CULTURAL UPDATE OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL MINISTRY MAGAZINE

Winter 2017 Issue 46

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Reflecting on God's Mercy in Our Lives Dr. Veronica Morgan Lee

Irish Middle Eastern Native American Polish Rural

"Reflecting on God's Mercy in Our Lives" was a fitting title for the second Catholic Women's Conference of Diverse Women of Faith to reflect on in this extraordinary Jubilee year of Mercy called by Pope Francis.

Why did the Pope call for a year of Mercy...

The Pope wanted the world to see that the work of Mercy starts with us. Each one of us individually and collectively must grapple with what is going on in our nation, communities, and world. We



Vietnamese

must ask how and what can I do to bring about change and know that God and His infinite Mercy will help us to have a closer walk with Him and discover grace filled moments for renewal. It is for this reason that Pope Francis called for a year of Mercy...It is a beginning but a meaningful beginning.



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Where do we need to see the Face of Mercy in our daily lives and in society...

Pope Francis has called for a revolution in tenderness. There is a need to see the Face of Mercy in the restoration of family relationships, in unfair work and labor practices, in schools that fail to educate children in urban communities across the nation, and in violence in our homes, communities and the world. It is important that the Face of Mercy lives in our Churches and communities where there is so much indifference; we are the church and it is imperative that we offer more examples of God's presence in our encounters with others so that they can see us as an instrument of God's mercy. Given today's closed-minded culture, we have a moral obligation to welcome the stranger, work to dismantle racism and all forms of discrimination and bigotry in our places of worship, employment, schools, housing and all institutions.

What has this year challenged you to do as Catholic and Christian women...

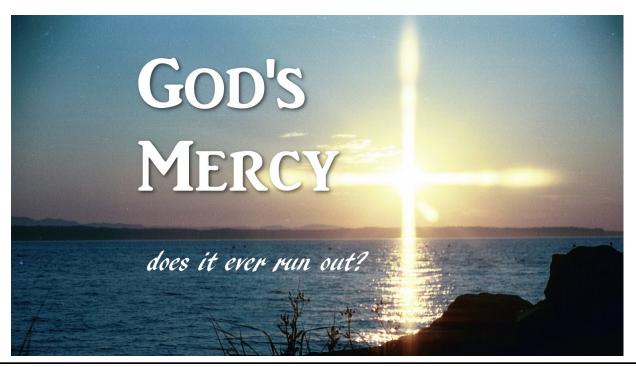
As a nation and world, we are in very difficult and challenging times but you/we must never grow weary and we must know that God is there for us and His mercy never stops, it is always there. In these times of great contradictions, challenges, fears and demands for change at all cost, you /we must be vigilant in witnessing God's mercy---you must be intentional in your faith and know that it will carry you through, what seems impossible to conquer in a society that is so divided, and focused on "The Me" and not "The Other". It is through God's mercy that you can indeed do all things no mater how impossible the task may seem.

What will you do in these final days of the year of Mercy...

Simple acts of kindness, care, compassion, forgiveness, acceptance---all acts of Mercy---look around your community, neighborhood, church, schools, etc.; how can you show those you encounter?

How will this year of Mercy become a part of the fabric of your life? A practice that becomes habit for you...

Mercy is motivated by an encounter with the heart of God that allows us to see the "Face of God" daily in every human encounter that occurs; to encounter the incredible mercy and heart of God transforms one's life, relationships, work, and ability to embrace and experience all of life. This encounter with the heart of God calls you to risk everything that is safe, comfortable, status quo. Just imagine a world that gives unconditionally, a neighborhood that sees the face of God in everyone no matter his or her station in life, culture, and ability. To show the mercy means that we have to be a witness of mercy in our daily lives by reflecting on and practicing the spiritual and corporal works of mercy not just when it feels good but at all times, especially when it forces us out of our comfort zones.



From Slavery to Model of Mercy - the powerful story of Julia Greeley Catholic News Agency

This article was originally published by the Archdiocese of Denver

Denver, Colo., Sep 7, 2016 / 11:06 am (<u>CNA/EWTN News</u>). - Julia Greeley was a familiar sight on the streets of Denver in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

Wearing a floppy hat, oversized shoes, and dabbing her bad eye with a handkerchief, Greeley was often seen pulling her red wagon of goods to deliver to the poor and homeless of the city. She had a particularly special devotion to the Sacred Heart, and would deliver images and information about the icon to firefighters throughout Denver every month. Her charitable work earned her the title of a "one-person St. Vincent de Paul Society" from one writer, and has made her the local model of mercy for the Jubilee Year of Mercy.

Born a slave in Hannibal, Missouri sometime between 1833 and 1848, Greeley endured some horrific treatment – once, a whip caught her right eye and destroyed it as a slave master beat Greeley's mother. One of many slaves freed by Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation in 1863, Greeley's work with the family of William Gilpin, Colorado's first territorial governor, brought her to Denver in 1878.

After leaving the Gilpins' service, Greeley found odd jobs around the city, and came upon the Sacred Heart Parish of Denver, where she would convert to Catholicism in 1880. She was an enthusiastic parishioner, a daily communicant, and became an active member of the Secular Franciscan Order starting in 1901. The Jesuit priests at her parish recognized her as the most fervent promoter of devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Despite her own poverty, Greeley spent much of her time collecting food, clothing and other goods for the poor. She would often do her work at night, so as to avoid embarrassing the people she was assisting.

"She stood out because of how extraordinary she was," David Uebbing, chancellor of the Archdiocese of Denver, told the Denver Catholic. "Even though she was only earning \$10 to \$12 a month cleaning and cooking, she was using it to help other people who were poor," he said.

"That spoke volumes about the charitable heart she had. In addition, she had great devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and was known for walking (monthly) to 20 different firehouses to give (felt) badges of the Sacred Heart and tracts to firemen. That brings to life the corporal and spiritual works of mercy this holy year is dedicated to."

Julia Greeley died on June 7, 1918 - the Feast of the Sacred Heart. Although her death came unexpectedly, she was able to receive last rites. It is estimated that she was around 80 years old, though because she was born into slavery, her exact age was never known.

