

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

February 24, 2019



Give, and gifts will be given to you;
a good measure, packed together,
shaken down, and overflowing,
will be poured into your lap.

Luke 6:38

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Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Community

Renovation
update...

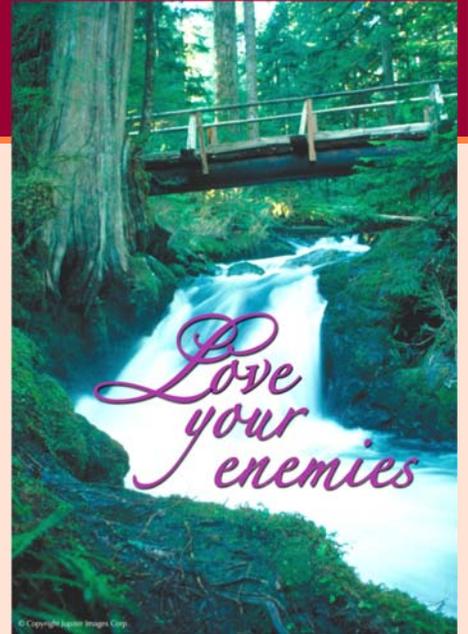
Visit www.olaclaremont.org



Current projects include pouring footings for new canopy and trellises, installing the new roof, rough electrical installation, framing new restrooms, rough HVAC, rough plumbing and electrical for the new baptismal font, and digging footings and installing steel for the vestibule.

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Greatness of heart



FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 26:2, 7–9, 12–13, 22

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:45–49

GOSPEL: Luke 6:27–38

For all David's flaws – and he had many – his sense of God's presence seemed almost without flaw. We see this later in his life when he enshrines the Ark of the Covenant, God's dwelling among the people, and dreams of building a temple – a fitting dwelling for God.

To understand the import of today's First Reading, we need to know that Saul was no friend of David. Rather, Saul was a troubled, vengeful, jealous man. He was, in fact, out to get David. As it falls out, David is given a once-in-a-lifetime chance to end Saul's life. But he does not do this because Saul is God's anointed king. Saul's life belongs to God, not to David. All Israel rightly admires David's ability to honor God's will, even at the risk of his own well-being.

In today's Gospel, Jesus continues his address to his disciples – ordinary people, keep in mind. He is not talking to philosophers and kings here. He is talking to the likes of you and me. He favors love and compassion over strict justice and personal vengeance. Though one's hands itch to pay back, there is no payback time in Jesus' vocabulary. He asks of us a greatness of heart and generosity of spirit that appear rather daunting. We are called to love enemies, resist revenge, forswear settling accounts. We are asked to enlarge our capacity for generosity to match God's generosity.

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Begin Lent with One, Two, Three punch!

Ash Wednesday, Parish Mission Thursday & Friday



Dr. Paul Ford

**More in next
week's bulletin**

Our Lenten Parish Mission will be led by Dr. Paul Ford of St. John's Seminary in Camarillo who proposes that "Lent is spelled Y E S – Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving are ways to receive God's YES to us and to say YES to the Lord, our neighbor and ourselves."

It's an exhilarating challenge to begin Lent with three successive days of spiritual nourishment – one, two, three – Ash Wednesday on March 6, followed by the Parish Mission on Thursday, March 7, and Friday, March 8, at 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. in the church. Confession will be offered during the hour beforehand.

Dr. F. Ford has taught theology and liturgy at St. John's since 1988. He is married to Dr. Janice Daurio, an alumni of Claremont Graduate School. He is an internationally-recognized authority on the life and writings of C. S. Lewis. Liturgy Training Publications published his book, *A Sourcebook about Sunday*, and Liturgical Press has published ten books and eight CD's by Dr. Ford.

Around OLA³

Our Lady of the Assumption Church – Directory on Page 9

Fiesta 2019

Our Fiesta Committee has been working behind-the-scenes to arrange the important elements of our 2019 Fiesta in May.

All that is required now is the support of the community with raffle tickets sales, sponsorships and volunteers. Please pick up your Fiesta raffle tickets this weekend and consider a 2019 Fiesta sponsorship.

See Page 7

Parking lot protocol

Be advised that our parking lot gates are locked each night at 9:45 p.m. Please drive carefully through the parking lot before and after Masses. Cars should **enter** at Harrison Ave. and **exit** at Berkeley Ave. Thank you for your cooperation!

On the website

Visit www.olaclaremont.org for our latest action video on the church renovation.

