

Office Directors

Office Mission

Archdiocese of Cincinnati

Black Catholic Caucus

1971	Isaiah Murphy Jr.
1971 – 1973	Robert Davis
1973-1974	Anne Baughman
1977	Sandra Willingham

Black Secretariat

1978	Keith Turner
1985	Robert Davis

Office of African American Catholic Ministries

1988	Eugene Cash Jr.
1989	Joyce Smith
1989	George Findley
2004	Rev. William Cross
2005	Rev. Mr. Royce Winters

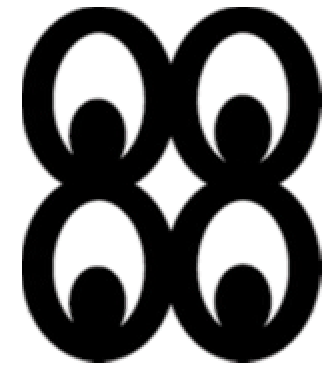
The Office of African American Catholic Ministries [OAACM] works in collaboration with the Archbishop and the African American Catholic Community to provide spiritual, cultural and social nourishment for the African American Community.

The OAACM articulates the needs of the African American Catholic Community and communicates its needs to the established archdiocesan agencies.

The OAACM keeps the African American Community informed on programs, resources, workshops and events, both nationally and locally.

The OAACM provides a voice for the community to be heard as the Archdiocese plans to address its future ministerial responsibilities to the African American Catholic communities.

THE OFFICE OF AFRICAN AMERICAN CATHOLIC MINISTRIES



This West African symbol “mate masie” implies “I understand.” Understanding means wisdom and knowledge, but it also represents the prudence of taking into consideration what another person has said.

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Historical Events

May 26, 1956, Fr. Clarence J. Rivers ordained as the first black priest in the Archdiocese.

September 25, 1976, Rev. Mr. Paul Richardson ordained as the first black deacon in the Archdiocese.

May 1978 – Final Report of the Black Catholic Census Project, Richard Shell, Ph.D.

October 12-14, 1979. Black leaders from several dioceses met at the Quality Inn Norwood for the Seventh Annual Conference of Black Catholic Administrators. Emmanuel Cardinal Nsubuga Archbishop of Kampala, Uganda and Archbishop Joseph Bernardin greeted the delegates.

May 19-23 1980, Fr. James Goode, pastor of Our Lady of Charity in Brooklyn New York preaches at the first Black Catholic Revival in Cincinnati, Ohio held at the Cathedral of Saint Peter in Chains.

Historical Events

May 1980 – Black Secretariat hosts Ohio's first Black Bishop, Bishop James Lyke.

July 24 – 26, 1983, Xavier University hosts the first-ever Black Catholic Liturgical Conference.

November 16, 1986 – Black Catholic Consultation – For the Harvest: Black Catholics discuss church's problems at the largest single gathering of Black Catholics in this archdiocese.

October 1987 – Archdiocese of Cincinnati adopts the Black Catholic Pastoral Plan: Heritage, Unity and Responsibility

In 1988, Rev. William Cross appointed as the first Black Archdiocesan priest to be appointed a pastor (St. Andrew Church).

August 28, 1989, Black Catholics walk in protest outside of the archdiocesan offices to challenge the Archdioceses' lack of response to the needs of the Black Community.

Historical Events

December 1, 1989, Office of Black Catholic Ministries placed under the Pastoral Services Department.

1992. The Commemoration of the Centennial of the Second National Black Catholic Congress was held at the Athenaeum of Ohio.

January 15, 2001, Saint Mark Catholic Church celebrated its First Annual Keep the Dream Alive: Martin Luther King Mass and Award Celebration. Archbishop Daniel Pilarczyk was the first recipient of the award.

On November 21, 2004, Fr. Clarence Joseph Rivers, the first black ordained priest in the Archdiocese dies at the age of 73.

October 21, 2005 Freeing Spirit: Celebrating the Music and Legacy of Fr. Clarence Joseph Rivers, Jr. Ph.D. was held at Music Hall.