After her death, her body lay in state in a Catholic parish for five hours, during which a constant stream of people came to pay their last respects to the well-known, well-loved woman.

A documentary about Greeley, based on the book In Secret Service of the Sacred Heart: The Life and Virtues of Julia Greeley, has been produced by the Archdiocese of Denver for the year of Mercy.

Mary Leisring, president of the Julia Greeley Guild, told Denver Catholic that she was happy about the recognition Greeley was receiving during the Year of Mercy. "We had a saint walking the streets of Denver, yet very few people know about her."

30th Annual

African American Catholic Leadership Awards Dinner By Mrs. M. Annette Mandley-Turner

Executive Director, Office of Multicultural Ministry

Thirty years ago, a dream the size of a mustard seed was planted by M. Annette Mandley-Turner (then Region One Youth Ministry Coordinator) to recognize African American Catholic individuals who exemplified characteristics of servant leaders. Her dream soon became a reality. Mrs. Turner also viewed the banquet as an opportunity to provide scholarships to our youth that would attend Catholic school and college.

Mandley-Turner would be among the first to light a torch that would ignite a flame creating a beacon of hope for more than 400 recipients. We will again gather on Saturday, March 11, 2017 at the Galt House Hotel, 140 N. Fourth Avenue in Louisville, KY to celebrate the 30th Annual African American Leadership Awards Dinner.



Mr. Kevin E. Lofton, CEO of Catholic Health Initiatives is the Guest Speaker. He has served in this capacity since 2003. The doors will open at 5:00 p.m. with a Silent Auction and Cocktails followed by Dinner & Program. The following individuals will be recognized for their leadership contributions in their local faith community:

Acacia Award

Sr. Pauline Albin, SL Tanya Beauchamp, R.N., LDE, OHN Monsignor Edward Branch Steve Crump

Genevieve Boone Award

Belonda Hays, St. Monica Catholic Church Marvina Lewis, Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church

Adult Leadership Award

Bennie Alexander, Sr., St. Ignatius Martyr Catholic Church Vickie Cox, St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church Raven Drake, St. Monica Catholic Church Mary Holder, St. Augustine Catholic Church (Louisville) Dr. Geneva Stark, St. Ignatius Martyr Catholic Church Rita Shoulders, St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church Sarah Railey Smith, Holy Rosary Catholic Church Jeffrey Walker, St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church

Rodriq McCravy Award

High School

Camiryn Stepteau, Christ the King Catholic Church Jacob Thompson, Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church

College

Alexis Watkins, Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church Kalynn Hodgens, Holy Rosary Catholic Church



Archbishop calls for bishops' racism statement given election tension By Rhina Guidos Catholic News Service



Atlanta Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory speaks Nov. 14 during the annual fall general assembly of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in Baltimore. (CNS photo/Bob Roller) See BISHOPS-PEACE-COMMUNITIES Nov. 14 2016

BALTIMORE (CNS) -- Earlier this year, as communities faced tensions, protests and violence, following a spate of shootings and killings of black men by police, Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz of Louisville, Kentucky, as president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, asked dioceses across the country to observe a day of prayer for peace.

He also wanted the bishops to look for ways they could help the suffering communities, as well as police affected by the incidents.

To that end, he appointed a special task force to explore ways of promoting peace and healing around the country and named Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory of Atlanta to head it.

On Nov. 14, Archbishop Gregory urged bishops gathered in Baltimore at the USCCB's fall general assembly to issue, sooner rather than later, a document on racism.

photo/Bob Roller) See BISHOPS- "A statement from the full body of bishops on racism is increasingly PEACE-COMMUNITIES Nov. 14, 2016. important at this time," said Archbishop Gregory.

He urged that the Administrative Committee of the country's bishops, "in collaboration with relevant standing committees, do all it can to expedite the drafting and approval of the statement on racism currently contemplated in the 2017-2020 strategic plan, given the urgency of the present moment."

He said the president of the bishops' conference and relevant committees need to "identify opportunities for a shorter-term statement on these issues, particularly in the context of the postelection uncertainty and disaffection"

He also urged prayer, ecumenical and interfaith collaboration, dialogue, parish-based and diocesan conversations and training, as well as opportunities for encounter.

In a news conference that followed his afternoon presentation and ended the first day of the bishops' assembly, Archbishop Gregory said he was concerned about the communities that were disrupted by violence and riots after the police shootings earlier this summer. Some of these communities are experiencing reactions and tensions brought about by the election results, he said.

"It's the hope of the task force, of people of goodwill, that the demonstrations, don't turn violent," he said.

American society has the ability to give opinions on social matters through various forms of expression, including protests, but "what we pray for is that those expressions of frustrations don't provide another vehicle for violence."

Tensions had been high enough in July, when Archbishop Kurtz had said the Catholic Church needed to "walk with and help these suffering communities" that had been affected by the shootings and the riots protesting them that followed.

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"I have stressed the need to look toward additional ways of nurturing an open, honest and civil dialogue on issues of race relations, restorative justice, mental health, economic opportunity, and addressing the question of pervasive gun violence," Archbishop Kurtz said at the time. He said he wanted the work of the task force to help embrace the suffering of the communities, to nurture peace and build bridges of communication and mutual aid in local communities.

The recommendations, said Archbishop Gregory, were examined before the recent elections and all the tensions and protests that have followed. The recommendations were related to race and violence issues that resulted from the summer shootings and riots.

Archbishop Gregory expressed hope that the church could help foster dialogue and bring healing by working with communities for a lasting peace.

"The disruptions (to the) communities that sparked the establishment of the task force have been going on for at least two years," he said. "Violence against people of color is a lot longer than two years. ... The reaction to the election, it's added to that tension."

He said he was praying and hoping that "expressions of frustration, of anger, of disapproval" don't continue to disrupt the social fabric of those communities.

