

## THIS WEEK IN BLACK HISTORY

### Jupiter Hammon



**Jupiter Hammon**, a founder of African-American literature, was born into slavery in 1711 at the Lloyd Manor in Long Island, New York. In 1761 Hammon published his first poem, "An Evening Thought. Salvation by Christ with Penitential Cries," and at the age of forty-nine became the first African American poet published in North America. Hammon was a well known and well respected Christian slave preacher and clerk-bookkeeper which aided in the wide circulation of his slavery poems. As a devoted Christian evangelist, Hammon used his biblical foundation to publicly launch an assault against the institution of slavery.

Details about Jupiter Hammon's life are buried in the unaddressed history of slavery in the Northern U.S states. As such, the facts surrounding Hammon's personal life are limited or non existent. Opium and Rose, slaves purchased by Henry Lloidy are believed to be the parents of Jupiter Hammon. The Lloyds allowed Hammon to receive a rudimentary education in exchange for his non combative and cooperative attitude. As such, Hammon's ability to read and write aided his slave masters in their commercial businesses, which in turn supported methods of institutionalized slavery. Hammon's goal was to take advantage of the literary skills his slave masters had him obtain, by exhibiting a level of intellectual awareness through literature. In doing so, he could create literature layered in metaphors and symbols, providing Hammon a safe place to speak about his feelings of slavery.

#### **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

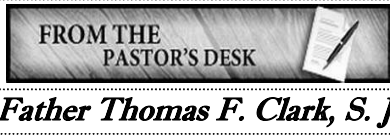
#### **To Whom Do We Go**

Adult Formation: Lovenia Watson.....	778-1977
Altar Servers: Bradley DeRouen .....	218-8292 / 284-5970
Child Protection Coord:.....	Juliet Betts - Andrea Toles
Eucharistic Ministers: Beulah Decuir.....	229-6076
Gospel Choir/Adult: Bea Leonard.....	355-5027
Gospel Choir/Youth: Tara Winder .....	428-5981
Hall Rental: Juliet Betts.....	775-7067
Lectors: Yvonne Jackson.....	362-0897
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: Lloyd Doucette, Jr.....	774-3277
Usher's Coordinator: Walter Ennis.....	775-7332

#### **This Week's Prayer**

Lord, I reach out to you for your guidance. Please show me which way to turn. Calm my anxious thoughts, come speak into my mind. Strengthen me as I falter and feel weary. May I feel strength rising up within my heart. Bring clarity into my visions and dreams. I trust that you are with me, no matter where I go, or what I decide to do. Amen.





**PARISH COUNCIL OF MINISTRIES**  
April 16, 2019

**MINUTES**


Seventeen members of the Parish Council of Ministries and interested parishioners attended the Parish Council of Ministries meeting on April 16, 2019 at the Martin Luther King Catholic Student Center. After an opening prayer and approval of the January minutes, Father Clark gave an update on the renovation of the church. We were delayed for about six weeks while we got another approval from the diocese for the cost of the project which had increased. Now that we have that approval the work will begin in earnest on Monday, April 29. Firmin Construction predicts that they will complete the project in the first half of November. That will give us a few Sundays to return to the church and make sure that all is working as it should, especially acoustics. We will tentatively plan for a blessing of the newly renovated church on December 8 or 15. Father Clark would like to use the occasion of the newly completed church to reach out to the neighborhood and community. We will plan to have an open house for our neighbors with a reception as well as an interfaith service with local churches. We will also plan for a celebration in which church members can invite family and friends to see the church. Father Clark expressed thanks to Ron Q. Lewis for his conscientious and generous attention to all the details of the project.

While we renovate the church building, we are also renovating ourselves. Father Clark is looking into the establishment of a grief and loss support group, a support group for caretakers, craft groups, a book club, a survival skills workshop, boys to men and girls to women program, some day trips to local attractions, an overnight weekend retreat, and a new parish directory. Walking Warriors has proven very popular and will continue after Lent. Father Clark is looking for input about which of these groups or programs would be most desired by parishioners.


The following news and announcements were shared: MLK is sponsoring late night study for students on April 22-23. Confirmation will be celebrated on Tuesday, April 23 at Saint Paul for our nine candidates. Father Clark commended Reggie Berry and Kevin Walker for their dedication to preparing the candidates. First Communion retreat will take place on Saturday, April 27 and First Communion celebrated on May 18. The RCIA is looking forward to the reception of four candidates and one Catholic who is being confirmed at the Easter Vigil. Cathy Glover expressed thanks to Kermit Patty as catechist. Joyce Johnson recommended Southern Grind as a local establishment as worthy of our support and patronage. Reggie Berry commended the Lenten Prayer Companions. We will be purchasing a new ice machine for the Activity Center very soon.

