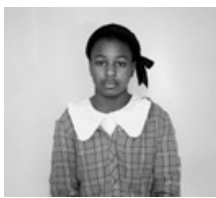


THIS WEEK IN BLACK HISTORY

Sarah Rector



Although historical accounts clash, Sarah Rector is believed to be America's second black millionaire after Madam C.J. Walker, achieving that distinction as a teenager. Born on March 3, 1902 in the small town of Twine, Okla., Rector's family were descendants of slaves and Creek Indians. While living on Creek Indian land, Rector's parents Joseph and Rose were given hundreds of acres thought to be useless in 1907. Under the Dawes Allotment Act, Creek lands were divided among the Creeks and former slaves. Lands given to former slaves were typically not fit for farming. Rector's father leased Sarah's portion of the land to a Pittsburgh oil company in 1911, primarily to pay a yearly \$30 tax bill. In 1913, an oil driller discovered a "gusher" that produced a reported 2,500 barrels per day. Rector's cut was \$300 each day, a considerable amount at the time. By the time she was 11, her portion of the family's land was earning more than 300,000 a year.

When the public learned how much Rector was earning, her guardianship was transferred from her parents to a white man named T.J. Porter. The Rector children attended school in Taft, an all-Black town. They lived in a five-room cottage and even owned a car, a rarity for Blacks at the time.

In October 1914, Rector enrolled at the Children's House, a boarding school for teens at Tuskegee Institute. When she turned 18 on March 3, 1920, Rector left Tuskegee and her family relocated to Kansas City, Missouri. By then, Rector owned stocks and bonds, a boarding house, a bakery and the Busy Bee Café in Muskogee, Okla.

Along with her businesses, she owned 2,000 acres of river bottomland and was worth over \$1 million. The family lived in what was called the Rector Mansion in Kansas City, but wrangling over Rector's earnings and financial mismanagement continued until she was 20. According to the *Amsterdam News*, Rector and her family sought to end Porter's guardianship and were ultimately successful.

By 1922, Sarah was able to make her own decisions, and she married her first husband that year. She and Kenneth Campbell had three sons, Kenneth Jr., Leonard, and Clarence. Rector's spending was legendary, and she routinely drove around town in one of her expensive vehicles. She divorced Campbell and married restaurant owner William Crawford, who she remained with until she died. Rector died at the age of 65 on July 22, 1967. While her fortune had diminished over time, at her death, she still held considerable investments.

Sacraments

RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):

Saturdays 3:00 PM and by appointment.

BAPTISMS: To arrange and prepare for the celebration of Baptism, please call the Pastor to schedule an appointment. Baptisms are usually celebrated on Sunday afternoon.

FUNERAL: Please call the parish as soon as possible to make arrangements for the Mass of Christian Burial.

VISITING THE SICK: If you or a family member are sick or in the hospital, please call the parish so that a pastoral visit can be arranged. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick may be celebrated in the parish before hospitalization. Please call also to arrange for a Eucharistic minister to bring Communion to the sick. If you would like to request prayers for someone who is sick, please call the parish so that the name may be placed in the bulletin.

MARRIAGES: Preparation must begin at least six months prior to the wedding. Please make arrangements with the parish before scheduling the reception.

ANNULMENTS/CONVALIDATION: Please arrange a meeting with the Pastor to begin the process of celebrating your marriage in the Church.

NEW PARISHIONERS: Catholics who would like to be registered as parishioners of Immaculate Conception and receive stewardship envelopes should call the parish secretary or fill out a form in the vestibule of the church.

RCIA: Adults who desire to explore the possibility of becoming a member of the Catholic Church should contact the RCIA (Rite for the Christian Initiation of Adults) team. Preparation usually begins in September and Baptism or Reception is celebrated at the next Easter Vigil.

TUITION ASSISTANCE: Some financial aid for tuition assistance to Catholic schools is available to registered members of the parish. This is a one time grant of no more than \$1,000.00 to needy families to assist them during a time of financial crisis. Eligible families should write a letter to the Pastor who will evaluate the request with the Financial Advisory Committee.

To Whom Do We Go

Adult Formation: Lovenia Watson.....778-1977
Altar Servers: Bradley DeRouen218-8292 / 284-5970
Child Protection Coord:.....Andrea Toles
Eucharistic Ministers: Beulah Decuir.....229-6076
Gospel Choir/Adult: Daphne Alex.....936-4051
Gospel Choir/Youth: Tara Winder428-5981
Hall Rental: Juliet Betts.....775-7067
Ministry Council/Chair: Georgia Jenkins.....775-5824
Pantry/Food and Vouchers:774-3661
Sacristan: Rogers Jackson, Jr.362-0907
Traditional Choir: Deadra James Mackie.....772-3401
Usher's Coordinator: Walter Ennis.....(504)427-6459

This Week's Prayer

Heavenly Father, I know that when I am weak you are my strength. You understand that these are the times when I need to be carried by you. I pray that you would gently renew my strength, speak your words of encouragement into my mind, sing songs of hope over my soul and awaken my heart. Amen.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF Easter

APRIL 30, 2023



Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever does not enter a sheepfold through the gate but climbs over elsewhere is a thief and a robber. But whoever enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice, as he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has driven out all his own, he walks ahead of them, and the sheep follow him, because they recognize his voice.

John 10:1-4

Today's Gospel gives us the opportunity to reflect on Christian leadership. Jesus' words suggest to us that those who will lead the Christian community will be known by their faithfulness to Jesus. The leaders will recognize that Jesus is the gate for all of the sheep and that having a good relationship with Jesus is the primary characteristic of a Christian leader. Jesus' allegory also suggests that faithful Christian leadership requires a good relationship with the community: the shepherd knows his sheep, and they know him. Christian leaders follow the example of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, by being faithful to him and by being a good shepherd.



Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

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Web Site Address: www.immaculateconceptionbr.org

Immaculate Conception Church is a Black Catholic Church serving the family of God and feeding the soul of the Community.

PASTOR: Father Thomas F. Clark, S.J.(225) 775-7067/(225) 773-2036

IN RESIDENCE: Father Fred Kammer, S.J.(225) 774-3241

SECRETARY: Juliet Betts(225) 775-7067

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION:

COORDINATOR: Gloria DeRouen(225) 936-8162

ASSISTANT TO COORDINATOR: Kalli Gregory

RCIA COORDINATOR: Cathy Glover(225) 772-6099

MLK/SU CATHOLIC STUDENT CENTER:

Joyce Johnson - Wilfred Johnson(225) 775-8691



Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00 PM

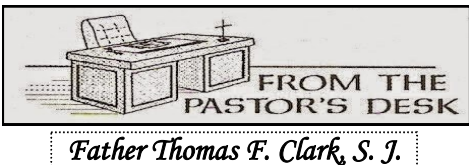
Sunday Mass: 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

Weekday Masses:

Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., 12:10 PM

Holy Day Masses:

Vigil Mass: 7:00 PM and 12:10 PM



PARISH MINISTRY FAIR ON APRIL 30

Please make plans to attend our Parish Ministry Fair on Sunday, April 30 following the 10:30 AM Mass. Now that we have moved out of the restrictions due to Covid, we really want to renew our parish ministries. Please consider the ways in which you can serve the parish. Everyone has a gift! What is your gift that you can share!



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY CONFIRMED

We congratulate our newly confirmed who celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation with Bishop Duca last Thursday, April 27. They are Chaise Bias, Taylor Boudreaux, Bailey Dehon, Ronald Gathe, Jr., Khloe Gregory, Ronald Johnson, III, Skyler LeDoux, Chase McClinton, Joshua Morrison, Lundyn Plain, Evan Valliere, Thomas Walker, and Kayla Watkins. Thank you to Gloria DeRouen for coordinating the Confirmation ceremony and reception, to Kevin Walker and Reggie Berry, our Confirmation catechists, and to all those who made the celebration so memorable for our young people.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES

Graduation season is upon us. Please let us know of members of our parish church who will be graduating from high school, college, or graduate school. We will also include graduates from last Summer and Fall. We plan to recognize and celebrate our graduates on Sunday, May 28. We ask our graduates to plan now to be with us at 10:30 AM Mass on that Sunday so that we can celebrate your accomplishments.



SUNDAY MASS AT MLK WILL PAUSE BETWEEN SEMESTERS

The Sunday Mass for students at the MLK Catholic Student Center will pause after April 30 as the semester ends and students return home. We will see if there is a need for a Sunday Mass when the summer session begins on June 4.



FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI ON JUNE 11

June 11 is the Feast of the Body and Blood of the Lord (Corpus Christi). This year we are asked by Bishop Duca to celebrate this feast with a Eucharistic Procession as a demonstration of our belief in the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist during this year of Eucharistic Renewal. If anyone would like to assist in planning this celebration, please let Father Clark know.



Happy Birthday

CURTIS	BOWIE	4/30
MAURICE	GIVENS	4/30
ELLIS	HERRING	4/30
SARAH	COLLINS	5/1
BRENDA	COOKS	5/1
AUSTON	JONES	5/1
JOSEPH	PATRICK	5/1
ANGELA	MARSHALL	5/2
DONALD	VICTORIAN	5/2
NICOLE	SQUARE	5/4
ERROLLYN	JACKSON	5/5
WILLIE	SANDERS	5/5
BARBARA	DENU	5/6
ASHLEY	GRISHBY	5/6
LAWRENCE	DIKE	5/6
KAYLA	WATKINS	5/6



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION ON MAY 13

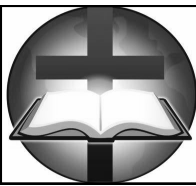
Please pray for our candidates for First Holy Communion and their families. We will celebrate this important moment in their lives on Saturday, May 13 at 10:30 AM.

Our candidates are:

Sadie Bonton, Leo Borne, Sophie Burrel, Peter Knight, Koli Malters-Spears, Eryn Jenkins, and Zacchaeus Glover.

PRAYER FOR STRENGTH AT WORK

*As I go to work, be with me Lord.
Be the patience when I'm frustrated.
Be the endurance when I am tired.
Be the wisdom when I am uncertain.
Be the inspiration when I'm out of ideas.
Be the peacemaker when I feel hurt.
Be the comforter when I feel overwhelmed.
Be the energy when I am weary.
Be the guide when I am confused.
Be the forgiver when I get it wrong.
Be with me Lord, today. Amen.*



Mass Readings

April 30th - May 7th

Sunday

Acts 2:14a, 36-41; Psalms 23; 1 Pt 2:20b-25
Gospel: Jn 10:1-10

Monday

Acts 11:1-18; Psalms 42
Gospel: Jn 10:11-18

Tuesday

Acts 11:19-26; Psalms 87
Gospel: Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday

Feast of Saint Philip and James
1 Cor 15:1-8; Psalm 19

Gospel: Jn 14:6-14

Thursday

Acts 13:13-25; Psalm 89
Gospel: Jn 13:16-20

Friday

Acts 13:26-33; Psalms 2
Gospel: Jn 14:1-6

Saturday

Acts 13:44-52; Psalms 98
Gospel: Jn 14:7-14

Sunday

Acts 6:1-7; Psalms 33; 1 Pt 2:4-9
Gospel: Jn 14:1-12

*Forms for new parishioners or changes
are located in the vestibule of the church.*