SAVE THE DATE

SPRING BREAK EXPLOSION CAMP

THEME: "SAFETY" APRIL 3 - 7, 2017 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Who: CHILDREN GRADES 1-8 COST: \$40.00 PER CHILD INCLUDES:

FIELD TRIPS, BREAKFAST, LUNCH, AND A SNACK

CATHOLIC ENRICHMENT CENTER
3146 WEST BROADWAY
LOUISVILLE, KY 40211

CALL (502)776-0262 FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER YOUR CHILD

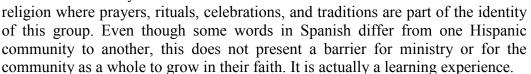
Effective Ministry Opportunities with Hispanics By Mrs. Eva Gonzalez Director of Hispanic Ministry

An understanding of the symbols, culture and ways of being of the Hispanic community plays a major role in the effectiveness of ministry.

The celebration of their patroness, the Virgin of Guadalupe, and her image "in Mexico and in other parts of North and South America is a good example of a symbol ... and central to the history of the people can hardly be told without it" (*Reflections on the Hispanicization of the Liturgy*, 29). Joyful veneration for the mother of God is passed onto the younger generations who participate in these celebrations and keep this symbol as part of their culture and Catholic identity.



The Spanish language is a significant symbol of unity among Hispanics. It serves as a foundation to preserve and create relationships within the family and the community as well as a connection to



The concept of family in the Hispanic community is a powerful symbol of unity and a way of being. The tight relationships with family members that are far away are not forgotten, even if the immigrants cannot see them for several years. Those immigrants whose families live in the same community because they too immigrated, continue with their family traditions such as gathering for "fiesta" at the reception of the Sacraments, the celebration of the "Quinceañera," or

birthdays. When one of the family members is going through a difficult situation, all of the family members look for ways to assist and give support to the one in need.

The ways of being are highlighted by forming and building relationships within the community where they live, gather at homes and at the parish where Spanish is the language that is spoken. On Sundays, when people see each other they like to exchange news and have conversation.

The Hispanic community is a collectivist culture, where they enjoy working or doing things together like attending an event, retreat or formation classes or helping out at the fish fry instead of acting individually. This way of being helps to build community. Hispanic spirituality takes place within the community expressed by popular religiosity "in prayer forms and traditions that were begun and encouraged by missionaries and passed from one generation to the next" (USCCB "The Hispanic Presence" 85). Some examples are having small altars at homes, praying novenas, and blessings offered by parents to their children, among others.

Let's consider getting to know more of the Hispanic community and look for those opportunities to build relationships with them. By doing so we will be able to minister more effectively.



Our Lady of Kibeho...A Vision of Hope and Love By Ms. Charmein Weathers Multicultural Special Projects/Communications Coordinator



Our Lady of Kibeho is a title of Marian apparitions which appeared to several school aged children, in the 1980s in Kibeho, in south-western Rwanda. Rwanda is a landlocked East African country bordered by Burundi, Tanzania, Uganda, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

The apparitions communicated various messages to the schoolchildren, including an apocalyptic vision of Rwanda descending into violence and hatred, foretelling the 1994 Rwandan Genocide. In 2001, the Catholic Church officially recognized the visions of three schoolchildren as authentic.

"The first apparition of Mary was on November 28, 1981, when Alphonsine

Mumureke, a young student of the Kibeho High School, saw a lady of incomparable beauty who

presented herself under the name of "Nyina Wa Jambo," which means "Mother of the Word." Alphonsine immediately recognized her as the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of Our Savior Jesus. The phenomenon occurred subsequently and several times in succession, at long or short intervals. The Virgin asked everybody to convert, to keep faith and to pray without hypocrisy. A short time later, two new alleged seers appeared in the high school, one after the other, and in close proximity to Alphonsine: notably Anathalie Mukamazimpaka on January 12, 1982, and Marie Claire Mukangango on March 2, 1982. The visions stopped for Alphonsine on November 28, 1989, eight years after they had begun. For both Anathalie and Marie Claire, they had ended much earlier in 1983. Today, Kibeho is best known as a place of apparitions and pilgrimages." (Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception of the B.V.M.; Catholic Cravings)



On Sunday, December 11, 2016, members of our diverse faith community came together at St. Thomas More Catholic Church to celebrate the Blessed Mother and commemorate the 1st apparition of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Kibeho, Rwanda (East Africa). Archbishop Joseph E. Kurtz, D.D. presided over the celebration and through his words captured the essence of what the "Mother of the Word" symbolizes to a community that has endured so much pain and suffering.

The message of Our Lady of Kibeho was a simple one of love and repentance. Love God and love others...be kind to one another, pray sincerely, repent of your sins, be humble and forgive each other. She told the children to pray the Rosary and particularly the Rosary of the Seven Sorrows. The Rosary of the Seven Sorrows, also known as the *Chaplet of Seven Sorrows* is often said in connection with the Seven Sorrows of Mary. It is prayed using a special rosary comprised of seven "decades" containing seven beads each. Each decade is separated by a small medal depicting one of the sorrows of Mary, or a single bead.

Our Lady of Kibeho and her message of hope, love, repentance and forgiveness can be celebrated throughout the year, especially on her Feast Day, November 28th.

Archdiocese of Louisville Office of Multicultural Ministry African American Catholic Ministries

African American Catholic Convocation *TIKO*

A collaborative effort between dioceses in Tennessee, Indiana, Kentucky, and Ohio

Theme: "The Spirit of the Lord is Upon Me: Act justly, love goodness, and walk humbly with your God"

The theme encompasses the objectives of Congress XII that will take place July 6-9, 2017 in Orlando, Florida.



Saturday, April 1, 2017 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Catholic Enrichment Center 3146 West Broadway, Louisville, KY 40211

Registration Fee: Adults - \$25.00 Youth - \$15.00 (1st Grade through High School)
Light breakfast and lunch will be provided.

Those who are planning on attending Congress XII must attend this event. If you plan on participating in liturgical movement, please bring appropriate attire. For further details and to register call 502.471.2146.

This event is an implementation of the National Black Catholic Pastoral Plan and the National Black Catholic Congress.

