

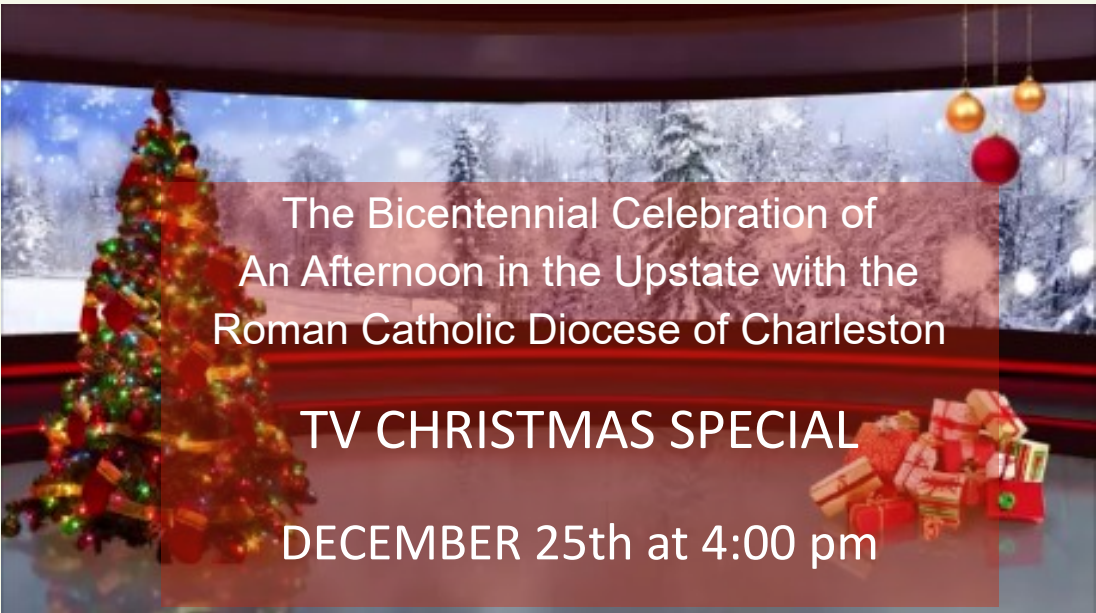
ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF CHARLESTON
OFFICE OF ETHNIC MINISTRIES



Newsletter

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- Simbang Gabi
- Vietnamese Christmas Mass Schedule
- Promoting the Vocations
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- Diversity Training/A dialogue to promote Peace



Join us in the Upstate on Christmas Day, December 25, 2019 at 4:00 pm on Fox Carolina channel 21 for our diocesan Christmas television special. “The Bicentennial Celebration of An Afternoon in the Upstate with the Roman Catholic Diocese of Charleston” will share our history commemorating our 200th anniversary year. Showcasing the beauty and history of our diversity through music, storytelling and dancing. Highlights include the St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School choir, questions and answers with Fr. Jay Scott Newman and Fr. Michael Okere and our very own cooking show. Sr. Roberta Fulton and Sr. Pamela Smith will provide you with some delicious, easy to make one pot meals that go a long way in the segment “Sister Act 2 in the Kitchen.” Fr. Patrick Tuttle is our storyteller who will share with you our traditional Christmas Story, “If I were a Goose”. Fun and Entertainment for the whole family! For those not in the station’s viewing area can watch on our Diocese of Charleston You Tube channel. For more information contact the Office of Ethnic Ministries.



TUNE IN CHRISTMAS DAY!



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.



DIOCESE OF CHARLESTON
OFFICE OF ETHNIC MINISTRIES



December 2019

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ROMAN CATHOLIC
Diocese of Charleston

Simbang Gabi
2019
Mass Schedule

St. Mary Magdalene Church



December 16th to December 24th

7:00 PM Novena Mass
Followed by Fellowship and Refreshment

2252 Woodruff Rd., Simpsonville SC 29681
Phone: 864.288.4884
www.smmcc.org

St. Anne Church



December 16th—18th—20th
3 Days Novena Mass

5:30 PM Novena Mass

113 South Kemp St., Florence SC 29506
Phone: 843.661.5012
www.stannecatholicparish.com

St. Anne and St. Jude Parish (formerly St. Anne)



December 15th to December 23rd

Saturdays and Weekdays: (Please see the flyer for details)

5:00 PM Confession

6:00 PM Novena Mass

Except Sundays (12/15/2019) & (12/22/2019):

5 PM Novena Mass

216 East Liberty Street, Sumter SC 29150
Phone: 803.773.3524
<https://www.sasjrcc.org/>

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church



December 15th to December 23th

Sundays and Weekdays:

