of Catholic Clergy and Religious in the United States (ACCCRUS) will hold their pre-meeting August 3-5, 2016.

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United States Conference of Catholic Bishops-Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church, ACCCRUS, and NAACUS invite you and your family to the:

THIRD AFRICAN NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

AUGUST 5-7, 2016

**“Responding to the New Evangelization:
The African Catholic Family, a Gift to the Church in America”**

THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA

Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center, 620 Michigan Avenue, NE, Washington, DC 20064

Keynote Speaker:

Most Rev. Shelton J. Fabre, Bishop of the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux, Louisiana and
Chairman, of the Subcommittee on African American Affairs

CLOSING EUCHARISTIC CELEBRATION:

Sunday August 7th, 2016 at 10:00AM
National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception-Crypt Church

Main Celebrant:

Most Rev. Joseph Perry, Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago, and Episcopal Liaison to African Catholics Apostolate

To download event forms:

[http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/cultural-diversity/pastoral-care-of-migrants-refugees-and-travelers/
ethnic-ministries/african-national-eucharistic-congress.cfm](http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/cultural-diversity/pastoral-care-of-migrants-refugees-and-travelers/ethnic-ministries/african-national-eucharistic-congress.cfm)

Registration link:

http://events.registration.usccb.org/index.php/55E89DC0C05A8-general-information.html#!ANEC_1

For further information contact:

Sr. Joanna Okereke, HHCJ, 202-541-3359: jokereke@usccb.org;
Yolanda Taylor-Burwell, 202-541-3152: ytaylor-burwell@usccb.org;
Rev. Henry Atem, 706-254-98: henatem@yahoo.com;
Ntal Alimasi, 202-256-1781: ntal.alim@gmail.com
Sally N. Stovall, 317-727-5736: Sally.Stovall@bmo.com

Considering the Diaconate
By Mrs. M. Annette Mandley-Turner
Office of Multicultural Ministry, Executive Director

It is hard to believe but we are already starting to think toward the Diaconate class of 2024.

In the 2020 selection process we had a few men, that for various reasons, discerned that continuing on toward the 2020 class was not right for them at the time. Their files have been put on hold pending future discernment.

We have some men who have contacted the office inquiring about the Diaconate and when the next class would start. Some of you have recommended men to us that you feel may have a calling to the Diaconate. We also received a few names at the Men's Conference of men interested in the Diaconate.

The official application and selection process will most likely begin in the Spring of 2017. Deacon Denny Nash and Deacon Pat Wright have discussed holding occasional Discernment Evenings this year and in early 2017. The evenings would allow those who started in the 2020 process and are on "hold" and those who have expressed interest in the Diaconate an opportunity to stay connected with the Community as they continue their discernment. A Synopsis of a Discernment Evening follows:

***Discernment Evenings (Thursdays)** are intended to assist men who are considering a call to the Diaconate to come together for prayer, learn more about who a deacon and his wife are, continue discernment of his call, and time to interact with others who are discerning a call. For those still uncertain about their call these sessions could prove very helpful as they continue their discernment. If the man is married, the wife is also encouraged to attend these sessions. Typically three couples from the Deacon Community make a short presentation on how they live in the Diaconate in their particular situation. Feedback from those who attended these sessions leading up to the 2020 class found them very helpful in their discernment.*

The dates and locations of the Discernment Evenings this year are:

August 18, 2016 – St. Joseph – Bardstown, KY

November 17, 2016 – Christ the King (tentative) – Louisville, KY

Time is from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

If you know of anyone who may be interested in the Diaconate or have someone that you believe would make a good deacon, please invite them to these sessions. It is good for them to make as many evenings as possible. You are welcome to join them as well. If you have contact information for them, please contact Renee Badall in the Diaconate Office at (502)471-2129 and she will keep them on our list of "Interested Discerners." An email will be sent to all of our discerners prior to each of the sessions.



29th Annual African American Catholic Leadership Awards Dinner
By Mrs. Angela Partee



The 29th Annual African American Catholic Leadership Awards Dinner was held March 5, 2016 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 820 Phillips Lane. The event, sponsored by the Archdiocese of Louisville’s Office of Multicultural Ministry (OMM), recognizes the leadership efforts of youth and adults in the African American Catholic community.

Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz, D.D. said the African American community is an important part of the Catholic Church. “They (African American leaders) are actually giving leadership and setting the steps for everyone else to do the same thing. We don’t have as many examples in our society and in our diocese of honoring those and pointing out those who are leaders. This night does that. It’s a wonderful gift,” he said.

Vanessa Griffin Campbell, Director of the Office of Ministry to African American Catholics, Diocese of Cleveland, attested to the necessity of the event. “There are many awards given in the church but not many given to African Americans embracing leadership,” she said. She received an Acacia Award.

Jessica Holman, an adult recipient and member of St. Martin de Porres, said the banquet is very significant. “It is a huge component. It honors and empowers youth with opportunities and resources to go school. It provides a platform to help them grow in their faith,” she said. She said it also helps adults grow in their faith.

Rodriq McCravy Award recipient Cory Bowman, of Christ the King, thinks that events like the dinner offer hope to the youth. “It gives them opportunities and a mindset that they can make it in the world,” he said.

Gloria Walker, of Epiphany, said the awards “show people that good work is rewarded.” She received an adult leadership award.

Adult recipient William Harris, of St. Augustine, Louisville, sees the event as an evangelization tool. “It is an opportunity to do outreach to people who have limited exposure to African American Catholics,” he said.

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Sheila Pitts, of St. Augustine, Louisville, acknowledged that OMM has provided the African American Catholic community with an African American presence in various ways including leadership and praise and worship. “The office (OMM) has worked diligently through the strategic plan that they have implemented,” she said. She received an adult leadership award.

