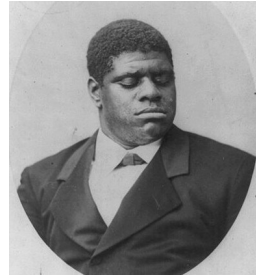


THIS WEEK IN BLACK HISTORY

Thomas Greene Wiggins



Thomas Greene Wiggins was born May 25, 1849 to Mungo and Charity Wiggins, slaves on a Georgia plantation. He was blind and autistic but a musical genius with a phenomenal memory. In 1850 Tom, his parents, and two brothers were sold to James Neil Bethune, a lawyer and newspaper editor in Columbus, Georgia. Young Tom was fascinated by music and other sounds, and could pick out tunes on the piano by the age of four. He made his concert debut at eight, performing in Atlanta.

In 1858 Tom was hired out as a slave-musician, at a price of \$15,000. In 1859, at the age of 10, he became the first African American performer to play at the White House when he gave a concert before President James Buchanan. His piano pieces "Oliver Galop" and "Virginia Polka" were published in 1860. During the Civil War he was back with his owner, raising funds for Confederate relief. By 1863 he played his own composition, "Battle of Manassas." By 1865, 16-year-old Tom Wiggins, now "indentured" to James Bethune, could play difficult works of Bach, Chopin, Liszt, Beethoven, and Thalberg. He also played pieces after one hearing, and memorized poems and text in foreign languages. Advertising claimed Tom was untaught, but in fact he was tutored by a Professor of Music who traveled with him.

James Neil Bethune took Tom Wiggins to Europe where he collected testimonials from music critics Ignaz Moscheles and Charles Halle, which were printed in a booklet "The Marvelous Musical Prodigy Blind Tom." With these and other endorsements, Blind Tom Wiggins became an internationally recognized performer. By 1868 Tom and the Bethune family lived on a Virginia farm in the summer, while touring the United States and Canada the rest of the year, averaging \$50,000 annually in concert revenue. James Bethune eventually lost custody of Tom to his late son's ex-wife, Eliza Bethune. Charity Wiggins, Tom's mother, was a party to the suit, but she did not win control of her son or his income.

Blind Tom Wiggins gave his last performance in 1905. He died three years later on June 13, 1908 at the age of 59 at his manager's home in Hoboken, New Jersey.

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 DeRouen	218-8292 / 284-5970
Child Protection Coord:.....	Andrea Toles
Eucharistic Ministers: Beulah Decuir.....	229-6076
Gospel Choir/Adult: Daphne Alex.....	936-4051
Gospel Choir/Youth: Tara Winder	428-5981
Hall Rental: Juliet Betts.....	775-7067
Ministry Council/Chair: Georgia Jenkins.....	775-5824
Ministry to the Sick: Gene Decuir.....	229-6076
Pantry/Food and Vouchers:	774-3661
Sacristan: Rogers Jackson, Jr.	362-0907
Traditional Choir: Theresa Carmen.....	921-7315
Usher's Coordinator: Walter Ennis.....	775-7332

This Week's Prayer

Lord, your word created all there is. Let it now create a powerful restoration within me. Your love sustains all life. Let it now sustain and renew me. Your strength holds up the galaxies. Let it now hold me up and give me support. Your light reaches the far ends of the universe. Let it shine its healing energy upon me now. Amen.

FORGIVENESS
doesn't excuse
their actions.
FORGIVENESS
stops their actions
from destroying
your heart.



CELEBRATIONS OF BAPTISM AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

During the month of July and the first week of August we will be celebrating the Sacraments of Baptism and First Holy Communion with our young people and their families. Each First Communion candidate will have ten guests. With the increase of persons at the 4 PM and 10:30 AM Masses, please consider attending the 8:00 AM Mass so that we can maintain social distancing.

This is the schedule of celebrations:

- Saturday, July 11 at 4:00 PM: Brenton Fredrick and Liam Meyers**
- Sunday, July 12 at 10:30 AM: Reese Jones and Makenzie Moore
- Saturday, July 18 at 4:00 PM: Ian Cloudet and Lyric Smith **
- Sunday, July 19 at 10:30 AM: Konner Williams and Ryleigh Valliere
- Saturday, July 25 at 4:00 PM: Lionel Shepherd** and Adanya Foster
- Sunday, July 26 at 10:30 AM: Ariell Martin** and William Martin**
- Saturday, August 1 at 4:00 PM: Chase Navarre-Brown**
- Sunday, August 2 at 10:30 AM: Jeneta Dike and Somadina Dike

** Baptism



WANT TO JOIN THE VIDEO TEAM?

Gerald Berzat is inviting members of the parish to become part of our video team and help with the videoring of our daily and Sunday Masses. If you are interested in becoming part of this ministry, please contact Gerald at 225-276-4674.



