

AAMEN Quarterly Meeting

September 26, 2020

AGENDA

Opening Prayer

AAMEN Diocesan Update

- **Financials:**

Endowment Funds	Msgr. Hadden	Benjamin Davis	Josephites
Beginning Value	\$36,128.40	\$142,644.00	\$71,462.65
Additions	0.00	0.00	0.00
Return on Investment	\$4,362.54	\$17,224.34	(\$12,216.38)
Withdrawals	0.00	0.00	(\$675.00)
Ending Balance	\$40,490.94	\$159,868.34	\$58,571.27

- **Tuition Assistance:**

The Black and Indian Mission Organization Grant and Josephite Endowment funded 96 African American Students and 2 Native American Students for academic year 2020-2021 in the amount of \$49,250.00

- **Projects:**

“Black Catholicism in the Diocese of Raleigh”: A chronological documentary exploring the roots of Black Catholicism up to present day. Please provide any elders’ names and related content that you think will be important to include.

“Racism”: A learning and healing initiative to address the sin and evil of racism. Some of you will be contacted to participate in the crafting of this deliverable.

- **Chaplain:**

The bishop has given us the blessing for Deacon Rick Fisher to serve as the Chaplain for the African American Community. Deacon Rick has not formally accepted the position.

- **Mass for Peace and Justice:**

We need to plan this activity out for the coming year. We will hold weekly Zoom meetings to ensure we have what we need to celebrate in 2021.

AAMEN Chapter Activities

- **Black Catholic History Month** (Spirituality and the Saints)

Virtual Symposium November 6 and 7 – Fr. Tony Ricard, Richard Lane both confirmed. Waiting

for responses from Amanda Vernon, Fr. Maurice Nutt, ValLimar Jansen, Fr. Maurice Emelu and more. Please provide any input.



Meeting Minutes:

- Team requested an endowment presentation to explain the account statements. (Tristan to make the request to the diocese)
- Kevin Green suggested a more detailed financial account of the ministry such as overall operational budget for AAMEN; Grant dollars contributed to AAMEN and for what purpose; Endowment payouts and fees. (Tristan will formulate)
- Leon Cook requested contact information for the presenters of the “Diversity in Catholicism” at St. Francis of Assisi in Raleigh. (Tristan will send) - **completed**
- Carol Catrell requested a further breakdown of Black Catholic tuition assistance dollars. (Tristan will provide to leadership team.) - **completed**
- Kevin Green requested information on BIMO funds granted for Tuition Assistance and Ministry. - **completed**
- Team requested list of Black Catholics already submitted to the Communications department in support of History of Black Catholicism in the diocese. (Tristan will provide and has asked the team to add onto the list with other sources and content) - **completed**
- Revisit the AAMEN Strategic Plan to adjust or formulate initiatives to meet plan goals. (Tristan to provide.) - **completed**
- Team requested a copy of the AAMEN Structure. (Tristan will provide) - **completed**
- Team had a few questions about related to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Mass (Tristan to get clarification):
 - Will/Can the mass be livestreamed?
 - Are we able to invite a visiting bishop as homilist?

Leadership team commitments to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Mass:

- **Choir:** Martha Carter-Bailey
- **Prayers of the Faithful and Readers:** Lauren Green
- **Eucharistic Ministers:** Adrien Gamble
- **Altar Servers (6):** Valerie Batta
- **Communications:** Tristan Evans
- **Service Project:** ? (Tristan forgot to ask)

Immediate Deliverables

- Breakdown of BIMO Tuition Assistance**

School	City	# of Students	Amount
Annunciation	Havlock	7	\$ 2,500.00
Blessed Sacrament	Burlington	1	\$ 500.00
Cardinal Gibbons HS	Raleigh	18	\$ 12,750.00
Cathedral School	Raleigh	8	\$ 2,500.00
Immaculata Catholic School	Durham	6	\$ 2,250.00
Our Lady of Perpetual Help	Rocky Mount	3	\$ 1,500.00
Saint Ann	Fayetteville	9	\$ 6,750.00
Saint John Paul II HS	Greenville	7	\$ 3,250.00
Saint Mary	Goldsboro	2	\$ 1,000.00
Saint Mary	Wilmington	5	\$ 2,250.00
Saint Mary Magdalene	Apex	1	\$ 250.00
Saint Michael the Archangel	Cary	2	\$ 1,000.00
Saint Patrick	Fayetteville	5	\$ 2,500.00
Saint Paul	New Bern	2	\$ 1,000.00
Saint Peter	Greenville	3	\$ 750.00
Saint Raphael	Raleigh	11	\$ 5,500.00
Saint Thomas More	Chapel Hill	2	\$ 1,000.00
The Fransican School	Raleigh	4	\$ 2,000.00
18 Schools		96	\$ 49,250.00