Highlights

The passion play at OLA, called *Via Crucis* is open this year to volunteer actors in both Spanish and English.

See Pages 5 and 8

Ash Wednesday retreat at St. Lucy's is open to both men and women.

See Page 4

Secular Franciscans invite you to “come and see” what it means to follow St. Francis.

See Page 5

Laudato Si Workshop is an exciting look at what our community is doing to hear the “cry of the earth and cry of the poor.”

See Page 6

Comunidad Habla Español
Página 8

Black History Month...
See Back Page

community life



The bounty of the Sew N Sews

Join the Sew N Sews or donate!

Meet the crouchers, knitters, and quilters who dedicate time and talent to the making of afghans, hats, scarfs and quilts to be donated to non-profit groups in our local community. You may drop off donations of yarn at the parish office (see page 9 for hours). If you would like to become a part of this group, please contact: Pat Miller at (909) 961-5784.

WOW announces earlier meet time

Newcomers are always welcome at gatherings of OLA's **Widows Or Widowers** and other singles. This casual social and support group meets Thursday, Feb. 28, at an earlier time of 5:30 p.m. in the OLA convent. Come for dinner and optional game play for those who enjoy a little competition (bring \$2 in quarters if you wish to play). Invite a friend!

Dinner includes roasted chicken, sides, beverages, and dessert – all for only \$10! We look forward to seeing you there. For questions and to RSVP by Wednesday, Feb. 27, please call Jo Pearing at (909) 626-0489 or Jean O'Donnell (909) 624-3392.

MONDAY, February 25

Sir 1:1-10; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Mk 9:14-29

6:30am

5:30pm Camelinda Preciado,
✠Doris S.K. Morishita

TUESDAY, February 26

*Sir 2:1-11; Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40;
Mk 9:30-37*

6:30am

✠Portia Gonzales
✠Marty Genato
Belen Abisamig

5:30pm ✠Joe Rich

WEDNESDAY, February 27

*Sir 4:11-19; Ps 119:165, 168, 171, 172,
174, 175; Mk 9:38-40*

6:30am

Chrissy Clark, ✠Eddie Tessier

5:30pm

THURSDAY, February 28

Sir 5:1-8; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mk 9:41-50

6:30am

✠Fr. Michael Sears

5:30pm

FRIDAY, March 1

World Day of Prayer

*Sir 6:5-17; Ps 119:12, 16, 18, 27, 34, 35;
Mk 10:1-12*

6:30am

✠Peter Khanh Tran,
✠Robert Allgaier

5:30pm

SATURDAY, March 2

Sir 17:1-15; Ps 103:13-18; Mk 10:13-16

8:00am

✠Phong Bui

4:00pm

✠Slobig Families, Lilia Santiago

5:30pm

SUNDAY, March 3

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sir:27:4-7; Ps 92:2-3, 13-16; 1

Cor 15:54-58; Lk 6:39-45

7:00am

For the People of the Parish

9:00am

Italian Catholic Federation

11:00am

✠Holy Soul's in Purgatory

✠Edward James Gelskey

Bishop Family & Phil Jimenez

1:00pm

Edmundo & Erlinda Gutierrez Salcedo

Ramon Castellanos

3:00pm

5:00pm

7:00pm

✠Deceased

Ash Wednesday Retreat at St. Lucy's Priory

St. Lucy Benedictine Priory will host its annual Ash Wednesday retreat for women and men March 6 from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. led by Sr. Joan Marie Sasse and Valimar Jansen. Mass at 11 a.m. includes distribution of ashes. Bring a sack lunch; coffee and tea are provided. No reservations are needed, but a free-will offering is appreciated. For details, contact Parishioner Ellen Carlson at (909) 624-2058.



The Heights is open to all high school teens and takes place in the Youth Room after the 5 pm Teen Mass.

Jesus Rodriguez,
Coordinator of Youth Ministry
(909) 626-3596
Ext. 4215

Follow us on Instagram
[@theheightsola](https://www.instagram.com/theheightsola)

Feb 24

Lip Sync Battle Social

March 3

Ashes to Ashes

March 10

XLT

March 17

Prep for "God's Gotchu"
Youth Day in Anaheim

W i n t e r S c h e d u l e

We invite each young adult age 18 to 35 to grow spiritually, form authentic friendships and have fun through our social, educational and prayer nights together. We'll be more than happy to see you at any of our gatherings. You may email youngadultsunity01@gmail.com

or call Patrick at (626) 622-5381 for location. Join our Facebook group: *Young Adults of OLA*. Also, view updates on Instagram [@youngadultsunity](https://www.instagram.com/youngadultsunity). Get reminders on your phone... Enter 81010 and text @yau1

Ongoing – Communion service & prayer with patients at convalescent home every Sunday from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

YOUNG
ADULTS
UNITED

formation 5

Secular Franciscans host 'Come and See' meeting

Do you have the desire to live a Gospel life in a secular world?

