

#### St. Augustine of Hippo

Born in Tesgate, Africa of November 13, 354 - was greatly influenced by the faith and piety of his mother, St. Monica. He wrote thousands of letters, sermons, and tracts and authored 232 books. His two famous are *Confessions* and *City of God*. He founded a community for women for which he wrote the *Rules of Augustine* still used in many religious programs.



#### Servant of God Sr. Thea Bowman

Teacher of faith and culture, noted for her outstanding defense and support for inculturation. She worked as an educator and liturgist to evangelize the Church in promoting cultural diversity. She could preach!!!



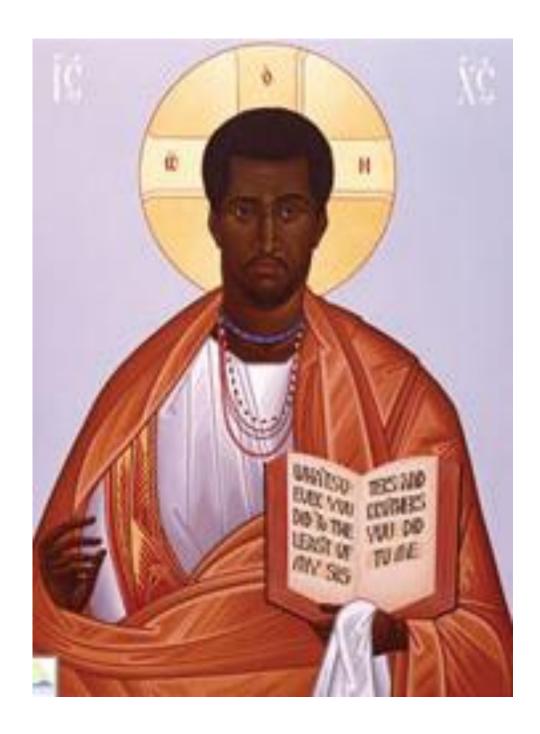
### St. Josephine Bakhita

Born in 1869 in Oggosa, a village in the Sudan- was kidnapped, sold as a slave more than once. In 1893, she entered the Canosssian order of religious women. She was known for her service to the poor. She was canonized a saint on October 1, 2000.



Servant of God Mother Mary Lange, O.S.P.

Founder of the Oblate Sisters of Providence in Baltimore in 1829. The Oblate Sisters of Providence were formed and founded before the Emancipation Proclamation. Mother Mary Lange's cause for canonization was introduced by William Cardinal Keeler, former Archbishop of Baltimore in 1991.



#### Jesus Christ The Liberator

He is our Liberator because he broke the chains of sin and allowed salvation to be ours. He is the Liberator because He takes shackles off folks feet so that they could stand, applies spiritual laser surgery so that folks could see and He sets the oppressed free from their anxieties, fears and pain. He is the Liberator!



#### Mother of the Streets

Mary, the Mother of Jesus was homeless when she gave birth to the Liberator. She continues to roam streets, looking for those who are outcast, homeless, deprived, depressed or lonely. Ask her to sojourn with you as you pray. She can take you to Jesus.



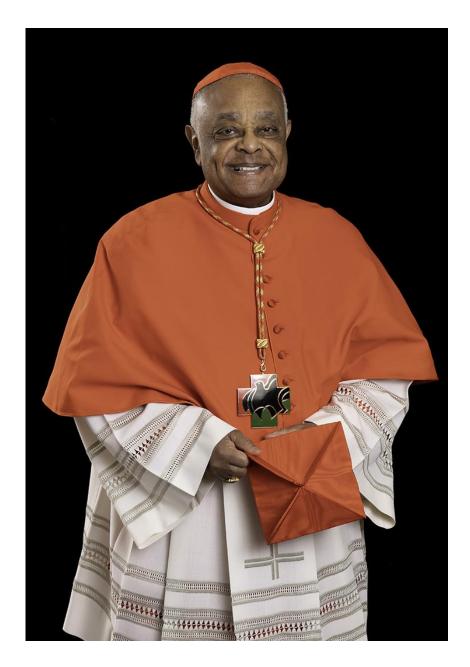
#### Venerable Henriette Delille

Founder of the Sisters of the Holy Family in New Orleans in 1842. These religious congregations were formed and founded because white orders of religious women would not admit African American women into their orders as Professed Sisters. The Sisters of the Holy Family were formed and founded before the Emancipation Proclamation.



