ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF CHARLESTON OFFICE OF ETHNIC MINISTRIES



Newsletter

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- •Diocese of Charleston Black Catholic History Month
- Sisters of St. Mary of Namur 200 year celebration, thank you
- Native American Ministry
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- •Recommended Reading

Diversity Training/A dialogue to promote Peace

November is Black Catholic History Month

A time to celebrate our diversity, honor our brothers and sister of African descent who were dedicated to the Catholic faith and to enrich the lives of our youth to promote peace, love and a better understanding of Black Catholics.

It is also a time to remember the Black Catholics who faced discrimination in the Church and to learn of the 31 African Saints recognized in the Church.

A time to acknowledge that there are no African American Saints in the Catholic Church and that today there are 6 African Americans on the road to sainthood.

This is a month for all Catholics to acknowledge and grow in love and a deeper understanding of our Black Catholic brothers and sisters in Christ.

An invitation to Parishes, Schools, Missions and all Catholics to learn and share.

ALL ARE INVITED TO OUR DIOCESAN BLACK CATHOLIC HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION: BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY!

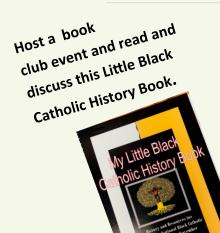


SATURDAY NOVEMBER 23, 2019 9:30 AM-2:00 PM AT THE PASTORAL CENTER ASSEMBLY HALL IN CHARLESTON.

CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO AND REGISTRATION.

HTTPS://www.eventbrite.com/e/black-catholic-history-month-celebration-tickets-75379559291

MORE INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 2.



"My Little Black Catholic History Book"

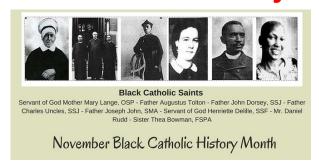
This history and resource book for celebrating
National Black Catholic History Month is
available through the Office of Ethnic Ministries.
(complimentary) Contact: 864.331.2627 or
rmcnamara@charlestondiocese.org

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November is Black Catholic History Month Ways to Celebrate...



Diocese of Charleston Black Catholic History Month Celebration's Youth Track

November 23, 2019 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Pastoral Center Assembly Hall. The hall is located at 901 Orange Grove Road, Charleston, SC 29407.

In addition to the Adult track led by Sr. Roberta Fulton, SSMN, a youth track will be offered.

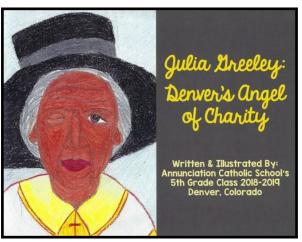
Youth Track Facilitator Kathleen Merritt, will engage our young people in learning their history, engage in dialogue and envision the future of the Church with them as our leaders. In order to path the future one must look at the past. Facilitator Kathleen Merritt will introduce an innovative approach of fun and technology to engage the youth in this adventure. Pastors, parents, adults, and youth leaders are strongly encouraged to support the presence of our youth at this gathering. Remember they are our future.

Lunch will be served and registration is required. The registration fee is \$10.00 for adults and N/C for the youth. Registration deadline is November 11, 2019.

For more information and to register go online to:

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/black-catholic-history-month-celebration-tickets-75379559291





Tulia Greeley: Denver's Cangel of Charity A book written and illustrated by the Annunciation Catholic School's 5th Grade Class 2018-2019 Denver, Colorado "Julia Greeley was a woman loved by many in Denver. However, there are still people who haven't heard of this Angel of Charity." From the Introduction, Julia Greeley: Denver's Angel of Charity To purchase copies of this book, please email: juliagreeleyguild@gmail.com Copyright © 2019 Annunciation Catholic School Al rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced or used in any manner without written permission of the copyright owner except for the use of quotations in a book review.

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A Word of Gratitude From the Sisters of St. Mary de Namur's 200th Anniversary Celebration

We, the Sisters of St. Mary, are especially grateful to all of our friends who joined us for this festive celebration. Thank you for the outpouring of love. Abundant blessings to you & your families!

Love & peace,

Sisters of St. Mary de Namur



Saturday, October 26, 2019 in Sumter, S.C. For a glimpse of the event through the lens of Kathleen Merritt visit the Black Catholics page on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/BlackCatholicinCharleston/

SAVE THE DATE

Diocese of Charleston's Black Catholics Heritage Celebration 2020 "A Timeline of Faith, Love and Unity in Diversity."



