



Sisters in the Spirit of Houston, Inc.
Founded in 2001 "To Be Christ to Others"

May 2023
Volume 3, Issue 2

Sistersinthespiritofhouston@gmail.com
www.sistersinthespiritofhouston.org

The Spirited Sister

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

I have been a member of SIS since the beginning. I am proud to say that this organization is really all about service. We have been able to offer assistance on the parish level, archdiocese, and community level. Let us remain strong in the Spirit of Service and lift up each other in prayer.

Lord, you have gifted us with a spirit of service that is strong, loving and wise. Let us trust in that spirit as we work together to care for others and to build a community of care among ourselves. Loving God, every day we struggle to follow your example of loving service to others.

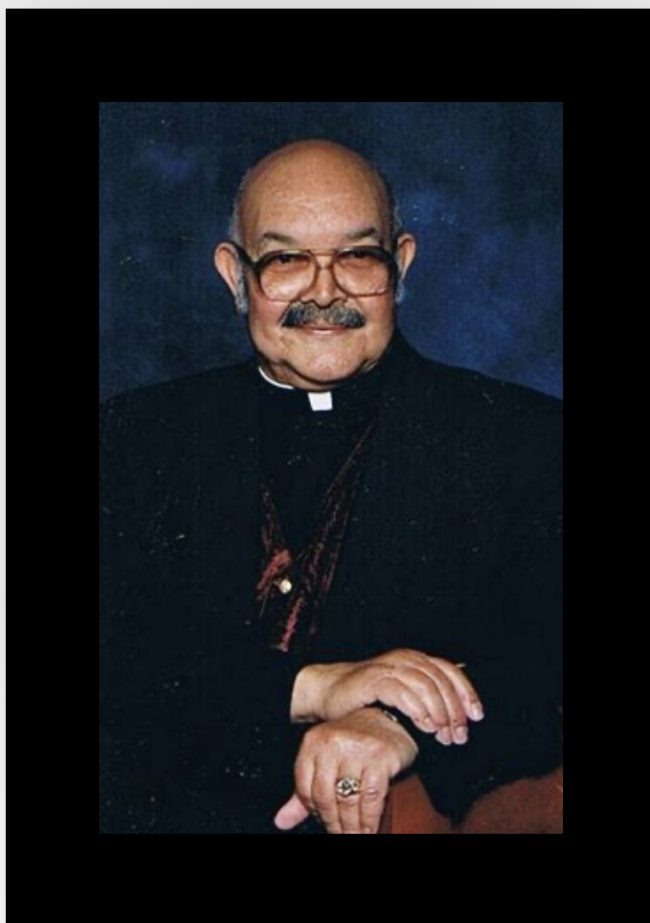
Lyne Mbong

Please visit our website at:

Sistersinthespiritofhouston.org



Monsignor Patrick Roland Wells
our spiritual advisor since the inception
of Sisters In the Spirit of Houston,
entered into eternal rest at 2:15 a.m.
Thursday, May 11, 2023.





MOTHERS

- M Merciful**
Matthew: 5:7
- O Outstanding**
Galatians 5:22
- T Teacher**
2 Corinthians 5:17-18
- H Healer**
Jeremiah 30:17
- E Encouraging**
Psalms 25:1-2
- R Righteous**
Proverbs 16:8

ONE A DAY

When You Pray God Listen.
When You Listen, God Talks.
When You Believe God Works.

When lost remember God will make a way.
Place your hand in his hand he knows the way.

“My help comes from the Lord who made heaven and earth.” Psalm 12:12

Don't forget that you're human. It's okay to have a meltdown, Just don't live there.
Cry, refocus then continue your journey.

Be Kind to others even if they are not kind to you. Be Helpful even if you have no one to help you. Spread Love even if you don't receive it back. Every day is a blessing take time to appreciate your life.

God didn't give you another day because you need it. He added another day to your life because someone out there needs you.