#### St. Felicity and St. Perpetua

Women persecuted for Christianity at Carthage together with three companions. Felicity was with child during the time of her incarceration. Their names are mentioned in the Eucharistic Prayer. Saints Perpetua and Felicity, watch over all mothers and children who are separated from each other because of war or persecution.



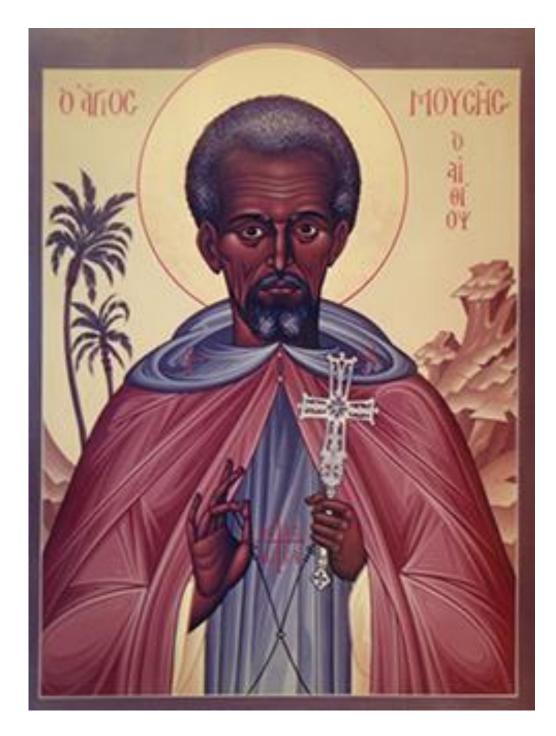
#### Wilton Cardinal Gregory

Seventh Archbishop of Washington

Ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago on May 9, 1973

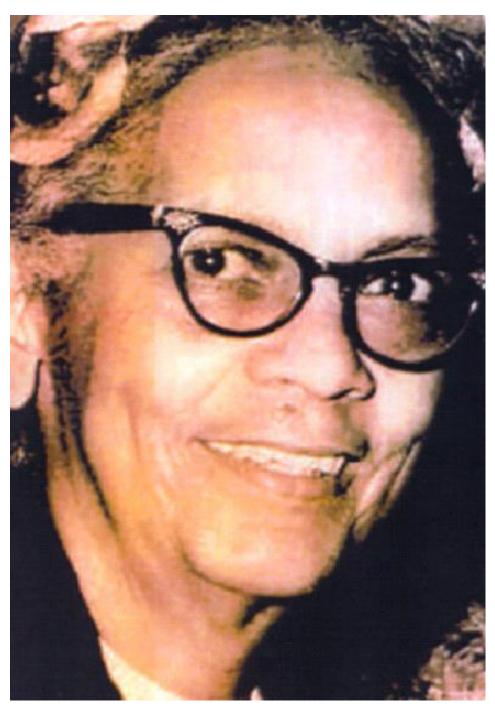
Former Archbishop of Atlanta and past president of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (2001-2004)

Noted scholar in Liturgical practices, led efforts to combat racism and continues to address issues pertaining to sexual abuse of clergy



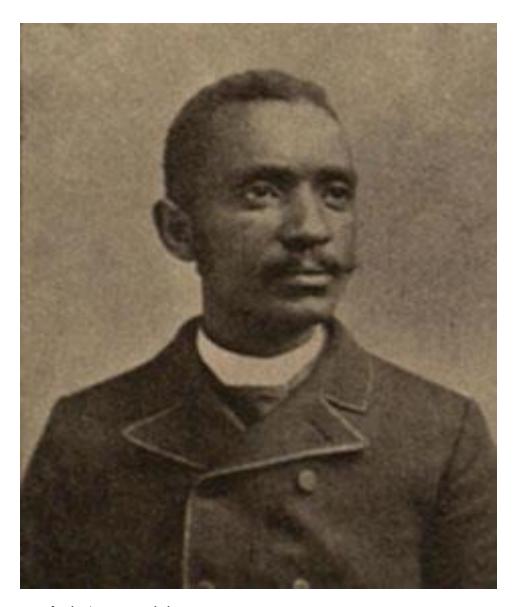
#### St. Moses The Ethiopian

A desert monk, born around 300 AD as an Egyptian slave. Once a member of a gang before his conversion. Became a priest and was known for great kindness and spoke of visions that assisted him of foretelling the future.