Mattie Little, of St. Augustine, Louisville, said OMM work is important because “we are Black and we are Catholic. We have many gifts to share.” She noted that the office ensures an African American presence by offering workshops, retreats and conferences. She said the programs have encouraged and motivated her to learn more about the Bible and Catholicism.

While the banquet was intended to celebrate the award recipients, most of the recipients verbally celebrated the support received from family, friends and church community and the joy of serving Christ. Some identified a key time in their discipleship.

Mylon Cox, of St. Martin de Porres, cited attending Kujenga as being a significant moment in his life. “It (Kujenga) motivated me to continue to follow in Christ’s footsteps because I saw other youth like me doing the same and that let me know that I definitely wasn’t alone and that it wasn’t un-cool to be Christ-like,” he said.

The Acacia Award recipients were:

Mrs. Vanessa Griffin Campbell (previously identified)

Ms. Antoinette Smith, Youth Minister, St. Agnes Our Lady of Fatima, Diocese of Cleveland

The Genevieve Boone Award recipient was:

Mrs. Mattie Little, St. Augustine, Louisville

The adult leadership award recipients were:

Charles Dillard, William Harris and Sheila Pitts, St. Augustine, Louisville; Lolita Ewing, Jessica Holman and Anna Mary Stith, St. Martin de Porres; John Graves, Holy Rosary, Springfield; Wallace Judie, Immaculate Heart of Mary; Mae Laird, St. Ignatius Martyr; Anita Miles, Christ the King; Bernadette Stanley, St. Monica; Gloria Walker, Epiphany

The Rodriq McCravy Award recipients were:

High School: Jared Carter, Trinity High School; Mackenzie Connor, Presentation High School;
Katelyn McKinley, Mercy Academy

College: Cory Bowman, Christ the King; Mylon Cox and Amari Hughes, St. Martin de Porres;
Austin Harrison, Chavon Jackson, and Michael Wright Jr., St. Monica; Jarie Newby, St. Augustine,
Lebanon; Daisha Edelen and Markus Ford, Holy Rosary; Blake Harris, St. Augustine, Louisville



Year of Mercy
Opportunities for Addressing Racism
By Mrs. M. Annette Mandley-Turner
Executive Director



In recent articles and appearances throughout the world, Pope Francis has, through the wisdom and vision of God and the Holy Spirit, instructed us on his insightful teachings of Mercy. Pope Francis has provided the people of God with a mandate regarding how we as Christian sisters and brothers should treat others who are different because of color, economics, religion and social status. He reminds us that “all who are different are indeed children of God”. As the Lord grants mercy to the merciful so in turn must we show mercy to others. His words and actions are followed by works of mercy that continue to impact the marginalized and alienated poor of our world. Even today, his works of mercy are changing and influencing the lives of Christians and those of other religious persuasions throughout the world in positions of power and influence. Pope Francis is calling people of God to a deeper and more profoundly-lived experience of transformation that intentionally reflects and models Christ in acts of stewardship and personal acts of mercy. Simply stated, "Who is your neighbor? Who is your sister or your brother? As Christians, you must open the

door of mercy in your heart and give witness to mercy for all God's people regardless of their socio-economic status, gender, nationality, ethnicity or race.

The words of Pope Francis are echoed once again by Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz as he travels throughout our archdiocese challenging us to live as members of the family of God. He encourages us as one family to seek God’s mercy during difficult circumstances such as the violence and injustices experienced in society and our local communities. Today, we are particularly faced with the spiraling effects of racism in our daily lived realities and we must be vigilant in denouncing prejudices and rededicating ourselves to the work of peace and reconciliation among citizens of different races, ethnic origins, and educational, economic, and religious backgrounds. As Catholics, as members of the Body of Christ-the Church, this is more than a call, it is our vocation, born of baptism as stated in Bishop Braxton’s writings on *The Racial Divide in the United States, A Reflection for the World Day of Peace 2015.*

Mercy can be the dismantling instrument necessary to rid our community, nations and world of the bigotry that separates us as brothers and sisters born of the same Father. The facts speak for themselves, and we must recognize how, we, as a nation have benefited from the effects of racism. The economic impact of racism has left a society of people of color still struggling to survive from the institutional and structural chains that still keep them held in bondage. Blacks continue to be victims of oppression. The systems created to advance equal opportunity benefit the classes and not the masses. The church’s social justice teachings were founded on the principle of dismantling the injustices of our society, but we have fallen short of internalizing this principle and making justice a reality. The course for action to challenge the injustices in our society have been fought and sometimes defeated on many religious and political fronts; however, racism continues to play a major role in the lives of people of African descent in our society. The impact of racial injustice are prevalent on Sunday mornings as Sunday continues to remain one of the most segregated times in the lives of our Christian communities. Men and women have died as a result of racist attitudes and behaviors but, as Christians, we must not let their struggles be in vain. Our faith tells us to remain steadfast in our belief that God, in the words of the Spiritual, did not bring us this far to leave us.

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On November 14, 1979 our African American bishops addressed Racism in a pastoral letter entitled "Brothers and Sisters to Us." In this letter the bishops wrote that racism is a sin. A sin that divides the human family, blots out the image of God among specific members of God's family and violates the fundamental human dignity of those called to be the children of the same Father. Racism is a sin that says that some people are inherently superior and others essentially inferior because of their race. It is the sin that makes racial characteristics the determining factor that denies human rights to all of God's creation. It mocks the words of Jesus in the Great Commandment to "Treat others as you would have them treat you." Indeed, racism does more than a disregard of this commandment of Jesus; it is a denial of the truth and the dignity of each human being revealed by the mystery of the Incarnation.

According to the National Conference of Catholic Bishops' *Catholic Social Teaching Document*, "Every human being is created in the image of God and redeemed by Jesus Christ, and therefore is invaluable and worthy of respect as a member of the human family". It goes on to say that "Equality of all persons comes from their essential dignity....While differences in talents are a part of God's plan, social and cultural discrimination in fundamental rights... are not compatible with God's design."

