

Reverence For Life



Volume 1, Issue 5

National Black Catholic Apostolate for Life

Spring, 2006



This issue is dedicated to the life of Sr. Beatrice Jeffries, SBS



“It is a “yes” to the challenge of really living life, of saying “no” to the attack of death that presents itself under the guise of life; and it is a “yes” to the great gift of true life that became present on the Face of Christ, who gives himself to us in Baptism and subsequently in the Eucharist.”

Pope Benedict XVI

June is “Abortion and All Acts of Violence Awareness Month”

Soon a concerted effort will be underway to raise a consciousness about the tragedy of abortion. The alarming number of African American women having abortions necessitates the involvement of each entity in the African American community. Education is one of the effective ways of combating this problem.

Manifestations of Abortion

Post Abortion Stress Syndrome (PASS) is a debilitating condition that many women experience after an

abortion according to a number of clinicians. It has not been officially sanctioned by the American Medical Association and more research is needed to fully explore the phenomenon; however, this does not mean it is nonexistent.

Studies on this condition validate the claims of thousands of women in post-abortion recovery programs. An aborted female can determine if she is suffering from PASS or a normal feeling of grief, guilt or loss if the feeling

persist for a long period of time. If the reaction is severe it will cause such problems as: self harm, strong suicidal thoughts or attempts, inability to forgive the abortion decision, depression that lingers and is stronger than a little sadness, alcohol/drug abuse, compulsive eating or problems with Phobias. Researchers have discovered that PASS is not limited to women who have abortions. It has been documented in others who participate in the abortion such as other family members. *

Black Catholics Praying for the Healing of AIDS

The Secretariat for African American Catholics are distributing packets containing copious information on HIV/AIDS. Included is a complete outline for

a Lenten program, Program Model, Fact Sheets and Prayer Cards. They are requesting special prayers during Lent for the healing of persons with this

disease. Contact the office at:

www.usccb.org/saac/
or call
202 541-3177



WWW.BLACKCATHOLICSPORLIFE.ORG

National Headquarters
St. Clare Friary
440 West 36th Street
New York, NY 10018

Phone: 212 868-1847
www.blackcatholicsforlife.org
tnbcalife@aol.com
Editor—Clorice G. Walker

The National Black Catholic Apostolate for Life was inaugurated in the fall of 1997, with the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus and the Franciscan Solid Ground Ministry as sponsors and with the support of John Cardinal O’Conner Archbishop of New York and the Archdiocese’s Office of Black Ministry. NBCAL is supported by all the major National Black Catholic organizations in the U.S.



Calendar of Events for 2006 Conferences

Organization	Event	Date/Location	Contact Person	Telephone
Institute of Black Catholic Studies	Convention	June 30-July 22 Notre Dame, IN	Sr. Jamie Phelps, O.P.	574-631-5366
	Lyke Conference	July 5-9 Chicago, IL	Andrew Lyke	312-751-8264
Knights of Peter Claver (KPC)	KPC Convention	July 21-27 Houston, TX	Judge Arthur McFarland Mrs. Mary Briers	843-763-3900 334-281-7316
NBSC NBCCC NBCSA	Joint Conference	July 23-28 Louisville, KY	Sr. Patricia Haley, SCN Deacon Dunn Cumby	727-374-0207 405- 524-7217
USCCB	African Eucharistic Congress	September 1-3 National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Wash,DC	Rev. Anthony Dao, O.P.	202-541-3357



Prayer changes things.

NBCAL

Board of Consultants

Most Rev. J. Terry Steib, SVD, DD
Episcopal Advisor

Rev. Fr. James E. Goode, OFM, Ph.D

Dr. Beverly A. Carroll

Ms. Martha Carter-Bailey

Rev. Fr. Fred J. Briers, CR

Supreme Lady Mary L. Briers

Ms. Therese Wilson Favors

Supreme Knight

Arthur C. McFarlan

Very Rev. Glenn D. Parker, CSsR

Sr. Barbara Spears, SNJM

Deacon Marvin T. Threatt, Ph.d

Rev. Msgr. Mauricio West, VG

Michael Youngblood

Ms. M. Annette Turner

Sr. Patricia Haley, SCN

Deacon Dunn Cumby

Violence in the African American Community

Violence has been added to the June focus because of it’s escalating presence in the community. Statistical data verifies that violence has become an epidemic in the suburbs as well as the inner city.

Many African Americans suffer from “Black Self-hatred” that results from years of conditioning in the social environment. Their mannerisms are acquired from television, music, movies and constant confrontation with the police. Their exposure to violence

and personal victimization is associated with the frequency with which they engage in violent behavior. Those who are future-oriented and goal-directed and from secure families demonstrate less, if any negative behavior.

There must be an aggressive, multi-disciplinary approach to the solution encompassing the educational and court systems, community support, spiritual reinforcement and most importantly parental involvement.