Af	rican American Catholic Convoca Registration Deadline Ma	0	on Form
ame:			Date:
			Phone:
		:	Zip Code:
arish:	Diocese:	Email: _	
ease check the one that b	est describes you: Adult (38 and Older) _	; Young Adult	(19-37); Youth (13-18)
Amount Paid Pai	KPC; KPCLA _ id by: Check Cash Money Order		

OMM*1200 S. Shelby Street, Louisville, KY 40203

MULTICULTURAL THOUGHTS

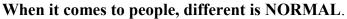
Once you understand and appreciate the culture of others, then you are able to connect with them on a deeper level-Unknown

Strength lies in differences, not in similarities-S. Covey

If my physical presence prevents you from inviting me to be a part of the circle, the problem is yours not mine-Ming Choe

We all should know that diversity makes for a rich tapestry, and we must understand that all the threads of the tapestry are equal in value no matter what their color.-Maya Angelou

People hate each other because they fear each other, and they fear each other because they don't know each other, and they don't know each other because they are often separated from each other.-Martin Luther King, Jr.



A human being is a person with a variety of biological and cultural distinctions as well as one's personal history that sets her or him apart from every other person. Our task is not to make everyone like us but to celebrate the unique gift of diversity that they reflect.



ARCHDIOCESE OF LOUISVILLE OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL MINISTRY





THURSDAY: 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM SATURDAY: 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.







Heroes of Hope: A Spiritual Experience By Ms. Audrey Penman Director, Catholic Enrichment Center (CEC)



Our 6th Annual Heroes of Hope Awards Luncheon, began pretty much like the five previous programs, with last minute touches to the venue, food preparation, and placement of the awards. This year Deacon Kenney Bell shared a brief description of each of the honorees. He spoke from his heart about his experiences with each of them. As three of the honorees spoke, they shared stories filled with mercy and selflessness, that brought us all close to tears.

Lafayette Cowden, III, a member of Christ the King Catholic Church spoke to being grateful for his family and his church. "They are what keeps me going in the right direction, however I truly do believe in what I do for the center." Subrenia Lain, a member of St. Augustine Catholic Church, spoke to being the last of a small family and not having them here to celebrate with her. However, she thanked us for thinking of her and allowing her to serve and share her gifts and talents. Our Advisory Chair, Emily Mosby, then asked those who consider

her family to stand, and the whole crowd stood up! Our last speaker, Marque Carey, Attorney at Law, also humbly spoke of being associated with people who guide, assist and support him in outreach and social concerns in the community. Only having been in Louisville for ten years, he is grateful for those who have embraced him and his efforts.

This program was a joyful event that was much appreciated by those of us in attendance. We were treated to heartfelt words of wisdom and gratitude, words that reflected the hopefulness around the political reactions, the coming of the Advent season and ending of the year of Mercy. It was as though the Holy Father Himself, scripted the program. The 2016 honorees are: Mr. Lafayette Cowden, III {Volunteer Award}; Ms. Subrenia Lain {Volunteer Award}; Mr. Marque G. Carey, MSSW, Attorney at Law {Social Concerns Award}; Mr. Shaun A. Wimberly, Sr., Attorney at Law {Social Concerns Award}; JenCare Senior Medical Center {Family Focus Award}.

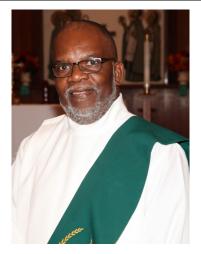




My Brother's Keeper By Deacon Kenney Bell Special Projects/Community Outreach Coordinator

As we usher in the New Year we continue to offer opportunities that address the needs of the community as outlined in the Archdiocese of Louisville's Strategic Plan. The plan calls for strengthening the African American community through education, formation and outreach.

On January 7, 2017, 32 men from the community and I gathered at the Catholic Enrichment Center to get re-energized for the new year. We were blessed to have Dr. Tyrone Powers from Baltimore Maryland as one of our presenters. Dr. Powers is a former F.B.I. agent and past officer with the Maryland State Troopers. He currently travels the world speaking on various topics of interest to people in our inner cities and beyond. Dr. Powers encouraged the all male audience to continue making a difference in our community and in the world. He insisted that we continue to impress upon our youth the importance of good decision making. He



stated that one bad decision could change a life forever. Dr. Powers also suggested that each individuals involvement would be different and that we all just need to do something.

The My Brother's Keeper component of the male initiative of the Archdiocese of Louisville and its Office of Multicultural Ministry seeks to empower the male population and encourage them to get involved with our youth. With this latest endeavor, we were attempting to address some of the concerns that the community has requested of us many times. Among the areas of concern was the future of convicted felons and their inability to find employment. We invited one of our local attorneys, Marque Carey to address the legalities of the expungement process. We were also able to provide a list of employers that hire convicted felons. We are hopeful that the information provided will benefit many of the otherwise disenfranchised in our community.

We will continue to offer opportunities for education, formation, empowerment and outreach to have a positive impact in the broader community.



TUNE INTO
"CONNECTION POINT"

RADIO SHOW

with

M. Annette Mandley-Turner

Saturday

2:00 p.m. -2:30 p.m.

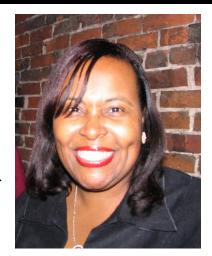
AM 1350 WLOU



Destroying Racism is the Responsibility of All By Ms. Charmein Weathers Multicultural Special Projects/Communications Coordinator

This article was written for and published in the Time to Speak column of the November 23, 2016 edition of the Record. The Record newspaper is published by the Archdiocese of Louisville and covers the Catholic community of Central Kentucky.

Racism is defined as the belief that all members of each race possess characteristics or abilities specific to that race, especially so as to distinguish it as inferior or superior to another race or races; prejudice, discrimination, or antagonism directed against someone of a different race based on the belief that one's own race is superior; poor treatment of or violence against people because of their race. Racism results in an unequal distribution of power on the basis of race.



1 John 2:11 states, "Whoever hates his brother is in darkness; he walks in darkness and does not know where he is going because the darkness has blinded his eyes."

On Nov. 14, 1979, our African American Catholic 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.

