“We must develop and maintain the capacity to forgive. He who is devoid of the power to forgive is devoid of the power to love. There is some good in the worst of us and some evil in the best of us. When we discover this, we are less prone to hate our enemies.”

Martin Luther King Jr., Loving Your Enemies

January 2020

General Information
The next African American Catholic Community (AACC) mass will be held on January 19, 2020, 12:00 p.m., at St. Joseph’s on the Rio Grande Catholic Church, located at 5901 Saint Joseph’s Drive NW (1 block west of Coors and St. Joseph). At this mass we celebrate The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time with emphasis on honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

In order to prepare for this liturgy please read and reflect on the readings for this day.

Liturgy for January 19, 2020
The Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Isaiah 49:3, 5-6 [God Is My Strength]
Through Israel the Lord will show forth his glory and splendor. Israel is to be a light for all nations whereby salvation will come to all people.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-3 [A Holy People]
Paul and Sosthenes greet the people at Corinth. They are to be a holy people as are all who call upon the name of Jesus, acknowledging him as Lord.

Gospel Reading: John 1:29-34 [Encountering Christ]
John the Baptist recognized Jesus: The Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. This is God’s chosen one upon whom the Spirit descended and came to rest.

Pray for Puerto Rico Earthquake Victims
San Juan, Puerto Rico, Jan 8, 2020 / 12:59 am (CNA).
In the wake of a series of earthquakes that left at least one dead, multiple injured and some 300,000 without water in Puerto Rico, Archbishop Roberto Octavio González Nieves called for prayer and solidarity among his people.
“A 6.7-point earthquake has just shaken all of Puerto Rico that is now without (electricity),” , Archbishop Nieves, said in a Jan. 7 tweet. “Prayer, serenity, solidarity and charity are important. We are one family!”

Martin Luther King Jr. Mass/Celebration
Sunday, January 19, 2020
Mass Begins at 12:00 p.m.
St. Joseph's on the Rio Grande Church
5901 Saint Joseph’s Drive NW
Albuquerque, NM 87120
(1 block west of Coors and St Joseph’s)

Celebrant: Very Rev. James B. Herring, O. Praem., Prior
Immaculate Conception Priory
Middletown, DE

For more information please call 505-836-3627
Sponsored by the Archdiocese of Santa Fe Office of Social Justice and Respect Life, 505-831-8167
Fr. James B. Herring, O. Praem.

Fr. James Herring is a priest of the Order of Premonstratensians (Premontré)…more commonly known as Norbertines…joining the community in 1997 he was ordained in April 2002 at St. Norbert Abbey in DePere, Wisconsin (USA) by Bishop George Murry, SJ, then bishop of the US Virgin Islands. DePere is near Green Bay…home of the Green Bay Packers and known also for cheese.

Fr. James was born and raised in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, attending Catholic grade schools, high school, college and seminary. Fr. James holds a BA in Philosophy from St. Charles Borromeo Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, an MDiv and an MA in Theology from the DeSales School of Theology in Washington, DC, a JCL and an MCL in Canon Law from Saint Paul University and the University of Ottawa and a JCD and a PhD in canon law also from Saint Paul University and the University of Ottawa in Ottawa, Canada. Fr. James’ doctoral dissertation is titled “The Application of the Requirement for the Mandatum of Ex corde Ecclesiae to American Catholic Universities Sponsored by Religious Institutes: A Case Study of St. Norbert College.”

On his return to Ottawa in 2002 for doctoral studies, Fr. James was appointed as a Defender of the Bond on the National Appeals Marriage Tribunal of Canada. He also served as pastoral ministry assistant at Good Shepherd and at St. Basil parishes in Ottawa and helped out in sacramental ministry at St. Mark, Immaculate, Trinity, and Pierson high schools.

Fr. James was an Adjunct Instructor of Religious Studies at St. Norbert College in DePere, the Interim Director of the college’s Peace and Justice Center, and when he was a Deacon, he served as Campus Minister and Deacon for St. Norbert College Parish. Fr. James has served on the Green Bay diocesan social concerns committee, the advisory council for the Catholic Bishops of Wisconsin, the Board of Directors of the National Catholic AIDS Network, and is an active member of the Black Catholic Theological Symposium and the Canon Law Society of America. He is also a Judge on the Appeals Marriage Tribunal in Green Bay. Fr. James also served as a member of the Board of Trustees of St. Norbert College and also served as vice-chair of the Board of Education for Notre Dame Academy (Green Bay, WI).

Fr. James currently serves as Prior at the Immaculate Conception Priory, Middletown, DE.

Josephite Pastoral Calendars Fund Raiser

The AACC will be conducting an annual fund-raiser after the 12:00pm mass at St. Joseph’s on the Rio Grande Church. We will be selling the Josephite Pastoral Calendars at a reduced price of $5.00. Part of the proceeds will go to the Fr. Rollins Lambert Scholarship Fund. The Calendars offers great graphics and historical trivia on afro-centric church and secular events.

If you are not able to attend this mass and would like to purchase a calendar, please contact Brother Gordon Boykin, at (505) 249-5774. Your support is much appreciated.

Black Nazarene Feast Day; January 9

For more than four centuries a statue of Jesus carrying his cross has become an important part of faith for Filipino Catholics. The life-size statue of Christ is located in the minor basilica popularly known as the Quiapo Church, located in Manila, the capital of the Philippines. On January 9 every year, millions of people turn out on the streets of the capital to get a glimpse of the historic statue of Jesus of Nazareth.

The Black Nazarene statue is a depiction of Jesus en route to his crucifixion, carrying his cross. The wooden statue was carved by an unknown Mexican sculptor from a dark wood in the 16th century in Mexico and then transported to the Philippines in 1606 by the first group of Augustinian Recollect missionaries.

