

# BOWMAN FRANCIS MINISTRY NEWSLETTER

Midwest District Newsletter

January 1, 2021  
Volume 1, Issue 1



One of the most treasured items in my SVD house is a piece of artwork from a journey by my beloved identical twin brother Chester P to Ghana West Africa. It is a bird with its head turned backwards and represents Sankofa. It is also represented as a stylized heart shape. Sankofa is a word in the Twi language of Ghana that translates as “Go back and get it” (San -to return; ko-to go; fa-to fetch, to seek and take). It is often associated with the proverb, “Se wo were fi na wosankofa a yenkyi,” which translates as: “It is not wrong to go back for that which you have forgotten.” It is a timely symbol and reminder of the importance of knowing the past to understand our future.

“To go back to your roots is to take the first step forward. For it is in the past we find the path that leads to the present. And from the present we move on to the future.”

This is dedicated to our elders and our ancestors who paved the way for us in this evil and dark world. Their stories are our treasures, our gifts, and our pathways to a better tomorrow.

I always say that our elders are living libraries filled with shelves of wisdom, knowledge, and volumes of experience. They are worth more than silver and gold. The elders/seniors are priceless treasures in our society. Take the time to visit your local living libraries/elders while they are still able to share, care, teach, and pass on the spiritual and secret knowledge of life within God’s creation of life. Once the doors of our elders/libraries are close, they are irreplaceable.” This wisdom is lost to the world.

When I began writing this article in one of my numerous journals. As I opened up the journal, I discovered more gems of wisdom. There were notes from a conversation that my siblings and I had with our late mother Mae Ruth Smith several years ago.

## Words of Wisdom from our Mother Mae Ruth Forte Smith:

Take care of your temple-Physically, Emotionally, Nutritionally, and Spiritually. Our family members were slim, trim and healthy when they were working and living on the farms (lands) in the South (Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, North and South Carolina, Tennessee, and Florida). She encouraged us that it was important to take care of our complete body. Mae Ruth adhered to her regular schedule and consistency was a strength. Exercise daily in God-no spiritual flabbiness, please! Workouts in the spa/gymnasium are useful, but a disciplined life in God is far more so, making you fit both today and forever. You can count on this. Take it to heart. This is why we’ve thrown ourselves into this venture so totally. We are banking on the living God, Savior of all humanity, especially the poor and dispossessed.

Romans 12:5. Who are the living libraries in your family, community and life? Take the time to visit your living library today. Thank you mom for being our living library of knowledge and wisdom. We will share this information with other family members and friends.

Fr. Charles Smith, SVD



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## **CARING for Ourselves during the Pandemic**

Together in Christ, we have been and will continue to respond to the global COVID-19 pandemic, through faith, prayer, and caring for each other.

We just celebrated the 2020 holidays and despite the challenges of this unprecedented year, we have much to be thankful for. If nothing else, thank God that you are still safe and free of the COVID-19 virus today!

Many of us know of someone who has become infected with the virus and in some cases, we have lost family members and friends as a result of this pandemic. As a people and church community, we will continue to pray for those infected daily by the virus and for the souls of those who have been called home to Our Father.

Many of us are experiencing COVID fatigue. Brothers and sisters, we cannot let our guard down! The devil is busy and the virus is like a thief in the night wherein you know not the day or the hour of it's arrival in your life.

***Pay attention to the science rather than the social network opinions. Be smart...be safe...remember basic facts... and, make good choices.***

### **Prevention Practices:**

Handwashing is one of the best ways to protect yourself and your family from getting sick. **Wash your hands** often with **soap and water for at least 20 seconds**, especially after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing; going to the bathroom; and before eating or preparing food. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.

Avoid close contact

**Inside your home:** Avoid close contact with people who are sick. As much as possible, maintain 6 feet between the person who is sick and other household members, and do not share bathrooms or eating utensils.

**Outside your home:** Put 6 feet of distance between yourself and people who don't live in your household.

Remember that **some people without symptoms may be able to spread virus**. Stay at least 6 feet (about 2 arms' length) from other people.

Cover your mouth and nose with a mask when around others. You could spread COVID-19 to others even if you do not feel sick. **The mask is meant to protect other people in case you are infected.**

Clean AND disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks.