My story is born out of the deep south, and is no different than that of many African Americans in this country. Racism has been and continues to be a part of my daily lived experience. My mom is from Birmingham, Alabama and shared some of her experiences of racism with my sisters and me as we grew up. She had to come here — to Sts. Mary and Elizabeth Nursing School — because there were no nursing schools in Alabama that accepted African American applicants. Her sister joined the religious order of the cloistered Dominicans because they were accepting African Americans when others were not, including the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth, who educated my aunt, uncle and mom at Holy Family School.

Racism can be subtle or overt. It can present itself in a statement, joke or action.

One of my earliest memories of being treated differently because of my race was 41 years ago in 1975 during the start of the forced-busing era here in Jefferson County. The program was designed to desegregate our local public schools.

I was going to an elementary school and my older sister attended a junior high, both located out Dixie Highway in the heart of Valley Station in southwest Jefferson County.

As an 11-year-old, I remember the immense fear that I experienced while riding the bus to my new school, far from my neighborhood and out of my comfort zone. During our ride, as we crossed the threshold of Valley Station and approached our different schools, we experienced mobs of mean, angry, Caucasian adults.

They held up hateful signs, screamed and shouted racial epithets at us (including the "N" word) while throwing rocks at our buses as we passed. There were also instances when they rocked the buses.

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I certainly was not interested in being driven to a school on an almost 60-minute bus ride into the lion's den. One thing that I knew was that these types of displays of anger and hatred were not occurring in my neighborhood, as buses filled with children from other parts of Jefferson County arrived there.

Several years ago I was shopping with a friend in a boutique of fine women's apparel when I noticed one of the sales clerks (a young, Caucasian female) seemed to move in every area of the store that I moved. She never uttered a word to me, including a welcome or an offer to assist me with anything. She just continued to stalk me as I shopped. It was obvious that she didn't care whether or not I noticed her; we made eye contact several times. I certainly didn't give her any reason to think that I would illegally remove anything from the store. I was certainly dressed appropriately, the same as the Caucasian patrons. The only difference was the color of my skin.

Whether she was trained by the establishment and management to pay closer attention to African American patrons or the notion of racial profiling was a natural part of her personality, it was still unacceptable. The act of racial profiling was clearly a part of the store's culture.

Those who have never experienced racial profiling might think that the victims are being hypersensitive, but until you have been treated unfairly simply because of your race you will never quite understand the frustration and anguish that accompanies the experience.

Racism is a cancer that permeates every aspect of our lives. Racial divisions continue to be a significant issue in this country. The past election has further polarized our communities with its negativity, hate mongering, immense discord and divisiveness

The Bible has often been used to justify mistreatment of people, with Scripture twisted and misused to defend deplorable behavior and racist acts. The value of a person comes from our Creator, not from man. God tells us to treat others with respect and dignity. The Bible tells us to love our neighbors. So how did we mess this up?

In this tumultuous climate in our country, we must ask ourselves if we have in any way perpetuated racism by either ignoring it, encouraging it or not standing up to combat it? If we choose to remain silent or turn our heads, refusing to acknowledge racism, we are contributing to it. We have to face some hard truths about race relations today. Many think that racism no longer exists in this country because we are no longer seeing some of the same images that we saw before and during the era of the civil rights movement from 1954 to 1968. The conversation about racism and race relations must be had, no matter how uncomfortable.

The Black Lives Matter Movement and anything pro black doesn't mean that other lives don't matter and their struggles aren't relevant, it simply means that black lives matter also; that all lives matter equally. The movement is a rallying cry for social change. The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said in his "Letter from the Birmingham Jail" that "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." Injustice to one is injustice to all.

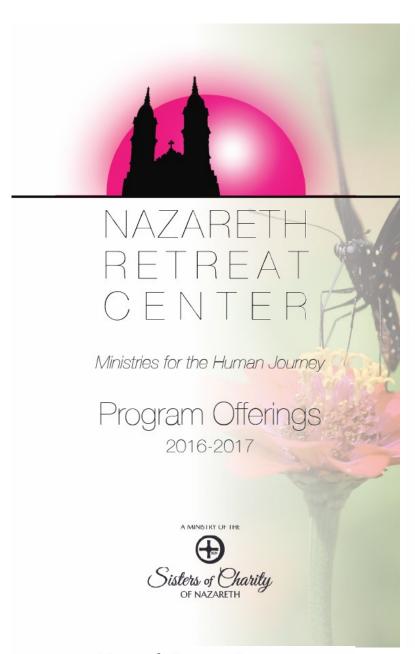
So, how does one NOT get so filled with anger and hatred when you've experienced injustice? MERCY!

Mercy is defined as a kind or forgiving treatment of someone who could be treated harshly.

As I reflect on God's awesome mercy, I am mindful of how I must be merciful, even when encountering injustice, with the hope that I am a true reflection of God. I must show forgiveness to those who have treated me unfairly and unkindly because of the color of my skin. Mercy is true love that seeks to forgive and should be given without the expectation of anything in return.

We must all work to build a better cultural awareness among our brothers and sisters, supporting the life and dignity of the human person, and the gift of every person's life. The role of destroying racism is not the sole responsibility of a few, but of all, the perpetrators and the victims.

Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Nazareth Retreat Center Nazareth, KY



Nazareth Retreat Center P.O. Box 7 • Nazareth, Kentucky 40048

> Phone: 502-348-1597 or 502-348-1513

Email: sgray@scnky.org or cmckean@scnky.org

facebook.com/nazarethretreatcenter

azareth 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, the Nazareth Retreat Center offers opportunities for spiritual reflection in a holistic 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, retreats, spiritual direction and other programs, 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.

In addition, we offer opportunities for alternative body therapies such as massage and energy work, as well as cultural opportunities to nurture the spirit.

The beauty of the Nazareth Campus invites you to come.

We are also available to offer days of reflection/retreats/workshops on various topics off campus at your own site.