7:00 PM Novena Mass

Followed by Fellowship and Refreshment

Except Saturday (12/21/2019):

5:30 AM Novena Mass

510 St. James Ave., Goose Creek SC 29445
Phone: 843.572.1270
www.icgc510.org

For more information, please contact Office of Ethnic Ministries
at mtran@charlestondiocese.org or (864) 331- 2620



Saint Anne and Saint Jude Roman Catholic Church
Sumter, South Carolina

**COME AND JOIN US
IN CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS
NOVENA MASSES**

(Misa de Gallo / Simbang Gabi / Mass of the Rooster)

"Do not be afraid;
for behold, I proclaim to you
good news of great joy
that will be for all the people.
For today in the city of David
a savior has been born for you who is
Christ and Lord." *Luke 2:10-11*



December 15, (Sunday)

Opening Mass at 5:00 PM - St. Jude's Church

December 19, (Thursday)

Confession at 5:00 PM - Mass at 6:00 PM
St. Anne's Church
Fellowship after Mass in St. Anne's Parish Hall

December 16, (Monday)

Confession at 5:00 PM - Mass at 6:00 PM
St. Jude's Church
Fellowship after Mass in St. Anne's Parish Hall

December 20, (Friday)

Confession at 5:00 PM - Mass at 6:00 PM
St. Anne's Church
Fellowship after Mass in St. Anne's Parish Hall

December 17, (Tuesday)

Confession at 5:00 PM - Mass at 6:00 PM
St. Jude's Church
Fellowship after Mass in St. Jude's Cafeteria

December 21, (Saturday)

Confession at 4:30 PM - Mass at 6:00 PM
St. Jude's Church

December 18, (Wednesday)

Confession at 5:00 PM - Mass at 6:00 PM
St. Jude's Church
Fellowship after Mass in St. Jude's Cafeteria

December 22, (Sunday)

Mass at 5:00 PM - St. Jude's Church

December 23, (Monday)

Confession at 5:00 PM - Closing Mass at 6 PM
St. Jude's Church
Fellowship after Mass in St. Jude's Cafeteria

All are welcome to participate in our Parish Christmas Novena Masses.
The Mass will be celebrated in English and there will be a combination of English, Filipino and Spanish Hymns. Also, everyone is welcome to our fellowships and could bring food, dessert or drinks to share (Potluck).

**5 WAYS TO
PREPARE YOUR HEART
THIS ADVENT**



1 Prepare room at the Inn
Make room in your heart for Jesus.

2 Clean out the cobwebs
After an Examination of Conscience, go to Confession.

3 Hang new curtains
"Decorate" your heart with joy and hope.

4 Get out the fine china and set the table
Let your attitude be one of enthusiastic expectation.

5 Open the front door and wait
Wait for Christ's arrival silently and in a spirit of prayer.



Vietnamese Christmas 2019

Mass Schedule

Our Lady of La Vang Church



December 24th

7:00 PM Christmas Carol
8:00 PM Christmas Vigil Mass

December 25th

10:00 AM Christmas Mass

2020 Gibbs Shoals Rd., Greer SC 29650
Phone: 864.395.0202

St. Martin de Porres Church



December 25th

TBD Christmas Mass

2229 Hampton Street, Columbia SC 29204
Phone: 803.254.6862
www.stmartincolumbia.org

St. Anne Church



December 25th

8:30 AM Christmas Mass

1694 Bird Street, Rock Hill SC 29730
Phone: 803.329.2662
www.saintanne.com

For more information, please contact Office of Ethnic Ministries
at mtran@charlestdiocese.org or (864) 331- 2620



PROMOTING THE VOCATIONS

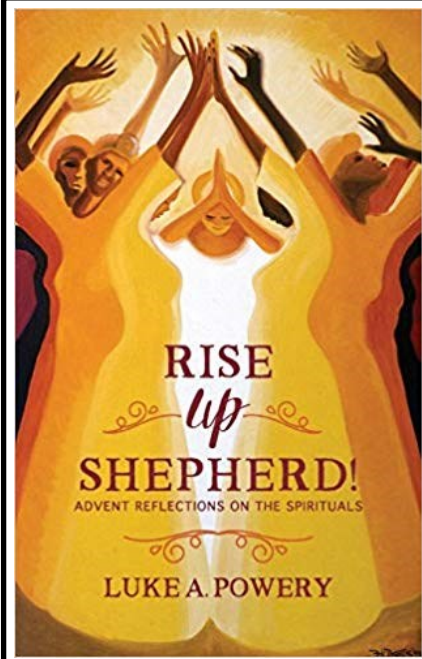


**Youth/Young Adults Q&A with
Sister Roberta Fulton SSMN, Assistant Director for
African American Evangelization**

Question: What is the difference between a Sister and a Nun??