**There is currently a limited supply of COVID-19 vaccine in the United States, but supply will increase in the weeks and months to come. \*\*\*PLEASE TALK TO YOUR DOCTOR BEFORE TAKING THE VACCINE\*\*\***

The goal is for everyone to be able to easily get vaccinated against COVID-19 as soon as large enough quantities are available. Once vaccine is widely available, the plan is to have several thousand vaccination providers offering COVID-19 vaccines in doctors' offices, retail pharmacies, hospitals, and federally qualified health centers.

## **Getting a flu vaccine during 2020-2021 is more important than ever.**

While getting a flu vaccine will not protect **against** COVID-19, however, flu vaccines have been show to reduce the risk of flu illness, hospitalization, and death.

## NATIONAL BLACK CATHOLIC MEN' CONFERENCE 2020: ONLINE CONFERENCE SYNOPSIS

**Fr. Charles Smith, SVD**, our leader, welcomed us with on time rhyme, with content and discontent, in his address, “Still I Rise.” In the spirit and legacy of his twin brother, Fr Chester P. Smith, he spoke about a culture of death that has always surrounded black folks in this country. “Where,” he asked, “is the culture of health care, the culture of justice in our criminal justice system, the culture that puts food on the table and clothes on the back?” Where is the regard for the bodies of murdered black men and women? How can black men live in this culture of death as disciples of Christ? The answer (s) to these questions, he told us, is the reason why there is National Black Catholic Men’s Conference every year. With sin and evil running at an all-time high, he preached, black Catholic men must step into their spiritual moment here in America and “in the spirit of Chester P. “rise up....rise up....rise up!”

**Dr. Cameron Beatty**, was the creator of something more than an online conference, it was a seamless visual and auditory presentation, from the graphics to the perfectly chosen songs (my favorite is Yolanda Adam’s “Still I Rise”). Dr. Beatty shared his technical skills with us and just kept us flowing through this our first experience of a virtual conference. More than that, he also spoke with us about how we must be aware of our “racial battle fatigue” as we seek to keep on rising up in our lives. This fatigue we feel is from the “psychological stressors” that affect every aspect of our lives, including our spiritual lives. The things this stress causes—frustration, apathy, anger, resentment, worry, fear—are also the things that make it worse!

**Evangelist Stephen Mullin**, using the biblical images of the leper Namaan (2Kgs5: 8-14) dipping 7 times in [the] muddy water” and the woman who touched the hem of Jesus’ garment, encouraged young black men to keep on pushing, to “press on” into the deeper, healing truths of their own life journeys, and come to discover what it means to be committed to Jesus Christ.

**Mr. Anthony Mensah**, was asked by his “godfathers” Frs. Chester and Charlie to talk to our youth about the important subject of black male sexuality. With thoughtfulness and humility, he shared his thoughts and research about the profound, sometimes burdensome, often demonized, but beautiful gift of black male sexuality.

**Mr. Andrew Lyke**, spoke, as he has done for so long at the NBCMC, not only of his personal experience of 45 years of marriage to Terri, but of what it meant for the black family to appreciate and work towards a “sacramental” marriage based in commitment to each other and well as to God. In this journey toward a more healthy and holy marriage tradition in our community, it is the sometimes difficult “language of God” that must be heard.

**Fr. Maurice Nutt**, delivered a challenging talk on the subject of “The Theology and Spirituality of the Black Lives Matter” movement. Dr. Nutt explained that this theology and spirituality come from roots in black struggle and specifically affirms: the principle of the radical equality of the human race; the need to survive the real ongoing threat to black existence; a resolve to confront the terror of racism, not negotiate with it; and, in so doing, build a true peace, as Jesus would have it, with concrete political-economic-social change.

**Fr. Roy Lee Roy**, led our opening Nia Spiritual Café on the subject of the “double pandemic” that black Americans find themselves in. His panel included medical doctor, **General C. Johnson**, Liberation theologian **Cary Dabney**, and financial advisor **Marc Guess** who broke down for us what this double pandemic for us was in terms of health disparities, spiritual challenges, and financial burdens (Mr. Guess’ later workshop dealt with the more specific topic of estate planning). The panel brought a sober outlook as well as some very concrete steps we can take to survive and prosper in the years to come. Fr. Lee’s own workshop, “White Psychology,” dealt with the historical legacy of those who have sought dominating power and privilege over non-white persons. Using tools that include political-economic control and the power to demonize, the doctrine of “whiteness” has taught others to self-hate. And yet, Fr Lee made the point that we black Christians are challenged by the call of the scripture to be renewed in mind and heart, to adopt the empowerment principles of the *Nguzo Saba*, to be nurtured by the defiant traditions of our ancestors who fought against the opportunistic capitalisms that took, chained, and exterminated millions from the African Motherland.