Sharon Gray, SCN Director



A MINISTRY OF THE



For a copy of the full catalog, go to http://nazarethretreatcenterky.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/nrc2016-2017.pdf

Upcoming Retreats

February 17-18, 2017

Former Student Retreat: SCN Family Presenters: Betty Blandford, SCN, and

Sharon Gray, SCN

February 26 - March 1, 2017

Lenten Retreat: God's Mercy Incarnate

in Jesus

Presenter: Frances Krumpelman, SCN

March1 - April 12, 2017

Lenten Online Retreat: The Cross as the

Tree of Life

Presenter: Sharon Gray, SCN

April 9-12, 2017

Holy Week Directed Retreat: The

Paradox of the Cross

Director: Sharon Gray, SCN

May 10-12, 2017

The Resurrection as the Heart of the

Christian Life

Presenter: Sandra Schneiders, IHM

May 13, 2017

One Day Workshop for Religious:

Retiring the Term Retirement: Ministry

as Life not Job

Presenter: Sandra Schneiders, IHM

June 11-16, 2017

Directed Retreat: Come to the Center

of One's Heart. Come to the Center of

God's Love

Director: Sharon Gray, SCN

June 16-18, 2017

Opening to the Light

Presenter: Paula D'Arcy

June 21-25, 2017

For The Love of Writing: A Writer's

Retreat

Presenter: Paula D'Arcy

July 9-14, 2017

Directed Retreat: Come to the Center of One's Heart. Come to the Center of

God's Love.

Directors: Chris Connoly, O.P. and

Sharon Gray, SCN

August 11-15, 2017

The Gift of God's Self in Creation

Presenters: Mary Elizabeth Miller, SCN,

and Sharon Gray, SCN

Artist in Residence: Marie Becker, SCN



Family Life Skills Programs at CEC By Mrs. Dorice Beausejour Firmin Family Life Skills Coordinator



We have many things going on at the Catholic Enrichment Center (CEC) including new programs that will benefit the family and growth within the family. The family life skills programs are designed to assist and enhance the family unit, providing support in many different areas.

Some of our ongoing and current programs include the Enhanced Afterschool Tutoring Program, the Cultural Institute, Basic & Advanced Computer Classes, and Dare to Care.

The Enhanced Afterschool Tutoring Program takes place on Monday, Tuesday & Thursday from 4:30-7:30 p.m. and Wednesday from 4:30-6:00 p.m. We are currently working with three amazing tutors that assist with the program. Mr. Harry "Japa" Buckner is our Mathematics expert. He is a teachers instructor for the

Walden School and has traveled the world to teach others. Ms. Wendy Williams is our English and Language Arts tutor. She is a retired JCPS teacher who is amazing at what she does. Mr. Japa and Ms. Wendy are also instructors for our summer camp, Camp Africa Inspire. We are also partnering with Mr. Da'Marrion Fleming who has also been an instructor during our summer camp. He has also worked as a JCPS teacher and does an awesome job at getting the students motivated to learn. With these three amazing instructors our students are making improvements academically and excelling in many areas. You can sign your child up today for a small donation of \$25 a month.

Once the students have completed their homework and anything else that they may need assistance with, they are welcome to participate in our Cultural Institute Program activities. This program is designed to provide the children with a cultural experience they might not experience elsewhere. There are no limits to how many activities a child can participate in. The activities are offered Monday through Thursday and are as follows:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Karate	Dance	Karate	Dance
5:30 - 7:00	5:30 - 6:30	5:00 - 6:00	5:30 - 6:30
Sewing & Knitting	African Drumming	Karate	Arts & Crafts
6:00 - 7:30	6:30 - 7:15	5:00 - 6:00	6:00 - 7:30

Computer classes are still being offered at the Catholic Enrichment Center on Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. for basic sessions and Thursday at 5:00 p.m. for advance sessions. Appointments for one on one sessions are always welcomed if you need a more personal touch. Just call and make an appointment and we will make that happen.

We partner with Dare to Care in many ways. Every 4th Tuesday of the month the mobile pantry comes to provide food items for the community. Every Thursday evening and Saturday morning we open our pantry to the community and provide at least one or two meals that will help them through the week. We offer a cooking class series that assists those families with preparing healthy meals. We invite them to participate in a class session where they learn how to prepare a different type of meal with the items that they received from the pantry because often times a young family will get something they do not know how to cook. This will allow them to learn something new and a nutritional way to cook. The current session is coming to an end, but we will have new dates coming soon.

Next page

Cont.

Some of our upcoming events include: Spring Break Explosion Camp, April 3-April 7, 2017 Camp Africa Inspire Summer Program, June 5-July 21, 2017 Back to School/College Fair July 30, 2017

We are adding a few new programs this year that will enhance our current offerings, partnering with local organizations and businesses to bring more opportunities to the community.

Story time with your little one - We are partnering with the Louisville Free Public Library Shawnee Branch to provide fun learning sessions for stay at home parents with little ones who want to get out of the house for a while and experience an enriching literacy activity. This program is designed for toddlers ages 2-5 and parents/guardians. The parents will learn different reading techniques that will assist them in getting their little ones prepared for Kindergarten as well as story time. It will start on Monday March 6, 2017 at 10:00 a.m., with the next session taking place on Thursday March 16, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. The program will take place twice a month, every 1st Monday and 3rd Thursday. All are welcome to sign up!

Counseling program - We will be partnering with the Louisville Seminary Counseling Training Center to provide counseling services at the Center. The program will offer individual counseling sessions and group counseling sessions that will include family counseling, marriage counseling, counseling for children and teens, parent counseling and much more.

College assistance series - A team of experts in the education field will assist with this college assistance series. The team will include A KHEAA (Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority) representative, Gene Wise, Marque Carey, Greg Dawson, a representative from Simmons College, Lettie Johnson, Marigold Williams and CEC staff. The program will provide resources for students who are planning on attending college. For sophomores, juniors and seniors in high school, we will offer ACT/SAT Prep Classes, scholarship information and assistance on researching and searching for the many scholarships available for minorities, FASFA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) assistance and information, and college application and entrance letter assistance and more.



African American Young Adult Ministry NAACYMN

Roundtable Summary Discussion Update

These are the results of a survey done in 2012 via Survey Monkey. This information will be used at a Black Catholic Young Adult workshop in 2018 in Miami, Florida during the Interregional African American Catholic Evangelization Conference (IAACEC) in order to provide a five-year plan of action for Black Catholic Young Adult Ministry from an interregional perspective. The National African American Catholic Youth and Young Adult Network (NAACYMN) is the partner to this initiative.