Date: Saturday, February 22, 2020

Time: 10:00a.m.— 4:00 p.m.

Columbia, SC



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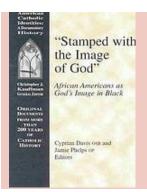
PROMOTING THE VOCATIONS



Youth/Young Adults Q&A with Sister Roberta Fulton SSMN, Assistant Director for African American Evangelization

Question: Is being a Religious Sister Boring?

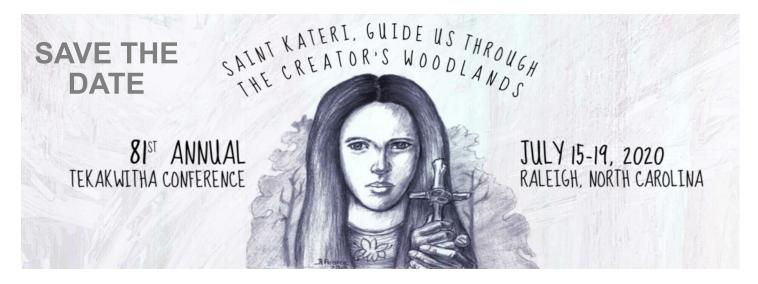
Answer: No, I'm not bored. I have so much fun being a Sister. It brings me so much joy. There are about 400 African American Sisters in the U.S. We pray. We have fun. We spend time with God. We are dedicated to our ministries of service. We are weaving our journey towards God You're not too young. Your journey towards God begins now. God bless mommas, dads and friends for their persistence in helping us develop our faith and relationship with God. You and I have been called. Look around you for people of faith. Places to start could be your church youth, college Newman Centers and going to Mass. You're not too young to be a vibrant follower of Jesus.



Recommended Reading by Sr. Roberta Fulton, SSMN

This book documents how African Americans have been an integral part of Catholic History in America. It's very informative. You can purchase this book at

http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/52901442



For more information visit the website at : https://tekconf.org/conferences



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Native American Ministry Discussion

Tekakwitha Circles

Vol. 1 |ssue 11

November Signpost



St. Tekakwitha
Opening prayer:

God of all nations and peoples. You have filled Your

mighty presence. Through Your handiwork You speak to our heard words that satisfy our every desire.

You called Your servant the Mohawk maiden Saint Kateri Tekakwitha to embrace the Gospel of your Son Jesus Christ to do Your will and to serve others with the gifts You gave her.

May she who held tight to the cross of Your Son through her short life marred by sickness suffering and persecution, be our intercessor during our own trials. May her embrace of the Catholic faith and her openness to sharing Jesus with others inspire us to be new evangelizers to all cultures and peoples. May she who sought out Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament lead us

for the GOOD

Fall West Blue

Sin

Self Centeredness Greed/ Covertness Fruits of the Holy Spirit Charity (or Love) Kindness Chasity



Who do we need to bring in the circle
Who do we need to pray for:
Family members who are sick.
Family members who have died.
Struggles that we are facing?

Although this was composed by Rev. Michael Carson, the USCCB and the Subcommittee on Native Americans is not responsible for the content. You may use any or all of the "Sign Post" for the benefit of the Tekakwitha's Circles. This is only a suggested guide. Use what you find useful. Each addition has been reviewed by the Tekakwitha Executive Board. If you have any feedback on how the "Signposts" can be improved, I would love to hear from you at mcarson@uscch.org

The Tekakwitha Conference holds the copyright

Rev. Mike Carson

Discussion Item

The American Catholic Indian Schools Network



Catholic schools in the Country's reservations are vital to the path of young Native Americans to get out of endemic and systematic poverty. Reservation Catholic schools are also vital to passing on the cultures, languages, and values of tribes. These two aspects of reservation Catholic schools are the corner stone of hope and light to some of the Nation's poorest of the poor.

Catholic Native American schools on reservations have some unique challenges. They are educating some of the poorest students in the United States. They also have an extra responsibility of teaching tribal languages, cultures, and traditions. Because of the poor population that they serve and the difficulties that they face, all Catholic Schools on reservations need outside help.

In order to overcome the obstacles that Catholic Native American schools face, in 2016, the Catholic Indian Schools Network was established with the help of the Better Ways foundation. The Catholic Indian Schools Network is part of the A.C.E. program at Norte Dame University.

Over the last three years, the Catholic Indian Schools Network has developed resources, training and workshops for teachers and administrators. The Network has also addressed the high rate of suicide with Native American children and other social issues.

