

WELCOME

"The presence and contributions of Black and African Catholics, from the time of Servant of God Julia Greeley to the new immigrant arrivals of today, have been a blessing to the Church in northern Colorado.

I am thankful for the work of the Office of Black Catholic Ministry that serves these communities and shares their gifts with the entire Archdiocese of Denver."

Most Reverend Samuel J. Aquila
Archbishop of Denver



Throughout the history of our archdiocese, Black Catholics have enlivened the Body of Christ with their warmth, deep spirituality and dedication to works of charity. It brings me great joy to see the fruits of your faith and to encourage you to continue growing in holiness.

Most Reverend Jorge Rodriguez
Auxiliary Bishop
Archdiocese of Denver

African American Bishops of the United States



"You must now give your gifts of Blackness to the whole Church."

Pope St. Paul VI

"You are to give priority to the great task of evangelization, to be missionaries of Christ's love and truth within your own Black community."

Pope St. John Paul II

"There is a richness in our Black experience that we must share with the entire People of God. These are gifts that are part of an African past. For we have heard with Black ears and we have seen with Black eyes and we have understood with an African heart. We thank God for the gifts of our Catholic faith, and we give thanks for the gifts of our Blackness. In all humility we turn to the whole Church that it might share our gifts so that our joy may be complete."

What We Have Seen and Heard: A Pastoral Letter on Evangelization from the Black Bishops of the United States



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Keep up with upcoming events on our Facebook page at [fb.com/blackcatholicministry](https://www.facebook.com/blackcatholicministry) or visit us at [archden.org/black-ministry](https://www.archden.org/black-ministry) For quarterly newsletters, please enroll in the Census of Black Catholics in the Archdiocese of Denver at either site or contact the office directly.

OFFICE OF BLACK CATHOLIC MINISTRY



OUR MINISTRY

Jesus Christ calls Black, African and African American communities to share the richness and warmth of our ethnicity, cultural values, and deep spirituality with the entire Catholic community. We are united with other Catholics by our common faith, shared hope and mutual charity. Our Lord has called us to proclaim the good news and with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we answer that call as fully integrated members in the Roman Catholic faith. Our faith journey leads us to build the Kingdom of God in the universal church.

The Office of Black Catholic Ministry addresses the pastoral needs of the Black/African/African American community within the Archdiocese of Denver in accordance with the implementation of the Pastoral Plan of the National Black Catholic Congress.

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Office of Black Catholic Ministry is to evangelize, embrace and engage Black Catholics in the Archdiocese of Denver by developing culturally relevant programs that educate and uplift individuals of all ethnicities by celebrating accomplishments and promoting leadership of Black Catholics within the Church community.

PATRONESSES OF THE OFFICE



St. Josephine Bakhita was kidnapped into slavery in the Sudan. Taken to Italy, she was renowned for her holiness after joining the Cannosian Sisters and the many miracles credited to her intercession immediately after her death.



St. Katharine Drexel devoted her life and family fortune to evangelization in the black community. She founded the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament to work in the African American Apostolate in the United States.



Servant of God Julia Greeley was a former slave who became Catholic in Denver, Colorado. Renowned for her piety and charity, her cause for canonization was introduced in 2016.

ANNUAL EVENTS

ST. JOSEPHINE BAKHITA/ST. KATHARINE DREXEL RECOGNITION AWARD DINNER

This annual award is presented to a Catholic who has excelled in service to the Black Catholic community and has shown exceptional leadership in promoting evangelization and discipleship.

BLACK CATHOLIC RETREAT

A silent retreat for listening to the voice of Christ. Participants take time away from their busy schedules to be restored and inspired by His word in order to become better witnesses to others.



DAY(S) OF REFLECTION

Events to bring people together to share experiences and information which will inspire and sustain them in their faith journey.

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Workshops and retreats designed to increase the engagement of Black Catholic youth in personally embracing their faith.

NOVEMBER IS BLACK CATHOLIC HISTORY MONTH

On July 24, 1990, the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus of the United States designated November as Black Catholic History Month to celebrate the long history and proud heritage of Black Catholics worldwide. The Office of Black Catholic Ministry is available throughout the year to provide resources to schools, parishes and organizations to share the accomplishments and contributions of Black Catholics.



PEACE AND JUSTICE MASS

The Gospel of peace is spread to encourage cooperation locally, nationally and globally. We remember all the martyrs who stood for peace and justice and pray that our nation may continue to heal from the wounds of prejudice and injustice. The Mass is held on the anniversary of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday each year.