Dr. Lena Edwards

Worked as a physician for almost 30 years in Jersey City. Graduate of Howard University Medical School. A devout Catholic and an active member of the Franciscan Third Order and the Catholic Interracial Council in Washington.



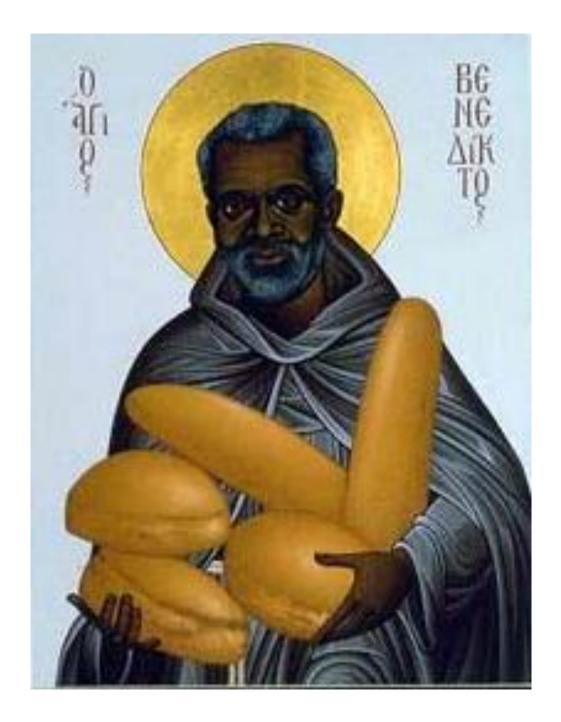
#### Daniel A. Rudd

Daniel Rudd, picture taken in 1889, when Rudd was thirty-five years old. Daniel Rudd is the Father & Founder of the National Black Catholic Congress. The first Congress was held in 1889, at St. Augustine Church in Washington, D.C. The group of men who gathered was invited to the White House to discuss matters of race relation with President Grover Cleveland. The Fifth Congress held in 1894, was held at St. Peter Claver Church in Baltimore with meals held at Historic St. Francis Xavier Church in east Baltimore.



Fr. John Henry Dorsey, SSJ, Fr. Charles Randolph Uncles, SSJ and Fr. Joseph John, S.A.M. (Pictured from left to right- standing in front of St. Augustine Church in Washington, D.C.)

Fr. John Henry Dorsey, SSJ became the second Black priest in the order of the Josephites in 1902. He became the first Black Pastor in the United States at St. Peter Claver in Pine Bluff, Arkansas and is one of the founders of the Knights of Peter Claver, which commenced in 1909. He was the Pastor at St. Monica in Baltimore until his death on June 20, 1926. Fr. Dorsey was noted for his impressive and spiritual homilies and for his dedication in bringing converts into the Catholic faith. Fr. Charles Randolph Uncles, SSJ born in 1859, was a Josephite priest who became the very first African American ordained as a Catholic priest in the United States in 1891. Along with four other priests, Fr. Uncles was instrumental in forming the Society of St. Joseph of the Sacred Heart, known as the Josephites, in 1893. Fr. Uncles could also speak three languages. He dedicated himself to acquiring an education and following the tenets of the Catholic Church. A senior citizen building is named after Fr. Uncles at 607 Pennsylvania Avenue at the site of St. Joseph Seminary.



#### Saint Benedict the Moor

Patron Saint of Blacks in the United States. He was born a slave near Messina, Italy in 1526, made Superior of Franciscan order when he was 38 years old. He was often called the "Holy Moor" and noted for his holiness and reputation for miracles.



#### Venerable Fr. Augustus Tolton (As a young seminarian)

Born a slave in Ralls County, Missouri in 1854. Became the first Black American priest whom all knew and recognized as Black. He was ordained in Rome in 1886. In 2015, the Cause for Canonization of Fr. Augustus Tolton, begun in 2010, received affirmation of the juridicial validity of the Archdiocesan inquiry into his life and virtues by the Congregation for Causes of Saints, and Fr. Tolton received the distinction of Servant of God.