**Announcements and Upcoming Events**


**WELCOME FATHER MARK MC KENZIE SJ**

 While Father Clark is on retreat from April 30-May 8, Father Mark McKenzie is with us to celebrate all the daily Masses and Sunday Masses as well as be available for all pastoral needs. We are grateful to Father Mark for his generosity.

**BIBLE STUDY RESUMES ON MAY 13**

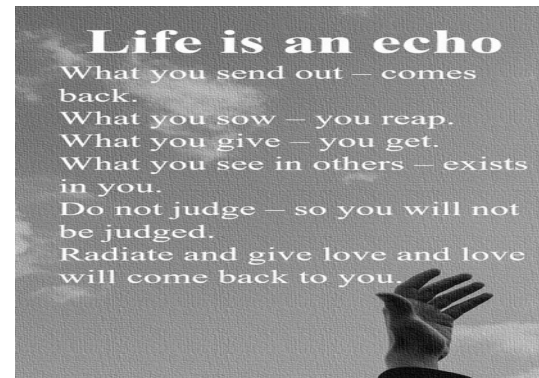
 Bible Study will resume on Monday, May 13 at 7:00-8:00 PM in the Ministry Building. We will continue to read, study, and pray about the upcoming Sunday readings. Everyone is welcome. Please bring a Bible, preferably a New American Bible, revised edition.

**HONORING OUR HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE GRADUATES**




 On Sunday, May 19 at the 10:30 AM Mass, we will honor our graduates from high school, college and graduate school. Please sign up on the sheet in the foyer with your name, contact information, and where you are graduating from. This invitation is for graduates who are members of Immaculate Conception Church and will be present on May 19. Congratulations to our graduates! God bless you and your families at this important moment in your lives.

**WALKING WARRIORS HEALTH AND WELLNESS MINISTRY**

 **DID YOU KNOW THAT . . .** Long-term stress causes an increase in your heart rate and blood pressure that may damage your heart's artery walls. As young as your teens and 20s, learn stress management techniques to not only benefit your body, but also your quality of life. Try deep breathing exercises. Give back by volunteering. Find time each day to do something you enjoy. Get and stay physically active. Start smiling and laughing more. [www.heart.org](http://www.heart.org) *Just a tidbit of healthy knowledge from your ICCC Walking Warriors Health and Wellness Ministry.*



**Happy Birthday**

		
WILLIE	SANDERS	5/5
BARBARA	DENU	5/6
ASHLEY	GRISHBY	5/6
LAWRENCE	DIKE	5/6
KAYLA	WATKINS	5/6
MORGAN	RIGGS	5/7
MELISSA	RUSSELL	5/7
KIONDRA	SAMPEY	5/7
AARON	WHITE	5/7
TRACI	LIVINGSTON	5/8
DIANA	ALLISON	5/9
LATRESHA	CHAMBERS	5/9
ULYSSES	FRANK	5/9
THERON	LANE	5/9
LATARA	DEHON	5/10
KELLY	EAGLIN	5/10
ALYSSA	JOHNSON	5/10
EMILY	MONTGOMERY	5/10
RON	CEASAR	5/11
JORDAN	SAMPSON	5/11
TY	WALKER	5/11

Happy birthday! Happy birthday!



**JESUS, THE GREATEST MAN IN HISTORY**

Jesus, the greatest man in history, had no servants, yet they called him Master. He had no degree, yet they called him Teacher. He had no medicines, yet they called him Healer. He had no army, yet kings feared him. He won no military battles, yet he conquered the world. He committed no crime, yet they crucified him. He was buried in a tomb, yet He lives today.



**Mass Readings**  
May 5th - May 12th  
**Sunday of Divine Mercy**  
Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41; Psalm 30; Rev. 5:11-14  
Gospel: John 21:1-19

**Monday**  
Acts 6:8-15; Psalm 119  
Gospel: John 6:22-29

**Tuesday**  
Acts 7:51--8:1a; Psalm 31  
Gospel: John 6:30-35

**Wednesday**  
Acts 8:1b-8; Psalm 66  
Gospel: John 6:35-40

**Thursday**  
Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 66  
Gospel: John 6:44-51

**Friday**  
Acts 9:1-20; Psalm 117  
Gospel: John 6:52-59

**Saturday**  
Acts 9:31-42; Psalm 116  
Gospel: John 6:60-69

**Sunday**  
Acts 13:14, 43-52; Psalm 100; Rev. 7:9, 14b-17  
Gospel: John 10:27-30

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

