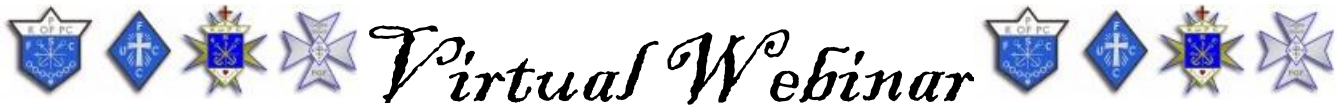


KNIGHTS OF PETER CLAVER



SOCIAL JUSTICE PUBLIC MEETING

Where is the Dignity of Black Lives?

TAKE YOUR KNEE OFF OF MY NECK!



JAMES K. ELLIS
SUPREME KNIGHT, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



MICAELA LEBLANC
SUPREME LADY

Knights of Peter Claver Inc. 1825 Orleans Ave. New Orleans, LA 70116 (504) 821-4225

Email Questions, Comments or Feedback to: Sjquestions@kofpc.org

~PUBLIC MEETING PROGRAM~

Opening.....	Lady Peggy Ballou
Musical Prelude.....	Emeka Dibia
Opening Prayer.....	Bishop Fernand Cheri Auxiliary Bishop Diocese of New Orleans
Occasion/Purpose.....	Supreme Knight James K. Ellis Supreme Lady Micaela Leblanc
Introduction of MCs.....	Supreme Knight James K. Ellis Supreme Lady Micaela Leblanc
Background of Committee Efforts.....	Deputy James E Callahan III Lady LoraLean Jordan (Co-Chair)
Oration “And I Thought I Was Free”	Lady Evelyn Payne Grand Lady Court 220, Los Angeles, CA
Housekeeping.....	Lady Esohe Asemota National Lay Board – Ladies Division
Introduction of Panelists.....	Asha Richards Grand Lady Court 403 Timothy Ambrose Jr. Past Grand Knight Council 403
Clergy/Dignity of Black Lives.....	Fr. Norman Fischer Pastor St Peter Claver in Lexington, KY
Fraternal Strategy.....	Lady Tracy Ricard Aikens Farwest Regional Director Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.
Government Relations/Political Strategy.....	Mr. Ashford Hughes Executive Officer for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
Media Strategy/Pro-Life.....	Ms. Gloria Purvis Host of EWTN’s Morning Glory
Housekeeping.....	Lady Esohe Asemota National Lay Board – Ladies Division

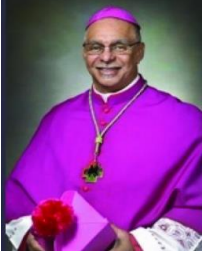
Questions and Answers

Next Steps.....	All Panelists
Call to Action.....	Ricky Sassau National Treasurer – Knights Division
Closing Prayer.....	Bishop Fernand Cheri Auxiliary Bishop Diocese of New Orleans
Closing Song.....	Emeka Dibia

Where is the Dignity of Black Lives?

TAKE YOUR KNEE OFF OF MY NECK!

~PANELISTS~



Most Rev. Fernand J. Cheri III O.F.M. - Ordained for over 40 years, Bishop Cheri is a Franciscan Friar with the Sacred Heart Province and has served throughout the United States as a vicar, pastor, teacher, coach, choir director, and guidance counselor for many churches and schools. An archivist of Black gospel music, Bishop Cheri serves on the Archbishop James P. Lyke Foundation and helps to sponsor Black Liturgical Conferences, and he has hosted retreats, revivals, and workshops for youth, parishes and dioceses throughout the US. Bishop Cheri serves presently as the Auxiliary Bishop of New Orleans, and is Vice President of the National Black Catholic Congress Board of Trustees, is the episcopal moderator to the Catholic Campus Ministry Association, and is the episcopal liaison to the African Conference of Catholic Clergy & Religious in the US, among many other continuing roles throughout our Church.



Fr. Norman Fischer is the first priest of African- American & Filipino heritages, in the Diocese of Lexington, KY!!! He is the dynamic pastor of the only Black Catholic Church, St Peter Claver in Lexington, Ky and serves as the full-time chaplain of Lexington Catholic High School. After attending Mundelein Seminary, and receiving his Masters of Divinity, he was ordained in the Jubilee Year 2000. He humbly celebrates his 20th Anniversary of his ordination this year. He is also the Knights of Peter Claver Central States District Chaplain for several years. He has become a popular speaker around the country, noted for his charismatic style, as well as his artistic and musical talents. He is a painter and a spoken word artist and part of the Catholic Extension Mission Board and St Joseph Hospital board. He ministers through his social media platforms to a variety of audiences. Fr Fischer believes that, "We can all use our God-given gifts to bless someone and remind them of their purpose as the beloved community of God." You can follow Fr. Fischer on Instagram or Facebook @ SPCLEF.