**NATIONAL BLACK CATHOLIC MEN' CONFERENCE 2020:  
ONLINE CONFERENCE SYNOPSIS continued**

**Fr. Victor Cohea**, spoke of supporting our young men and families through examination and reflection of life, through caring discipline and example, through tears, faith, work, and sharing. Our “heavenly home” is yet to come, but is also present here on earth as black Catholic families make a home with Jesus.

**Fr. Anthony Bozeman, SSJ**, served once again as our conference pastor as he led us in our conference Eucharist. Having already inspired us at Saturday Imani Morning Praise and Worship to move our feet when we pray, Fr. Anthony delivered a clarion call in the sermon to black Catholic men to “rise above our circumstances” based on the way Jesus was able to rise above his enemies and assert his own authority in the face of challenge. We must not capitulate even though our adversaries stipulate! Remember that, just like we overcame, we shall continue to overcome.

**Mr. Timothy Gholston, RN**, continued from the introduction to black health disparities that Dr. Johnson made with a focused exposition on the Covid-19 pandemic. He discussed the nature of the virus as well as the why and how its spread unequally affects the black community. Focusing directly on that black community, he gave empowering solutions towards halting the spread of the virus. Most of all, hold on, knowing that faith forged in flames is strong faith.

**Det. Gerald Hamilton**, has had decades of experience working with “at risk” youth in Chicago. He has been a father and motivator to hundreds of black young men and women as they have found a home at the “Hamilton House.” Over the years, he has shared his expertise in numerous media presentations about how our black youth are reached, accepted, taught, and challenged to grow. He challenged the church to make a serious effort to share with these young people the liberating kind of faith that offers them strength in the challenges of life, not judgment...a liberating religion that helps them organize to achieve political, economic, as well as spiritual power. One attendee of his workshop saw in his testimony a personal lifetime engagement with young people whose lives he believes really matter.

**Fr. George Kintiba, SVD**, led us in our closing reflection, “Black Men Rising Together.” His emphasis was on black men “telling it like it is,” speaking truth to power. In the face of so much stress or, as Dr. Beatty had mentioned, “racial battle fatigue,” we must fight against the fears that paralyze us. As black Catholics we must remember that Catholic theology, despite the presence of its early African formulators, has tried to push so-called “Truths” that work to erase the lives and worth of black persons. In this environment, we have to trust on, pray on, and walk on with each other!

**Fr. Ken Hamilton, SVD**, delivered the conference opening keynote address (*see “Rise Up, Oh Black Catholic Church!” in latest Bowman-Francis online newsletter*) and then led our closing commissioning healing service around the mantra “seven times into the water” based on the story of the cleansing of the Syrian captain, Namaan (introduced earlier by Evangelist Stephen Mullin.) He challenged us to be healed by “wading into the waters” of boy-to-manhood dreams, of found purpose, of disappointment, of romantic-sexual union and friendship, of pain and despair, of self-blame, and wisdom.

As usual, we were lifted up and sustained by the music ministry of **Ms. Phyllis Walker and the Men in Fire!** Once again, they helped us to pray, to praise, to worship, to flow! Phyllis and brothers, we love you and appreciate you as part of this national ministry for all these many years. We also would like to thank Devin Olivas and Jelani Maleeq Morris for their musical selections that moved us.

Thanks goes in a special way to the people who made this possible, **the planning committee**: Frs. Charles Smith, Anthony Bozeman, Roy Lee, and Ken Hamilton; Ms. Rosemary Brown, Ms. Karen Armitage, Ms. Marcheta Smith, Mr. Jesse Johnson, and Dr. Cameron Beatty. Taking up the mantle placed on us by Fr. Chester, and facing a unique situation here in 2020, this team met faithfully to plan and execute all the steps necessary for a successful online conference. Each shared their unique talent, valuable vision, and precious time to bring this conference for black Catholic men to fruition. It simply could not have been done without them!

Brothers, sisters, allies, Jesus worked it out, and a wonderful time was had by all! We look forward in excitement to NBCMC 2021.