There has been many reservation Catholic schools that have closed in recent years. Those that remain do an outstanding work both in terms of education, but also passing on Catholic belief and teaching. Each school that closes is a loss not only to tribes but also to the Catholic Church. That is the reason that the American Catholic Indian School Network and Catholic organizations like it are very much needed.



The social evils that have befallen most of the Native American communities can be traced back to the so-called "Doctrine of Discovery." $\label{eq:called}$

It seems that almost all issues concerning social justice and the Native Americans have the starting point of sovereignty. All issues of sovereignty have the starting point as the Doctrine of Discovery.

Basically put, the so called Doctrine of Discovery is the idea that because European Powers "discovered" the Western Hemisphere, they get to control all of what goes on there, including the rights of the people. The Doctrine of Discovery is the vehicle that first appeared in Spain, and then was adopted by the British and then the U.S. It has become the bases of laws and regulations concerning Native Americans. Its effects are still very much present today.

So when asked, why doesn't your parents own their land? Or why can't I get a loan to build a house on a reservation, the same root of the problem exist and that is The Doctrine of Discovery.

What is the Catholic connection to the Doctrine of Discovery

What many people who have linked the Doctrine Of Discovery to the Church rely on two Papal Bulls in the 1400's, one by Nicholas V, *Dum Diversas* and the other *Romanus Pontifex*. These Bulls were written before Europeans new about the "New" World.



Although these two Papal Bulls seem to be a very flimsy foundation for the "Doctrine of Discovery," they were used by some Spaniards to enslave, brutalize and terrorize the Indigenous peoples of the West.

The later Popes tried to actively suppress the misguided use of the Papal Bulls with limited success.

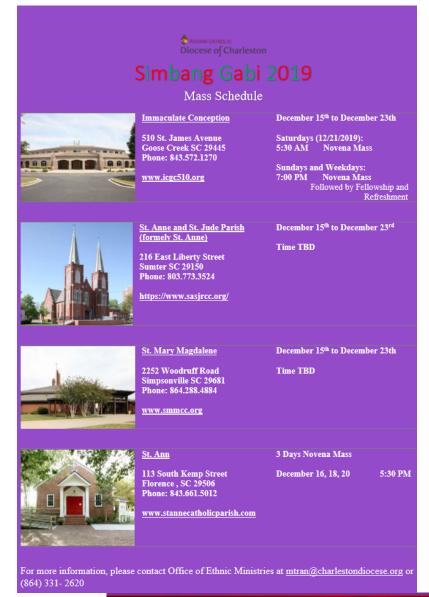
The "Doctrine of Discovery" is a racist and irrational concept that should not be used for any law or legal decision. It has cost the Native communities in land, rights, freedoms

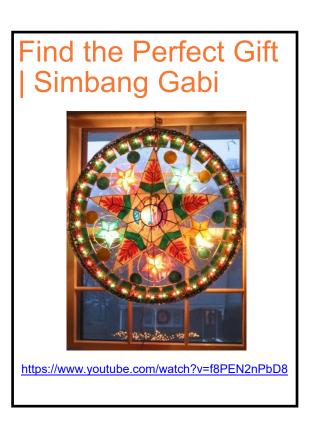
As the Gospel reminds us, there are no good fruits from a bad tree.

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celebrate with us!

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History and Background

Simbang Gabi or Mass at Dawn is a nine-day novena to the Blessed Mother. The novena begins December 16 as early as 4 in the morning and culminates with the "Misa de Gallo" on Christmas Eve to welcome the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Here in the U.S., the practice of the Simbang Gabi has been adapted to local conditions, with the Mass being moved to the evening hours for practical reasons.

This nine-day celebration symbolizes God's desire to be human and the Filipino's joy for that humanness. These are festive celebrations with Christmas carols sung before Mass, faith sharing, and, of course, lots of food afterward – a sample of Filipino food and refreshments is usually served at a reception following Mass. People dress in their finest Philippine barongs and dresses. *Simbang Gabi* is a religious festival for all, Filipino and non-Filipino. But no matter the language or dress, when you pray and sing during the *Simbang Gabi*, you realize how truly universal the Christmas spirit is. This is one of many cultural activities everyone can participate in and enjoy as a preparation for Christmas.

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FOR DIVERSITY, SENSITIVITY AND INCLUSION TRAINING CONTACT ETHNIC MINISTRIES

What We Have Seen and Heard : A Reflection and Dialogue on Peace. A Parish , School, and Community Event.

