

Quarterly Meeting Minutes – 28 September 2019

In attendance:

Wilena McPhatter – St. Mary (Goldsboro)	Margaret Cross – St. Michael (Cary)
Barbara Farmer – St. Therese (Wilson)	Daisy Crump – St. Therese (Wilson)
Henry White – St Therese (Wilson)	Robert Cross – St Michael (Cary)
Gloria Burton – Holy Cross (Durham)	Valerie Batta – Francophone Community (Raleigh)
Ada Horton – St. Joseph (Raleigh)	Leon Cooke – St. Francis of Assisi (Raleigh)
Adriene Gamble – St. Joseph (Raleigh)	George Morgan – Holy Name of Jesus Cathedral
Esther Patterson – St. Ann (Fayetteville)	Michael Patterson – St. Ann (Fayetteville)
Micah Alexander – St. Ann (Fayetteville)	Bernadette Alexander – St. Ann (Fayetteville)
Ann Hurrey – St. Ann (Goldsboro)	Curtis Deloatch – Knights of Peter Claver
Jennifer Deloatch – Ladies of St. Peter Claver	Deborah Blount – Holy Names of Jesus Cathedral
Martha Carter-Bailey – St. Mary (Goldsboro)	Bokolo Nke – St. Raphael (Raleigh)
Leon Muba – Francophone Community (Raleigh)	Raphael Voza – Francophone Community (Raleigh)
Tristan Evans – Diocese of Raleigh	

Agenda:

1. Roll Call and Introductions
2. Chapters, Communities and Organizations: Profiles and Structures
3. Executive Committee and Advisory Board: Delegates, Nominations and Election
4. Grants and Endowments: Status Update
5. Calendar Review: Day of Reflection and Beyond
6. Evangelization and Discipleship: The diocese’s new way forward
7. Support Sainthood: How we can make a difference.

Discussion:

- **Agenda Topic 1 - Introductions**

We had a better turn out for this quarter’s meeting and pray that we continue the momentum. All in attendance are very motivated to continue to grow our efforts.

Tristan (Diocese) thanked the many hands involved in the success of this year’s African Heritage Mass. Raphael Voza (Francophone Community) reminded us that we should pull together an after-action report to document our successes, areas where we can improve, and any suggestions for making the event a larger success in the following year. Adriene Gamble (St. Joseph) volunteered to create and distribute the survey.

- **Agenda Topic 2 – Chapter, Communities and Organizations: Profiles and Structures**

During this topic, Tristan (Diocese) collected Chapter, Community, Parish and Organization details so we can update the respective information of the diocesan website. This will allow visitors to our web site better information on how to get involved with AAMEN and to allow the different AAMEN Communities to connect and support each other. One example given is when members of our community are sick, in the hospital or have passed away the pastoral care has not been as supportive among our community.

- **Agenda Topic 3 – Executive Committee and Advisory Board: Delegates, Nominations and Elections**

Our AAMEN Executive Committee will now be known as the AAMEN Advisory Board and has been restructured to be more effective in meetings our future goals. The AAMEN Advisory Board is made up of the current

Presidents of each AAMEN Chapter and the designated representatives (Liaison) from our African and Caribbean communities, our historic Black Parishes (ex. Holy Cross), Black Religious and Clergy and Organizations (ex. Knights and Ladies of St. Peter Claver). Each one of these members will have voting rights on decisions we make as an African Heritage community. These members should be present at all quarterly meetings or send a proxy on their behalf. We want to ensure that we keep moving our mission forward.

The Quarterly Meetings will be the major business meeting of the diocesan AAMEN community. We will continue to have this open to anyone who wishes to attend.

We also elected Adriene Gamble as the Chair of the AAMEN Advisory Board. This role has two primary responsibilities: 1) to continue to convene the Quarterly Meetings and project coordination among the AAMEN community should the diocesan director be unavailable, or the position is vacant and 2) to serve as the AAMEN community's representative in oversight of our current (see Agenda Topic 4) and future endowments.

Finally, the Chaplains of our respective communities will serve as our spiritual directors and the bishop will designate one of them to be the AAMEN Delegate to the bishop on our behalf.

- **Agenda Topic 4 – Grants and Endowments**

There have been questions regarding grant and endowment funds for the AAMEN community and Tristan (Diocese) provided a breakdown of the resources that support the AAMEN community. There are currently, three sources of funding designated for the AAMEN community and designated to support education or ministry support. The sources are as follows:

- **The Black and Indian Mission Organization (BIMO):** The Black and Indian Mission Office comprises the Bureau of Catholic Indian Missions, the Commission for the Catholic Missions among the Colored People and the Indians and the Catholic Negro-American Mission Board, which are three Roman Catholic institutions for mission work in the United States that maintain separate functions but operate with one staff and one board of directors. Since 1887, the Commission for the Catholic Missions among the Colored People and the Indians has administered a national annual Lenten collection to support African American and Native American missions. Since the 1980s, the Commission and its collection have been known respectively as the Black and Indian Mission Office and the Black and Indian Mission collection. And the Catholic Negro-American Mission Board has supported and promoted Catholic missions among African Americans. It was founded in 1907 as the Catholic Board for Mission Work among the Colored People to provide a second national funding stream for Black Catholic missions. The purpose of the grants from this organization is twofold:
 - Primary and secondary school tuition assistance for catholic school students
 - Assistance to ministries serving the Black and Indian communities
- **The Monsignor Thomas Paul Hadden Young Adult Education Endowment Fund:** this endowment was established within the Diocese of Raleigh on November 10, 2017 with the purpose of educational funding for young adult African Americans who are actively participating in ministry within the diocese for post-secondary education (college/trade school).
- **The Benjamin J. Davis, Sr. Endowment Fund:** the endowment was established within the Diocese of Raleigh on September 23, 2017 for the purpose assisting with the operating needs of ministry to the African American Catholic Community by sustaining the following areas of evangelization:
 - Maintaining African American Catholic identity
 - Heighten African American Catholic visibility
 - Enhance the spiritual lives of African American Catholics

Note: The two endowments are governed by a board made up of the Chaplain for the African American Community (who has the ultimate authority on disbursements), the Director of African Ancestry

- **Agenda Topic 5 – Calendar**

We reviewed the calendar and agreed to not schedule events on the first or third Saturdays of the month due to many Gospel Choir and Knights of St. Peter Claver members would be unable to attend events. We are also looking to confirm our December Quarterly Meeting date in Fayetteville.

Note: Our next major event is the Day of Reflection which will be a day spent setting the goals and priorities of the AAMEN Community for the next 12 months. We will begin with Mass and then move into the major task of breaking open the 2017 Pastoral Plan from the Black Catholic Congress. **The Day of Reflection will be November 9, 2019 at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Durham, NC from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.**

Date	Event	Location (Preliminary)
2019		
Nov. 9	Black Catholic Month – Day of Reflection	Holy Cross (Durham) 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
Nov. 21-23	National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC)	Indiana Conv. Ctr. (Indianapolis, IN)
Dec. 1	Advent Begins	
Dec ?	Quarterly Meeting	St. Ann (Fayetteville) 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
Dec. 25	Christmas	
2020		
Jan. 15	Prayer Breakfast	TBD
Jan. 18	Mass and March for Life	Holy Name of Jesus (Raleigh) 11:00 am
Jan. 20	MLK Mass/Service Project	Holy Name of Jesus (Raleigh) 10:00 am
Jan 23	March for Life Conference	Renaissance Downtown Hotel (Washington, D.C.) 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Jan 24	March for Life Rally	National Mall 12 th Street (Washington, DC) 11:00 am – 3:00 pm
Feb. TBD	Black History Month	TBD
Feb. 26	Ash Wednesday (Lent Begins)	
Mar. 28	Quarterly Meeting	St. Joseph (Raleigh) 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
Apr. 9	Chrism Mass	Holy Name of Jesus (Raleigh)
Apr. 12	Easter	
Apr. 18	Ignited By Truth Catholic Conference	NCSU – Reynold Coliseum (Raleigh)
June TBD (13th/20th/27 th)	Family Reunion (and Quarterly Meeting)	TBD (St. Ann – Clayton/St. Mary – Goldsboro)
June 16-20	Lyke Conference	Xavier Univ/La Meridian (New Orleans, LA) 7:00 am – 10:00 pm
Aug. 14	African Heritage Mass Rehearsal (Choir Loft and Sanctuary)	Holy Name of Jesus (Raleigh) 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Aug. 16	African Heritage Mass and Celebration	Holy Name of Jesus (Raleigh) 3:30 pm – 7:00 pm

- **Agenda Topic 6 – Evangelization and Discipleship**

The diocese is embracing a major shift in the approach to ministry and parish life. There are five essential paradigm shifts we will be hearing about, implementing, or experiencing. By undertaking these shifts the hope parishes will experience growth and renewal. These shifts are as follows:

- From institutional faith to intentional faith
- From engagement to encounter
- From maintenance mode to mission mode
- From focusing on programs to focusing on people
- From avoidance to accountability

We will explore this in more detail at our Day of Reflection.

- **Agenda Topic 7 – Support Sainthood**

The African American Catholics find themselves in an exciting time in the life of the church. We now have six holy people in the process of Cause for Sainthood. They are:

- Venerable Pierre Toussaint
- Venerable Henriette Delille, S.S.F.
- Servant of God Mother Mary Elizabeth Lang, O.S.P.
- Servant of God Fr. Augustus Tolton
- Servant of God Sr. Thea Bowman, F.S.P.A.
- Servant of God Sr. Julia Greeley, O.F.S.

Whichever one of these amazing Catholics to be canonized a saint will be the “FIRST” American born Black saint. It is indeed very exciting, but it is also an expensive process.

We will also discuss how we can support these causes at our upcoming Day of Reflection.