

IMANI

Office of African American, African & Caribbean Apostolate

“I wanted to be a Sister and a Mom”.

Despite the torrential rain on March 13, over thirty women accompanied by their daughters turned out for the first Mother/Daughter Luncheon at the Pastoral Center in Newark, NJ.

Sister Jannette Pruitt, a Franciscan from Oldenburg, Indiana, gave a moving testimony of her journey from wife and mother to her entrance into religious life. She recalled her desire as a young girl to "be a sister and a mom" but since she never saw a black woman religious she thought that a religious vocation was not for her. Sister is the proud mother of three adult children, three granddaughters and one great granddaughter. Sister is presently Director of Religious Education at the Mega Black Catholic Church, St. Peter Claver, in Louisiana.

Her daughter, DeLaSandra McKnight, the author of "*The Spirit of New Orleans*", tempted the audience with an excerpt from her book, after her uplifting talk on our relationship with God. Two standing ovations were given to the young singer Faye Alibocus, when she sang "Wind Beneath My Wings", acapella, and Ava Maria accompanied by Mrs. Ruth Johnson.

"I feel blessed to meet a Nun who is a mother, grandmother and great grandmother" was one of the many comments heard from the women. Sister's life simply reiterates the goodness of God in the life of one who trusts and believes that God can and will do all things if we only allow Him.

The afternoon could be summed up in the words of one of the participants, "It was a journey of faith in God, trust in His goodness and mercy and love."



DeLaSandra, Sr. Pat, Sr. Jannette



Sr. Jannette

Second Quarter
2010
Apr, May, Jun

Volume 1, Issue 2

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Editorial

HE DIED

HE ROSE

ALLELUIA

WE ARE AN EASTER PEOPLE

WE KNOW THE LORD IN THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Lent is over but the essence of Lent is still within us. Our Good Friday is today, tomorrow or whenever we experience the agony of pain, the violent loss of a loved one, the dreaded news of a reoccurring illness or debilitation due to aging.

The disciples recognized Jesus in the breaking of the bread. He will recognize us not only in our acceptance of our brokenness but also when we live His commandment to Love our neighbor in the same manner that we love ourselves.

Patricia Lucas, DHM

Flashback

The first African American Priest & Bishop

Name: James Augustine Healy

Date of Birth: April 6, 1830

Birth Place: A cotton plantation in Georgia

Parents: Michael Healy (former Irish soldier) and Mary Eliza (a domestic slave)

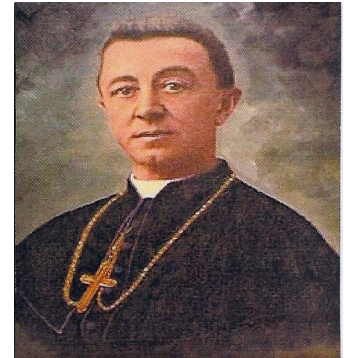
Education: Graduated from Holy Cross College in 1849.

Two years later he earned his Master's degree.

Ordination: 1854 at Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, France thus becoming the first African American to be ordained a priest.

In 1875 Pope Pius IX named Father Healy Bishop of Portland, Maine.

Result: Over the next twenty five years under his administration 60 churches, 18 schools, numerous convents and welfare institutions were established.



Bishop James Augustine

A Brief History

The Office of African American, African & Caribbean Apostolate formerly known as the Office of Black Catholic Affairs was established in August of 1981 by Archbishop Peter Leo Gerety. The first director of the office was Albert T. Heath assisted by Gordon Brown. The most noted director of the office, Lucille Foreman succeeded Mr. Heath in July, 1990 and served as director until her death in July, 1999. Deacon Marshall Andrews became the acting director until the appointment of Tracey Battle in July 2000. Deacon Andrews once again served as acting director after Mr. Battle left the Office in July, 2006. Sister Patricia Lucas, a member of the Society of the Daughters of the Heart of Mary was appointed in August, 2008.

AAA&CA Advisory Committee

Holy Spirit/Our Lady Help of Christian Parish, East Orange:

Charles Brooks

Christ the King, Jersey City:

Deacon Keith McKnight

Margaret Dabney

Diana Maina

Valerie Lewis Mosley

St. Patrick, Jersey City:

George Marucha



Blessed Sacrament/St. Charles Borromeo, Newark:

Andrew Washington

Msgr. Anselm Nwaorgu

Janice Champ

Mary Brown

Lady Shirley Rush

St. Mary Parish, Newark:

Rosalita Roberts, DHM

Gladys Amoakoh

Transfiguration, Newark:

Carolyn Benton

Queen of Angels, Newark:

Joyce Carter

If your parish is not represented, please consider joining the committee.

Important 2010 Dates and Events:

- July 24 Sight & Sound Theater presentation of *Joseph*. Sponsored by Christ the King Parish, Jersey City.
- August 13-15 Third National Gathering of Black Catholic Women. Contact pjcsnd@aol.com.
- November 6 Annual Bishop Joseph A. Francis Award Mass & Luncheon.
- November 19 80th Anniversary of Christ the King Parish, Jersey City.
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Black Parishes in the Archdiocese

AFRICAN-AMERICAN (38 parishes)

(Founded as African-American Parishes.)