## BOWMAN-FRANCIS TEAM MINISTRY SUCCESS STORIES



**Jordan Johnson** is a Junior majoring in Psychology and Spanish at Kansas City Kansas Community College. Jordan shared, “I am passionate about mental health. My goal is to get my PhD in psychology and eventually open up my own practice. I want to start my practice in a smaller, underserved community and be able to offer a therapeutic resource to those who do not usually have access to it.”

Jordan’s grandmother, Joyce McBee, has assisted and volunteered with the Bowman-Francis ministry since its founding. Jordan was introduced to the Bowman-Francis Ministry through her mother, LaTrice McBee Johnson, who was an active youth and young adult participant in Bowman-Francis activities. Fr. Chester Smith was Jordan’s godfather and spiritual leader. Jordan shared that Fr. Chester “was a very important person in my life. Someone who had been around from the day I was born. He always tried to attend anything of mine that he could, never missing a sacramental step, but also attending several major social, academic and athletic events as well. He always made sure that I knew that he loved me, and that God loved me most of all. His legacy means love. His legacy means faith. His legacy is family & friendship. His legacy is walking the walk.”

Jordan feels the Bowman-Francis Ministry means,” having an extended family; a troop of prayer warriors. It is knowing that whether you see them regularly or not, or talk to them regularly or not, that if you reach out in need of prayer or advice they are always there. It is a ministry of giving back and growing God’s kingdom by doing the work.”

Jordan holds the lessons she learned from Fr. Chester and the Bowman-Francis Ministry, “God’s love is everlasting; No matter how hard things get God is there with you; No weapon formed against me shall prosper; God gives some of the hardest battles to his strongest warriors!”

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## NEW MINISTRY



**Ubuntu** ministry is a consciousness-raising and call-to-action ministry that empowers black Catholics as they face and perpetuate domination, particularly racism, in the church. It is meant to be more than an abstract program; rather, it is part of an ongoing effort on the part of our team to form a nationwide community of solidarity and support among black Catholics. *Umoja!* It is meant to stir passion, start discussion, and lead into purpose-filled prayer-action. *Nia!*

**TALK ONE:** “Their Eyes Were Watching God: Black Catholic Liberation Thea/ology” /Fr Kenneth Hamilton PhD, SVD/ January 19, 2020

Do the spiritual insights of black Christians matter? What happens when the things we were taught about God, Jesus and Catholicism work against us and bring us down? What is “liberation theology” and, in particular, “black Catholic liberation theology?” What was the theology and the consciousness of Jesus? How do we black Catholics from across the globe share their lives, worship, and vision with a new age and a new generation?

# UPPER ROOM

A MESSAGE FROM FR. CHARLES SMITH, SVD



KHRIST-KWANZAA...THE BLACK FAMILY CELEBRATING our Resilience and KNOWING WHAT TO DO WHEN THINGS GO WRONG.... Isaiah 64:1

The year is 538 B.C. The prophet and the people of God are in tough straits. There is deep distress in the land. The day of freedom has come to the exiled people of God. King Cyrus of Persia now dominates the world. He has opened up the door of freedom so that the people of Israel, exiled and held captive for forty-nine years, may now look forward to going home to rebuild their nation, reconstruct their temple, and reestablish their faith and practice of religion. Although the door to a new beginning is open, they hesitate To walk through it. Their strength is depleted. They are debilitated, depressed, discouraged, defeated, despondent, despairing, and detached. They tremble and falter at the open door of freedom. Isaiah Prophet of God, voices both the encouragement of God and the discouragement of the people of God. Isaiah wants God to hurry up and come down and lead the chosen people through the door of freedom, across the desert of challenge, and back into the land of promise.

So after forty-nine years of waiting for the removal of external chains of bondage, Isaiah and his little band of faithful followers are now waiting for God to move the internal shackles of depression, discouragement, and despair. These internal shackles will not allow the liberated to act upon the fact of their liberation. External freedom is not enough to liberate captive peoples. They need internal encouragement and spiritual energy to take full advantage of their external opportunity.

This plea to God is not strange to Black America. We live in a world where things have gone wrong, come unglued, fallen apart; new sicknesses multiply, infections threaten, sudden death shocks and shakes our very foundations, factories close down, jobs are lost, money is scarce; the value of the dollar goes down and around, the stock market is on a roller coaster of sudden changes, business slumps and the economy sags because of the COVID 19 pandemic. Problems are more complex; crime, drugs, and guns affect our neighborhoods and destroy our children. Families are threatened; security is jeopardized; sanity is strained to the breaking point. W.H. Oden said in his Christmas oratorical, “Nothing but a miracle can save us. Only God can help us.”

