

One Year Old

With the celebration of Black History Month, 2011, we are also commemorating the first anniversary of the publication of our electronic newsletter. Note after four colorful issues into cyber space, we finally have a real name other than E-zine. After reviewing multiple clever suggestions and being involved in lively discussions, we proudly present ... NIA!

Nia, the Swahili word for "purpose," denotes "make our collective vocation the building and developing of our community in order to restore our people to their traditional greatness." That one sentence interfaces beautifully with the original intent for this e-newsletter . The Catholic Negro American Mission Board sees communication as a tool for enhancing our sense of community as Black Catholics (and benefactors) and

sharing the goodness and greatness in

our African American parish churches, schools, families and organizations, we "Encourage one another and build each other up." 1 Thes. 5:11

As we begin our second year, I remind you that we NEED your participation. Please, tell us a graced story with articles and photographs that document the Good News of Jesus in your faith-community.

* "Enrich the Church with your gift of Blackness."

* Pope John Paul II - Address given September 12, 1987, Superdome, New Orleans .

Please visit our new BLOG:

http://blackandindianmission.blogspot.com



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Visit the website:

www.blackandindianmission.org



Catholic Schools Week January 30—February 6




St. Augustine School is a Pre-K through 8th grade Catholic school in Washington, D.C., sponsored by St. Augustine Catholic Church, the mother church of black Catholics in the District of Columbia. Founded in 1858 – four years before public education became mandatory for black children in the nation’s capital - the school is accredited by the Middle States Association. Please continue your support for Black Catholic education.

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Celebrating
**God's Goodness
 and Mercy**
**National Day of Prayer for the African
 American and African Family**
First Sunday of Black History Month
February 6, 2011
 For the prayer and much more visit:
[http://www.solidgroundministry.com/PDF-files/
 NDPAAAF-2011.pdf](http://www.solidgroundministry.com/PDF-files/NDPAAAF-2011.pdf)




**Prayer composed by Fr. Jim
 Goode, OFM, who in 1989
 founded this National Day of
 Prayer.**

Saint Monica

St. Monica, born of Christian parents at Tagaste, North Africa, is the patron of: mothers, wives, widows, abuse victims, difficult marriages, disappointing children, homemakers, victims of adultery, victims of verbal abuse.

“Nothing is far from God.” St. Monica

Dear St. Monica, troubled wife and anxious mother, many sorrows pierced your heart during your lifetime. Yet, you never despaired or lost faith. With confidence, persistence, and profound faith, you prayed daily for the conversion of your husband, Patricius, and your beloved son, Augustine; your prayers were answered. Grant me that same fortitude, patience, and trust in the Lord. Intercede for me, dear St. Monica, that God may favorably hear my plea for *(mention request)* and grant me the grace to accept God's will in all things, through Christ, our Lord in unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. AMEN





***BLACK CATHOLIC CONGRESS:** “We have come to talk about our needs as a people, and by conference and consultation to try and devise ways and means of bettering our condition both religiously and socially.”*

William H. Smith, acting Chairman of the first Black Catholic Congress

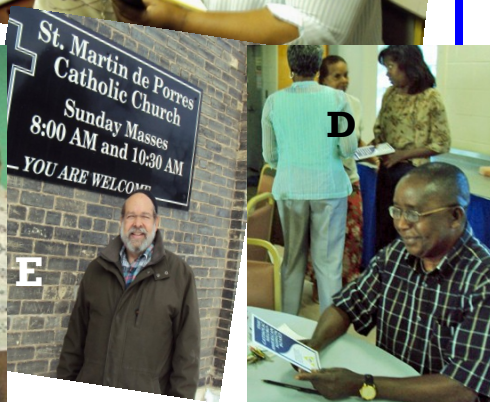
The first Black Catholic Congress was held on January 1, 1889 at St. Augustine Catholic Church in Washington, DC to address the needs of Black Catholics. The delegates met with President Grover Cleveland, and Father Augustus Tolton celebrated Mass. The Congress also called for Catholic schools for black children, supported better housing, and passed a resolution expressing sympathy for “our brethren of the Emerald Isle, who like ourselves are struggling for justice.”