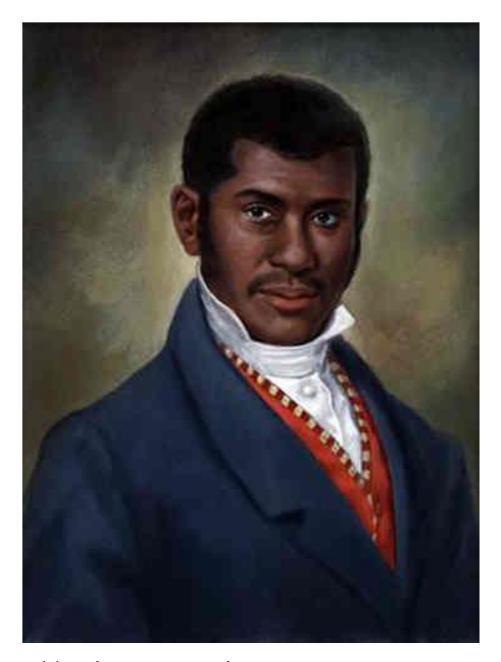
#### St. Martin de Porres

A Dominican Brother, born on December 9, 1579 in Lima, Peru- to a Spanish nobleman and a freed black slave, he established an orphanage and a children's hospital for poor children of the slums. He had the gift of bi-location. He is known for his tender care for the sick and for his spectacular cures.



#### Servant of God Julia Greeley, O.F.S.

Julia Greeley, O.F.S., was an African-American philanthropist and Catholic convert. An enslaved woman later freed by the US government in 1865, she is known as Denver's "Angel of Charity" because of her aid to countless families in poverty. Her cause for canonization was opened in 2014.



**Venerable Pierre Toussaint** (1766-1853) was born a slave in Haiti and died a freeman in New York City. He is credited by many with being the father of Catholic Charities in New York. Pierre was instrumental in raising funds for the first Catholic orphanage and began the city's first school for black children. He also helped to provide funds for the Oblate Sisters of Providence, a religious community of black nuns founded in Baltimore and played a vital role in providing resources to erect Old Saint Patrick's Cathedral in Lower Manhattan. He also cared for the sick and dying during a yellow fever epidemic in Manhattan, New York. His cause for canonization was introduced by Cardinal Cooke at the Vatican in 1968.

#### **List of African Saints**

| Name                       | Year of Death | Description   | Feast Day  |
|----------------------------|---------------|---|------------|
| St. Fulgentius             | 533           | Bishop of Ruspe, Tunisia  | January 1  |
| St. Paul                   | 342           | Egyptian Hermit and founder of<br>Monastic life in Thebes   | January 15 |
| St. Anthony                | 356           | Founder of monastic life in the desert of Egypt   | January 17 |
| St. John the Alms Giver    | 619           | Patriarch of Alexandria   | January 23 |
| St. Gelasius               | 496           | Bishop of Rome and third African<br>Pope (492-496)  |            |
| SS. Perpetua and Felicity  | 202           | Martyred in Carthage along with 6 other companions  | March 7    |
| St. Maximilian (Marmilian) | 295           | Martyred at Theveste, Numidia after refusing to serve in the Roman army                                   | March 12   |
| St. Benedict the Black     | 1585          | Sicilian, son of African parents; the first African to be canonized through the regular canonical process | April 12   |
| St. Zeno                   | 380           | Born at Cherchell, Algeria; missionary in Verona, Italy, where he become Bishop of Verona (c.362)         | April 12   |
| St. Marcellinus            | 4th Cent.     | He was an African missionary to France  |            |
| St. Athanasius             | 373           | Bishop of Alexandria  | May 2      |
| SS. Timothy and Maura      | 298           | Husband and wife martyred in<br>Southern Egypt  | May 3      |
| St. Isdore of Chios        | 251           | Alexandrian army officer beheaded for his faith   | May 15     |

| Blessed Josephine Bakhita            | 1947      | Sudanese slave girl who joined the Canossian Sisters, Italy, lived a holy life, and beatified May 17, 1992. Canonization of Josephine Bakhita by Pope John Paul II is scheduled on October 1, 2000 |         |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|--|---------|
| St. Julia of Tunisia                 | ?         | Slave girl crucified for her faith   | May 22  |
| St. Charles Lwanga and<br>Companions | 1886      | Martyrs, canonized by Pope Paul VI in 1964. The 22 young court servant were martyred for their faith by the Buganda King Mwanga in 1886. Along with them were 80 young Anglicans                   | June 3  |
| St. Onuphrius                        | 4th Cent. | Egyptian hermit  | June 12 |
| St. Orsiesius                        | c.380     | Abbot of Tabennisi Monastery, Egypt  | June 15 |
| St. Cyril of Alexandria              | 444       | Patriarch of Alexandria (412-444)  | June 27 |
| St. Shenute                          | c.450     | Founder of monastic life in Egypt  | July 1  |
| St. Anatolius                        | c.282     | Philosopher and scientist of Alexandria  | July 3  |