Why is the Black Nazarene important?

For more than 400 years, the historical and iconic statue of Jesus carrying his cross has become an emblem of passion, struggle and faith for Filipino Catholics.

The devotion in Quiapo, Philippines is somewhat similar to a pilgrimage experience and people do it to pray for spiritual change or purification. Pope Innocent X also recognized the Philippines’ strong devotion to the Black Nazarene of Manila in 1650.
Special Intentions

Our Dearly Departed: **Henry Johnson**, father of Tina and Larry Stevenson

**Alphonsa Jones**, father of Deacon Leon Jones

New Pastoral Letter on Racism and Resources!

"But racism still profoundly affects our culture, and it has no place in the Christian heart. This evil causes great harm to its victims, and it corrupts the souls of those who harbor racist or prejudicial thoughts. The persistence of the evil of racism is why we are writing this letter now."

November 14, 2018

Baltimore — The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) approved today, during its November General Assembly, the formal statement, “Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love, A Pastoral Letter Against Racism.” The full body of bishops approved it by a two-thirds majority vote of 241 to 3 with 1 abstention.

This is not the first time the U.S. Bishops have spoken as a collectively on race issues in the United States, but it is the first time in almost 40 years.

In 1979, they approved "Brothers and Sisters to Us: A Pastoral Letter on Racism in Our Day." Among the many things, they discussed was the fact that "Racism is a sin: a sin that divides the human family, blots out the image of God among specific members of that family, and violates the fundamental human dignity of those called to be children of the same Father.


Order of the Day

Martin Luther King Jr.

**Born:** January 15, 1929

**Died:** April 4, 1968

Martin Luther King Jr. was a great man who worked for racial equality in the United States of America. He was born on January 15, 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia. Both his father and grandfather were ministers. His mother was a schoolteacher who taught him how to read before he went to school. Young Martin was an excellent student in school.

After graduating from college and getting married, Dr. King became a minister and moved to Alabama. During the 1950's, Dr. King became active in the movement for civil rights and racial equality. He participated in the Montgomery, Alabama, bus boycott and many other peaceful demonstrations that protested the unfair treatment of African-Americans. He won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. Dr. King was assassinated on April 4, 1968, in Memphis, Tennessee. Commemorating the life of a tremendously important leader, we celebrate Martin Luther King Day each year in January.

MLK Noteworthy Dates

1929 Born on January 15, in Atlanta, Georgia

1948 Age 19; Graduates from Morehouse College

1953 June 18; Marries Coretta Scott

1955 June 5; Earns a doctoral degree

1956 September 30; Dr. King's house is bombed

1958 September 17; Dr. King publishes his first book, *Stride Toward Freedom*

1963 August 28; Dr. King gives his "I Have a Dream" speech at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C.

1964 October 14; Dr. King is awarded the Nobel Peace Prize

1968 April 4: Dr. King is assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee

1986 January-3rd Monday; Martin Luther King Jr. Day is declared a national holiday in the U.S. Bill signed Nov. 3, 1983
### Remembering a Few Noteworthy Blacks that Passed Away in 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fr. George Clements</td>
<td>a longtime civil rights advocate from Chicago’s South Side who was also known as the first Catholic priest to adopt a child, and later, three more. He died Nov. 25 at the age of 87.</td>
<td>Nov. 25</td>
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<td>John Conyers</td>
<td>Democratic Congressman from Michigan who served more than a half-century on Capitol Hill to become the longest-serving Black U.S. Representative in history, died Oct. 27 at 90 years old</td>
<td>Oct. 27</td>
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<td>Elijah Cummings</td>
<td>the Congressman from Maryland and one of the main Democrats leading the charge to impeach President Donald Trump, died Oct. 17 at the age of 68.</td>
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<td>Patricia Bath</td>
<td>a pioneering ophthalmologist who became the first African American female doctor to receive a medical patent after she invented a more precise treatment for cataracts, died May 30 at the age of 76.</td>
<td>May 30</td>
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<td>Kristoff St. John</td>
<td>who starred in the popular soap opera “Young &amp; the Restless” as Neil Winters, died Feb. 3 at the age of 52.</td>
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<td>Jessye Norman</td>
<td>the pioneering Black soprano opera singer, died Sept. 30 at the age of 74</td>
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<td>John Singleton</td>
<td>director, screenwriter, producer, and actor. He was best known for directing Boyz n the Hood, Oscar-nominated movie director, died April 29.</td>
<td>Apr. 29</td>
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<td>Frank Robinson</td>
<td>professional baseball’s first Black manager and baseball Hall of Famer, died Feb. 7 at the age of 83.</td>
<td>Feb. 7</td>
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<td>Toni Morrison</td>
<td>American writer noted for her examination of black experience (particularly black female experience) within the black community. died August 5, 2019</td>
<td>Aug. 5</td>
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<td>Diahann Carroll</td>
<td>died Oct 4, 2019, the Oscar-nominated actress and singer who won critical acclaim as the first black woman to star in a non-servant role in a TV series as “Julia,” has died. She was 84.</td>
<td>Oct. 4</td>
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<td>Rev. Clay Evans</td>
<td>was “a civil rights leader, influential evangelical broadcaster and gospel music icon” in Chicago. He died Nov. 27 at 94 years old.</td>
<td>Nov. 27</td>
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<td>James Ingram</td>
<td>The singer and songwriter whose hits included “I Don’t Have the Heart,” died Jan. 29. He was 66.</td>
<td>Jan. 29</td>
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<td>John Witherspoon</td>
<td>a prolific character actor best known for a run of comedic turns in acclaimed films and cult classics like &quot;Hollywood Shuffle&quot; and the &quot;Friday&quot; franchise, died on Oct. 29 at the age of 77.</td>
<td>Oct. 29</td>
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