Are you interested in finding a simpler and more peaceful lifestyle modeled after St. Francis of Assisi?

Have you heard about "third orders" or "secular orders" and wondered what that meant?

The Holy Spirit Fraternity of the Secular Franciscans at OLA invites you to a "come and see" meeting Tuesday, March 19, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the convent.

More information is available from Claudia Thompson, Minister, at (909) 576-5632, or Myrna Kildare, Fraternity Member, at (909) 518-9628.



Confirmation for Adults

Adults seeking to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation are encouraged to register now for our 10-week series beginning at the end of the month. This process is for adult Catholics, who may be active in the Church or not, but desire to identify and understand how God is working in their lives. They are invited to share their personal story, deepen their faith, and find ways to live it in the context of daily life and the parish community. Register with Jesus Rodriguez at (909) 626-3596, ext. 4215 or jrodriguez@olalaremont.org.

Via Crucis rehearsals



Our Hispanic Community has begun practices for the annual *Via Crucis* (outdoor Way of the Cross). This year the production will be bilingual, and English speakers are invited to join the cast. For information, contact Abel Reynoso at (909) 827-5324.

Religious Ed Congress

The 61st annual Religious Education Congress in Anaheim is set for March 22-24, 2019. Youth Day is March 21. The theme is *Thirsting for Justice*. Admission includes...

- • Choice of 300 workshops on a variety of topics of interest to educators and all Catholics;
- • Exhibits by Catholic vendors as well as religious and lay organizations;
- • Fourteen liturgies in a variety of cultures/languages/styles;
- • Exhibits by local artists that capture the sense of God's trustworthiness;
- • Free lunchtime and evening concerts by popular artists.

Visit www.RECongress.org to register for \$85.

Local organ concert

Internationally-acclaimed organist Jonathan Dimmock will offer a concert at Claremont United Church of Christ on Sunday, Feb. 24, at 3 p.m. A live video will highlight movements of his hands and feet.

Dimmock is a graduate of Oberlin Conservatory, Yale School of Music and Yale Divinity School. He is the first American to hold the post of Organ Scholar at Westminster Abbey in London.

The program is entitled *Parish Between the Wars*, played on a 4,041-pipe organ. Tickets at \$20 (adults), \$15 (senior) and (\$5) students, are available online at brownpapertickets.com/event/4056183.

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outreach

There's still time to support Medical Mission to Haiti

The Domond Foundation is sponsoring a medical mission to Haiti March 14-24 to address the health crisis in a rural area near Maribel. Here are some sobering statistics about Haiti, one of the poorest countries in the Western Hemisphere:

- Haiti has the highest rate of infant and maternal mortality; life expectancy is less than 64 years;
- There are only 25 doctors per 100,000 people;
- Less than half of all Haitians have access to clean water;
- Leading causes of death are diarrhea, respiratory infections, malaria, tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS;

Deacon Joe Domond will lead a team of doctors, dentists, physical therapists, ophthalmologists and others to treat people who rarely receive professional care. He also provides clean water filters for families, runs a Catholic school, supports an orphanage and is building a clinic. For more information, visit www.jeffdomondfoundation.org.

Arbor Day help needed

Volunteers are sought for Arbor Day, on March 30, to help at the Used Book and Succulent Potting tables. Also needed are jars and pots for the succulents. The educational event sponsored by Sustainable Claremont is hosted by St. Luke Lutheran Church from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Bring mats for yoga and used books to swap.

The Green Crew will also be planting trees along Baseline Road. Call (800) 948-1519 to help.

*A letter to the world from
Pope Francis*

Laudato Si

"I urgently appeal to those in positions of social, economic, political and cultural responsibility to hear the cry of the earth, and to attend to the needs of the marginalized."

