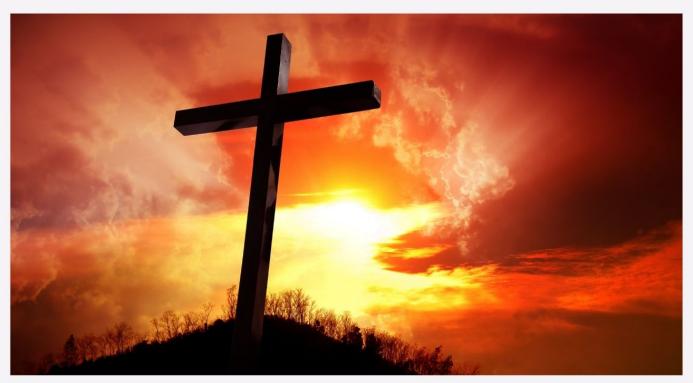


Office for Black Catholics ARCHDIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA



Sharing the Good News



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

My Brothers & Sisters



Pope Francis' Lenten message: Let us not grow tired of doing good is an ongoing theme throughout the Bible and our Catholic teaching. Regardless if it is the Corporal Works of Mercy or Bible literature, it is clear we need to help each other. "Whoever is merciful to the poor lends to the Lord. And he will repay him for his efforts." (Proverbs 19:17). In many ways, the mere act of being charitable is its own reward. Nevertheless, as this verse notes, being compassionate to people who are less fortunate is also something that God will reward. My favorite bible verse is Matthew 25:31-46, which also speaks to feeding the hungry and helping others. Currently we witness so many people in the world suffering in many ways. Let us not forget all the refugees who by the grace of God go I. Of course, I am paraphrasing from 11 Corinthians 15: 8-10. As we are taught that giving alms to the poor identifies us as Catholics, it is who we are and what we do!

PAGE 1 THE GOOD NEWS

MONSIGNOR JOHN T. MITCHELL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Deadline: April 30, 2022



The Monsignor John Mitchell Memorial Scholarship Fund supports Catholic African American students with exceptional academic ability who are in need of financial assistance. Scholarship(s) are awarded annually based upon the determination of the selection committee. For this scholarship, students must be:

- Catholic and African American
- in good academic standing with at least a cumulative B average at the time of the scholarship award
- eligible for financial assistance as determined by a completed FACTS Grant and Aid application (online)
- committed to serving his/her community
- interested in or currently attending an AOPS high school

The 2022-23 Application is now available online to ensure timely delivery.

https://aopcatholicschools.org/financial-aid/



Late submissions will not be considered

Archdiocesan



APRIL 30, 2022 9AM - 4:30 PM CARDINAL O'HARA HIGH SCHOOL

Family Festival

featuring:



Philadelphia Catholic Gospel Mass Choir



Burke-Sivers



Deacon Harold The Messy Family Project



Corazón Puro Youth Ministry



Dr. Leonard Sax. MD PhD Social media Expert



Archbishop Nelson Pérez

JOIN US FOR

'Family, become what you are!'

A fun-filled and blessed day for families in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Come as you are and grow in the Lord together!

Join Archbishop Pérez for Mass, Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers for a dynamic presentation on families & fatherhood, Dr. Sax for family social media guidance, Corazón Puro for fun-filled youth activities, and Mike and Alicia Hernon from Messy Family Project, with amazing tips for your irreplaceable family!

> \$75/family, includes all children and boxed lunches. Bring the grandparents! \$15/grandparent.