SUBMITTED BY
CAROL TYSON



Please welcome our newest members June 2023:

| Name | Parish |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Michele Courtney | Our Mother of Mercy |
| Michelle Robinson | Our Mother of Mercy |
| Burnelle Loche | Our Mother of Mercy |
| Edwina Loche Barrett | Our Mother of Mercy |
| Joyce Randle | St Francis of Assisi |
| Jocelyn LaBove | St Francis of Assisi |
| Jordan Ponce de Leon | St Francis of Assisi |
| Valencia Montgomery Arceneaux | St Francis of Assisi |
| Kimberly Erin White | St Francis of Assisi |
| Berdena "Dena" LaVigne | St Francis of Assisi |
| Stacey Wiltz Ndubuisi | St Francis of Assisi |
| Tiffany Arceneaux Jones | St Francis of Assisi |
| Nyamekye Peugh | St Francis Xavier |
| Theresa Chambers | St Francis Xavier |
| Annie Robertson | St Francis Xavier |
| Gloria Aldridge | St Ignatius of Loyola |
| Lynda Lemond Hill | St Laurence-Sugar Land |
| Anna Lou Narcisse | St Mary Magdalene-Humble |
| Laura Rousseve Allen | St Mary of the Purification |
| Paula Alexander | St Mary of the Purification |
| Carol Enard | St Mary of the Purification |
| Cathey Johnson | St Mary of the Purification |
| Marilyn Edwards | St Mary of the Purification |
| Pauline Newman | St Monica |
| Leenieque "Nikki" Johnson Dugas | St Monica |
| Shelia Comeaux | St Nicholas |
| Charlotte Annette Murray | St Nicholas |
| Carolyn Hawkins | St Peter the Apostle |
| Gloria Griffin | St Peter the Apostle |
| M. Ida Reed | St Peter the Apostle |
| Rose Lewis | St Philip Neri |
| Valencia Theresa Martin Budd | St Philip Neri |

IBCS 2023 - Summer Session - Institute for Black Catholic Studies Xavier University of Louisiana

The Institute for Black Catholic Studies is an intensive summer enrichment program focused on the African American Catholic Experience.

The Continuing Education and Enrichment Program offers formation opportunities to participants in order to minister in their communities.

The Master of Pastoral Theology Degree program has interdisciplinary courses taught from a Black Catholic perspective.

If you have any questions, please go to www.xula.edu/ibcs or contact SIS Angela D. Hollier at adh25@hotmail.com.



IBCS 2023 Summer Session
Institute for Black Catholic Studies
XAVIER UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA

Art credit: Edward E. Bilo, "Peering of Nations"

2023 DEGREE COURSE OFFERINGS CONTINUED

IBTH 5430 Spirituality of Black Catholics.
Uses selected works of African American literature as a resource for the study of the spirituality of a people. It attempts to understand and articulate the spirituality expressed in the words, songs, prayers, relationships, and daily lives of Black people, as they are found in imaginative works.
Ernest Gibson, Ph.D. (PH: 8:45 - 11:45 am) Area Requirement (3 units).

IBTH 5020 History of Black Catholics.
Explores the role played by Blacks in Catholicism from the beginning of the Church, with special emphasis on the presence and contributions of Blacks to Roman Catholicism in the United States.
Cecilia A. Moore, Ph.D. (PH: 1:45-4:45 pm) Core Course (3 units).

IBTH 5081 Christianity Studies: The Kingdom of God as announced in the teaching, healing ministry, passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, particularly as these are understood in the African American community from the perspective of liberation and black theologies.
TBA. (PH: 1:45 - 4:45 pm) Area Requirement (3 units).

IBTH 5440 Issues in Black Parity.
Investigates the myths, realities, facts, strengths, and weaknesses of the African American community in a way that will assist those who minister in the Black community. Various structures and forms of African American family life are studied to learn how these factors affect ministry in the community and in the church.
Jester Hayswood, Ph.D. (1:45 - 4:45 pm) Elective (3 units).

Institute for Black Catholic Studies
Xavier University of Louisiana
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1100 University Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70125
www.xula.edu/ibcs | Email: ibcs@xula.edu | Twitter: @IBCSXULA

Xavier University of Louisiana | Institute for Black Catholic Studies



2023 Continuing Education and Enrichment (CEE) Course Offerings
Associate Director:
Ph. Valerie Stevens, M.A.R.S.
June 25-July 14, 2023

CEE Programs provide lifelong learning and spiritual formation for pastoral leaders, clergy, religious, administrators, laypeople and others who minister with Black communities or people in multi-cultural settings. These featured courses offer unique opportunities for students to grow in their understanding of Black Catholicism and deepen their ministry in the church and the world. Students are graded on a pass/fail basis and will receive 15 CEUs for each course successfully completed. There is a limit of 15 applications per class unless otherwise noted. Check the CEE website: <http://www.xula.edu/cee/> for application info and other program options.