The question in 2021 is, What to do when things go wrong until God comes down and gets things right? Let us look at three things that we should NOT do:

First, don't blame yourself for everything that happens to you. I'm not saying that there is no punishment for sin; there is. It comes to us in this life. Those who abuse themselves and neglect their families pay a penalty for that before they die. Too much alcohol and dope hardens the liver, freezes the brain, debilitated the body, and destroys the society. Selfishness impoverishes the selfish. Those who steal from others steal from themselves their own self-respect and peace of mind. Sin will hurt you. Sin will make you hurt and destroy yourself.

Second, sometimes things go wrong not because you are wrong but because you are right and therefore becomes a threat to the entrenched evils of this sinful world. Sometimes things go wrong in order to stimulate the moral courage and the spiritual energy of the righteous, those who claim to be on the side of God. How often have we seen the forces of good will in the world stirred up, stimulated, activated, and motivated by the presence and prevalence of evil in our times?

Third, when things go wrong, don't blame anybody else. What do I mean, don't blame anybody else? Shouldn't I blame white “Supremacists” for racism? What do you mean, don't blame others when things go wrong? I mean simply that our problems ARE BIGGER than people. The problem is bigger than the perceived enemies. You could lose every enemy you think you have and still face HELL the next day. The problem is systemic. It has gotten into the system. There is a system, economic, political, social,

and martial, that favors some and deprives others. That is why Paul was able to say, “We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities., against powers...against wickedness in high places. There is more to racism than how one individual treats another. Whites Americans may be ever so kind and cordial to blacks as individuals, but there is a system that is at work, and the system is unfair. There is a system of financing education that favors a rich school district over a poor one. There is a system of red-lining that discourages investment and construction in the black “inner city” zones of America.

Our ancestors and elders taught us that we are not fighting against flesh and blood, we should fight racism without hating white folks. We should fight poverty, without hating poor folks. We should fight sin, without hating sinners. When things go wrong, don’t become bitter, jealous, and envious of your sisters and brothers. Do not hate people; that will do more to destroy you than to hurt anybody you hate. Hatred will only poison your own thought processes, freeze your own initiative, hinder your own ingenuity, strife your own creativity, and make it impossible for you to cope effectively with your problem. Don’t blame others.

Fourth, when things go wrong, don’t give up. those who give up are guilt of idolatry. They make an idol out of the present negative set of circumstances and bow down before it, giving in and giving up as if negative forces are in charge of the universe. They do not remember the wonderful things that God did in the past. They do not anticipate the great things that God will do in the precious presence. They believe the only thing that matters is the pain and problem and perplexity that they have right now. They forget the songs of their ancestors that told them “You Matter to God.” So the people give in and surrender without a struggle.

WITHOUT QUESTION, 2020 will go down in U.S history as the year when everything changed in the world and yet not enough changed for us as a Black people. We will always remember the many lives we lost to the COVID-19 pandemic; and shake our heads in disbelief over also losing the black Mamba and the Black Panther-Kobe Bryant and Chadwick Bozeman, two black males who were superstars and role models in their professions. We will remember and recall the global marches and the fight for racial justice -and how, in the midst of them, we lost several great freedom fighters, including civil rights icon and activist congressman John Lewis.

Despite the many horrors and evils of humanity; I know our Black people will remember and pass on the story of our strength and resilience: of how we never grew weary as pursued justice for Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, George Floyd and Jacob Blake. How we said and sang, their names, again and again.

Black people have talked about what we gained from all the loss, pain, and how we survived in spite of it; how when we could not hug or touch each other, we became more intentional about communication and togetherness-writing letters, texting, e-mails, virtual programs, zoom, face time, and video calls, to connect and share love.

Well, what do you do when things go wrong? Well, you have to know who you are. First you ought to know that you ‘re a child of God. Things have gone wrong, but you are a child of God. God is your holy parent. You are not a mistake. You are not an accident. God has put purpose in your life. You are not helpless. God has not given you weakness and helplessness, futility, fatality, fear, and frustration, but God has given you love, power, and self-control. There is something you can do with your situation because God is your source and strength.

