

**Thank you to our conference sponsors  
whose generosity made today possible:**

Aquinas Institute of Theology

Fontbonne University

Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet

St. Charles Lwanga Center/Office of Black Catholic Ministries

**Catholic Racial Justice Collaborative  
Member Parishes:**

St. Alphonsus Liguori “Rock” Church

St. Augustine

St. Cronan

St. Elizabeth, Mother of John the Baptist

St. Francis Xavier “College” Church

St. Margaret of Scotland

St. Matthew the Apostle

St. Nicholas

**A Conference on Hope  
in the Struggle Against Racism**

*Persistence, Resistance, and Transcendence*



**Fontbonne University  
Jack C. Taylor Library  
October 26, 2019  
9am-3:30pm**

**Presented by the Catholic Racial Justice Collaborative**

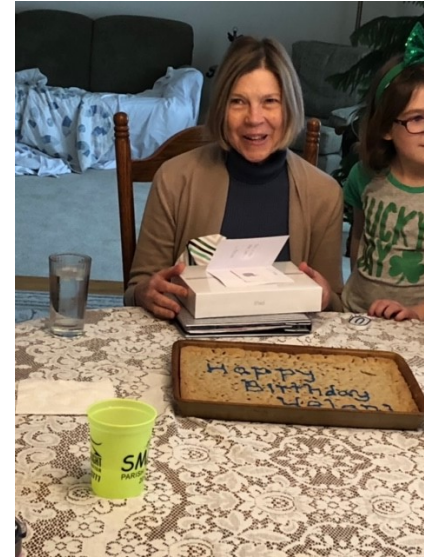
## In Memoriam

### The Catholic Racial Justice Collaborative Welcomes You

Thank you for joining us today for A Conference on Hope in the Struggle Against Racism. This conference was organized by members of the Catholic Racial Justice Collaborative, whose statement of purpose is as follows:

*We seek to be a Catholic voice challenging our faith communities to engage in the difficult conversation around race and to participate in action for racial justice in the wider community.*

*We are a multiracial group of religious and lay Catholic leaders in parishes across St. Louis City who came together in advance of the Jason Stockley verdict in September 2017. In anticipation of the verdict, we drafted a statement calling Catholics to wrestle with the difficult realities of racism in our faith community and our broader community. Our collaborative recognizes that it is our spiritual duty to combat the sin of personal and institutional racism.*



This conference is offered in memory of our dear friend Helen Sloan. Her passion for racial justice and concise note taking kept us focused and moving forward in the planning of this conference. May you continue to inspire us and Rest In Peace.

"I have decided to stick with love. Hate is too great a burden to bear." - Martin Luther King, Jr.

## Schedule of the Day, cont.

### **Option 3: Conversation and Action about Racism: What Can Families Do?**

*Angela Thames and Kathy McGinnis*

This workshop will explore strategies, topics of conversation, resources, and action possibilities for families of all types. It will include ideas on how the parish can help.

**2:15pm:** Third Breakout Session

### **Option 1: Conversation and Action about Racism: What Can Families Do?**

*Angela Thames and Kathy McGinnis*

This workshop will explore strategies, topics of conversation, resources, and action possibilities for families of all types. It will include ideas on how the parish can help.

### **Option 2: Diversity Programming in Elementary Schools Part III (3 parts throughout the day; each session is different)**

*Arsenia Tate, Juliann DePalma Hesed, Mary Lisa Penilla, Shannon Grass, Katie Komos*

Diversity is what you have. Inclusion is what you do. Equity is the result of a systemic change. St. Margaret of Scotland Parish School is a diverse, urban, vibrant, and inclusive Catholic community. Our students embody the example of our patron saint as responsible leaders and caretakers of our community through works of service and social justice. St. Margaret was the first Elementary School in the St. Louis Archdiocese to employ a Coordinator of Diversity, Inclusion and Equity.

**3:30pm:** Closing Session

**3:45pm:** Adjourn

### **Keynote Speaker: Rev. Dr. Joseph A. Brown, S.J., Ph.D**



Joseph A. Brown, S. J., Ph.D. a native of East St. Louis, Illinois, is a Catholic priest and member of the Society of Jesus. He graduated from St. Louis University with a B. A. in Philosophy & Letters in 1968. With graduate degrees from Johns Hopkins University (1969) and Yale University (1983;1984), Fr. Brown has taught at Creighton University, The University of Virginia, Xavier University (where he was the Director of the Institute for Black Catholic Studies, 1991-94), and at Southern Illinois University Carbondale – where he served as Director/Chair of the Africana Studies Department until 2013. He continues as a Professor in that department. In addition to being National Black Catholic Congress Liturgist in 1992 (New Orleans) and 2002 (Chicago), he has published many articles in African American literary criticism and cultural studies.