Answer: A Catholic Nun is a woman who lives as a contemplative in a monastery which is usually cloistered. She professes perpetual solemn vows of poverty, celibacy and obedience. Check out: Carmelite Nuns of Baltimore at the website: <https://www.baltimorecarmel.org/>

A Catholic Sister is a woman who lives, ministers within the world. A Sister's life is often called apostolic. She is engaged in ministries that take the gospel to others where they are. She professes perpetual simple vows of poverty, celibacy and obedience. Check out: Sisters of St. Mary of Namur at the website: www.ssmn.us



**Sr. Roberta's Book of the month
"Rise up Shepherd" by Luke Powery**


This book is a lively way to enter into the Advent season through spirituals and reflection. It's very informative. You can purchase this book at:

<https://www.amazon.com/Rise-Up-Shepherd-Reflections-Spirituals/dp/0664260322>

SAVE THE DATE

**81ST ANNUAL
TEKAKWITHA CONFERENCE**

SAINT KATERI, GUIDE US THROUGH
THE CREATOR'S WOODLANDS



**JULY 15-19, 2020
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA**




Native American Ministry Discussion Resources

Tekakwitha Circles

Vol. 1 Issue 12

December Signpost

for the
GOOD RED ROAD



St. Tekakwitha
Opening prayer:

God of all nations
and peoples, You
have filled Your
Creation with 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

DIRECTION

Winter
North
Black

Sin/ Hopelessness- Despair
Fruits of the Holy Spirit
Joy/ Gentleness/
Redemptive suffering
Gifts of the Holy Spirit/
Fortitude/ Fear of the Lord



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?
Let us bring our joys and sufferings
onto this circle.

Racism

We need to address the problems of “economic racism”- a system that is de-
signed for Natives to fail economically.

Action Items:

We need to challenge assumptions consciously or subconsciously created to en-
danger Native American empowerment and self-sufficiency

We need to continually acknowledge and address the historical aspect of racism
against native peoples.

Action Items:

We need to develop processes for reconciliation with the Native communities
when the Catholic Church has caused harm.

We need to Challenge negative stereotypes and destructive cultural appropria-
tion as portrayed in the media.

Action Items:

We need to respond and challenge media outlets to improve how they portray
Native Americans.

Social Justice Concern

Questions on

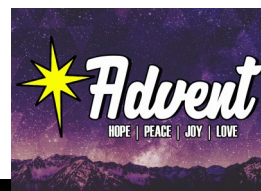
Native American Poverty in
Reservations

- 1) What activities have you started to address Native American Poverty?
- 2) From the report, what programs can you implement in your own neighborhood or tribe to address the issues on poverty?
- 3) How has my life been effected by concerns of land, sovereignty, education and racism?



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@usccb.org

The Tekakwitha Conference holds the copyright
Rev. Mike Carson



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, Ill.—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 Social Justice 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.

Looking for
happy, loving,
fulfilling
relationships?



Just
ask us.
Roman Catholic
Diocese of Charleston

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



FOR DIVERSITY AND SENSITIVITY TRAINING AND RESOURCES CONTACT ETHNIC MINISTRIES

SAVE THE DATE



Diocese of Charleston's Black Catholics Heritage Celebration 2020

"A Timeline of Faith, Love and Unity in Diversity."



Saturday, February 22, 2020

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Columbia, SC

*A Friday night discussion and
social included.*

With: Most Reverend Robert E. Guglielmone
Fr. Paul Williams, OFM
Youth Track
Heritage Choir
Heritage Dancers



For more information on our 200th Anniversary visit

<https://charlestdiocese.org/bicentennial>



Photo Gallery



A pictorial view of Sr. Roberta Fulton's visit to St. James the Greater Catholic Church during Black Catholic History Month

A Pictorial View of Black Catholic History Month Celebration in Charleston .
Participation from the youth.



For the Video view of the Black Catholic History Month Celebration in Charleston go to

<https://www.facebook.com/BlackCatholicinCharleston/videos/2579581822133512>

For a video view of the Black Catholic History Month Celebration in Sumter go to

<https://youtu.be/9bdEZ0OdINM>

OFFICE OF ETHNIC MINISTRIES

[HTTPS://CHARLESTONDIOCESE.ORG/ETHNIC-MINISTRIES/](https://charlestdioocese.org/ethnic-ministries/)

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**Rev. Michael Okere
Vicar for Black Catholics 803-254-6862**

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



https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCR_eSxFBVn0pBjj2Y0aOapQ/featured?disable_polymer=1

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLMG0gthkywWacWJF4yKbSUcpgd9uamCKE>

“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/>**