



The African Catholic Community at St. Joseph Fullerton

ACC's Mission

To provide an environment at St. Joseph Church for Catholics of African descent to live the Gospel, to proclaim the Gospel by word and example, to share a communion with Jesus Christ in the Holy Spirit, as well as to bring together a diversity of people united in faith, hope and love to cherish their culture.

ACC shall:

1. Promote Catholic ethics, cultural values, charity, fellowship, service, vocations, cooperation and understanding among parishioners of African descent and other members of St Joseph Church.
2. Hold events at St. Joseph (Fullerton) which encompass African traditions to increase spiritual faith and awareness.
3. Actively participate in St. Joseph Church activities that promote relationships with other parishioners and the community including church fundraising.
4. Set a good example and serve as role model for other parishioners through their actions.

ACC's Vision

ACC's vision is categorized under the following three areas of focus:

I. Strengthening our bonds as a Catholic Community

- Plan, organize and coordinate special African Mass on a quarterly basis on Sunday at 3:00 p.m. The Celebrant can be a visiting African Bishop or an African Priest. Africans and African descended peoples from other Parishes shall be invited to attend the special Mass.
- Meet once a month for religious activities such as Bible study, praying the Rosary, fostering interaction among youths, etc.
- Co-celebrating Mass with other immigrant communities at St. Joseph during Pentecost.
- As a long term goal – having families who live in communities that are close to each other hold meetings so that they can meet and know each other.
- Keep informed on evangelistic and witnessing resources, materials, methods, and administration; developments and interests as provided by St Joseph Church.

- Plan and organize volunteering activities such as food drives, soup kitchen, feeding the poor etc.,
- Plan and organize outreach activities to African American Churches and communities in the neighborhood.
- Organize and oversee the visitation of the sick, the needy, the aged, the distressed and the bereaved families.

II. Preserving and disseminating our Culture

- Plan and organize activities to showcase the African cultures. These can include displaying assorted African dishes, attires, dances, and other cultural displays.
- Include songs and other practices associated with the celebration of Mass in Catholic Churches in Africa during the special African Mass.

III. Strengthening Families

- Collaborate with Director of Youth Ministry to involve our youths in the Trail Blazers (St. Joseph Youth Ministry teen leadership team), Edge and Lifeteen programs.
- Assist our youths to grow in their relationship with God, to grow in knowledge of their Catholic faith, and to grow as a parishioner of St. Joseph (Fullerton) Church through community, discipleship, service, and pilgrimage.
- Plan and work with the Director of Liturgical Music and Church Staff to involve our youths in children and youth choir, altar servers, sacristans and other activities that will make them more engaged with the church.
- Plan and Promote ideas to mainstream African youths and young adults so that they can fully be integrated into the American society and take advantage of available opportunities in the society for career and professional improvement/advancement.

ACC's Membership

Membership is open to all baptized Catholics of African descent by birth, marriage or naturalization who are registered parishioners at St. Joseph Church. Catholics of African descent from other parishes who are interested in ACC activities can join ACC as Associate Members. An annual nominal validation fee shall be accepted from every registered member of ACC.