



RACIAL HARMONY

AND BLACK CATHOLIC MINISTRIES

ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS

Quarterly Newsletter
2025

Volume : 4 Issue: 1

Summer NEWSLETTER

The Archdiocesan Office of Racial Harmony and Black Catholic Ministries seeks to foster awareness of the sin of racism in all its forms to the Catholic faithful. Guided by prayer, gentleness, and respect, we strive to build relationships across racial boundaries, increase inclusion and representation for Black Catholics, and facilitate meaningful conversations. With the Sacred Heart of Jesus as our focus, we aim to glorify God in all that we do.

In this issue:

- NBCC
- SCLC
- Recent Events
- Upcoming Events
- Focus on St. Louis History





**The National
BLACK CATHOLIC
Congress**

"The National Black Catholic Congress, comprised of member Catholic organizations, represents African American Catholics, in collaboration with these organizations. Aware of the challenges faced by African American Catholics, we are committed to evangelize ourselves, our church and unchurched African Americans, thereby enriching the Church.

We hold ourselves accountable to our baptismal commitment to witness and proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ."

THE ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS **PASTORAL PLAN** *Write the Vision* August 2025



**The National
BLACK CATHOLIC
Congress**

St. Louis Implementation Team



COMING SOON



**ANNUAL
CATHOLIC
APPEAL**



**ARCHDIOCESE
OF ST. LOUIS**

The Center promotes Catholic teaching, Catholic spiritual formation and leadership development, including advocacy for justice and racial equity concerns within the Black Catholic Community and for all who collaborate with them, in accord with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and in the tradition of the Roman Catholic Church.



Honoring
Leaders in the
African
American
Catholic
Community

41st ANNUAL TESTIMONIAL DINNER & CELEBRATION

Every year the St. Charles Lwanga Center has a testimonial dinner and celebration to honor several people in the area for their contributions in the Black Catholic community. Here is a list of those honored this summer.

Community Awardees

Fr. Edward F. Feuerbacher
Lifetime Achievement:

- *Venus D. Spain*
- *Father Carl Scheble*

Trailblazer Award:

- *Sister Gail Guelker, SSND,*
- *Lynn Woolfolk*

Torch Bearer Award:

- *Jesuits of the Central*
- *Southern Province, USA*

Leon Henderson Award:

- *Jessica Pou*

Parish Honorees

Christ the King:

- *Mimi Taylor-Hendrix*

St. Ann:

- *Dr. James Paunicka*
- *Ke'Von Reynolds*

St. Josephine Bakhita:

- *Sister Janice Munier, SSND*
- *Markus Willem Dowdy (Posthumously)*

St. Norbert:

- *Jane Kariuki*
- *Kadin A.J. Anderson*

St. Peter Claver:

- *Rosalind Williams*
- *Andrea Lowe*
- *Kennedy Thomas*

RECENT

Events



Sunday, June 1, 2025

The St. Charles Lwanga Center's 41st Annual Testimonial Dinner/Auction was held on Sunday, June 1, 2025 at the Renaissance St. Louis Hotel. This year's theme was Go Forth and Set the World on Fire. The event honors Parish Adult, Young Adult, Youth and Organizational Leaders within African American Catholic Community.



Keep our beloved Auxiliary Bishop, Mark S. Rivituso, in your prayers as he moves on to his next journey.

Pope Leo XIV has designated St. Louis Auxiliary Bishop Mark S. Rivituso as the 10th bishop and the third archbishop of Mobile, Alabama.



UPCOMING *Events*

Festival of Saint Louis **6th Annual Festival of Saint Louis**



AUGUST
17th - 25th

The 6th Annual
**FESTIVAL
OF
SAINT LOUIS**
festivalofsaintlouis.com

In summer 2020, vandals threatened the statue of Louis, King of France, in St. Louis. In response, Catholics gathered to pray the Rosary at the statue, asking St. Louis for peace amid rising violence. As their numbers increased, opposing demonstrators dwindled.