We must realize that there is no middle road insofar as racism is concerned; either we condone it or oppose it. If we elect to remain silent or turn our heads refusing to acknowledge racism, we are no better than those who are committing the morally wrong acts. On October 24, 2013 at Simon Wiesental Centre, Pope Francis stressed the need to "fight all forms of racism and intolerance..." and stressed the need for "promoting mutual understanding through training and social commitment." He continued by saying the problem of intolerance should be dealt with as a whole: every time a minority is persecuted and marginalized because of his or her religious beliefs or ethnicity, the good of the whole society is in danger." The role of eradicating racism is not the responsibility of a select few, but it is the moral obligation of all of us because we are *Catholic*, and life and human dignity does indeed matter.



Nazareth Retreat Center



Spiritual Direction Internship

at
The Francis Center
Louisville, KY

September 2016 -
June 2017

Nazareth Retreat Center... ministries for the human journey

Nazareth Retreat Center stands in the long tradition of the ministries of the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth. Housed on the Nazareth Campus near Bardstown, Kentucky, Nazareth Retreat Center offer opportunities for spiritual reflection in a holistic/ecumenical approach which reverences the human spirit and all of creation. With this ministry we hope to be in touch with the diverse needs and longings of the people of God in these challenging times. Through offerings of a space apart, days of reflection, weekend, week long and private retreats, spiritual direction and other offerings in a holistic, ecumenical approach, Nazareth Retreat Center invites others to enter into a contemplative time, a way of being in which the fullness of life, which God desires for all of us, may be opened and affirmed.

Nazareth Retreat Center

P.O. Box 7

Nazareth, KY 40048

502-348-1597 or 502-348-1513

sgray@scnky.org or cmckean@scnky.org

The Francis Center

Francis Center's mission is to emulate the challenge of Pope Francis to bring forth a concrete way to live the Gospel of Joy. Our intention is to create a way of living the Gospel that opens doors to our neighbors with a spirit of support, hospitality and pastoral care. Our outreach is in the areas of Health, Healing and Fellowship. We are located at 3044 Hikes Lane, Louisville, KY 40220. Phone 502-459-4251. Find us on the web at www.franciscenter.org.

Spiritual Direction Internship **THE INTERNSHIP**

The Spiritual Direction Internship is ecumenical in nature and designed for persons who feel called to accompany others on their life journey. The focus is how to be with directees as they reflect on life and their relationship with God.

- The internship is experiential in nature. Its content unfolds in the context of group process and reflection, not lecture. The Internship experience includes one-to-one supervision, peer group supervision, assigned readings, and practice in the art of Spiritual Direction



- The internship begins with a two-day intensive in September and meets most Thursday evenings through the first part of June. Regular weekly meetings are held at the Francis Center in Louisville, KY. Three overnight retreats are at Nazareth Retreat Center, Nazareth, KY

QUALIFICATIONS

- An on-going experience of personal spiritual direction
- A commitment to engage in experiential learning
- An ability to companion others in a one-to-one relationship
- Background in Theology and Spirituality
- **A minimum of five years in ministry**

REQUIREMENTS

- Each intern will see two directees .
- Interns must make one directed retreat
- Interns are encouraged to attend two workshops recommended by the Staff.
- Interns must be present for the two day intensive experience and the two overnight retreats at Nazareth

APPLICATION PROCESS

Those seeking admission to the internship in Spiritual Direction please submit the following:

- An autobiography that includes your spiritual journey (4-5 pages)
- Three letters of recommendations from persons who know you well. Include a referral from at least one person who has experience of you in ministry.
- Personal statement of what you expect from the internship and why you desire it at this time
- All application materials, including the application fee by **June 24, 2016**
- After receipt of the above materials, a personal interview will be arranged with the internship staff.

STAFF

SHARON GRAY, SCN

Director of Nazareth Retreat Center
Sharon holds a DME and an MA in Theology/ Spirituality. An experienced certified spiritual director and retreat director, Sharon comes to Nazareth from the Claret Center in Chicago and was previously adjunct faculty at Catholic Theological Union.

COSTS

- Tuition is \$3000.00 payable in three installments in September January and March.
- \$100.00 non-refundable application fee which will be applied to tuition
- \$100.00 for books

REGISTRATION

To register for the Spiritual Direction Internship, please complete the registration form (on the back) and return it with your **\$100.00** application fee to:
Nazareth Retreat Center
P.O. Box 7
Nazareth, Ky 40048



For further information contact
Sharon Gray SCN at
502-348-1597 or
e-mail at sgray@scnky.org

A Reflection upon the Year of Mercy in My Life
By Ms. Charmein Weathers
Multicultural Special Projects/ Communications Coordinator



Over the course of my life and faith journey, there is a statement that I have heard expressed many times by my elders, “Lord have Mercy”. In my youth, I truly didn’t understand the significance of this declaration, but certainly recognized that it held a special place in the hearts and minds of those that proclaimed and asserted it. Psalms 103:8 states “Merciful and gracious is the Lord, slow to anger, abounding in mercy”. What I didn’t know then, but truly know now is that God’s mercy is awesome. It is infinite.

Mercy is defined as a kind or forgiving treatment of someone who could be treated harshly; compassion or forbearance shown especially to an offender or to one subject to one’s power; a blessing that is an act of divine favor or compassion. As we move into our fifth month of this Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, Pope Francis has called us all too demonstrate acts of mercy, “To be merciful like our

heavenly Father” (Luke 6:25). We are all called to serve God and His people, and we must be merciful in the process.