> > **Purchase Tickets**





ARCHDIOCESEAN CHOIRS OF PHILADELPHIA

We Find HOPE in YOU

A CONCERT FOR RACIAL HEALING
W/ WORDS OF INSPIRATION & HOPE OFFERED
BY ARCHBISHOP NELSON PEREZ







MAY 15

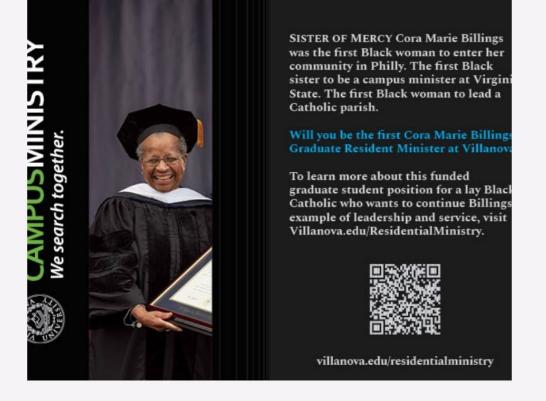




3:00 PM - ADMISSION FREE

CATHEDRAL BASILICA OF SS. PETER & PAUL 18TH ST & BEN FRANKLIN PKWY PHILADELPHIA, PA

SPONSORED BY THE ARCHBISHOP'S COMMISSION ON RACIAL HEALING



Beginning this year, Villanova University's Campus Ministry has designated one of its Graduate Resident Minister positions as the Sr. Cora Marie Billings, RSM, '67 Fellowship. The fellowship will support a lay Black Catholic who is pursuing a M.A. in Ministry & Theology at Villanova. Through the fellowship, Villanova honors Sr. Cora Marie while training a new generation of leaders to follow her example as an educator, parish leader, and diocesan official. More information can be found at www.villanova.edu/residentialministry.



the Archdiocese of Philadelphia has renewed its unique partnership with Villanova University's Center for Church Management (CCM) to offer an innovative two-year, online Master of Science in Church Management (MSCM) degree designed to provide students with a high-level skill set in effective church management.

Qualified students who work for any parish or ministry of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia and its related entities who are interested in pursuing a MSCM are eligible for a \$14,700 (50 percent) scholarship

For more information about the MSCM program, please visit http://www.mscm.villanova.edu/. Kindly consider sharing this information broadly with others who may be interested and eligible.

Retreat Days for African Catholic Men, Archdiocese of Philadelphia



African Men's Responsibility in Building Strong Catholic Family

Arrival: Friday, April 29th, 2022 at 4:30 pm

Departure: Saturday, 30th, 2022 at 5:00 pm

Location: Mother Boniface Spirituality Center

3501 Solly Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19136

Available at the Retreat Center include: Personal room, three meals, snacks & drinks Please register before April 24, 2022 with \$110

Method of payment is by check Make check payable to the *Archdiocese of Philadelphia*

Memo: ACM Retreat

Mail to: Office for African Catholic Apostolate Attn: Sr. Florence Enechukwu 222 North 17th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103



Contact for information: Sr. Florence Enechukwu Sr.fenechukwu@archphila.org 267-282-3487



Office for Persons with Disabilities & the Deaf Apostolate

I have had the great honor to be the director of this Office with the principal goal to foster the full inclusion of people with all disabilities. About 80% of our parishes have a designated Parish Disability Contact/Advocate that partner with the office in promoting inclusion, accommodations and a sense of belonging for parishioners with disabilities. Statistics inform us that 25% of the population lives with a disability. Being conscience and proactive to assure that persons with disabilities are welcome, have ready access and accommodations that enable them to access the Sacraments, pastoral care and the sense of Catholic community can be transformative in the life of a parish.

The OPD also sponsors workshops and events to support and celebrate this mission. Please visit our website for upcoming events - https://opdarchphilly.org/.

For over 8 years, the Office for Persons with Disabilities together with Catholic Social Services coordinates a program called Lily's Gift, which provides spiritual, emotional and practical supports to couples who have been given a pre-natal diagnosis that may entail a short life or a significant disability for their unborn baby. Trained peer volunteers accompany the parents as they journey through this critical time in their lives. To learn more about this ministry, visit www.LilysGift.org.

The Deaf Apostolate provides Masses and Sacraments in American Sign Language, pastoral care and religious education to the Catholic community who are deaf/hard of hearing. Father Sean Loomis and Monsignor Paul Dougherty provide Deaf Community Masses in three Parishes. These are Masses entirely in ASL. This means the priest signs; the lectors sign and the Mass responses are in ASL. Those who do not know ASL are welcome to these Masses and utilize an interpreter who voices for them. To see the fill schedule of these masses, visit www.DeafCatholicPhilly.com. If you have family members who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing, please encourage them to participate in these weekly liturgies. Most of the Deaf Community scheduled masses are followed a light meal and time to socialize. We have a lively and close Catholic Deaf community in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Weekly religious education, ongoing faith formation, opportunities for retreats and service activities are just a few of the activities that take place in American Sign Language.