WEEK 1: JUNE 26 - JUNE 30, 2023

UWER 0057 The Black Family: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow.
The foundation of the U.S. Black family has roots in the historical experience of colonization, chattel slavery and racism. Reflecting on the African diaspora as a whole, this course will explore how the Black family has helped families cope in the past and can strengthen them in the future.
Pamela Springs, Ph.D. (PH: 8:45-11:45am)

CORE 0000 Black Spirituality.
Students will consider the many ways that the Holy Spirit moves through God's people with gifts that empower them for Christian ministry in the Church and community at large.
Byron Whitley, Ph.D. (PH: 8:45-11:45am)

CORE 0008A Foundations of African American Preaching.
In this course, students will learn a theology of preaching, explore the treasure house of Black preaching and work through practicals for preparing a homily sermon.
Fr. Harold Williams, C.R., Th.M. (PH: 1:45-4:45pm)



CORE 0011 A Theology of Black Lives Matter.
This class will explore the emergence and development of the Black Lives Matter Movement into a new Civil Rights Movement. Drawing on the integrally interconnected perspectives of Black theology, psychology, pastoral ministry and community activism, the course will invite participants to develop strategies that address the challenges of our day.
Heather Mahmassani, MPA, MPA (PH: 1:45-4:45pm)

WEEK 2: JULY 2 - JULY 7, 2023

CORE 0016 Black Church History: Realms, Revivals, and Reckonings.
Under the leadership of a noted religious leader using contemporary technologies to tell Black Church history with a focus on the Black Catholic community in the United States.
Terry Brown, Ph.D. (PH: 8:45-11:45am)

UWER 0018 The Black Parish and the Community.
Following in the footsteps of Jesus and attending to the emerging mission of the Church, students will explore the role of Black Catholics by leaders in celebrating, building and caring for the community at large.
Fr. David Jones, M.D. (PH: 8:45-11:45am)

BRES 0009 Soul Winning through Video Graphics Art Part 1.
Learn the basics of video editing to create a unique discolor with photos, music, motion, and more - a practical project suitable for parish evangelists seeking 21st century means of presenting faith and truth in the contemporary work of Jesus. Class size limited to 10 students.
Valerie Stevens, Ph.D. (PH: 1:45-4:45pm)

CORE 0018A Intro to Black and Womanist Theologies.
Rooted in Africa, African American theology has grown through and in response to the historical experience of Blacks. From Emancipation to the Black Lives Matter Movement, how do Black and Womanist theologies inform our efforts to bring about needed change in the USA today?
Byron Whitley, Ph.D. (PH: 8:45-11:45am)

BRES 0010 Black Lives Matter: A Faith that does not become culture is a faith that is not fully received, not through thought through, but through faith that is lived.
This new experience includes Bible stories (page 61 and onward), Historical, and Generation 2 Black Catholics to share reflections on what to call forth and develop the plentiful, diverse gifts of Blackness in local churches to build up our congregations and the church at large. Live! (11:00am-1:00pm)
Anthony Hart, OSA & Chaplain Thomas Lucas, Th.M. (2:00-4:00pm)

WEEK 3: JULY 9-JULY 14, 2023

CATY 0022 Evangelization and Catechesis in the Black Community.
This course will survey past, present, and future of Black Catholicism, Black theology and educational access to effectively hold the essential pillars of evangelization and catechesis in Black Catholic communities and their settings.
Fr. J. Dennis Gaudin, OPA, Ph.D. (PH: 8:45-11:45am)

CORE 0014 The Black Church: Politics, Liberation, and Public Theology.
Students will explore the intersection of Black Liberation and Womanist Theology and why both should be at the core of the Black church's mission to transform society through socio-political freedom.
Heather Mahmassani, MPA, MPA (PH: 8:45-11:45am)