As I reflect on God’s Mercy, I am mindful of how I too must be merciful. I must be merciful to those that I encounter in my personal life and in my ministry. Mercy is true love that seeks to forgive. Showing mercy is an act that should be done without the expectation of anything in return. This can be very difficult at times due to our human frailties. We often want something in return when we feel that we have given something. There is an expectation that if we give, than we shall also receive, and that if we show mercy that it should be reciprocated. When you have been hurt or wronged, it is very difficult to show mercy to those that have been the source of your pain. There is some satisfaction in that. But God wants us to be merciful to others as He is merciful to us.

What does it mean to be merciful? To be merciful is to show forgiveness and compassion to those in need. Jesus Himself showed mercy many times. We will be blessed, if we are merciful toward others because God Himself displays mercy. The Bible describes God’s mercy and grace in several scriptures:

Lord, you are good and forgiving, most merciful to all who call on you. (Psalms 86:5)

The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in mercy. The LORD is good to all, compassionate toward all your works. (Psalms 145:8-9)

Be merciful, just as [also] your Father is merciful. (Luke 6:36)

But God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us, (Ephesians 2:4)

...not because of any righteous deeds we had done but because of his mercy, he saved us through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, (Titus 3:5)

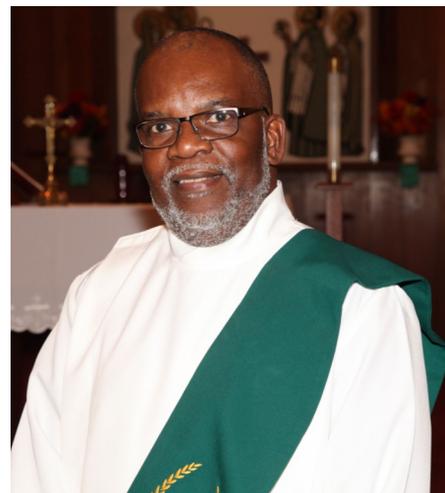
Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy gave us a new birth to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, (1 Peter 1:3)

Jesus opens His Sermon on the Mount with the Beatitudes. The fifth Beatitude states, “Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy” (Matthew 5:7).

As we move into the final months of this Year of Mercy, I will seek to be more merciful, expressing mercy to those that I encounter, with the hope that I am a true reflection of God and that when someone encounters me, that they truly see the face of God. This is something that I will continue to strive for beyond the Jubilee Year of Mercy. Today, when I utter the words, “Lord have Mercy”, I now understand what my elders were asking for and I must pray and work diligently to show mercy to others in the same way. God’s goodness and mercy are infinite!

The Year of Mercy
By Deacon Kenney Bell
Community Outreach Program Coordinator

When I first heard about Pope Francis' call for a year of mercy, I found myself reflecting deeply on the issue. The first thing that came to mind was a year of mercy, shouldn't this be something we do for a life time. But then I realized that showing mercy is not that simple. After all saying that I show mercy to all and actually doing it are two different things. Do I try to determine who is deserving of mercy and who isn't? Am I willing to be merciful towards all? Is mercy something that I show all people regardless of race, sex, economic or political status? Oh, and yes I can't forget religion.



Working here at the Catholic Enrichment Center gives me an opportunity to show mercy while being of service to others. I come in contact with people from all of the aforementioned groups on a daily basis, often in need of mercy. This requires compassion on my part no matter what else is going on. I think staying immersed in the word of God and never forgetting what he has done for me helps tremendously. The gospel for the 5th Sunday of lent reminds us to show mercy to one another. The reading from John 8:1-11 gives a clear example of Jesus' unmatched mercy. Instead of judging the woman caught in adultery, he showed her mercy.

If only we as a Christian people could be more Christ like, what a better world we would have. I challenge everyone that reads this to remember what Christ has done for each of us on a personal level. If we would all make a commitment to be more compassionate to those we meet, the world would surely be a better place. So I'm going to do my best to follow Jesus' example and show mercy without judgment.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE JUBILEE OF MERCY
UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS (USCCB)

Why a Jubilee of Mercy now?

Pope Francis himself addressed this question in his homily . . . for First Vespers for Divine Mercy Sunday. "Here, then, is the reason for the Jubilee: because this is the time for mercy. It is the favourable time to heal wounds, a time not to be weary of meeting all those who are waiting to see and to touch with their hands the signs of the closeness of God, a time to offer everyone, the way of forgiveness and reconciliation. May the Mother of God open our eyes, so that we may comprehend the task to which we have been called; and may she obtain for us the grace to experience this Jubilee of Mercy as faithful and fruitful witnesses of Christ."

What is the Jubilee of Mercy?

In the Bull of Indiction, *Misericordiae vultus*. . . Pope Francis declared that the Jubilee of Mercy will begin on December 8, 2015 (the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary) and conclude on November 20, 2016 (the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe). December 8, 2015 also marks the fiftieth anniversary of the closing of the Second Vatican Council, a Council that sought to bring the love of God to the modern world. Similarly, the Holy Father strongly desires this Jubilee celebration of mercy to be lived out in the daily lives of the faithful, and all who turn to God for compassionate love and mercy.

What Am I Called to Do Differently Because of the Year of Mercy?

By Ms. Audrey Penman
CEC Director



As a Center Director, I am called to share with our staff and volunteers the importance of mercy and compassion for those we serve. It is important for us as servants in our community to be able to meet people where they are, but not pass judgment on where they are at that time.

Our doors are open daily to individuals and families, often with needs that they are unable to meet. As a servant, it is my challenge to not only do my best, but to encourage and instruct our staff, volunteers and others to assist everyone with compassion and a caring spirit. We cannot look sideways at those coming to us for free food and free school supplies. We have to pray and serve like they are coming with sincere and truthful hearts. We are sometimes the bridge over their troubled water, that provides a path less challenging than the one they were on.

I will be more intentional in planning events with a touch of spirituality and quality, along with a dose of mercy. I like to think that our programs are carried out with respect and compassion for our participants. I can work to be more conscious of how we plan and carry out initiatives, because of the conscious choices individuals and families make to come to our center.