OFFICE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES & THE DEAF APOSTOLATE

This fall the Lay Organization of the Deaf Apostolate called the International Catholic Deaf Association (ICDA – Chapter #8) will celebrate its 70th Anniversary. Like the Knights of Peter Claver and Ladies Auxiliary, the ICDA is a Deaf run organization that promotes faith and good works among the Catholic Deaf in in the five county arealf you know someone who may be interested to participate or a teen or young adult who uses sign language and can be an assistant, visit www.CamplnSign.org.

The Office for Persons with Disabilities & the Deaf Apostolate is happy to assist you and your parish in any way possible. Your support of the Office is appreciated – get to know a little about our mission, join us for the Mass honoring Persons with Disabilities on April 24, 2022.

Sincerely, Sr. Kathleen Schipani, IHM Director Sr.KSchipani@archphila.org



A PLACE AT THE TABLE: AFRICAN-AMERICANS ON THE PATH TO SAINTHOOD

At this moment, there are no African-American Saints formally recognized within the Catholic Church, but that could soon change. There are six incredible men and women who are on the path to Canonization. It's time to hear their stories.



Fr. Augustus Tolton



Sr. Thea Bowman



Mother Henriette Delille



Pierre Ttoussaint



Julia Greeley



Mother Mary Lange

Institute for Christian Formation Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary

School of Theological Studies

New group begins January 2023

*Please contact our office if interested in joining sooner

Eight Thursday evenings per season 6:30 PM - 9:15 PM

Four seasons: Spring & Fall 2023 Spring & Fall 2024

\$250 per season

Catholic adults 18 years+ with high school diploma or equivalent

Sessions held at Saint Charles Seminary

Certificate obtained for full completion of four seasons



"God of everlasting mercy, ...
increase, we pray, the grace you
have bestowed, that all may grasp
and rightly understand in what
font they have been washed,
by whose Spirit they have been
reborn, by whose blood
they have been redeemed."

Saptismal Font at the Cathedral Basilica o Saints Peter & Paul, Philadelphia The Institute for Christian Formation welcomes all those eager for a closer walk with Jesus Christ to join with others on a journey of discovery of the riches of the Catholic Faith.

Dynamic presenters

Experiential, adult faith formation

Deepening of relationship with Jesus Christ

Enrichment of participation in the Holy Mass and the other Sacraments

Renewal in faith, hope, and love

Mutual support in living the Faith

For more information, please contact us: 610-785-6287 or STS@SCS.edu

Visit our website: www.scs.edu/ICF

Online registration will be available in Fall 2022 on our website



MERTON, MALCOLM X, AND CATHOLIC ENGAGEMENT WITH BLACK LIVES MATTER

Our Mother of Consolation Church,
9 East Chestnut Hill Avenue, Philadelphia
Parish Hall

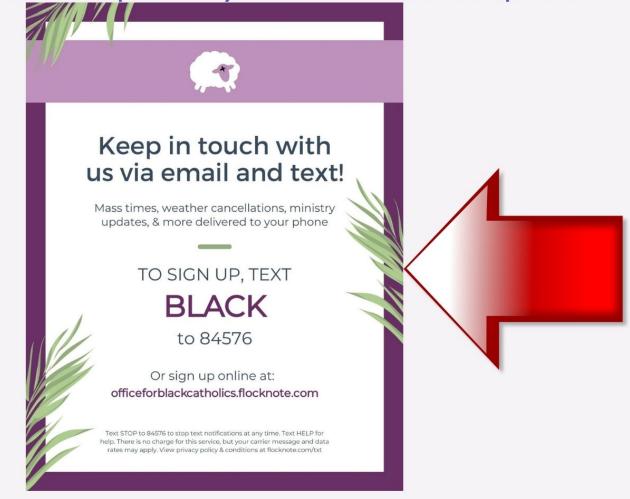
(side entrance, underneath the Church; accessible entry without steps from parking lot)

Saturday, April 30, 5:30 pm I free to join OMC for its Saturday Mass at 4:30 pm) Snacks provided.