This is a gathering in response to the recent racial turmoil in our country that has put a spotlight on the "racial divide" that exists in American. This interactive experience is being facilitated by Kathleen Merritt and the staff with the Office of Ethnic

Ministries. The dialogue will include a discussion a pastoral letter written by Bishop Edward K. Braxton of Belleville, III.—The Racial Divide in the United States: A Reflection for the World Day of Peace 2015.

If you are interested in hosting one of these gatherings in your parish, please contact the Office of Ethnic Ministries and we will bring the program to you. Over 800 Catholics in the Diocese of Charleston has participated. Peace begins with you and me! Contact Kathleen Merritt

Promoting Peace and Love Initiatives

Diversity Inclusion and Empathy Training and Resources for school staff, students, youth groups and other Catholic organizations please contact Kathleen Merritt with the Office of Ethnic Ministries. Training is designed to address your particular need.



Tune in to "A Ministry Moment" every Monday Morning at 7:10 a.m. in the upstate on radio channel 107.3 FM. During the Tom Joyner in the Morning Show. Or follow us on the web at http://sccatholic.org/ministry-moment.

Bishop Edward Braxton issues a Pastoral Reflection on the recent mass shootings

by NBCC Staff

The Most Reverend Edward K. Braxton, Ph.D., S.T.D., has issued a Pastoral Reflection titled, "A National Crisis: A Pastoral Reflection on the Deadly Epidemic of Gun Violence in the United States."



"We are facing a national crisis in the United States. As a Catholic Bishop striving to live by and teach the good news of justice and peace proclaimed by Jesus of Nazareth, I am compelled to name this truth. It is, in some way, a crisis of gun violence."



Bishop Edward K. Braxton of Belleville, Illinois, is pictured at the Pontifical North American College in Rome. (Credit: Robert Duncan/CNS.)

To download your complimentary copy click below

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FOR DIVERSITY AND SENSITIVITY TRAINING AND RESOURCES CONTACT ETHNIC MINISTRIES

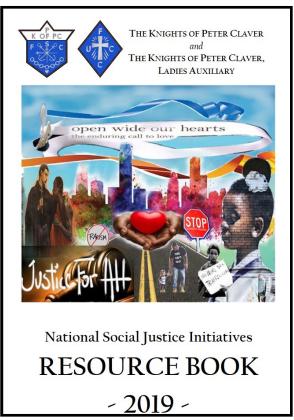
FROM THE NATIONAL BLACK CATHOLIC CONGRESS WEBSITE

The Responsibility of Catholic Schools and Churches to Talk about Racism



A panel of nationally recognized leaders will discuss how to create and foster constructive conversations about race and prejudice in Catholic schools, churches, homes and communities. In a time of heated secular politics, tragic current events and a backdrop of historical prejudice, the panel will share practical insights drawing from the best of the Catholic Social Thought tradition. This conversation aims to build capacity among Catholic school and pastoral leaders to lead conversations about racism and other biases. Participants are invited to ask questions. We look forward to a very active conversation.

For more information visit the National Black Catholic Congress website at https://www.nbccongress.org



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Photo Gallery

A pictorial view of the Diocesan Celebration of the Feast Day of 117 Vietnamese Martyrs held on November 3, 2019 at Our Lady of La Vang Quasi-Parish in Greer, SC. Rev. Hy Nguyen, Rector of Assumption Seminary in San Antonio, TX, was the guest speaker at the celebration. Over 700 Vietnamese Catholics and others throughout the Diocese of Charleston attended the event. For more pictures visit Vietnamese Ministry on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/DioceseofCharlestonAsianMinistry



















OFFICE OF ETHNIC MINISTRIES

HTTPS://CHARLESTONDIOCESE.ORG/ETHNIC-MINISTRIES/

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Rev. David Q. Phan OFM
Vietnamese Ministry 864-233-7717





https://www.youtube.com/playlist? list=PLMG0 gthkywWacWJF4yKbSUcpgd9 uamCKE

"A Ministry Moment"

http://sccatholic.org/ministry-moment



What We Have Seen and Heard, A Reflection on Peace https://www.facebook.com/dialogueonpeace

Black Catholic Ministry https://www.facebook.com/BlackCatholicinCharleston

Asian and Pacific Islander Ministry https://www.facebook.com/DioceseofCharlestonAsianMinistry

Native American Ministry
https://www.facebook.com/DioceseofCharlestonAsianMinistry/