Tracy Ricard Aikens hails from Baton Rouge, Louisiana. She attended Southern University, where she earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Secondary Business Education. After getting married, Tracy and Russell L. Aikens, Jr. relocated to the Pacific Northwest. Tracy earned her M.Ed. in Educational Professional Development and was initiated into Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. in Spokane Alumnae Chapter. Mrs. Aikens joined Phoenix Metropolitan Alumnae Chapter and has held various offices, is a committed Diamond Life member, and chaired and served on numerous Delta committees. Amid living her purpose filled life, Tracy was diagnosed with Thyroid Cancer. Like a true champion, she conquered two surgeries and radiation treatment. Soror Aikens message of 'Leading with Love' has filtered throughout the leadership team and is making its way to every member in the Farwest Region. She was recently re-elected to serve another biennium as the Farwest Regional Director 2020 – 2022. Tracy currently works for the City of Phoenix—Human Resources as a Curriculum and Training Coordinator with the Aviation Department. She also has a life coaching company, Simply U, LLC, associate member of the eLearning Guild, a member of the Association for Talent Development, and a charter member of the Knights of Peter Claver—Ladies Auxiliary Court #369.



Ashford Hughes Sr. is the current Executive Officer for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, which involves the design and implementation of policies to address the social, educational, and emotional needs of the Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools' diverse population by partnering with organizations and individuals who serve MNPS' students and assist with the design and implementation of school choice programs in an inclusive and equitable manner. Ashford has also founded Blueprint Solutions Group LLC, which offers consultations for government relations and political strategy, drawing on his prior expertise as the Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer for the City of Nashville and Davidson County. In this role and others in his service to the city of Nashville, Ashford has spearheaded efforts to recognize and address disparity in collaboration with community organizations. Ashford holds a Bachelor of Science in Political Science from Tennessee State University, and is a member of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, the Shriners, and is a cofounder of the Nashville My Brother's Keeper Network, that works to improve the lives of boys and young men of color with opportunities in education and employment. Mr. Hughes can be contacted at Ashford.Hughes@mnps.org or Twitter: @ashfordhughes; Instagram: ashford_sr; Facebook: Ashford Hughes.



Dr. Gloria Purvis is host of EWTN's Morning Glory radio show and is the creator and host of the EWTN TV series, Authentically Free at Last. She is a graduate of Cornell University and served on the National Black Catholic Congress' Leadership Commission on Social Justice, and as an Advisory Board Member on the Maryland Catholic Conference's Respect for Life Department as well as the Archdiocese of Washington's Pastoral Council. She has appeared in various media outlets including The New York Times, The Washington Post, PBS Newshour, The National Catholic Reporter, Crux, Our Sunday Visitor, Aleteia, Catholic News Agency, Catholic Answers Live, and EWTN News Nightly. Currently, she is a Board Member for the Northwest Pregnancy Center and Maternity Home in Washington, D.C. She also serves on the Catholic Advisory Board for Ave Maria Mutual Funds and is a lay consultant to the U.S. Bishops's Committee on Religious Liberty. Ms. Purvis can be reached at LoveBlackLife@mac.com or <https://www.ewtn.com/radio/shows/morning-glory> or Twitter: @gloria_purvis; Instagram: iamgloriapurvis; Facebook: Gloria Purvis.

Email Questions, Comments or Feedback to: Sjquestions@kofpc.org

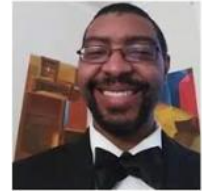
Public Meeting Committee



Ricky Sassau
Public Meeting Advisor
National Treasurer
Council 242
Cecilia, LA



James E. Callahan III
Deputy of Central States District
Faithful Navigator
St. Martin de Pores Assembly #28
Nashville, TN



James Derek Howell
Grand Knight Council 279
Norfolk, VA
Social Justice Chairperson



Esohe Asemote
Public Meeting Advisor
Archbishop James P. Lyke
Court 340
Atlanta, GA



Peggy Ballou
Most Blessed Sacrament
Court #376
Atlanta, GA
St. Peter Claver Foundation



Emilie Flore Gannyi
Northern States District
Emerging Leaders Liaison
St. Monica Court #347
Chicago, IL



Martina Sassau
Area Deputy
St. Rose of Lima
Court 242
Cecilia, LA

Not pictured Western States District Emerging Leader Liaisons Barbara King & Jordan Jackson



Asha Richards grew up attending St. Monica Catholic Church in Houston Texas where she was a Junior daughter of the Knights of Peter Claver Court #151 for 10 years. Asha is the eldest daughter of Knight Anthony and Lady Andrea Richards. Asha currently attends Xavier University of Louisiana in New Orleans, Louisiana where she is a Biology Pre-Med major, Chemistry and Spanish minor. Upon graduation, Asha hopes to attend medical school and pursue a career as a physician. She is the Grand Lady of the Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary Court #403.