- BIMO Grant Award**

African American Tuition Assistance	\$ 40,000.00
Josephite Tuition Assistance	\$ 8,750.00
Total African American Grant	\$ 48,750.00

- List for “History of Black Catholicism” already submitted to Communications Department**

Here are the questions I captured during one of our earlier calls:

- How did you (and/or your family) arrive in the Diocese of Raleigh?
- Catholicism in your life (cradle Catholic or convert? Family traditions, etc)
- What has been your experience as a Black Catholic in the Diocese of Raleigh?
- Fondest Memory
- What has been your segregation/desegregation experience?
- Do you see the Church’s experience with segregation/desegregation as similar or different to society’s?

- How have these experiences been different in the South / Diocese of Raleigh?

Key Names

- Agnes Penny
- Deacon Rick Fisher
rickfisher70@gmail.com
- Marian Thompson-Johnson
mariantj3@aol.com
Holy Cross AAMEN Leader
- Joyce Ellis
ellis3632@att.net
Holy Cross AAMEN Leader
- Helen Hudson
(919) 688-6827
Holy Cross Elder
- Gloria Burton
geeburton@gmail.com
(919) 815-0192
Holy Cross Gospel Choir
- Anna Rzewnicki
amrzewnicki@gmail.com
(919)961-0205
Holy Cross Communications Coordinator

Other Diocesan Elders

- Wilena McPhatter
(919) 922-5508
mrswilena@gmail.com
- Rene Corders (St. Ann School – Fayetteville Past Student and now Principal)
(910) 483.3216
principal@stanncatholicchurch.org
- Don Bennett (St Ann Parish AAMEN Leader)
dfbennettjr@gmail.com
(845) 216-1242

Past AAMEN Directors

- Martha Carter-Bailey
mcarterbailey@gmail.com
(919) 750-3435 - cell phone
- Lauren Green
lvmcgreen@gmail.com
(919) 380-8505

St. Monica Catholic School and Parish History

- George Morgan
(919)848-1440
- Debora Blount
debsingsongs@aol.com
(919) 931-5025

Priests

- Fr. JaVan Saxon (Oldest African American Priest of the Diocese)
(910) 276-4468
St. Mary – Laurinburg
- Fr. Marcos Leon (Has a degree from Xavier College on Ministering to African Americans)
(919) 575-4537
St. Bernadette – Butner
- Msgr. Lewis (was very good friends with Msgr. Hadden and may have further insight)

African Communities

- Fr. Joseph Oji (Pastor of Igbo Community)
Established in the diocese in 2009 (2 communities Nigerian Igbo and Igbo Catholic)
- Alphonsus Ekele Ngwandom (Igbo Community Leader)
Almarch-solar@live.com
(919) 247-2312
- Fr. Roger Malonda Nyimi (Pastor of Francophone Community)
(910) 675-2336
St. Stanislaus – Castle Hayne
- Valerie and Joseph Batta (Francophone Community Leaders)
vwbatta@gmail.com
(713) 689-8454
- Fr. Pius Wekesa (Pastor of Swahili Community)
(919) 946-0616
St. John the Baptist – Roanoke Rapids
- Carol Kimani (Swahili Community Leader)
(919) 264-1332
- Simon Gitau (Swahili Community Leader)
(919) 889-1823
gitausk@yahoo.com
- Monique Kibonge (African Choir and Events)
nicettel@gmail.com
She has tons of pictures of past events.

- **AAMEN Strategic Plan**
(based on the 2017 Black Catholic Congress Pastoral Plan)

1) Spirituality and the Saints

- Enable Black Catholics to enhance their Afrocentric Spirituality
- Increase awareness of Black Saints in the life of the Church

2) Addressing Social Justice Issues

- Addressing racism
- Increase prison ministry and outreach
- Education and support for those experiencing domestic violence
- Work to eliminate human trafficking
- Promote outreach to address other forms of social injustice (housing issues, drugs, and violence in the community)

3) Youth Ministry

- Address the urgent issue of disengaged Black Catholic youth

- **AAMEN Structure**

