"We, the people." It is a very eloquent beginning. But when that document [the Preamble to the US Constitution] was completed on the seventeenth of September in 1787 I was not included in that "We, the people." I felt somehow for many years that George Washington and Alexander Hamilton just left me out by mistake. But through the process of amendment, interpretation and court decision I have finally been included in "We, the people."

Barbara C. Jordan (1936-1996); statement made before the House Committee on the Judiciary, July 25, 1974

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**The Archdiocese of Santa Fe African American Catholic Community Invites you to the Annual Fr. Rollins Lambert Memorial Mass**

Sunday, June 26, 2022 at 12 p.m. Noon
St Joseph on the Rio Grande Catholic Church
5901 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Albuquerque, NM.
Presider: Rev. Benjamin Onwumelu, Pastor of Sacred Heart Church and Spiritual Director of the AACC

Masks are optional for attendees. Note: This may change if restrictions are changed by the State of New Mexico. Or you can join us virtually.

Donations can be mailed to the AACC at 4000 St. Joseph Pl. NW ABQ, NM 87120 with AACC on memo line or made securely online at [https://www.archdiocesesantafegiving.org/AACC](https://www.archdiocesesantafegiving.org/AACC).

For more information call 505-401-8983
Sponsored by the Archdiocese of Santa Fe Office of Social Justice and Respect Life at 505-831-8167

The liturgy for this mass celebrates the 13th Sunday In Ordinary Time. Please prepare for this mass by reviewing the liturgy

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**Liturgy for June 26, 2022 Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**First Reading** first Kings 19:16b, 19-21 [Call of Elisha]
Elisha receives the divine call and leaves all his possessions. Our dedication should also be total.

**Responsorial Psalm Ps 16 [Refuge in the Lord]** You are my inheritance, O Lord

**Second Reading** Galatians 5:1, 13-18 [Freedom in Christ]
We are called to be at one another’s service and to love our fellow men as we love ourselves.

To follow Jesus we must be ready to give of ourselves totally.

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"Let the dead bury their dead. But you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God."
Join Us for the Series on Racism: Open Wide Our Hearts “Equal Justice Initiative (EJI): Criminal Justice Reform”

This is our eighth webinar in the series based on the Pastoral Letter Open Wide Our Hearts, exploring healing racism in our Church and Community.

Monday, June 27, 2022
6pm – 7pm (MDT)
Presenter: Law Fellow from EJI TBA

EJI was founded in 1989 by Bryan Stevenson, a widely acclaimed public interest lawyer and bestselling author of Just Mercy. The presentation will provide an overview of EJI's criminal justice reform efforts which include challenging the death penalty, prosecution and placement of children in the adult prison system, wrongful convictions, excessive punishment, and prison conditions. These are issues addressed in Just Mercy. To contextualize these efforts, the presentation also includes an overview of EJI’s racial justice narrative work as documented in our Slavery in America research/report, Reconstruction in America research/report, Lynching in America research/report, Segregation in America research/report and A History of Racial Injustice timeline/calendar. Also shared are the ways EJI is working to harness the power of place in advancing these educational efforts through the Community Remembrance Project and EJI's cultural sites, the Legacy Museum: From Enslavement to Mass Incarceration and the National Memorial for Peace and Justice, in Montgomery.

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMkcuCtrD8qE9QRYObnk59oNp_j949x8e7b
Pre-registration is required; Use the link above or

Contact: Social Justice and Respect Life, ASF at 505-831-8205

Recommended Books on Racial/Gender Justice

The Office of Social Justice and Respect Life has purchased two books whose content addresses racial and gender justice. If you wish to borrow one please contact Anne Avellone at 505-831-8167.

Patrick Saint-Jean, S.J., is the author of The Spiritual Work of Racial Justice: A Month of Meditations with Ignatius of Loyola, published by Anamchara Books. Saint-Jean is a Jesuit in formation at Creighton University in Omaha, NE where he teaches in the department of psychology. A brief interview with Saint-Jean is available here:

https://ignatiansolidarity.net/blog/2021/09/02/spiritual-work-of-racial-justice/

In Subversive Habits, Shannen Dee Williams provides the first full history of Black Catholic nuns in the United States, hailing them as the forgotten prophets of Catholicism and democracy. Drawing on oral histories and previously sealed Church records, Williams demonstrates how master narratives of women’s religious life and Catholic commitments to racial and gender justice fundamentally change when the lives and experiences of African American nuns are taken seriously. More Information can be found here: Subversive Habits (or dwell down from the web site https://www.dukeupress.edu/subversive-habits)

AACC Special Intentions
Please pray for our dearly departed and their families.