On August 25th, the Feast of St. Louis, hundreds processed with a relic of their patron to the statue, culminating in the first annual "Festival of Saint Louis."

Aug

17

Aug 17-25
Free Admission

Events Include

- Holy Rosary Novena in Forest Park
- Banquet And First Vespers Of The Feast
- Louismas Liturgies

THE ORATORY OF SAINTS
**GREGORY &
AUGUSTINE**



ORATORIO
where inspiration meets impact
www.oratoriostl.com



**Knights of
Columbus**



Evangelization and Relational Ministry
How Do I Respond?

HOW DO I RESPOND?

Evangelization and Relational Ministry

**WEDNESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 10, 2025
6:00-8:30 PM**

St. Stephen Protomartyr Parish
3949 Wilmington, St. Louis, MO 63116

**Join us for an evening of prayer & fellowship
in the Northern Vicariate to connect with
others on mission to make disciples.**

Together we will share innovative practices,
ideas, and learn how to support each other in
our evangelization efforts. Scan QR Code or
visit archstl.org/northern-vicariate for more
information or to register.



Northern Vicariate of the
ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS



ANNUAL
CATHOLIC
APPEAL

Sept

10

6:00 - 8:30 pm

St. Stephen Protomartyr Parish
3949 Wilmington
St. Louis, MO 63116

African Catholic Ministry
A Night of Encounter



The African Ministry the Archdiocese of St. Louis
Invites You To A

**Come and experience the Power
of the Holy Spirit in your life!**
Fr. Martin Ibeh, Ministering

**September 12, 2025
7:00 PM**

Place: Former St. Rita Parish
8240 Washington Street
St. Louis, MO 63114

Sept

12

7:00 pm

St. Charles Lawange Center
8240 Washington Str
St. Louis, Mo 63114

The Board of the Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver
Annual Dinner Auction



2025 Annual Dinner Auction

"All Children of One Father"

Saturday, September 20, 2025 • 6:00 PM

**MISSIONARY
SISTERS OF
ST. PETER CLAVER**



The spirituality of the Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver, inherited from their Foundress, Blessed Mary Theresa Ledochowska, is rooted in Ignatian spirituality; from there it branches into a uniquely Claverian way of following Christ.

"All Children of One Father"

Annual Dinner Auction
Benefiting 2025 Mission Projects

Individual: \$150

Table or ten: \$1,500

Register by Saturday, September 13th

For more information, please contact Missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver at 314-469-4932 or email: sspc.da23@gmail.com

Sept

20

6:00 - 10:00 pm

Hilton St. Louis Frontenac
1335 S. Lindbergh Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63131

St. Norbert Catholic Church
Taste of St. Norbert

Taste of St. Norbert

A celebration of the churches of:
St. Angela Merici, Holy Name of Jesus, and St. Norbert)

MULTICULTURAL
Festival



Food From Many Nations
Entertainment
50/50 Raffle/Basket Raffles

Ticket/Donation	
Ages 0-5 yrs	Free
Ages 6-12 yrs	\$5.00
Ages 13+	\$10.00
Parish/School Family	\$15.00

Unity through the Celebration of Our Diversity

Sept

28

noon - 3:00 pm

St. Norbert Church
16455 New Halls Ferry
Florissant, MO 63031

*Mass at 11 am

Archdiocese of St. Louis: Respect Life Apostolate
49th Annual Respect Life Conference



This day of inspiration and education features Holy Mass, insightful presentations on relevant topics from Catholic and pro-life leaders, a lunch gathering, a ministry partner fair, and opportunities for networking, prayer, and fellowship.