Join us for a You Tube video featuring Rev. Bryan Massingale, followed by discussion.

Fr. Bryan N. Massingale is a professor of Theological and Social Ethics at Fordham University. He is also Senior Ethics Fellow in Fordham's Center for Ethics Education. He's a past convenor of the Black Catholic Theological Symposium, former president of the Catholic Theological Society of America, and recipient of four honorary doctorates.

The Peace and Justice Committee of Our Mother of Consolation is pleased to cosponsor this program with its counterparts at Holy Cross and St. Vincent DePaul parishes.





100 YEARS

CENTENARIAM CLUB

Ms. Alma Ross

Gracious Lady Alma Ross celebrated her 100th birthday on October 22, 2021. We respect and value our parishioner at St. Martin de Porres parish. Until the pandemic, Ms. Ross would attend Sunday Mass and display her beautiful collection of hats that would match perfectly with her attire. She was born in Bennettsville, South Carolina. She became a Catholic convert in 1963. Her story is similar to many born and raised during that time as a Black person trying to live and go to school. She was only allowed to go to school after the farm work was completed. She did receive her GED in Philadelphia. Despite all her struggles, she remains a very happy person and proud member of the Parish. Her secret to a long life is - "keep living, work hard, and pray hard. We salute Ms. Alma Ross!

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

God our Father, we thank you for calling men and women to serve in your Son's Kingdom as priests, deacons, and consecrated persons. Send your Holy Spirit to help others to respond generously and courageously to your call. May our community of faith support vocations of sacrificial love in our youth and young adults. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Vocation Awareness Week - November 6 - 12, 2022

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE



HTTPS://WWW.CATHOLICWOMENSCONFERENCE.ORG/

The Sheep and the Goats

31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. 32 All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

34 "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. 35 For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, 36 I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

37 "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? 38 When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

40 "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

41 "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. 42 For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 43 I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.'

44 "They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?'

45 "He will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.'

46 "Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."







Saturday, April 23, 2022 12:05p.m.

Mass for those Suffering from Addiction

Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter & Paul

Sunday, April 24, 2022 2:30 p.m.

Mass Honoring the Gifts of Persons with Disabilities, The Deaf Community - Cathedral

Saturday, April 30, 2022 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Archdioceasan Family Festival, Cardinal O'Hara High School

Wednesday, May 4, 2022 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Making Missionary Disciples: A Training Conference phillyevang.org/events

May, 2022 (more details to follow)

Revival St Cyprian Parish, Fr. Maurice Nutt, CSsR Revivalist **September 10, 2022 2:00 p.m.**

Saint Peter Claver Mass, Knights & Ladies of Peter Claver Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Galloway, NJ

October 17, 18 & 19

Revival - Saint Ignatius Parish, Fr. Anthony M. Bozeman, S.S.J.

Saturday, October 22

Catholic Women Conference, National Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa



CONGRESS XIII (2023)

JULY 20-23, 2023

THE GAYLORD NATIONAL RESORT & CONVENTION CENTER

201 WATERFRONT STREET, OXON HILL, MD 20745



Colorectal cancer is on the rise in young people, and African Americans are at higher risk. That's why the Office for Black Catholics is partnering with eccalliance (ecolorectalcanceralliance on Facebook and Instagram) to give you a free, personalized #CRC screening recommendation at

quiz.getscreened.org. Go to the link above or call 877-422-2030 TODAY!



The Office for Black Catholics serves African American Catholics within the Archdiocese of Philadelphia in collaboration with local parishes to evangelize and celebrate the contributions of the Black Catholic community. The Office of Black Catholics is committed to evangelization and building a faith community that is truly Black, authentically Catholic, and an integral part of the Universal Church.

Please share this newsletter with others. If you know someone who would like to be added to our database have them to text the word "Black" to 84576.