

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACK CATHOLIC ADMINISTRATORS

www.nabccatholic.org



HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT N.A.B.C.A.?

NABCA is dedicated to providing a forum for Black Catholic Administrators to gather and share their collective resources to effectively address the spiritual needs, issues and concerns facing the Black Catholic communities we serve. As with all organizations, several years preceded the formal establishment of the National Association of Black Catholic Administrators [NABCA]. Between 1970 and 1976, Diocesan Bishops opened Offices for Black Ministry [OBMs] in Detroit, Rochester, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, Washington, DC, and Houston. Garland Jagers, Detroit's Director, and Father Jerome Robinson, OP, Rochester's Director, gave birth to the idea for a gathering of OBM Directors for mutual support and sharing. Five Directors had the first recorded meeting of the Black Catholic Administrators on October 7 and 8, 1976 in Rochester, NY. Diocesan Black Catholic leadership was necessary to impact Diocesan structures and policies from within. They were surviving in unwelcoming and sometimes hostile Diocesan structures, and among some disapproving Black Catholics.

Situations of OBMs change, but NABCA's core agenda remain prayer and the Mass; in-service training; sharing plans, ideas and priority national issues; and charitable service. Affiliated members of NABCA, such as the Executive Director of the Secretariat for African American Catholics in the US Bishops' Conference, and the Director of the National Black Catholic Congress are indicative of the growth of Black leadership. There had been a growing number of Diocesan multicultural or ethnic ministries and other offices that include or are directed by Black Catholics. In the 1980s and 1990s, NABCA offered its first publication, *Guidelines for the Establishment of Offices of Black Catholic Ministries in Dioceses and Archdioceses, and a Guideline for Mentoring*.

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Despite the decreasing numbers of OBMs, NABCA is still dedicated to ministry among Black Catholics within the Roman Catholic Church, and growth in African American leadership and participation at all levels in the Church.

Justice Denied....Justice Delayed

(OVER)

We need your help!!

If your Arch/Diocese does not have an Office of Black Ministry and you have a group of individuals who are interested in celebrating our cultural gifts, we invite you to contact us at: nabcainc@gmail.com.

NABCA Membership Includes:

- Many Dioceses
- USCCB Secretariat for Cultural Diversity
- National Black Catholic Congress
- National Black Sisters' Conference
- National African American Catholic Youth and Young Adult Ministry Network

- Xavier University and the Institute for Black Catholic Studies
- Knights of Peter Claver, Inc.
- National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus
- Bowman Francis Ministry
- Black Catholic Theological Symposium
- Tolton Spirituality Center

We are starting a new initiative and need everyone to spread the word! Black Catholic Professionals United in Catholic Faith and Fellowship

This will be a national organization of Black Catholics Professionals who represent an expansive spectrum of professional skills, talents, and career paths seeking to support each other in navigating daily challenges of living our Catholic Faith in business and in our personal lives. We want to share best practices and emerging trends including DEI training and cultural sensitivity.

Our initial goals are:

- Support Black Catholic Professionals in the workplace environment, parish community, and personal life to actively live out our authentically Black Catholic Experience.
- Mission-driven to help members study, live and spread the Catholic faith in all spheres of life.
- Seek ways to creatively support and promote black vocations to serve our people as priests and religious orders.
- Support, grow and empower the black lay ministry in the Catholic Church and black community.
- Help to create a diversity committee in all dioceses that so wish to have one.
- Share resources of proven policies in the Catholic communities (i.e.: hiring, language, inclusivity, Black Holidays, Black History Month, Black Catholic History Month, Juneteenth, Kwanzaa and other programs.)
- Network to share job opportunities and education opportunities throughout the country.
- Support Black Catholics in healing and navigating transgressions.
- Fraternal support each other.

Please share this information and contact us for more information at:
nabcainc@gmail.com or fatherreggie@gmail.com