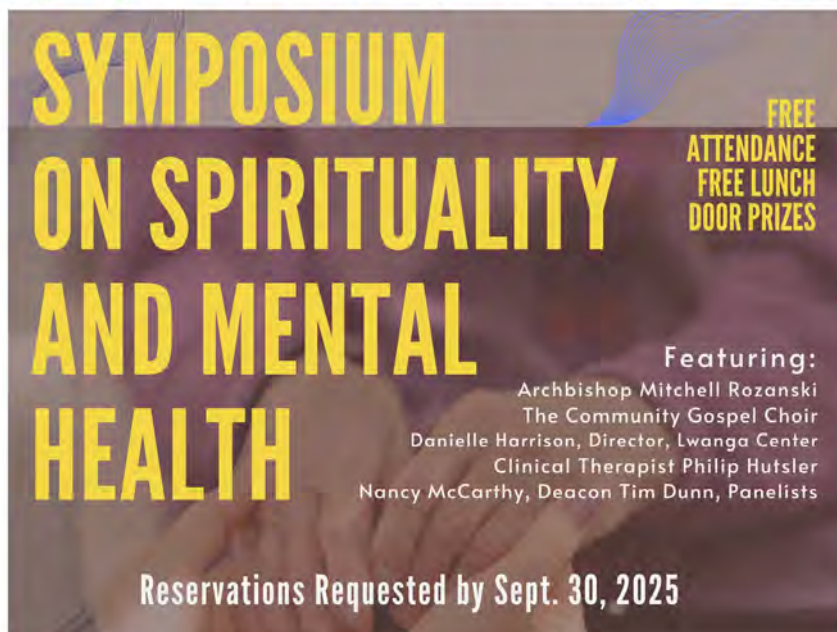
Oct

4

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Cardinal Rigali Center
Archbishop May Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63119

St. Peter Claver Social Justice Ministry
Symposium On Spirituality & Mental Health



For questions, contact:
Co-Chair Dorothy Dempsey, dotlemore@gmail.com
Secretary Sharon Shanks, Sharonshanks60@gmail.com

Oct

4

10:45 am - 3:00 pm

Sacred Heart Parish
1210 Paddock Dr.
Florissant, MO 63033

Enter door #9
Rose Philippine Duchesne
Parish Hall

Bus Tour
Dred Scott Footprints...

2025

DRED SCOTT FOOTPRINTS
&
ATTENDANT BLACK HISTORY BUS TOUR

Presented by **Together STL**
RACIAL UNITY FOCUS TEAM

EMMANUEL EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Webster Groves, MO

The Dred Scott Heritage Foundation

ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS
Office of Racial Harmony
and Black Catholic Ministries

Oct

25

8:30 am - 12:30 pm

Join us for an inspirational,
historical and surprise-filled
bus tour revealing black
history of St. Louis.