The Holy Father, Pope Francis has called us to contemplate the mystery of Mercy. So it is with this in mind that I will make the extra effort to continue this year with compassion and concern for all.

HOW DO WE LIVE OUT THE JUBILEE OF MERCY IN OUR DAILY LIVES? UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS (USCCB)

In *Misericordiae vultus*, Pope Francis emphasizes the need for the Church and all her members to live out the loving mercy that God has for us. Our response to God's loving mercy towards us is to act in that same way to all those we meet. The Holy Father reminds us that "Mercy is the very foundation of the Church's life. All of her pastoral activity should be caught up in the tenderness she makes present to believers; nothing in her preaching and in her witness to the world can be lacking in mercy. The Church's very credibility is seen in how she shows merciful and compassionate love" (*MV, 10. . .*). As members of the Body and Christ, our lives should reflect this witness of mercy to those we meet on a daily basis.

How can we show others the mercy of God? We say that God is compassionate, but we ignore the poor. We say that God loves us and has mercy on us, but we hold grudges against our friends. Our actions need to authentically reflect God's mercy.



ARCHDIOCESE OF LOUISVILLE

**MULTICULTURAL
PENTECOST CELEBRATION**

SUNDAY, MAY 15, 2016

“In one Spirit we were all baptized into the one Body of Christ.”

**Please join Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz, D.D.
for this joyful Pentecost Liturgy celebrating
the gifts of diversity in the Archdiocese of Louisville.
You are invited to dress in the traditional clothing of your culture.**

- **2:10 Prelude Music**
- **2:30 Mass**
- **Ice Cream Social after Mass**

**Cathedral of the Assumption
433 South Fifth Street
Louisville, KY 40202**

**Sponsored by the
Office of Multicultural Ministry and Office of Worship**
This event is an implementation of the Archdiocesan Strategic Plan and National Pastoral Plans.
Made possible by the Catholic Services Appeal.

How Are We Responding to the Needs of the Church?

*By Mrs. Dorice Beauséjour Firmin
Family Life Skills Program Coordinator*



As the Family Life Skills Program Coordinator at the Catholic Enrichment Center (CEC), my job is to work with families in the community and in our parishes in an effort to respond to their needs. Sometimes that might include meeting one on one or with the entire family, providing them with the necessary information and skills that will facilitate growth and effective communication. Currently, I partner with those who possess skilled talent in the areas of Family of Faith Workshops, Effective Parenting Classes, Family Networking, Culinary Classes, Spring Break Camp and Camp Africa, to name a few.

In addition to working with families, I am also responsible for providing opportunities to enhance the academic performance with our school age youth. We offer an Academic Camp to bridge that gap with reading and math, After School programs and individual tutoring. Realizing that parents want to assist their children in being successful in a learning environment, I partner with educators to facilitate sessions to update them on the current methods used in the classroom.

There are many grandparents and other family members responsible for raising children today. It has been the experience of the CEC that they might need to enhance their computer skills. I provide leadership for all adult computer classes and activities related to ACT/SAT prep classes.

The CEC, under the umbrella of the Office of Multicultural Ministry's African American Catholic Ministries, sponsors various programs geared specifically towards the parishes and the community. I have the responsibility of providing leadership for activities that are family focused in nature. It is a life giving experience to be able to serve people in this area.

Here are some of our current and future events and programs:

- ◆ Rediscovering Jesus, Part II
- ◆ Rediscovering Catholicism
- ◆ Faith Builders
- ◆ Women Prayer Groups
- ◆ After School Enhanced Tutoring Program
- ◆ Basic/Advanced Computer classes (call for more information)
- ◆ Cooking classes
- ◆ Camp Africa Inspire (applications are currently being accepted)
- ◆ Back to School & College Fair
- ◆ Beautiful Women of Quality partnership classes
- ◆ FASFA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) Workshop and Filing Sessions
- ◆ Single Parent Sessions

How Am I Responding to the Needs of the Church?

*By Mrs. Eva Gonzalez
Hispanic Ministry Director*

My name is Eva Gonzalez, and my current ministry is to serve as Director for Hispanic Ministry in the Archdiocese of Louisville. My role is to meet the pastoral needs of the diverse Hispanic community by developing and implementing goals and objectives that specifically address those needs, while nurturing the visibility of the Hispanic community leadership in the Archdiocese.



My responsibilities are to implement the overall mission of the Office of Multicultural Ministry that considers key points like providing guidance and leadership to the diverse growing Hispanic community and fostering a holistic development from a cultural and pastoral perspective, according to the National Pastoral Plan for Hispanic Ministry, along with the Archdiocese of Louisville's Strategic Plan and the Archdiocesan Hispanic Plan. I am also called to be a resource for parishes, diocesan offices, and schools in their efforts to outreach to the community, along with translating archdiocesan materials, and coordinating the archdiocesan celebrations of Our Lady of Guadalupe and Our Lady of Cobre. I also coordinate archdiocesan events like the annual Archdiocesan Encuentro for the whole family, and this year's first Encuentro for Hispanic Youth and Young Adults involving the four dioceses of Kentucky. I also develop, coordinate, and teach classes for Hispanic programs including the Leadership Formation Program, the Catechist Formation Program, Theology of the Body for middle and high school teens, Marriage Preparation, and Quinceañera Retreat, among others.

My work is also directed to non-Hispanics where I teach Spanish classes for people who want to learn the language in order to be able to communicate with the Hispanic community that do not speak English. Writing is also part of my responsibility, including providing articles for the Cultural Update magazine issued by the Office of Multicultural Ministry, translating the archbishop's columns for the archdiocesan newspaper *The Record*, maintaining a Hispanic Council for the purpose of communication and planning, developing a yearly Hispanic calendar of events, and attending meetings.