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| St. Pantaenus  | 190       | Head of Alexandrian Catechetical School and missionary to Persia (Iran)   | July 9       |
|--|-----------|---|--------------|
| St. Eugenius   | 5th Cent. | Archbishop of Carthage, Tunisia   | July 20      |
| St. Speratus and Companions                              | 180       | The 12 martyrs of Scillum, Carthage, Tunisia  | July 17      |
| St. Aurelius   | 5th Cent. | Archbishop of Carthage, Tunisia   | July 20      |
| St. Victor I   | 199       | Bishop of Rome and first African Pope (189-199)   | July 23      |
| St. Rutilius   | 4th Cent. | North African martyr  | August 2     |
| Blessed Isidore Bakanja                                  | 1909      | A Congolese laborer and catechist martyred for his faith  | August 17    |
| Blessed Victoire Rasoamanarivo                           | 1894      | Foundress of the Catholic Action in<br>Madagascar, beatified in 1989  | August 21    |
| 153 martyrs of Utica                                     | c.260     | Thrown into a pit of quicklime in Utica,<br>Tunisia   | August 24    |
| St. Monica   | 387       | Mother of St. Augustine of Hippo, widowed at age 40   | August 27    |
| St. Poemen   | c.400     | A desert monk known for his holiness, and who encouraged frequent Communion   | August 27    |
| St. Augustine of Hippo                                   | 354-430   | Bishop of Hippo Regius (modern Annaba) on coast of Algeria, Doctor of the Church  | August 28    |
| St. Moses the Black                                      | 395       | A slave, gang leader, who after conversion died a martyr of non-violence on August 28, his feast day. The date providentially coincides with the march to Washington by 200,000 African Americans in 1963 | August 28    |
| Blessed Ghebre Mikha'el                                  | 1855      | Ethiopian priest and martyr   | September 2  |
| St. Donatian and Companions                              | 257       | 9 Bishops, several deacons and lay persons who died in a marble quarry in North Africa  | September 10 |
| St. Maurice and his Theban<br>Legion (from Egypt)        | 287       | Martyrs, who were killed at Agauno,<br>Switzerland for refusing to sacrifice to pagan<br>divinities   | September 22 |
| St. Matthew  | 1st Cent. | Apostle and Evangelist. According to one ancient tradition, he was the first evangelizer of Nubia (modern Sudan)  | September 21 |
| St. Raissa   | c.300     | Virgin and martyr from Alexandria   | September 22 |
| SS. Aizan and Sazan                                      | 360       | Twin Brothers; Aizan was the first Christian<br>Emperor of the Kingdom of Axum, Ethiopia  | October 1    |
| St. Thais  | c.350     | Egyptian penitent, converted after many years as a prostitute   | October 8    |
| St. Cerbonius  | 573       | African missionary Bishop in Italy  | October 10   |
| St. Michael Aragave                                      | 4th Cent. | One of the first Ethiopian Monks  | October 11   |
| St. Sarmata  | 357       | A disciple of St. Anthony of Egypt, martyred by Saracens in the Egyptian desert   | October 11   |
| 5000 African martyrs and confessers of the faith         | 483       | African martyrs deported and killed for their faith by the Vandal King Huneric  | October 12   |
| Commemoration of the Saints of the Ethiopian Church: St. | 380       | Syriac monks and founders of the Church in Ethiopia   | October 27   |