Sisters and brothers we will continue to fight this virus-COVID 19 and reconcile what has transpired in 2020, I know more tears will undoubtedly flow; more emotional pain of loss and grief; more nutritional pain of hunger; and more spiritual pain of doubt and unbelief in God. We’ll all be sitting with the weight of this pandemic and economic and moral crisis of leadership for a good long time in “America the beautiful.” We need to remember all of it-the good, the bad, the ugly, and the feelings that cannot be put into words. May we hold on to God; and may we hold all of it as confirmation of a beautiful and powerful truth about ourselves in this new world call The United States of America: To come through all of this evil and sickness in America; and live to tell the story, we are more amazing than we know.

## CONTACT US

Give us a call for more information about our programs.

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## SUPPORT OUR MINISTRIES

- NATIONAL BLACK CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE
- FR. CHESTER P. SMITH SCHOLARSHIP
- T-SHIRTS
- MAE RUTH FORTE PENNY DRIVE
- AMBASSADORS OF THE WORD YOUTH
- KAPONA DADA - WOMEN'S CONFERENCE
- MASS INTENTIONS
- FR. TONY "VALENTINE" CLARK 7 DAY NOVENA

<input type="checkbox"/> \$10	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1000	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
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## MAKING DONATIONS AND PAYMENTS EASIER

You make your donation through Zelle app.

How to send payments to the BOWMAN-FRANCIS MINISTRIES  
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- ◆ Download the Zelle app on your cell phone or computer.
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- ◆ Enter the amount to send. Recipient will be notified.
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**YOU CAN USE THE ZELLE APP EVEN IF YOUR BANK DO NOT  
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OR

**You can send your tax deductible check or money order donation  
payable to:**

**BOWMAN-FRANCIS MINISTRIES PROJECT, INC.**

In the **MEMO** section on the check/money order put the ministry name it's for. (i.e.: Men's Conference, T-shirts)

**Please mail your check or money order to:**

8681 Jaffa Court East Drive, Apt 31, Indianapolis, Indiana 46260

You can also make donations by visiting our website at <https://www.bowmanfrancis.org/> and select the DONATE tab.



## BOWMAN FRANCIS MINISTRY ONLINE STORE

The Bowman Francis Team is selling this beautiful t-shirt displaying strong African American women. We are also selling caps. 1 cap is a commemorative cap honoring Fr. Chester Smith and the other is supporting the National Black Catholic Men’s Conference.

If you would like to place an order for this t-shirt, please visit our website at [www.bowmanfrancis.org](http://www.bowmanfrancis.org) and click on SHOP



FRONT

BACK

Cost: Adult T-shirts \$25.00 add \$2.00 for each additional X.

Size: S, M, L, XL, XXL, XXXL, XXXXL

Youth T-Shirts \$20.00 Size: YS, YM, YL



\$28.00 for the commemorative cap and \$25.00 for the Men’s Conference



VISIT OUR  
ONLINE STORE

## COMING EVENTS IN 2021

For more information on these coming events visit our website at [www.bowmanfrancis.org](http://www.bowmanfrancis.org)

Lent Message	Lent Study	National Day of Prayer for the African American Family
6 Week Men’s Bible Study	Good Friday Message	Easter Message
National Day of Prayer Message	Mother’s Day Message & Rosary	Father’s Day Message
National Black Catholic Virtual Men’s Conference	Thanksgiving Message	Advent Study
Christmas Day Message	Khrist Kwanzaa 7 Principles Reflections	Ubuntu "Their Eyes Were Watching God." Talk

**MISSION STATEMENT**

Our mission is to educate, evangelize, empower; and provide an environment for all people to grow spiritually and develop in their spiritual relationship with God. To celebrate our African-American Heritage and the cultural diversity of our universal church.

◆ **Bowman Francis Team:**

(Rites of Passage and Revivals)

Fr. Ken Hamilton—Teaching Ministry

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Point Richmond, CA 94801

Fr. Charles Smith—VA Chaplain

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Apartment 31

**Indianapolis, IN 46260**



**THE BOWMAN-FRANCIS MINISTRY**



**Calendar of Events**

*New Year's Day Mass*

*January 1, 2021*

*Martin Luther King Mass*

*January 17, 2021*

*Ubuntu—Talk*

*"Their Eyes Were Watching God."*

*National Day of Prayer for the African American Family*

*February 7, 2021*

*Lent Message*

*February 17, 2021*

*Lent Study Feb 17, 2021—Apr 4, 2021*

*Black History Program*

*Saganaw Michigan*

*6 week Men's Bible Study*

*March 3, 2021—April 7, 2021*