Pope Francis

Laudato Si Workshop March 16

Prayer Sustainability
Inspiration
7 Speakers
FREE
Includes lunch
Call to Action Dialogue
Personal Challenge Justice



Hear the cry of the earth, poor

A comprehensive look at local efforts to answer Pope Francis' call to "hear the cry of the earth and cry of the poor" (*Laudato Si*, 2015) will be Saturday, March 16 at Pilgrim Place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

It's seven speakers are among the most knowledgeable professionals in their field locally:

- **Elaine Padilla**, associate professor of philosophy and religion will discuss "Co-Creating Together a Common Home;"
- **Mary Tawadros** is a partner relations specialist for Volunteers of America in Pomona;
- **Nancy Minte** is founder and executive director of Uncommon Good concerned with health, urban farming, environmental programs and education for under-served communities;
- **Dr. Evaggelos Vallianatos** has authored *Poisoned Spring, the Secret History of Pollution*;
- **Michael McGrath** is a retired urban planner;
- **Devon Hartman** is an energy specialist and founder of Sustainable Claremont;
- **Kami Grosvenor** directs development and communications at Inland Valley Hope Partners.

Reserve your place today for this free, life-changing event. Go to the parish website at www.olaclaremont.org or contact Chris Shaner at clhayes1@earthlink.net.

Parish Offertory Collection	
Weekend Feb. 16-17	\$19,103
Online	\$ 1,842
Total	\$20,945
Budget	\$26,256
Under Budget	\$ (5,311)

Administration 7

Pick up your Fiesta raffle tickets today!

All that's needed now for a successful 2019 Fiesta is YOUR help! Become a sponsor or donor, volunteer to work in a booth AND pick up your Fiesta raffle tickets today. Go to www.olaclaremont.org for a link to more information and sign-ups! Or Call (909) 626-3596, ext. 4319.



2019 Fiesta Chairs Alicia and Enrique Cerrillos



Safeguard
the Children:
Did you know?

Start with a conversation...

Sometimes children will behave in a manner quite unusual for them – stress, misunderstanding, or some form of abuse can be related to such behaviors. If you see your child exhibiting unusual behavior, talk with your child about their day or recent experiences in an open-ended conversation. Do ask factual questions, such as, “What did you do today? Did you do anything unusual today? Who did you see today? Did anyone say or do anything that was unusual or even upsetting? Then, ask feeling questions as a follow-up, and remember that sometimes it’s easier for a child to talk about someone else’s feelings first. For more tips in the VIRTUS® article “Conversation Guidelines for Parents: Be Aware,” go to www.la-archdiocese.org and search *Did you know?* for Feb. 24.



Prayer Requests



For our sick and suffering...

Recent: Maria G. Guerrero, Donavon Santiago, Angela Vega, and Vencek Family

Previously: Dcn. Gustavo Arellana, Estella Arellano, Elza V. Barba, Guadalupe Bustamante, Mike Bustamante, Lisa Carranza, Matilde Castro, Theresa Chase, Marie Chavez, Tierry & Elmire Domond, Ferolina Evalle, Hal Finnegan, Alfred Hernandez, Billy Hicks, Sr. Feliz Gil-Jimenez, Enrique Juarez, Jesse Lopez, Sue McCoppin, Daniel Ramos, Esther Rodriguez, Rita Salvata, Fanny Sanchez, Deacon Bob and Kathy Steighner, Sylvia Stephens, Dolores Vasquez, Amelia Villanueva, and Wendy Villegas

For our beloved deceased...

William Putney, husband of Martha Putney; Marie Sibrie, aunt of Greg and Denise Smotherman; and for the family and friends who mourn his loss

Información semanal

Miercoles:

Grupo de Dios (Oración)
4 p.m., el Salon de Reflexión

Grupo de Oración
(Cristo Vive)
Reunión de Coro y Lideres,
7 p.m. el Salón 11

Jueves:

Cristo Vive (Oración)
7 p.m., el auditorio

Viernes:

Angeles de Fe (Jóvenes)
7 p.m., el Salón de Jovenes

Camino de Fe (Jóvenes
Adultos) 7 p.m., el Salón
Felician (Biblioteca)

Encuentro Matrimonial
7 p.m., el Convento

Coro
6:30 p.m., el Salón 15

Presentaciones

Primer domingo del mes

Cumpleaños

Último domingo del mes

Rito de Iniciación Cristiana para Adultos (RICA)

RICA es una jornada de preparación sacramental para todos los adultos que necesitan bautismo, primera comunión o confirmación.