In the area of technology, I maintain the Hispanic Facebook and Twitter pages. I also collaborate on office activities including the African American Catholic Leadership Awards Dinner, the Archdiocesan Black Catholic Congress, the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration, the Pentecost Celebration, the Multicultural Day of Reflection, and other duties assigned. I am required to complete paperwork such as activity reports, meeting reports, and evaluation reports, publicize events, maintain communication with the priests who offer Mass in Spanish, and attend the Spanish Mass of the parishes that offer it. Finally, I maintain communication and attend meetings with other colleagues in my region on the national level.

All that I have mentioned can be carried out due to the way I prepare to minister. Prayer is key in my life because I am able to communicate with God and express my feelings, thoughts, and ask for guidance. Therefore, I can carry out my responsibilities with confidence and love in serving our Lord and neighbor. Once I leave the ministry site I'm happy with what was accomplished that day and leave any challenges of the day to God because the following day is a new one!

How Am I Responding to the Needs of the Church?

By Ms. Audrey Penman

As a “cradle Catholic” I often do things because it is what I was raised to do and what I am supposed to do. It is an automatic response to attend church on Sunday, donate to the youth program or volunteer for a booth at the church festival. However, this is not enough to satisfy the needs of the church today.

Unfortunately in today’s society, there are many distractions to the basic privilege of going to church, serving God and our community. The Church cannot connect to all people, all the time - alone. As a longtime servant, I am compelled to share my gifts and talents to evangelize and reach out to those that find their way here to the center.

For the sake of evangelization, the goal is to maintain community oriented programs and activities. Our programs are open and promoted to all. We are not trying to make anyone Catholic, however, there are times when it comes up in conversation and we make the best of it. I am also quick to confirm that there is an African American Catholic Church next door, and three more in the area!

Our programs are meant to be inclusive and intergenerational and to attract a diverse group of individuals and families, in and around the community. We cannot just put announcements in the church bulletins anymore. Program flyers have to be handed out and mailed, and put in church. I have taken to putting up quirky sayings on our sign out front, and learned to use Facebook effectively. I am learning that we have to reach people where they are, and they are on Facebook more often than not. The church is looking to assist with opportunities to enhance and expand the quality of life. There is a spiritual component to many of our programs that allows me to share how I have been blessed and to remind others how they have been blessed.

Reaching out to others by way of emails, letters, Facebook or other means of social media, is what it takes to assist the Church in its efforts to evangelize. There are many choices to be made regarding lifestyles and even worship styles, so as a faithful servant, I am looking to utilize the various avenues set before us to assist others on their spiritual journey.

A PRAYER FOR THE JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY



Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him.

Show us your face and we will be saved.

You are the visible face of the invisible Father, of the God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy: let the Church be your visible face in the world.

Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord, and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind.

We ask this through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy, you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.

- Pope Francis

National Asian and Pacific Islanders Events and Programs

May 7, 2016 - The Asian and Pacific Island Catholics for Mary 14th Annual Pilgrimage will be held in Washington, DC at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. This annual event brings together many Asian and Pacific Islander Catholic communities to celebrate their heritage and Marian devotions.

Summer 2016 - The Asian and Pacific Islander Young Adult Retreat/Workshop is held every summer in Tucson, AZ at the Redemptorist Renewal Center.

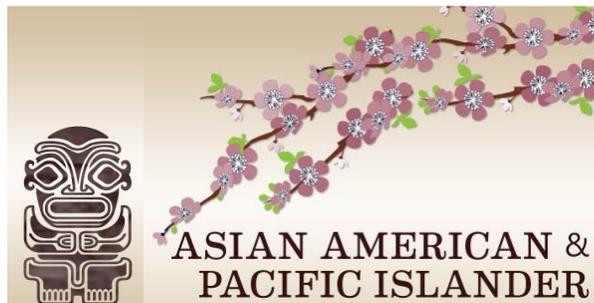
June 2016 - Our Lady of Peace and Good Voyage Pilgrimage is an annual pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception Mass held at the end of June. Last year's Pilgrimage included a Mass celebrated by Archbishop Jose F. Advincula from the Archdiocese of Capiz, Philippines.

July 2016 - The 7th Annual National Conference of Burmese-American Catholics will be held in Buffalo, NY. Check the event page on their website for more information.

July 2016 - Laotian Catholic National Conference will be held in Milwaukee, WI.

September 2016 - The annual Filipino Saints Fiesta Celebration will be held in Baltimore, MD at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen.

September 2016 - The Archdiocese of Louisville's Office of Multicultural Ministry will host its first Day of Reflection for Asian Pacific Island People. For more information contact OMM at (502) 636-0296, ext. 1225.



***TUNE INTO
"CONNECTION POINT"
RADIO SHOW
with
M. Annette Mandley-Turner
Saturdays
2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
AM 1350 WLOU***



CONGRESS IS COMING

Twelfth National Black Catholic Congress (NBCC) to be held July 6-9, 2017



Current social issues impacting all citizens of the United States bring additional validity and importance to this Congress and create strategies to forge positive change.