#### **List of African Saints**

| Frumentius (Abba Salama) and Aedesius |           |  |             |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|--|-------------|
| St. Elesbaan                          | 555       | An Ethiopian King who died as a monk in Jerusalem  | October 27  |
| St. Lalibala (Ghebre Mesgel)          | 1255      | An Ethiopian Emperor revered for his faith   | October 27  |
| St. Tekla Hymanot                     | 1313      | A great Ethiopian reformer of monasticism  | October 27  |
| St. Martin de Porres                  | 1639      | Born in Peru, son of a Spanish father and an African slave mother, who became a pharmacist at an early age and later joined the Dominican Order, where he continued to dispense medicine to the poor, while living a humble and austere life, with great devotion to the Eucharist | November 3  |
| St. Pierius                           | 4th Cent. | Head of the Catechetical School in Alexandria  | November 4  |
| St. Achilias                          | 312       | Head of religious instruction in Alexandria  | November 7  |
| St. Nennas                            | c.300     | An Egyptian soldier in Phygia, who fled from persecution and became a hermit   | November 11 |
| St. Arcadius and Companions           | 437       | Martyrs, victims of the Arian Kind of the Vandals, Genseric  | November 13 |
|                                       |           |  |             |
| St. Gelasius                          | 496       | Bishop of Rome and third African Pope (492-496), liturgical reformer, who ordered the reception of Communion under both species  | November 21 |
| St. Catherine of Alexandria           | 4th Cent. | Virgin and martyr who suffered martyrdom<br>in Alexandria. Her relics are said to be kept<br>in the monastery of St. Catherine on Sinai  | November 25 |
|                                       |           | Patriarch of Alexandria during the Roman   |             |

| St. Gelasius                   | 496       | Bishop of Rome and third African Pope (492-496), liturgical reformer, who ordered the reception of Communion under both species   | November 21 |
|--------------------------------|-----------|---|-------------|
| St. Catherine of Alexandria    | 4th Cent. | Virgin and martyr who suffered martyrdom in Alexandria. Her relics are said to be kept in the monastery of St. Catherine on Sinai | November 25 |
| St. Peter Martyr of Alexandria | 311       | Patriarch of Alexandria during the Roman persecution  | November 25 |
| Blessed Anuarite Nengapeta     | 1964      | Virgin and martyr, a member of the Holy<br>Family Sister in Congo Kinshasa, martyred<br>by the Simba rebels                       | December 1  |
| St. Cassian of Tangiers        | 298       | A lawyer who resigned and became Christian and died as a martyr   | December 3  |
| St. Melchiades                 | 314       | Bishop of Rome and second African Pope (311-314)  | December 10 |

List prepared by: J. Mutiso-Mbinda, 1998.

#### Resources

African Saints, African Stories: 40 Holy Men and Women Paperback – Illustrated, February 19, 2008

https://www.amazon.com/African-Saints-Stories-Holy-

Women/dp/0867168056/ref=sr\_1\_3?crid=3VHYMYDYV7706&dchild=1&keywords=african+saints+african+stories&qid=1634833222&sr=8-3

The History of Black Catholics in the United States Paperback – March 1, 1995

https://www.amazon.com/History-Black-Catholics-United-

States/dp/0824514955/ref=pd bxgy img 2/131-5435961-

1362421?pd\_rd\_w=1resU&pf\_rd\_p=c64372fa-c41c-422e-990d-

9e034f73989b&pf rd r=Z99GMG2XYMBAJ93M3MCM&pd rd r=3e6fd79b-5bc5-4239-

bddd-ffb885f819f5&pd\_rd\_wg=oHz1v&pd\_rd\_i=0824514955&psc=1

Black Catholics on the Road to Sainthood Paperback – February 22, 2021 by Michael R. Heinlein (Author)

https://www.amazon.com/Black-Catholics-Sainthood-Michael-

Heinlein/dp/1681927926/ref=pd\_bxgy\_img\_1/131-5435961-

1362421?pd\_rd\_w=1resU&pf\_rd\_p=c64372fa-c41c-422e-990d-

9e034f73989b&pf\_rd\_r=Z99GMG2XYMBAJ93M3MCM&pd\_rd\_r=3e6fd79b-5bc5-4239-

bddd-ffb885f819f5&pd\_rd\_wg=oHz1v&pd\_rd\_i=1681927926&psc=1

Archdiocese of New York Cultural Diversity Apostolate

https://archny.org/ministries-and-offices/cultural-diversity-apostolate/black-ministry/venerable-pierre-toussaint/

Mother Lange Guild

https://www.motherlange.org/mother-lange

Julia Greely Guild

https://juliagreeley.org/

National Black Catholic Congress, Inc.

https://www.nbccongress.org/black-catholic-sainthood.html

The portraits of Henriette DeLille, Pierre Toussaint, and Julia Greeley, were created by Anthony VanArsdale, an artist represented by Shannon Associates. To view more of VanArsdale's pieces, go to: <a href="https://www.shannonassociates.com/anthonyvanarsdale">https://www.shannonassociates.com/anthonyvanarsdale</a>