Bill Slough - a long time member of the AACC. Bill served on the Steering Committee, the choir and was one of the drummers. We shall miss you Bill.

Ora Jasper (Harge) - Sister of Ira Harge and Sister-In-Law of Dr. Gerry Harge. Gerry is our Chairperson for the Fr. Rollins Lambert Scholarship Fund. May Ora rest in peace.

Patrick Reza - Son of Henry and Mary Francis Reza. Mary Francis (Archdiocese of Santa Fe) is one of the nation’s top Catholic Composers of Spanish music and she has served as the AACC Choir Director/Pianist. The AACC prays for the families of Patrick Reza.
Mother Mathilda Beasley, First African-American Nun in Georgia  
Veronica Lewis, Publicity Chairperson AACC

- **1832** Mathilda Taylor Beasley, Georgia’s first African-American nun was born into slavery in New Orleans LA. It is believed her mother was French Creole and her father the slave owner, James C. Taylor. Not much is known about her early life but it appears she was a resident of a Catholic orphanage for a time where she likely learned to read and write and began to embrace Catholicism. It is not known how she got from New Orleans to Savannah GA but she arrived as a free young woman.

- **1852** Mathilda founded a “secret” school in her home to educate black children which was against the law in Georgia. She developed a compassion for the poor, uneducated and lonely. She risked her life with the school which could result in fines and public flogging if she was caught teaching. Her “underground” school was never discovered by the authorities.

- **1869** Mathilda was baptized Catholic in Savannah, GA before marrying her Catholic husband, Abraham Beasley, a free man of color who was a restauranteur, businessman and land owner. Abraham and Mathilda had no children. Abraham died in 1877 and Mathilda inherited his fortune, which she donated to the Roman Catholic Church with the stipulation that a part of the donation be used to establish an African-American orphanage.

- **1885** Mathilda traveled to England and entered the Franciscan novitiate.

- **1887** Mathilda returned to Savannah to open the St. Francis Home for Colored Orphans. She faced many obstacles at the orphanage, lack of money and physical attacks on the home including arson attempts. Despite this she prevailed and took in sewing to earn money to keep the school open.

Around this same time “Mother” Mathilda as she was called formed the first group of African-American nuns in Georgia. The nuns staffed the orphanage.

- **1903** At the age of 71 Mother Mathilda was found dead in her private chapel hands clasped in prayer. Beside her was her last will and testament and her burial clothes. Her funeral was attended by many from all walks of life, Protestants, Catholics, whites and Blacks and she is buried in Savannah’s Catholic Cemetery.

- **1982** The city of Savannah dedicated a park in her memory. An historical marker at the park describes Mother Mathilda’s many accomplishments.

- **2004** Mathilda Taylor Beasley named a Georgia Woman of Achievement by Georgia Women of Achievement, a private, not for profit in Atlanta.

- **2005** Mother Mathilda was named the Georgia Heritage Celebration honoree by the Georgia Historical Society.

Today her work is honored by the Mother Mathilda Beasley Society promoting her unselfish devotion to those in need. The Society promotes awareness of African-American contributions to the Catholic Church.

Mother Mathilda’s cause for sainthood is under review.

*Mother Mathilda Beasley pray for us.*

Sources: Georgia Historical Society; Aleteia, Nov. 2021  
Juneteenth National Independence Day

Juneteenth commemorates when the last enslaved African Americans learned they were free. Confederate soldiers surrendered in April 1865, but word didn’t reach the last enslaved Black people until June 19, when Union soldiers brought the news of freedom to Galveston, Texas. That was also about two and a half years after the Emancipation Proclamation freeing slaves in the Southern states. It’s the first new federal holiday since Martin Luther King Jr. Day was created in 1983.

On June 17, 2021, President Joe Biden signed the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act (P.L. 117-71) into law. It had passed the Senate on June 15 and the House of Representatives on June 16. The act amends Section 6103(a), Title 5 of the United States Code to designate June 19 as Juneteenth National Independence Day. After he signed P.L. 117-17 (S. 475) into law, President Biden issued a proclamation to celebrate the observance of Juneteenth. In part, the proclamation read

"On June 19, 1865—nearly nine decades after our Nation’s founding, and more than 2 years after President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation—enslaved Americans in Galveston, Texas, finally received word that they were free from bondage. As those who were formerly enslaved were recognized for the first time as citizens, Black Americans came to commemorate Juneteenth with celebrations across the country, building new lives and a new tradition that we honor today. In its celebration of freedom, Juneteenth is a day that should be recognized by all Americans. And that is why I am proud to have consecrated Juneteenth as our newest national holiday."

Juneteenth National Independence Day

Celebrating Freedom

June 19