Por favor llame a la oficina parroquial al (909) 626-3596 ,ext. 0, o visitenos para más información para bodas, quinceañeras y bautizos.

No Causaro Dano

Escuchamos por un buen rato antes de llegar a la “culminación ingeniosa” de la primera lectura de hoy: si bien hubiera sido fácil hacerlo, David no causará daño al ungido del Señor. Nosotros, por supuesto, sabemos que Jesús es el Mesías, el ungido de Dios, mas la Biblia usa ese término para distintas personas. Es la manera bíblica de indicar quién ha sido elegido por Dios para un lugar y misión especial dentro de la historia de la salvación. En el Evangelio de hoy, Jesús presenta una abultada lista de aquellos a quienes, por ser hijos de Dios, no debemos dañar, sino más bien amar: nuestros enemigos, los que nos maldicen o nos hacen daño, los que nos deben dinero, los ingratos, los malvados. El punto de la enseñanza de Jesús no es alentar esos tipos de comportamiento en otros, sino más bien formarnos a imagen de nuestro Padre celestial cuando incrementamos las oportunidades para amar incondicionalmente, sin esperar nada a cambio; ser misericordiosos y compasivo, aun cuando sería más fácil no serlo. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Invitación a Magnifica

El apostolado de Magnifica invita a las mujeres (18+) a una clase de la carta apostólica de San Juan Pablo II llamada “Carta a las Mujeres.” Con la Magnifica, comprenderán su dignidad y naturaleza a través de los diversos estudios y encíclicas que les permitirán encontrar su valor infinito, sus talentos y su belleza incalculable y que cada mujer es merecedora de respeto y amor. A través de la oración, el estudio y amenas discusiones con amigas, descubrirán con alegría el plan de Dios para sus vidas.

Comienza el sábado: 2 de marzo 11 am a 1 pm en el salón 16. Facilitadora es Roció Méndez pueden llamar al (909) 538-1536.

Via Crucis será bilingüe

Nuestra comunidad Hispana les extiende una cordial invitación a todas las personas que estén interesadas en participar en la Pasión de Cristo, mejor conocida como el Via Crucis que se llevará a cabo en nuestra parroquia, y que por primera vez será bilingüe. No se necesita tener experiencia para participar.



Los ensayos serán los lunes y martes en el Salón número 13, de 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. Todos están cordialmente invitados a participar. Para mayor información favor de comunicar con el Sr. Abel Reynoso (909) 827-5324.

Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church

435 Berkeley Avenue – Claremont, CA 91711

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Bulletin deadline is Sunday for the following weekend. Email bulletin@olaclaremont.org.

Interested in the Catholic Church? We invite you to one of our Inquiry sessions. Call Michael Ramirez at (909) 626-3596, ext. 4221 for more information.

Baptisms Brochures about the Sacrament of Baptism are available at the display case on the patio, or the parish and Faith Formation offices. Please call 4-6 weeks before the date of Baptism. For English AND Spanish Baptisms, please contact the parish office at (909) 626-3596, ext. 0.

Weddings Congratulations! Please call the parish office at least six months ahead for preparation, scheduling, and an appointment with a priest. Weddings are scheduled Saturdays at 10 a.m., noon, and 2 p.m. Visit the display case on the patio for more information.

Anointing of the Sick Please call the parish office day or night.

Hospital/Home Visits For distribution of Holy Communion, please contact the parish office.

Funeral Arrangements Please contact the parish office for help with services and special needs.

Stephen Ministry This one-on-one care-giving ministry at OLA is available upon request to those seeking emotional and spiritual support through a life challenge such as loss of a job, personal illness, separation or divorce, illness or the death of a loved one. Please call 626-3596, ext. 4332 to leave a confidential message.

St. Vincent de Paul Society Hotline One-time emergency assistance for individuals and families. Call (909) 626-3596, ext. 4333, to leave a message. Your call will be returned by a volunteer case manager.

Sunday Mass Schedule

- 7:00 a.m. Traditional cantor-led song
- 9:00 a.m. Contemporary ensemble
- 11:00 a.m. Contemporary ensemble
- 1:00 p.m. Spanish Mass
- 3:00 p.m. Vietnamese Mass
- 5:00 p.m. Teen/Contemporary
- 7:00 p.m. Cantor-led song

Saturday Vigil Masses

- 4:00 p.m. Cantor-led song
- 5:30 p.m. Contemporary ensemble or cantor-led song

Weekday Mass Schedule

- 6:30 a.m. Monday through Friday
- 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday
- 8:00 a.m. Saturday

Saturday Confessions

- 3:00 – 3:45 p.m. English/Spanish
- 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. English

How to Reach Us

Parish Office (909) 626-3596

Fax (909) 624-3680

Website: www.olaclaremont.org

email Address: reception@olaclaremont.org

Parish Office Hours

Open 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Monday – Thursday

Friday 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Open Saturday and Sunday 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
(Lunch break from 12:30 to 1 p.m.)