BRES 0009C Soul Winning through Video Graphics Art Part 2.
This course provides tips and resources for designing ideas that support the meaningful mission of the church. Create professional short videos for devotionals, retreats, small group meetings, youth rallies, catechetical lessons, or lectures. Little to no experience required. Class size limited to 10.
Valerie Stevens, Ph.D. (PH: 1:45-4:45pm)

CORE 0018B "No longer slaves..." Exile and Exile.
Based on the Apostle Paul's theological idea of freedom in Galatians and his other epistles, the course will seek out new insights and self-understandings to serve the Black Catholic community as it engages in the 21st century.
Fr. John Sagan OSA, Ph.D. (PH: 1:45-4:45pm)

BRES 0011 Elders Retreat: Renewed - Renewed - Renew!
African American Elders (age 62+) spend the week in prayer, reflection, discussion and recreation. Come celebrate the legacy of eldership in the Black Catholic community. Let the Spirit renew, revive, and get you ready in the spirit of wisdom that continues to build our community. Live! (11:00am-1:00pm)
Chaplain Thomas Lucas, Th.M. & Anthony Hart, OSA, (PH: 9:00-1:00am and 2:00-4:00pm)



2023 Master of Theology Degree Program
Associate Director:
C. Vanessa White, D.Min.

The BCS Master of Theology Program (Th.M.) is the one graduate theology program in the USA taught from Black Catholic perspectives. Its curriculum is interdisciplinary. Courses focus on Black approaches, critiques, and contributions to systematic and pastoral theologies, biblical and pastoral ministry, aesthetics, philosophy, and education. The Th.M. program forms students for theological and culturally competent service in ordained, religious or lay settings in the Black community, church and community at large. The Degree program also welcomes scholars seeking ongoing religious study, raising graduate students and ministers who desire to expand, enhance and enrich their general theological studies by exploring the Black Catholic theological tradition and its particular meaning for the social and spiritual experience of Black people in the U.S. and beyond. Please, contact and returning scholars can receive the 2023 Degree program application at gradpro@xula.edu

2023 BCS DEGREE COURSE OFFERINGS
JUNE 25 - JULY 14, 2023

IBTH 5010 Black Approaches to Theology.
Examines the nature, methods, and sources of Black Theology; the reasons justifying its existence and its relationship to other theologies within the Roman Catholic tradition.
Stacey Akshob, Ph.D. (PH: 8:45 - 11:45 am)
Requirement for all new students (3 units).

IBTH 5040 Black Theologies.
Constructs effective pastoral communication with Black congregations to realize of major interperson, social, and systematic issues from a perspective based upon sound analysis stemming from recognition of cultural differences.
Brian Thomas, Ph.D. (PH: 8:45 - 11:45 am) Core Course (3 units).



The National
BLACK CATHOLIC
Congress

CONGRESS XIII

JULY 20-23, 2023

Founded in 1987, the National Black Catholic Congress organizes a national gathering every five years, renewing our mission with a Pastoral Plan.



Write the Vision
A PROPHETIC CALL TO **THRIVE**
THE NATIONAL BLACK CATHOLIC CONGRESS

FEATURING:



WILTON CARDINAL GREGORY

Archbishop of the
Archdiocese of Washington,
DC will give the opening
Keynote Speech and
celebrate the Opening
Eucharistic Liturgy



LYNNE GRAY

Director of Music for Congress XIII, Ms.
Gray is Music Ministry Director at St.
Anthony of Padua Church, Washington,
D.C. | Choral Artist African American
Musicians Festival Section



RAWIN HARBOR

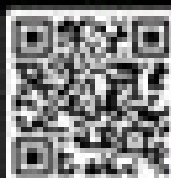
Director of Liturgy for Congress
XIII, Rawin is one of the
premier African American
Catholic liturgists and
musicians in the U.S. today.

Early Registration ends February 28, 2023.
Regular registration ends July 15, 2023.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, INCLUDING
A PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF EVENTS,
AND TO REGISTER:

nbcgathering2023.org

Join with other Black
Catholics and those who
minister to Black Catholics
in the United States for
a celebration of our faith
and culture.



Scan Me for
More Information!

VENUE:
GAYLORD
NATIONAL RESORT
NATIONAL HARBOR, MARYLAND

200 WATERFRONT ST., NATIONAL HARBOR, MD 20740