Six Star Points

- 1. Strengthen Youth Adult Ministry efforts on:
 - a. Local
 - b. Interregional
 - c. National

Start: Today Complete: Ongoing

2. Draft a resource document of best ministry practices and presenters with African American Young Adult Ministry.

Start: 2015 Complete: 2016

3. Increase and foster Young Adult presence at national, interregional and local conferences.

Start: 2016 Complete: Ongoing

4. Promote and maintain National African American Catholic Young Adult Network. (NAACYAN)

Start: 2015 Complete: Ongoing

5. Collaborate with IAACEC to respond to the needs of African American Young Adult.

Start: 2011 Complete: Ongoing

6. Host tri-annual events on national, interregional and local levels to respond to the needs of African American Young Adults.

(Kujenga Viongozi, Conferences, Days of Reflections, and Retreats)

Start: 2012 Complete: Ongoing

USCCB Committee on Migration Chair Strongly Opposes Executive Orders Because It Harms Vulnerable Refugee and Immigrant Families

January 27, 2017

WASHINGTON—President Donald J. Trump issued today an Executive Order addressing the U.S. refugee admissions program and migration to the United States, generally. The executive order virtually shuts down the refugee admissions program for 120 days, reduces the number of refugees to be admitted to the United States this year from 110,000 to 50,000 individuals, and indefinitely suspends the resettlement of Syrian refugees. In addition, it prioritizes religious minorities suffering from religious persecution, thereby reprioritizing all other persons fleeing persecution; calls for a temporary bar on admission to the United States from a number of countries of particular concern (all Muslim majority); and imposes a yet-to-be determined new vetting process for all persons seeking entry to the United States.

Regarding the Executive Order's halt and reduction of admissions, Bishop Joe S. Vásquez of Austin, Texas, chairman of the Committee on Migration, stated:

"We strongly disagree with the Executive Order's halting refugee admissions. We believe that now more than ever, welcoming newcomers and refugees is an act of love and hope. We will continue to engage the new administration, as we have all administrations for the duration of the current refugee program, now almost forty years. We will work vigorously to ensure that refugees are humanely welcomed in collaboration with Catholic Charities without sacrificing our security or our core values as Americans, and to ensure that families may be reunified with their loved ones."

Regarding the Executive Order's ban on Syrian refugees, the prioritization of religious minorities suffering from religious persecution, Bishop Vásquez added:

"The United States has long provided leadership in resettling refugees. We believe in assisting all those who are vulnerable and fleeing persecution, regardless of their religion. This includes Christians, as well as Yazidis and Shia Muslims from Syria, Rohingyas from Burma, and other religious minorities. However, we need to protect all our brothers and sisters of all faiths, including Muslims, who have lost family, home, and country. They are children of God and are entitled to be treated with human dignity. We believe that by helping to resettle the most vulnerable, we are living out our Christian faith as Jesus has challenged us to do."

Moving forward after the announcement, Bishop Vásquez concluded:

"Today, more than 65 million people around the world are forcibly displaced from their homes. Given this extraordinary level of suffering, the U.S. Catholic Bishops will redouble their support for, and efforts to protect, all who flee persecution and violence, as just one part of the perennial and global work of the Church in this area of concern."

Bishop Joe S. Vásquez of Austin, Texas is the chairman of the Committee on Migration for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)

A Letter to OMM

From: Oliver (4 years old)

My son asked me to write a letter to Martin Luther King, Jr. He asked me what I wanted to write.

I told him I want to teach my son better about MLK and the civil rights movement. My son said this letter is from heaven since MLK died. My son asked the question "Will MLK, Jr. stay in heaven forever?"

My son said that we will try to do things to help treat people nicely, like let people sit where they want to sit, help people who aren't being treated nicely.

Oliver wanted to know if when MLK was alive, did he get any presents for Christmas?

Thanks for all those who inspire us to be better people today.

Sincerely,

Oliver & Andrew Schroeder Louisville, KY

P.S. (From Oliver to MLK) We miss you so much!



Prayer for our Nation (U.S.A.)

God our Father,
Giver of life,
we entrust the United States of America to Your loving care.

You are the rock on which this nation was founded. You alone are the true source of our cherished rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Reclaim this land for Your glory and dwell among Your people.

Send Your Spirit to touch the hearts of our nation's leaders.

Open their minds to the great worth of human life and the responsibilities that accompany human freedom.

Remind Your people that true happiness is rooted in seeking and doing Your will.

Through the intercession of Mary Immaculate, Patroness of our land, grant us the courage to reject the "culture of death." Lead us into a new millennium of life. We ask this through Christ Our Lord.

Amen.



An Update on a visit from the USCCB By Mrs. Eva Gonzalez Director of Hispanic Ministry



In September 2016, the Archdiocese of Louisville was paid a Pastoral Visit from the USCCB's (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops) Subcommittee on Pastoral Care of Migrants, Refugees and Travelers.

A report was written on the visit and several recommendations were made. One of the recommendations to our archdiocese was:

"Research has shown that initiatives such as those that would try to include 2nd generation Hispanic/Latino youth to already established, primarily European American, diocesan youth programs only serve a minor portion of the Hispanic youth population... Opening a Youth Council for Hispanic/Latino youth of the Archdiocese of Louisville may serve as the first step of a larger diocesan youth ministry integration process."

This recommendation wasn't a surprise to our office. In March 2015, our office sent letters to the parishes that celebrate Mass in Spanish with the objective to form a Youth Hispanic Council. This year, you will hear from us again regarding this subject looking for the reasons we need a V National Encuentro. They are:

- 1. To respond to the emerging majority of Hispanics/Latinos who constitute about 60% of all Catholics under the age of 18 in the United States
- 2. To reach over a million Hispanic/Latino Catholics through a process of the new evangelization and missionary discipleship
- 3. To foster the development of at least 20,000 interculturally competent Hispanic/Latino leaders
- 4. To expand the space for growth of leadership inclusion and ministerial responsiveness in parishes, dioceses, schools, and Catholic institutions
- 5. To engage the largest segment of the Hispanic/Latino presence: second and third generation young people
- 6. To strengthen the Catholic identity of Hispanic/Latino families and their missionary discipleship
- 7. To invite all Catholics to live the Catholic Social Teachings with a prophetic voice and empower them to address their own human development

As you know, our office was the convener for the First Encounter for Hispanic Youth and Young Adult Ministry in Kentucky. This was the first seed planted at the Archdiocesan level in collaboration with other dioceses in the state.

