



## THE ACACIA TREE

The Acacia Tree, native of Africa, is mentioned in the Bible in the Book of Exodus and the Book of Isaiah. The wood of the tree was used to build the Ark of the Covenant. It is mentioned in Isaiah as a sign of the Messianic restoration in Israel.

The Acacia Tree has deep roots and survives through drought, dryness and famine. It is a strong tree which provides shelter for wild animals from the scorching heat of the sun. It also provides food and nourishment.


Since biblical times, the Acacia Tree has been a symbol of stability and resilience. The tree is still found in many areas of African and has become a symbol for that land and our Office of Black Catholics.



The Roman Catholic Diocese of  
**BATON ROUGE**  
BLACK CATHOLICS

## CONTACT US

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*Scan the QR code with your  
phone camera to be taken  
directly to our webpage.*

**I bring myself; my Black self, all that I am,  
all that I have, all that I hope to become...  
as gifts to the Church."**

*- Servant of God, Sister Thea Bowman*

**THE OFFICE OF  
BLACK  
CATHOLICS**

*The Diocese of Baton Rouge*





## MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Office of Black Catholics, are members of the African-American Catholic Community and the Diocese of Baton Rouge. We are committed to seeking full, active participation at all levels of ministry within the borders of the Roman Catholic Church.

Living out our baptismal call through evangelization, we are sent to be a voice of enlightenment and understanding at the diocesan planning and decision-making level; to assist diocesan agencies in the development, coordination and implementation of programs and activities; to keep the African-American Catholics up-to-date on materials, programs, workshops and events on a local, regional and national level; and to provide spiritual, cultural, educational and social nourishment.

The Office of Black Catholics shall assist the people of the Diocese of Baton Rouge in witnessing to the fact that all peoples, regardless of race, color, creed or economic background, bring unique gifts and talents to the Body of Christ. This is our testimony to the diverse and rich multicultural heritage that we bring to the Roman Catholic Church as a whole and the Diocese of Baton Rouge.



## FUTURE PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

MLK Celebration

Black History Month Resources  
(February)

Gospel Music Festival

Racial Healing and Reconciliation

African American Youth Conference

Black Catholic History Month Mass  
(November)

Diocesan Married Couples Retreats

Days of Reflection

Sankofa

Small Groups on Pastoral Letters

Missions, Retreats and Pilgrimages

Vagabond Mission