

Diocese of Toledo



Black Catholic Ministry

e-newsletter

January 2009

Michael Youngblood, Director

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: WHAT'S HAPPENING

- The National Association of Black Catholic Administrator's (NABCA) met in Dallas in September. The Most Reverend John Ricard, Bishop of Tallahassee, gave an update on national initiatives of the National Black Catholic Congress and the Black Bishops of the United States. The Congress is hosting a national symposium on fundraising in the spring and co-sponsoring the development of a Black Youth Bible. The Black Bishops are working on a pastoral letter on evangelization to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the historic pastoral letter "What We Have Seen and Heard".
- The Ohio Commission for African American Catholics will host a Day of Reflection on the Year of St. Paul on June 27, 2009 in Canton, Ohio in the Diocese of Youngstown. The day will feature keynote speakers, workshops, and powerful prayer experiences. K. Laverne Redden, Tony and Nell Lester, and Martha Jones are representing the Diocese of Toledo on the planning team.
- This Fall, we had three wonderful events: Revival with Deacon Arthur Miller, All Souls Mass in Lima with Fr. Chester Smith and our Imani-Faith workshop with Mrs. Therese Wilson-Favors. Thanks to ALL who worked to make these gatherings a success.
- **BLACK HISTORY MONTH LITURGY, SUNDAY, February 8, 2009**
We will celebrate Black History Month with a Eucharistic Liturgy celebrated by the Most Reverend Shelton Fabre, Auxiliary Bishop of New Orleans at St. Martin de Porres Church at 10:30 a.m. followed by a reception. This day is also the Feast of Saint Josephine Bakhita.

IMANI WORKSHOP: EVANGELIZATION AND MISSION

On Wednesday, December 3, 2009, Mrs. Therese Wilson Favors, Director, African American Catholic Ministry, Archdiocese of Baltimore, gave a workshop on Evangelization and Mission with a focus on the Year of St. Paul exploring insights from the "Acts of the Apostles" to assist us in reaching out to our community.

In 2009, we will begin a Diocesan Home Visitation process entitled "The Spirit of Jesus Alive Today: Pentecost in Our Times". This process challenges ALL

baptized Catholic Christians to go out into the world and tell the Good News of Jesus.

Excerpts from Operation Faith Lift, Archdiocese of Baltimore:

And Jesus said... "I am the Bread of Life" (John 6:35)

Evangelization is an essential ministry of the Church. In fact, some theologians say it is the very reason for the Church to exist - to share the good news of the living Christ. This is the ministry that recalls Christ's mission and ministry... "I have come to give them life and give it to the full". Jesus, the Christ announced his mission. (Luke 4:18-19) "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has chosen me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set free the oppressed and announce that the time has come when the Lord will save his people". (Luke 4:18-19)

A relationship with Jesus brings about a full life and brings grace to other relationships. A living relationship with Christ inspires us to encourage others to share the message "the key to life is to get it right with Christ".

Let's testify to God's glory right in our neighborhoods. Now is the time for us to once again publicly acknowledge that we want to please God and that great things can happen if we get right with Jesus. Let us tell the story that Jesus is still saying "come to me all who are weary and I shall give you rest." Let's go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born. Let's tell the world that "the Spirit God has given us is no cowardly spirit." We have so much to tell and such good news to share. Some people are waiting and watching.

Dr. Robert Hill, noted African American sociologist, states that "African Americans with strong religious orientation have higher social and economic attainment than those with little religious commitment." In simple terms, every act of inviting people "to take a closer walk with Jesus" strengthens people. Our churches provide spiritual nourishment and strength for the journey.

ARCHBISHOP LYKE CONFERENCE 2009

The Archbishop Lyke Conference will be held on June 18-21, 2009 in New Orleans, LA at the Doubletree Hotel. The Conference will be preceded by the Clarence Rivers Music Institute and the Liturgical Dance Institute on June 17th. The theme is "In Christ All is New".

The Archbishop Lyke Conference is a national African American Catholic liturgical conference which seeks to teach, train, and form liturgical ministers in a culturally rich atmosphere which inspires and encourages participants to enrich worship services in their home parishes. It also seeks to develop and inspire youth to recognize and share their giftedness, time, and talents in fostering Christian values.