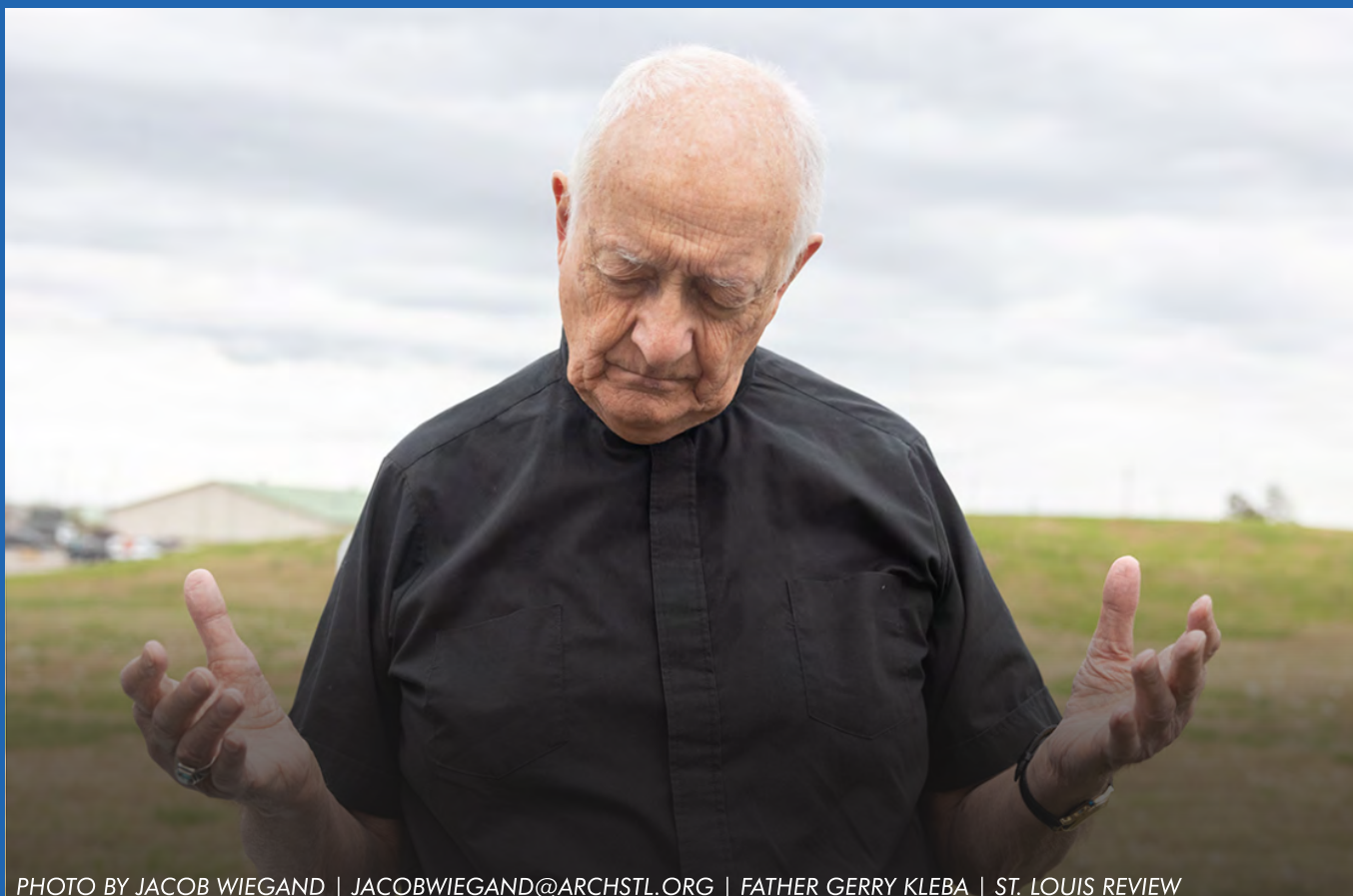


PHOTO BY JACOB WIEGAND | JACOBWIEGAND@ARCHSTL.ORG | FATHER GERRY KLEBA | ST. LOUIS REVIEW

Father Gerald "Gerry" Kleba: A Documentary Highlighting St. Louis Black History

Father Gerald "Gerry" Kleba, a retired priest from St. Louis, is the focus of a new documentary entitled **A Black History Tour of St. Louis**. Directed by local filmmaker Tony West, the film captures Father Kleba's enlightening tours that explore the rich Black history of the city, inspired by his experiences in predominantly Black neighborhoods.

Awards and Recognition

*A Black History Tour of St. Louis** has received accolades at various film festivals, including awards for Best Director – Feature Documentary at the Venice Under the Stars – International Film Festival and the "Enchanted Realms" award at the Hidden Universes Independent Film Festival in Melbourne. The documentary premiered in St. Louis on July 27, 2025, at the Hi-Pointe Theatre during the St. Louis Filmmakers Showcase. There are plans in motion to make the film available on streaming platforms in the near future.

Save the Date

CELEBRATE
Black Catholic History
Month
with us

November 22, 9am - 1pm



#iGIVECATHOLIC
ON GIVING TUESDAY



Save the Date!

Nov 17 - Dec 1

Advanced Giving

December 2

Giving Tuesday

Contact Us:

*Office of Racial Harmony
& Black Catholic Ministries*

20 Archbishop May Drive
St. Louis, MO 63119-5738

Email: racialharmony@archstl.org

Website: www.racialharmonystl.org

Phone: 314.792.7430

Fax: 314.529.8921

SUPPORTED BY THE



ANNUAL
CATHOLIC
APPEAL

BUILD MY CHURCH



ARCHDIOCESE
OF ST. LOUIS