



Office for Black Catholics
ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA



SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

November *Black Catholic History Month*

On July 24, 1990 the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus of the United States designated November as Black Catholic History Month to celebrate the long history and proud heritage of Black Catholics. It also marks a time to share in remembrance, the saints and souls of Africa and the African Diaspora.

Nov. 1 All Saints Day: an opportunity to review the lives of the hundreds of Saints of African descent in the first 300 years of the Church.

Nov. 2 All Souls Day: a time to remember all those African lost to cruel treatment in the Middle Passage crossing of the Atlantic Ocean.

Nov. 3 Martin de Porres became the first black American saint. He was canonized by Pope John XXIII on May 16, 1962. Throughout his life, St. Martin de Porres exemplified God's love for all people, regardless of their level in society.

Nov. 13 The birth of St. Augustine in 354 A.D., the first Doctor of the Church from North Africa.

Nov. 20 The death of Zumbi of Palmares in Brazil, South American founder of a free state for Blacks.



Making A Difference

National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus - Founded in 1968



nbbc.cc

National Black Sisters' Conference - Founded in 1968



www.nbsc68.com

National Association of Black Catholic Deacons



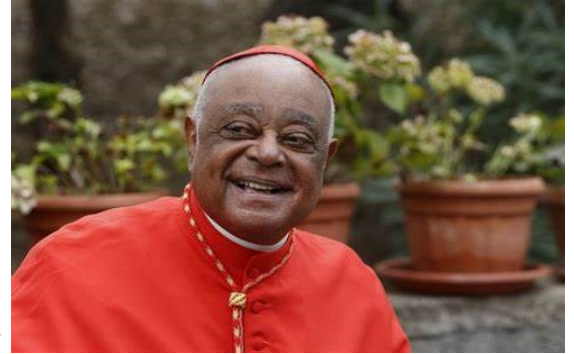
nabcd.org

National Black Catholic Seminarians Association

The National Black Catholic Seminarians Association, (NBCSA) seeks to contribute to the wellbeing of candidates for priesthood and religious life, with an emphasis on Black American, African, Afro-Caribbean, and Afro-Latino candidates preparing to serve the Church in the United States and its territories. The interest of the NBCSA, however, extends to the broader formation community as it seeks to promote knowledge of, and apostolic works in, the diverse Black Catholic community in the United States. Promoting vocations to priesthood and religious life has become central to the identity and mission of NBCSA.

www.nbcsa.today

First African American Cardinal



Cardinal Wilton D. Gregory

A Voice for the African American Community

His Eminence Wilton Cardinal Gregory was born December 7, 1947 in Chicago to Wilton Sr. and Ethel Duncan Gregory; he has two sisters, Elaine and Claudia. He attended St. Carthage Grammar School, where he converted to Catholicism. He attended Quigley Preparatory Seminary South, Niles College (now St. Joseph's College Seminary) of Loyola University and St. Mary of the Lake Seminary.

He was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago on May 9, 1973, and three years after his ordination began graduate studies at the Pontifical Liturgical Institute (Sant' Anselmo) in Rome. There, he earned his doctorate in sacred liturgy in 1980.

After having served as an associate pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish in Glenview, IL as a member of the faculty of St. Mary of the Lake Seminary in Mundelein and as a master of ceremonies to Cardinals John Cody and Joseph Bernardin, he was ordained an auxiliary bishop of Chicago on December 13, 1983. On February 10, 1994, he was installed as the seventh bishop of the Diocese of Belleville, IL where he served for the next eleven years. On December 9, 2004, Pope Saint John Paul II appointed Bishop Gregory as the sixth archbishop of the Archdiocese of Atlanta, and he was installed on January 17, 2005. Pope Francis appointed him as the seventh Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Washington on April 4, 2019. He was installed on May 21, 2019. On October 25, 2020, Pope Francis named Archbishop Gregory one of thirteen new cardinals from around the world. Cardinal Gregory was elevated by Pope Francis to the College of Cardinals in a November 28, 2020 Consistory in Rome.





National Black Catholic History Month

Mr. James E. Andrews
Director

Office For Black Catholics

My Brothers & Sisters;

As you know, November is Black Catholic History Month. I invite you to join Reverend Stephen D Thorne this Sunday at **4 p.m. via zoom. - 8125269359** -He will cover the significance of Black Catholic History Month and those on the Road to Sainthood.

We are having the 58th Annual Saint Martin de Porres Mass on November 7th at 2 p.m. at the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul. Confirmation candidates will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. All are welcome to attend.

November 7th is also an incredibly special day for the Knights & Ladies of Peter Claver. It is the Founders Day of this organization. One hundred and twelve years ago - just a few decades removed from slavery the Knights of Peter Claver was formed. The location was in the highly segregated and racist Deep South. Four Josephite priests of varying racial backgrounds along with three family-oriented, African American laymen, showed tremendous faith and courage to form the nucleus of what would grow to be the largest and oldest historically Black Catholic Fraternal Lay Order. I am personally proud to be a member of Council 187. I was recently inducted, just a few weeks ago. Both my parents were charter members of this council based at St Martin de Porres Parish in North Philadelphia.

On November 20th Sr. Cora Marie Billings, RSM, a member of the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas will be the featured speaker at a Day of Reflection at St Malachy Church at 1429 N. 11th Street. We are extremely happy to have Sr. Cora Marie who is an educator throughout her career. She taught at St Malachy School. Some of Sister Cora Marie's passionate involvements include the National Black Sisters' Conference (as a founding member), anti-racism work, and work as a board member of several organizations and schools in Virginia. This will be a special event with music provided from Kendrah Butler-Waters, a Philadelphia-based pianist, violinist, and composer.

All are welcome to all events sponsored by the Office for Black Catholics.



Empowering Young Women Since 1939



Congratulations

To

Brianna Coates

Senior Class President

2021-2022 School Year

Mitchell Scholarship Recipient

2021-2022

! I always wanted to be the President of Little Flower High School. I knew that I had to wait until my senior year to apply. Throughout the years, I was a member of student government and liturgical friends. I was a student ambassador. I am also involved in many sports such as basketball, cross country, indoor and outdoor track. I had one of the leading roles in my school play. I currently have a leading role in my play this year, which will be Sister Act!

A Leader is a person that is a role model. Also a person that shows guidance and support. One of my goals is to create new programs for my student body. Another goal is to guide my peers into a successful school year! All my years at Little Flower, there has never been an African American President. Looking back, over the last 10 years there was only one African American President. I want to make a difference at Little Flower High School.



St. Martin de Porres Mass & Sacrament of Confirmation

Office for Black Catholic Apostolate



**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7
2:00 P.M.**

**CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF
SAINTS PETER & PAUL
1723 RACE STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103**



**Archbishop
Nelson J. Perez
Principal Celebrant**



All are welcome



ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA
OFFICE FOR BLACK CATHOLICS
INVITE YOU TO ATTEND

DAY OF REFLECTION "RENEWING THE HUMAN FAMILY"

Join us for a day of prayer, music & conversation

9 AM to Noon November 20, 2021

**ST MALACHY CATHOLIC CHURCH
1429 NORTH 11TH ST. PHILADELPHIA**



Sister Cora Marie Billings, RSM
Guest Speaker

PLEASE REGISTER BY EMAIL JANDREWS@ARCHPHILA.ORG