Please mark your calendar now to be a part of The National Black Catholic Congress, July 19-22, 2012 at the JW Marriott Hotel, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Picture This (clockwise from center) **A.** United States Catholic Mission Association celebrates cultural diversity; **B.** Fr. Edward B. Branch, Lyke House Campus Minister, Atlanta, at NDU Seminar with other participants; **C.** A dynamic mother/daughter duo, Archdiocese of Mobile; **D.** Flyer on the Catholic Negro American Mission Board; **E.** Fr. Dave Preuss, (below left)



Pastor of St. Martin de Porres Parish, Outreach to Black Catholics, Milwaukee; **F.** Black Catholic Commission, Archdiocese of Milwaukee; **G.** Fr. Wayne Paysse with pre-schoolers; **H.** Bishop Joseph N. Perry, Auxiliary, and Mary Norfleet-Johnson, Director of the Office of Black Catholics, both in the Archdiocese of Chicago.



Xavier University, New Orleans, LA

KATHARINE DREXEL SCHOLARSHIP

The newly authorized Katharine Drexel Scholarship at Xavier University, America's only historically Black and Catholic University will provide full tuition scholarships for all Valedictorian and Salutatorian applicants from Catholic High Schools across the United States. High School seniors and juniors can learn more at:

www.xula.edu/admissions



Xavier University graduates 2027 from Immaculate Conception Pre-School, St Petersburg, FL



... Holy Family, Birmingham, AL, belongs to the Cristo Rey network of high schools that provide a quality Catholic college prep education to young people who live in urban communities with limited educational options?

... the Mount Hebron High School's African American Awareness Association (Quad A) and the Parents of African American Students (PAAS) are presenting GENERATIONS a celebration of African American Heritage, February 24, 2011, Elliott City, MD?

... Archbishop Wilton D. Gregory, Archbishop of Atlanta, Georgia, has been named the Bishops' Moderator of Jewish Affairs? Thank you for your commitment, Archbishop Gregory, to inter-religious dialogue in the U.S.

... Father Jim Goode, OFM wrote that he is "grounded in gratitude" that the Black and Indian Mission Office is listed as a supporter for the National Day of Prayer for the African American Family?

... the Pro Ecclesia Pontifice Medal from Pope Benedict XVI was conferred on Mary Leising by Archbishop Chaput during Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, Denver? For more then 7 years Mary has been the Director of the Office of Black Catholic Ministry in the Archdiocese of Denver. Congratulations, Mary!

... one acronym for FAITH found on the world-wide-web challenges: Form stronger ties, Awaken the spirit, Inspire the mind, Talk with God and Heal His world? This could prove to be a plan for Lenten penance.

... Only 3.3% of African-American women entering college as freshmen declare computer science as their major?

... Computer Information Science (CIS) Program seeks to place more African-American women in technology fields with adequate education? Contact the office of Dr. Jason Black, PhD (850-412-7354) to inquire about available scholarships.

... March 8, 2011 the Intercultural Ministries of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee is hosting "Women as Agents of Hope?" Contact diaze@archmil.org for more info.

... You can forward this e-mail to interested persons and send us those e-addresses for the next issue of **NIA**?

... that if you **DO NOT** wish to receive this E-zine, you can contact us at info@blackandindianmission.org to remove your name from our roster?



study work achieve succeed
Holy Family Cristo Rey Students

Warm Up With a Good Book

No, don't burn it in the fireplace. Take advantage of the outdoor chill and (overwhelming ice and snow in some areas) stay inside and put your soul into a good book to warm your spirit.

Songs of Our Hearts and Meditations of Our Souls, Cecilia C. Moore, Venessa White and Paul Marshall; St. Anthony Messenger Press, 2006; Cincinnati, OH

Thea's Song: The Life of Thea Bowman, Charlene Smith & John Feister, Orbis Press, 2010; Maryknoll, NY

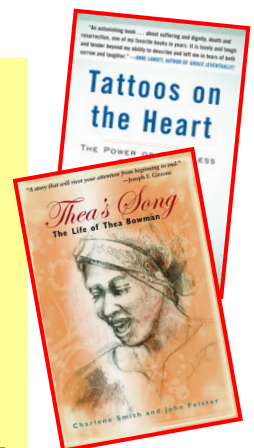
Tattos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion, Gregory Boyle, Fress Press, 2010; NY, NY

The Black Catholic Experience, M. Shawn Copeland, ed; Orbis Press, 2009; Maryknoll, NY

In reading holy books we receive many divine insights. St. Jerome says that when we pray we speak to God; but when we read, God speaks to us.

"...learn by frequent reading of the divine Scriptures the excellling knowledge of Jesus Christ... For ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ..."

Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation, Section 25



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