- (E) Newark, Queen of Angels
- (E) Montclair, St. Peter Claver
- (H) Jersey City, Christ the King

(Parishes with African-American Catholic families.)

- (B) Bergenfield, St. John the Evangelist
- (B) Englewood, St. Cecilia
- (B) Hackensack, Holy Trinity
- (B) Leonia, St. John the Evangelist
- (B) Teaneck, St. Anastasia
- (B) Tenafly, O.L. of Mount Carmel
- (E) East Orange, Holy Name of Jesus
- (E) East Orange, Holy Spirit/ O.L. Help of Christians
- (E) East Orange, St. Joseph
- (E) Irvington, St. Leo
- (E) Maplewood, St. Joseph
- (E) Montclair, Immaculate Conception
- (E) Newark, Blessed Sacrament/St. Charles
- (E) Newark, Sacred Heart (Vailsburg)
- (E) Newark, Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart
- (E) Newark, St. Mary (Abbey)
- (E) Newark, St. Patrick Pro-Cathedral
- (E) Newark, Parish of the Transfiguration
- (E) Newark, St. Rose of Lima
- (E) Orange, O.L. of the Valley
- (E) Upper Montclair, St. Cassian

Counties:

- B = Bergen
- E = Essex
- H = Hudson
- U = Union

AFRICAN-AMERICAN

- (H) Jersey City, Resurrection
- (H) Jersey City, O.L. of Sorrows
- (H) Jersey City, O.L. of Victories
- (H) Jersey City, St. Aloysius
- (H) Jersey City, St. Anne
- (H) Jersey City, St. John the Baptist
- (H) Jersey City, St. Patrick/Assumption-All Saints
- (H) Jersey City, St. Paul the Apostle
- (U) Elizabeth, Holy Rosary/St. Michael
- (U) Hillside, Christ the King
- (U) Plainfield, St. Bernard and St. Stanialaus
- (U) Plainfield, St. Mary
- (U) Rahway, St. Mary

HAITIAN (6 parishes)

- (E) East Orange, Holy Spirit/Our Lady Help of Christians
- (E) East Orange, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel
- (E) Irvington, St. Leo
- (E) Montclair, St. Peter Claver
- (H) Jersey City, St. Patrick
- (U) Elizabeth, Holy Rosary/St. Michael
- (U) Roselle, St. Joseph the Carpenter

IGBO (1 parish)

- (E) Newark, Blessed Sacrament/ St. Charles Borromeo

Mailing List Sign Up

If you would like to be added to our mailing list for Events, Luncheons, Newsletters and much more, please complete the form below and mail to the address provided.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIPCODE: _____

EMAIL: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

Mail completed form to:
Archdiocese of Newark
Office of Pastoral Life
Marissa Acosta
171 Clifton Avenue
Newark, New Jersey 07104

*IN ALL THINGS GOD WORKS FOR THE
GOOD OF THOSE WHO LOVE HIM.*

Romans 8:28

Nomination Criteria for the Bishop Francis Awards

Do You know an African American, African or Caribbean Catholic lay person with the following qualities?
The person does not have to be in your parish.

PRAY, DISCERN AND PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THIS IS NOT A POPULARITY CONTEST.

CRITERIA FOR NOMINATION FOR THE BISHOP FRANCIS AWARD

A person who exemplifies the spirit of Bishop Francis by:

- A) is living /has lived a life infused with deep religious and moral values.
- B) having worked consistently and untiringly through the years for and with Black people.
- C) having ministry or community involvement that helped to empower the lives of Black people.
- D) active in the life of a parish in the Catholic Church

Narrative: one type written paragraph using the above criteria to explain why the nominee is worthy of this award

Please also submit a letter from the pastor supporting this candidate.

Please send the entire packet, i.e name, narrative and letter from the pastor to:
Sr. Patricia Lucas . DHM, 171 Clifton Avenue, Newark, NJ 07104-0500

NOMINATIONS SENT AFTER AUGUST 14TH WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

Save The Date

The Office of African American, African & Caribbean Apostolate will honor the late Most Reverend Joseph A. Francis on November 6, 2010, with the Annual Bishop Joseph A. Francis Award Luncheon.

Mass will begin at 11:00 a. m. in the
Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

An Awards Luncheon will follow immediately in the
Archdiocesan Center at 12:15 p.m.

More registration information will follow closer to date.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the African American, African, & Caribbean Apostolate is to:

DISCOVER and PROMOTE leadership among Roman Catholics of African descent in the
Archdiocese of Newark.

ENCOURAGE Fiscal responsibility and self reliance.

EMPOWER young adults to embrace their cultural identity and to refuse to live their lives
apart from their Savior Jesus the Christ.

LOVE who we are and to Whom we belong thus striving to eradicate all form of racism and
oppression.

**African American,
African & Caribbean
Apostolate**

Archdiocesan Center
c/o Sr Patricia Lucas
171 Clifton Avenue
Newark, New Jersey 07104

Phone: 973-497-4304
Fax: 973-497-4317
Email: lucapat@rcan.org



The website is
under repair.