ULTRA-VIOLET LIGHTS INSTALLED IN HVAC SYSTEM OF CHURCH

We are happy to report that we have installed ultra-violet lights in the HVAC system of the church. UV lights kill bacteria and pathogens in the air as it is circulated through the system. It also kills any Covid-19 that is lingering in the air. This is one more layer of protection. We are doing everything possible to keep our member safe when they come to church.



A SHOUT OUT TO SAY THANK YOU

A word of thanks to Kermit Patty, Michael Johnson and Byron Reese who cleaned up part of the fallen tree in front of the rectory. They cleared the pathway from the front door to the street. We appreciate their generosity and kindness.



ICCC YOUTH DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP WORKSHOPS

The Digital Citizenship (DC) workshop series for Immaculate Conception Catholic Church (ICCC) parish youth is sponsored by the ICCC Social Justice Ministry. Digital Citizenship is a teacher led on-line platform that engages students in various on-line lessons focused on internet safety, responsibility, and etiquette. Youth participants will be able to: 9th-12th

- Articulate why it's important to consider the perspectives of others on and offline
- Appreciate the motivations and feelings of all parties involved in an incident of online cruelty
- Draw conclusions about how to respond when someone is the target of online cruelty.

Workshops will be offered for only ICCC youth (9th-12th), on **Saturday August 8th and 22nd from 10:00-11:30am**. Workshops will be taught by parishioner Aubrey Jones, ICARE Prevention Specialist. Each youth will need to have an individual registration form. **Registration runs July 13-28th.**

Registration Link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdMMNy09dw2128rihWnywXYfFnsehBBRu-q1WhOb_lhRFTOA/viewform?usp=pp_url
Questions: iccsjm1@gmail.com

Happy Birthday

AUSTEN	DUBRIEL	7/12
MELANIE	MILLER	7/12
LUNDYN	PLAIN	7/12
CARL	THIERRY	7/12
TRE J	GRAY	7/13
KISSI	HIGGINBOTTHAM	7/13
ALEXIS	PATIN	7/13
MICHAEL	BROUSSARD	7/14
REGINALD	GUIDROZ	7/14
JAMES	AMBROSE, JR.	7/15
KAREN	CHEVIS	7/15
JEROME	DUGAS, SR.	7/15
DARRELL	DUPUY	7/15
THOMAS	HULBERT	7/15
BETTY	WELLS	7/15
ANREA	WILLIAMS	7/15
SHAWN	CHEVIS	7/16
MARLEI	FRANKLIN	7/16
RICHARD	MATTHEWS	7/16
DEAUNDRE	WILLIAMS	7/16
ROLANDO	URBINA	7/16
DENAIR	WADDELL	7/16
KYIA	YOUNG	7/16
WANDA	ANDERSON	7/17
TALIYA	EDMOND	7/17
GARRY	LEWIS	7/17
RONNIE	BELONA	7/18
KEVIN	PERRY, JR.	7/18
BOBBIE	SAM	7/18
CYNTHIA	SAMPEY	7/18
BRENDA	SMITH	7/18
FITZGERALD	SPENCER	7/18
CHARLES	THOMAS, SR.	7/18

INVITATION TO JOIN A DIALOGUE ON RACE LOUISIANA



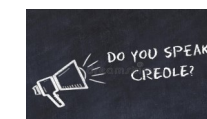
Would you like to be part of a Dialogue on Race that will be composed of pastors and parishioners of Jesuit parish churches in the Central Southern Province of the Jesuits? The dialogue will be conducted via Zoom. It will consist of six facilitated sessions with readings to be completed before each session. Topics of the dialogue sessions include history of racism from slavery to present day, systemic racism, white privilege, and how institutions change. The series will take place in August and September at a time to be determined. If you are interested, please contact Father Clark.



Mass Readings

July 12th- July 19th
Sunday
 Is 55:10-11; Psalm 65; Rom 8:18-23
 Gospel: Matt 13:1-23
Monday
 Is 1:10-17; Psalm 50
 Gospel: Matt 10:34-11:1
Tuesday
 Is 7:1-9; Psalm 48
 Gospel: Matt 11:20-24
Wednesday
 Is 10:5-7, 13B-16; Psalm 94
 Gospel: Matt 11:25-27
Thursday
 Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19; Psalm 102
 Gospel: Matt 11:28-30
Friday
 Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8; Isaiah 38
 Gospel: Matt 12:1-8
Saturday
 Micah 2:1-5; Psalm 10
 Gospel: Matt 12:14-21
Sunday
 Wis 12:13, 16-19; Psalm 86; Rom 8:26-27
 Gospel: Matt 13:24-43

CREOLE MINISTRY CANCELLED



The Creole Practice Ministry is cancelled until further notice. After our initial visit it is obvious that face group discussion best suites our needs. Should the group choose to reinitiate the Creole Practice Ministry in the future, consideration will be given. Thanks to all who helped with its development. Georgia Jenkins and Roland, co-facilitators.