Timothy Ambrose, a native of New Orleans, is a Mitigation Specialist on the JLWOP Direct Representation team. He received his BA from Xavier University of Louisiana in Political Science and Business Administration in 2019. While at Xavier, as KPC's collegiate Council Past Grand Knight of #403, he spent most of his time developing mentorship programs and retention programs to offset the school to prison pipeline. As the president of the College Democrats at Xavier University, he shadowed United States' senators & local elected officials, and helped mobilize college students around the state of Louisiana to vote for unanimous jury verdicts. The core of his research is developing solutions that promote life expectancy for people in vulnerable environments and concentrating on the impacts of mentorship in underprivileged communities.



Emeka Dibia a style of his own Emeka "Mecca Notes" Dibia fuses his half New Orleanian and half Nigerian background into a unique yet groovy sound on stage. From funk to jazz, R&B to Pop, Reggae to Afrobeat, he encompasses several layers of musical versatility. Also, the singer/songwriter works as a freelance journalist for several publication across the U.S including the TheGrio.com based in Los Angeles, California.

Social Justice Committee Liasons



Evelyn J. Payne
Poetry Recitation
Grand Lady Court #220
Los Angeles, CA



Hilda Wiltz
Esteemed Past Vice
Supreme Lady
Social Justice Advisor
Crowley, LA



Deborah Scott
Social Justice Chairperson
Grand Lady
Fr. Constantine Court #57
Kansas City, MO



Lorelean Jordan
Grand Lady
St. Peter Claver Court #256,
St. Paul, Minnesota
Dignity of Black Lives Chair

Email Questions, Comments or Feedback to: Sjquestions@kofpc.org



THE KNIGHTS OF PETER CLAVER AND LADIES AUXILIARY



Statement to the membership from the Dignity of Black Lives Subcommittee.

August 2020



Black lives are under attack daily. We as an organization are called by our very nature and our founding to advocate and fight for justice with action just like our patron saint did, when he met and cared for the slaves as they came off the ships. We have to stand up and be counted, 2020 census. All Clavers are counted (#ClaversAreCounted) is the theme for our 2020 Census campaign. The committee has enacted a social media campaign and a video (see link) to get the word out to the membership. If Joseph and Mary can travel to Bethlehem to be counted, then every member of our organization can complete the census form. We want the membership to encourage and ensure that their family, friends, parishioners, courts and councils are counted. Remember #ClaversAreCounted.

Second, we must vote. It's beyond just registering people to vote, we actually have to get out and vote regardless of the long lines, and the distance to the polling places. We are looking to partner with "When We All Vote" which is a non-profit, nonpartisan organization that is on a mission to increase participation in every election and close the race and age voting gap by changing the culture around voting, harnessing grassroots energy, and through strategic partnerships to reach every American. We have to vote. Our very right to vote is under attack and not voting is not an option. We need to get our soles to the poll, so we can have justice for all. More information to come regarding our Get out to Vote initiatives.

With the theme of "No Clavers Should Go Hungry", The Dignity of Black Lives – Black Lives Matter subcommittee worked diligently on the Wellness Checks/ COVID relief. Through the generosity of our membership we have been able to raise funds to assist our membership with food needs during the pandemic.

Third, we must advocate for the dignity of blacks lives by writing and calling our legislators to pass legislation that help eliminate unjust policing, eliminate the death penalty, protect people against the racially corrupt justice system, and pass legislation that would help end systemic racism.

Finally, we must hold our church accountable. The dignity of black lives is a pro-life issue and should be treated as such. We should put the same amount of energy and funding towards the eradication of systemic racism as church puts towards anti-abortion. To just focus on anti-abortion and not concern yourself with ones quality of life, the death penalty, or racism i.e. injustices, that is not pro-life. Pro-life is conception to natural death. The Organization has sent a letter to each archbishop/bishop in every archdiocese and diocese in the country. The letter spelled out our concerns regarding racism/ race relations within the church. We are happy to note we received numerous positive responses to our letter and the actions they plan on taking. More information to come. We as Clavers are called to be that voice in our community to speak up, to act and to walk humbly with God.

"We must not reduce the bosom of the universal church to a nest protecting our mediocrity. Pope Francis "(Pope Francis)