He presents frequently at the Archbishop James Lyke Liturgical Conference and at the national gatherings of Call To Action. He is the author of: *Accidental Grace* (poetry; 1986); *A Retreat with Thea Bowman and Bede Abram: Leaning on the Lord* (1997); *To Stand on the Rock: Meditations on Black Catholic Identity* (1996); *Sweet, Sweet Spirit: Prayer Services in the Black Catholic Tradition* (with the assistance of Rev. Fernand Cheri, OFM/2006); and *The Sun Whispers, Wait: New and Collected Poems* (2009). He was the holder of the MacLean Chair of Jesuit Studies at St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia, during the fall of 2009.

## Schedule of the Day

**8:45am:** Registration and Refreshments

**9:15am:** Welcome

*J. Michael Pressimone, President of Fontbonne University*

**9:30am:** Plenary Session: Can't No Grave Hold My Body Down

*Rev. Dr. Joseph A. Brown, S.J., Ph.D*

*Spiritual Hymn sung by Carolyn Yandell*

**10:30am:** Break

**10:45am:** First Breakout Session

### **Option 1: "Preaching on Racism" Panel**

*Fr. Joseph A. Brown, S. J., Ph.D, Fr. Arthur J. Cavitt, Fr. Timothy Cook, Fr. Gregory Heille, O.P., D. Min. (Moderator/ Facilitator)*

Priests discuss the importance and effectiveness of preaching on racism, sharing their first hand experiences and tips.

### **Option 2: Diversity Programming in Elementary Schools Part I (3 parts throughout the day; each session is different)**

*Arsenia Tate, Juliann DePalma Hesed, Mary Lisa Penilla, Shannon Grass, Katie Komos*

Diversity is what you have. Inclusion is what you do. Equity is the result of a systemic change. St. Margaret of Scotland Parish School is a diverse, urban, vibrant, and inclusive Catholic community. Our students embody the example of our patron saint as responsible leaders and caretakers of our community through works of service and social justice. St. Margaret was the first Elementary School in the St. Louis Archdiocese to employ a Coordinator of Diversity, Inclusion and Equity. Topics include: Programming (Students, Teachers & Community), Our Founding Story, Case for Change, Vision & Strategy, Culturally Responsive Teaching, Diverse Perspectives

*Schedule cont. on next page*

## Schedule of the Day, cont.

### **Option 3: Catholic High Schools**

*Beth Lappe, Ann Hammer, Frank Kovarik*

Join us for this engaging session to learn how area Catholic High Schools are addressing the challenge of inclusion in their schools . Come gain awareness, get ideas and ask questions.

**12:00pm:** Lunch

**12:45pm:** Second Breakout Session

### **Option 1: The Love of Christ Impels Us: Becoming an Anti-Racist Institution**

*Billy Critchley-Menor, S.J. and Christine Dragonette*

Since 2014 and the Ferguson uprising, the parishioners of College Church in St. Louis have been asking some hard questions about their role in racial inequality. How has it been ignored? How has it been supported? How has change been implemented? Anti-racism goes beyond simply avoiding racism, and is an effort to oppose and dismantle racism and to promote racial equity. For many reasons, including the USCCB's recent pastoral letter against racism, College Church is working to become an anti-racist community. This workshop is applicable to parishes, religious communities, or any institution.

### **Option 2: Diversity Programming in Elementary Schools Part II (3 parts throughout the day; each session is different)**

*Arsenia Tate, Juliann DePalma Hesed, Mary Lisa Penilla, Shannon Grass, Katie Komos*

Diversity is what you have. Inclusion is what you do. Equity is the result of a systemic change. St. Margaret of Scotland Parish School is a diverse, urban, vibrant, and inclusive Catholic community. Our students embody the example of our patron saint as responsible leaders and caretakers of our community through works of service and social justice. St. Margaret was the first Elementary School in the St. Louis Archdiocese to employ a Coordinator of Diversity, Inclusion and Equity.

*Schedule cont. on next page*