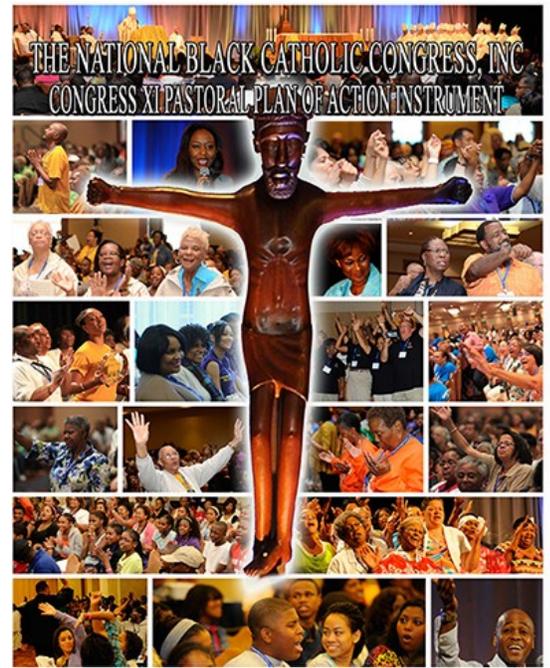
The theme of Congress XII is, *The Spirit of the Lord is Upon Me: Act Justly, Love Goodness, and Walk Humbly with Your*

God (cf. Luke 4:18 and Micah 6:8). We must reaffirm our position on the inviolate value of the life and dignity of every human being. In his Apostolic Exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium*, Pope Francis wrote, "Each Christian and every community must discern the path that the Lord points out, but all of us are asked to obey his call to go forth from our own comfort zone in order to reach all the 'peripheries' in need of the light of the Gospel" (#20). It is critical for the Church to continue to be involved in the life of the Black community, who experience alienation due to the challenging issues of racism, poverty, and hopelessness.

In preparation for Congress XII, we ask diocesan bishops to help us to prepare by convening (or allow the convening) of a Day of Reflection during the first quarter of 2016. We will provide materials for this gathering of Black Catholics and others who serve in the Black Catholic apostolate. Participants will discuss three issues:

- First, how the Church engages in our communities, which includes promoting a culture of life in which we overcome abortion and promote policies which give children a solid foundation for a promising future.
- Second, the mission of the Church to strengthen family structures.
- Third, incorporating youth and young adults in parish life.

Knowing the opportunities and challenges that exist for the Church in our nation and the Black community in particular, we urge you to join us from July 6 – 9, 2017 at the Hyatt Regency Orlando on 9801 International Drive, Orlando, Florida 32819. Additional information about this gathering will be forthcoming. Please do not hesitate to contact Valerie Washington, the NBCC Executive Director, at vwashington@nbcccongress.org or at (410) 547-8496.



*Celebrate and Embrace
the Gift of Diversity!*



How Is the Year of Mercy a Part of My Life?

By Mrs. Eva Gonzalez

The Year of Mercy is a joyful part of my life! This year I'm reminded of the love that our Father has for each one of us. This is not surprising because we were created by Him and For Him. *Gaudium et Spes* states:

“The root reason for human dignity lies in man's call to communion with God. From the very circumstance of his origin man is already invited to converse with God. For man would not exist were he not created by God's love and constantly preserved by it; and he cannot live fully according to truth unless he freely acknowledges that love and devotes himself to His Creator” (#19).

This statement makes me aware of the many opportunities that I have to be merciful as my Father is, and to rejoice when someone opens the door to receive the mercy of God in their lives. At the same time, I acknowledge that mercy is a gift from God given to me despite my weakness and sinfulness. It makes me look with new eyes at my actions in daily life toward self and neighbor.

I see this year as a time of conversion by experiencing an encounter with mercy leading to a path of spiritual renewal. This is a time to be witness and give witness to the wonderful gift of mercy, “without a witness to mercy, life becomes fruitless and sterile, as if sequestered in a barren desert ... Mercy is the force that reawakens us to new life and instills in us the courage to look to the future with hope” (*Misericordiae Vultus* #10). Hope that sustains all that I do with my family and community in this new chapter of my journey titled “The Year of Mercy.”

Responding to the Needs of the Community

By Deacon Kenney Bell

I am an ordained Deacon and an employee of the Archdiocese of Louisville, assigned to St. Martin de Porres and St. Augustine parishes. I also work at the Office of Multicultural Ministry's Catholic Enrichment Center (CEC) as the Community Outreach Program Coordinator. In both capacities, I have an opportunity to work with and minister to God's people daily.

As the Outreach Coordinator, I put together programs and workshops to address the needs of the community. It is my hope that in doing this, the people I meet will see Christ in me. Whether I'm working in the church, the CEC or in the community, my intent is to please God by helping others. The workshops I offer the community are born out of a need that exists in the community that either I or someone else sees.

The Law Enforcement and You program is an ongoing series created to provide an opportunity for interaction with the community and members of law enforcement. The message is, let's be responsible and then we can hold others accountable to do the same.

I encounter people from all walks of life at the Center. There is tremendous opportunity to be of service, especially to the marginalized. Most of my daily encounters are with people who are in need, whether it's ministering with a parishioner who's grieving the loss of a loved one, or a convicted felon who's trying to put his life back on track. In each and every situation, there is a need for a Christ like response without judgment. Having lived in this community for most of my life gives me a front row seat to the needs of those we serve. After twenty-years in law enforcement, nothing shocks me. If anything, it has helped prepare me for the situations that I face daily. I take all of my experiences and my relationship with God everywhere I go, church work or play. It has served me well.

Year of Mercy: Lived out with Families at the Catholic Enrichment Center
By Mrs. Dorice Beauséjour Firmin

As the Family Life Skills Program Coordinator at Office of Multicultural Ministry's Catholic Enrichment Center (CEC), I am presented with many opportunities to serve families from every aspect of life. The nature of the services offered at CEC allows the essence of the year of Mercy to be lived out through the staff and volunteers. We live in a society that sometimes functions with blinders on, not willing to show compassion or forgiveness toward others who have made mistakes. The CEC provides an open door for individuals to participate in programs such as Rediscovering Jesus or Second Chance. Some of the programs offer participants the space and time for reflecting on the ignored or unaddressed truth or problem, the obvious "elephant in the room", so that they are able to discuss why they feel the way that they do and how it is impacting their everyday lived experience. They are encouraged through group sessions to let go and forgive.