Faith Formation and Religious Education

Faith Formation Center (909) 624-1360

Victor Hernandez, Director of Faith Formation (x4213)
Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

OLA Catholic School

611 W. Bonita Ave., Claremont, CA 91711

Tel. (909) 626-7135 Fax (909) 398-1395

Office hours: Mon-Thurs 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Fridays 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Principal Bernadette Boyle

Website: www.ola-ca.org

Parish Staff

Rev. Charles J. Ramirez, Pastor

Rev. Ron Clark, Associate Pastor

Rev. Paul Phan, Associate Pastor

Rev. Chris Troxell, Associate Pastor

Deacon Jim and Karen Allgaier

Deacon Joe Domond

Deacon Bob and Kathy Steighner

Deacon Art and Nadine Escovedo, retired

Neomi Torres, Director of Parish Administration (x4203)

Victor Hernandez, Director of Faith Formation (x4213)

Dcn. Jim Allgaier, Outreach/Stewardship Coord. (x4216)

Michael Ramirez, Adult Formation Coordinator (x4221)

Jesus Rodriguez, Youth Ministry Coordinator (x4215)

Mary Muñoz, Coordinator of Music Ministry (x4263)

Jean McKenna, Communications Coordinator (x4217)

Bing Macavinta, Bookkeeper (x4232)

Katy Salisbury, Administrative Assistant (x4268)

Karina Pardo, Laura Aguilera, Melly Grigolla and

Elizabeth Preciado, Receptionists (x0)

Roberto Roman, Spanish Choir

Tinh Nguyen, Vietnamese Choir

A Quick Lesson in African American Catholic History

Did you know that the first black people in what is now the United States were Catholics?

In the first European-style city established here, St. Augustine, Florida, a large percentage of Spanish-speaking black Catholic families lived. Some of these were free blacks, and some were slaves. In 1781, El Pueblo de La Reina de los Angeles (today just “Los Angeles”) was founded with only eleven families. All were Catholic, over half were black, and there were only two whites in the entire group! In 1789, the famous Catholic bishop John Carroll wrote, “Of 15,000 Catholics in Maryland, 3,000 are black Catholic slaves.” The original founder of the city of Chicago (established in 1837) was a black Catholic French-speaking trader and trapper named John Baptiste duSable.

Three of the Healy brothers, born in Georgia, were the first black Catholic priests in the United States. James Healy, a member of the Society of St. Sulpice, was ordained in 1854 – the year Augustus Tolton was born. His brother Alexander also joined the Society and was ordained in 1858. Their brother Patrick entered the Jesuits and was ordained in France in 1862. James became the second bishop of Portland, Maine, in 1875, the first black bishop in the United States. Patrick was the first black university president when he became the head of Georgetown College in 1874. Sadly, he always felt unable to talk about his African ancestry in his community. After the Civil War, Patrick Healy was instrumental in developing the college into Georgetown University.

Henriette DeLille (died 1862), a descendant of slaves, is the first native-born African American whose cause for canonization has been opened by the Roman Catholic Church. In 1836, she and another woman tried to form an integrated congregation of vowed women religious, but the segregation laws of the state of Louisiana made it nearly impossible. In 1842, they began by forming a pious union. They took vows in 1852 and were recognized as a religious congregation by Rome in 1870. It was not until 1872 that they were allowed to wear a religious habit, however, due to racist attitudes toward the Sisters of the Holy Family. Today 250 Sisters of the Holy Family minister in four states as well as in Belize, Central America. We pray that the pope will soon name Mother Henriette DeLille as venerable, the first step toward being recognized as a saint:

*O good and gracious God,
you called Henriette DeLille to give herself
in service and in love to the slaves and to the sick,
to the orphaned and the aged,
to the forgotten and to the despised.
Grant that inspired by her life
we might be renewed in heart and mind.
If it be your will, may she one day
be raised to the honor of sainthood.
By her prayers, may we live in harmony and in peace.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.*



Mother Henriette DeLille