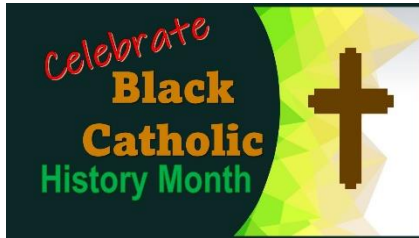


For the Week of October 31st:

Bulletin Announcement and/or mass parish email:



Meeting in Fordham University in New York, the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus of the United States voted on Tuesday, July 24, 1990 to designate November as Black Catholic History Month. November marks a time when the Church prays for all saints and souls in loving remembrance, as well as a time to recall the saints and souls of Africa and the African Diaspora.

The decision to designate November as Black Catholic History Month, also depended on the fact that a number of important dates to Catholics of African descent fell within this month.

- **Nov. 1 All Saints Day:** an opportunity to review the lives of the hundreds of Saints of African descent in the first 300 years of the Church.
- **Nov. 2 All Souls Day:** a time to remember all those African lost to cruel treatment in the Middle Passage crossing of the Atlantic Ocean.
- **Nov. 3 Martin de Porres** became the first black American saint. He was canonized by Pope John XXIII on May 16, 1962. Throughout his life, St. Martin de Porres exemplified God's love for all people, regardless of their level in society.
- **Nov. 13 The birth of St. Augustine** in 354 A.D., the first Doctor of the Church from North Africa.
- **Nov. 20 The death of Zumbi of Palmares** in Brazil, South American founder of a free state for Blacks.

Source: <https://cultural.catholic.edu/resources/bchm.html>

Video about 6 Black Catholics on the path to sainthood (embed in mass email if your platform has the capability): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cKlobWggAns> (Black Catholic History / Source USCCB)