We have made every effort to implement the concept of Mercy with the children that are engaged in our after school programs. Many of them come to CEC to escape the street activities or because they were ordered to come by outside partners. We work with them to always look for the good in others as well as their situations. We encourage them to be the bigger person by not reacting in a physical manner, but to be proactive and letting others know that you forgive them for what they have done towards you. It is the feeling of most families and youth that carrying around the pain of hurt takes too much energy and can prevent them from moving on with their own lives.

ARCHDIOCESE OF LOUISVILLE
OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL MINISTRY
CATHOLIC ENRICHMENT CENTER

SAVE THE DATE:
Camp Africa Freedom School
June 6 - July 22, 2016 * 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

During the summer months, students tend to regress academically. This seven week camp will help to prepare your child for the next school year. We guarantee that your child will have an enriching experience in preparation for returning to school in August!

- Academics and Fun!
- Breakfast, Lunch, and a Snack
- English/ Language Arts
- Meet New Friends & See Old Ones
- Girl Power/ Brotherhood Groups
- Nutrition/ Cooking Class
- Social Studies
- Math
- Science
- Fields Trips
- Theater Arts
- Music
- Enrichment Activities
- Cultural Institute

Catholic Enrichment Center
3146 West Broadway
Louisville KY, 40211
(502) 776-0262

Contact us for more information!

AND MUCH MORE!!



Did You Know?
By Ms. JoAnn Crooks

Haiti

- ◆ Haiti was the second country in the world to issue a Declaration of Independence, 33 years after the United States of America.
- ◆ Haiti was the first Black Republic in the World.
- ◆ Haiti was the first and only country in the history of mankind whose independence was the result of a successful slave rebellion and was the first country in the Western Hemisphere to abolish slavery. It would take the United States of America another 65 years to do so.

Belize

- ◆ 60% of Belizeans are at least Bilingual
- ◆ Belize is not an island.
- ◆ “*One Barrel*” is the national rum – and very tasty!

Native American

- ◆ 26 states have names that come from Indian words. Here are a few: Kentucky, meaning Meadowland or Planted Field; Illinois, meaning Superior Men; Indiana, Land of the Indians.

Africa

- ◆ In Africa there are over 1,000 languages spoken and some of these languages are not written, only spoken.
- ◆ There are 54 countries in Africa.



**ARCHDIOCESE OF LOUISVILLE
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CATHOLIC ENRICHMENT CENTER
DARE TO CARE FOOD PANTRY
3146 WEST BROADWAY
LOUISVILLE, KY 40211
502.776.0262**



**THURSDAYS: 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM
SATURDAYS: 10:00 AM - 12:00 NOON
You May Only Pick Up Once A Month
Produce Truck-4th Tuesday
of the month at 2:00 p.m.**



2016
Interregional African American Catholic Evangelization Conference
IAACEC
“You Are My Witnesses”

Galt House Hotel
140 N. Fourth Street
Louisville, KY 40202

George Findley Institute

Developing Lay Ecclesial Ministers for a Vibrant Church

June 9, 2016

Focus Areas: Evangelization, Formation, Youth Ministry Development, Christian Leadership, and Outreach with Black Youth

Cost: \$100.00 Early Bird Registration by May 15, 2016; \$125.00 after May 15, 2016

IAACEC

June 10-12, 2016

Cost: \$150.00 Early Bird Registration by May 15, 2016; \$180.00 after May 15, 2016, before June 1, 2016; \$200.00 after June 1, 2016

Hotel Information:

Galt House Hotel

1-800-843-4258

Room Block - 2016 IAACEC

Guest Rooms - \$129.00 daily plus applicable taxes

Suites - \$149.00 daily plus applicable taxes

Room cut-off is Sunday, May 15, 2016

Contact OMM for additional information or visit the website at www.iaacec.com.



Multicultural Brain Tease

A D A I D Z E U R O P E A N W N J J I O
 M F P F N U Y L P V Y W F I Z A G H Q Z
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Pacific Islanders
Multicultural
Vietnamese
European
Jamaican
Catholic
Rural
Easter
African Americans
Africentric

Indigenous
Universal
Justice
Asian
Native People
Irish
African Diaspora
Multiethnic
Inclusive
Filipino

Korean
Greek
Haitian
Intercultural
Holy Spirit
Diversity
Freedom
Polish
Mercy
German

DATES TO REMEMBER

Multicultural Pentecost Celebration

May 15, 2016
Prelude Music 2:00 p.m. Mass 2:30 p.m.
Cathedral of the Assumption

Hispanic Marriage Enrichment

May 21, 2016
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Maloney Center

Male Initiative Fashion Exposition

June 3, 2016
7:00 p.m.
Catholic Enrichment Center

Hispanic Marriage Prep

June 11, 2016
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Maloney Center

IAACEC - Interregional African American Catholic Evangelization Conference

June 9-12, 2016
Galt House Hotel

Hispanic Camp

June 13-17, 2016
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Location: TBA

Camp Africa Inspire Freedom School

June 6 - July 22, 2016
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Catholic Enrichment Center

Kujenga Viongozi Level II

July 2016
Location: TBA

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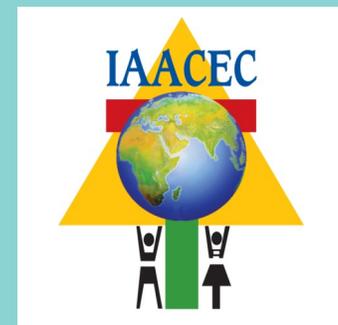
CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING SEVEN THEMES

1. Life and Dignity of the Human Person
2. Call to Family, Community, and Participation
3. Rights and Responsibilities
4. Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
5. The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers
6. Solidarity
7. Care of God's Creation

SAVE THE DATE!

Interregional African
American Catholic
Evangelization Conference
IAACEC

June 9-12, 2016



Galt House Hotel
140 N. 4th Street
Louisville, KY 40202

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