



NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL

Notre Dame Family,

As we begin this month of February, we commemorate Black History Month and remember the contributions and unique perspectives that the African American community has in the United States and within the Catholic Church. We focus on 3 individuals, who are in the process of Canonization to be recognized as Saints in the Catholic Church:

- Venerable Pierre Toussaint, a former slave, who, eventually freed from slavery, established and supported the establishment of a Catholic orphanage, established the first Catholic School for black children and supported the Oblate Sisters of Providence, a community of black nuns.
- Venerable Henriette DeLille was a religious sister who devoted her life to improving the welfare of her community, especially African Americans who were currently or formerly enslaved. She sold her possessions to use the money to establish the Sisters of the Presentation, educating slaves, which was illegal at the time.
- Venerable Augustus Tolton, a former slave, who was the first African-American priest ordained for the United States, started a parish for African-American Catholics and ministered to the poor and sick, feeding the hungry, and helped many discover their faith.

We are grateful for the contributions of these individuals and the countless individuals from the African-American community and those of African descent who, with their God given gifts and talents, have added to the beauty and prophetic voice in the Catholic Church in America.

I want to give thanks to Almighty God to those who assisted and supported the Hall of Fame Dinner. Congratulations to all the honorees and their families. We are grateful for their contributions to Notre Dame and in their particular fields of expertise. Truly, these honorees have taken to heart the Lord's words, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden; your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father" (Matthew 5:14,16). It was great to see so many alumni, some of whom had not seen the campus for many years and commented how beautiful the campus looks. Again, congratulations to all the honorees and their loved ones.



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I would also like to remind you that Enrollment is now open for the 26-27 School Year. We continue to strive to make improvements to help our students grow as a whole. We have added Girls Beach Volleyball, Archery Club, Girls Flag Football, Pathways options for those who are interested in Law and the Medical Field, along with additions like STEM and Computer Science, AP Physics and Video Production. If you have any questions, please reach out to Mrs. Angel Ragadio or Mrs. Katie Kerr at (951)275-5896.

Finally, for the month of December, Notre Dame collected \$401,098.33 and spent \$420,797.86. We continue to make progress on the delinquent accounts and collecting from the various retreats and athletic fundraisers. I would also like to remind all parents of their service hours and SCRIP obligations, please see Chris Johnson (service hours) or Angel Ragadio (SCRIP) for more information at (951)275-5896.

As always, I thank all of you and know that you are in my prayers and I ask that you continue to pray for our students, faculty, staff, volunteers, benefactors and myself. May the Lord bless each one of you, your loved ones and may we accompany each other to our eternal home, the Kingdom of Heaven. Together, we are ND!

Your servant in Christ,

Manuel Cardoza
Principal, Notre Dame High School