The Conference is named after the late Archbishop James P. Lyke, former Auxiliary Bishop of Cleveland and Archbishop of Atlanta. Archbishop Lyke wrote many pastoral reflections on liturgy and to the youth.

For more information can be accessed at the website at www.lykeconference.com.

JOSEPHITE CALENDARS

The Josephite Pastoral Center 2009 Calendar is now available. This colorful calendar provides an Africentric year with important dates and events for African American Catholics. This year's theme is My Lord and My God: John 20:28 and is beautifully expressed with brilliant color, religious sensitivity and artistic vision.

DR. BEVERLY CARROLL HONORED

Dr. Beverly Carroll, Assistant Director, Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops was honored at the National Association of Black Catholic Administrators (NABCA) meeting in Dallas, TX. for her dedication, hard work, and commitment in insuring that the evangelization of Black Catholics remains a priority for the Church in America. The Most Reverend Martin Holly, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Washington, presented Beverly with the award with reflections from Therese Wilson-Favors, director, Archdiocese of Baltimore.



We thank Beverly for her many years of leadership and dedication to the Black Catholic community.

The Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church assists the bishops in instilling the vision of Encuentro 2000 and Ecclesia in America throughout the Church by working collaboratively with all the committees of the Conference and with bishops and their dioceses to bring Catholics from various culturally diverse communities into a fuller participation in the faith, life, and evangelizing mission of the Church. The committee especially works to promote an awareness of cultural diversity within all the committees and offices of the USCCB.

This mandate includes the following responsibilities: Pastoral care of Hispanic Catholics, African American Catholics, Native American Catholics, Asian Catholics, African Catholics, Pacific Islander Catholics, Catholic migrants and refugees and people on the move.

FIRST SYMPOSIUM ON DEVELOPMENT AND FUNDRAISING

The National Black Catholic Congress invites leaders of schools, parishes, religious orders, and diocesan ministries in the Black Catholic community to a Symposium on Development and Fundraising, May 28-30, 2009 in Indianapolis.

The Symposium will feature keynote speakers, workshops with faith-based organizational speakers, roundtable discussions, and workshops on grant searching and proposal writing.

The Symposium will be held at the University Place Conference Center and Hotel in Indianapolis. The room rate is \$139.00 plus tax (single, double, triple or quad occupancy). The conference registration fee is \$195.00 per person. More information will be available soon.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, January 19, 2009

CITY OF TOLEDO:
CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE AND WORKS OF
THE REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.
University of Toledo Savage Arena, 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, February 1, 2009

DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE AFRICAN AMERICAN FAMILY

Sunday, February 8, 2009

BLACK HISTORY MONTH LITURGY
Feast of Saint Josephine Bakhita
Most Reverend Shelton Joseph Fabre
Archdiocese of New Orleans
10:30 a.m., St. Martin de Porres Church, Toledo

Saturday, February 28, 2009

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST
9:30 a.m., Catholic Center

Wednesday, March 4, 2009

LENTEN EVENING OF PRAYER
Speaker: Sr. Patricia Haley, SCN
Diocese of St. Petersburg, FL

Saturday, March 21, 2009

STAND UP SISTER'S RETREAT
St. Martin de Porres Church
Sponsored by Rosary/Altar Society

June 25-28, 2009

SANKOFA YOUTH SUMMIT

Jamaica, New York

Sponsored by the Ambassadors for the Word Ministry

Saturday, June 27, 2009

YEAR OF ST. PAUL: "Like Saint Paul, I Never Would Have Made It"

Ohio Black Catholic Gathering

St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church

Canton, Ohio

Keynote by the Most Reverend George Murry, SJ

Transportation from Toledo

BLACK CATHOLIC INFORMATIONAL WEBSITES:

Diocese of Toledo

www.toledodiocese.org

Diocese of Toledo: Black Catholic Ministry

www.toledodiocese-spl.org

National Black Apostolate for Life

www.blackcatholicsforlife.org

Secretariat for African American Catholics

www.usccb.org/saac

National Black Catholic Congress

www.nbccongress.org

In A Word Publications

www.inaword.com

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