The LETTER OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS TO YOUNG PEOPLE ON THE OCCASION OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE PREPARATORY DOCUMENT OF THE 15th ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS, given at the Vatican on January 13, 2017 states: "The Church also wishes to listen to your voice, your sensitivities and your faith; even your doubts and your criticism. Make your voice heard, let it resonate in communities and let it be heard by your shepherds of souls. St. Benedict urged the abbots to consult, even the young, before any important decision, because "the Lord often reveals to the younger what is best." (Rule of St. Benedict, III, 3)."

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.

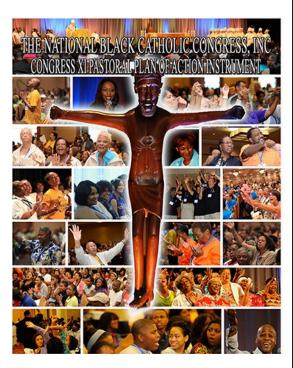
The theme of Congress XII is, The Spirit of the Lord is Upon Me: Act Justly, Love Goodness, and Walk Humbly with Your

God (cf. Luke 4:18 and Micah 6:8). We must reaffirm our position on the 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!



OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL MINISTRY UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 2017

Quinceañera Retreat February 11, 2017 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Maloney Center Hispanic Leadership Formation February 11, 2017 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Maloney Center Senior Institute February 16-17, 2017 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Catholic Enrichment Center

MARCH 2017

Basic Computer Classes March 7 & 14, 2017 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Catholic Enrichment Center

Advanced Computer Classes March 9 & 16, 2017 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Catholic Enrichment Center Hispanic Leadership Formation March 11, 2017 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Maloney Center

African American Catholic Leadership Awards Dinner March 11, 2017 5:30 p.m. Galt House Hotel Retreat w/Filipino Community March 18, 2017 9:30a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Maloney Center

Filipino Mass
March 19, 2017
2:30 p.m.
St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church

APRIL 2017

TIKO African American
Catholic Convocation
April 1, 2017
Catholic Enrichment Center

Spring Break Camp April 3-7, 2017 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Catholic Enrichment Center

Community Connection April 7, 2017 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Catholic Enrichment Center

Family Game Night
April 7, 2017
5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Catholic Enrichment Center

Loving Ourselves April 8, 2017 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Maloney Center

Thea Bowman Institute April 8, 2017 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Maloney Center

Hispanic Leadership Formation April 8, 2017 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Maloney Center

African Memorial Service
April 8, 2017
11:30 a.m.
St. Thomas More Catholic Church

Filipino Mass
April 9, 2017
2:30 p.m.
St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church

Senior Pre-Derby Extravaganza April 18, 2017 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Catholic Enrichment Center

Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon April 29, 2017 11:30 a.m. Catholic Enrichment Center





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aceep	
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gtiomlpten	
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Answers: culture Africa multicultural traditions Korea Spain Quinceañera race family diversity ethnic background religion music America peace heritage ethnicity melting pot ceremonies acceptance nationality Filipino immigrant refugee





SO2 FATHERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Join us, you'll be empowered, inspired, and informed

Thursday, February 16, 2017 6 - 8PM

Catholic Enrichment Center - 3146 W. Broadway (basement floor)

Louisville, KY 40211

Speaker: Rashaad Abdur-Rahman

FREE Event FREE Bar-B-Q Dinner Door Prizes Resource Booths

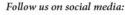
For more information call 502-574-5275

To reserve your seat by **February 13, 2017** call 502-574-6661















DATES TO REMEMBER

Quinceañera Retreat

February 11, 2017 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Maloney Center

Senior Institute

February 16-17, 2017 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Catholic Enrichment Center

TIKO African American

Catholic Convocation April 1, 2017 Catholic Enrichment Center

Spring Break Camp

April 3-7, 2017 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Catholic Enrichment Center

TIKO African American Catholic Convocation

April 1, 2017 Catholic Enrichment Center

Loving Ourselves

April 8, 2017 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Maloney Center

African Memorial Service

April 8, 2017 11:30 a.m. St. Thomas More Catholic Church

EDITORIAL STAFF

Editor/Writer: Charmein Weathers **Printing:** Matly Digital Solutions

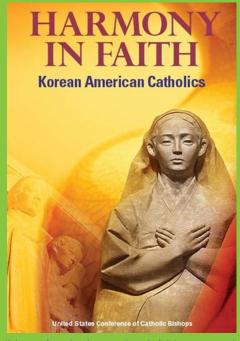
Staff Writers:

Deacon Kenney Bell JoAnn Crooks Dorice Firmin W. Kay Frazier Eva Gonzalez Sandi Tassin M. Annette Mandley-Turner Audrey Penman

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S RECOMMENDED READING

HARMONY IN FAITH KOREAN AMERICAN CATHOLICS



By continuing the tradition of gathering as local faith communities characterized by sacrifice and adaptation, Korean American Catholics have emerged as part of the fabric of Church and society. As the jubilee celebration of Korean American Catholic heritage approaches in 2016, necessary reflections have allowed them to see how God called them to leave their home country and begin anew. Through this process of incorporating the rich Korean Catholic heritage with the immigrant experience, the Church in the United States benefits because of her ongoing growth as a multicultural spiritual family. Visit www.USCCB.org (Back cover)

SAVE THE DATE!

30th Annual African American Catholic Leadership Awards Dinner



March 11, 2017 Silent Auction ~ 5:00 p.m. Dinner & Program ~ 6:00 p.m.

> Galt House Hotel 140 North 4th Street Louisville, KY 40202

This publication can be found electronically at http://www.archlou.org-Departments & Services-Multicultural Ministry-Newsletter