

Justice, Peace and Life

November 2024

From famine and war, deliver us.

From nuclear war, from incalculable self-destruction, from every kind of war, deliver us.

From sins against human life from its very beginning, deliver us.

From hatred and from the demeaning of the dignity of the children of God, deliver us.

—St. John Paul II, Novena Prayer for Faithful Citizenship

Vote

If you haven't already, please vote by Tuesday November 5. Remember to **turn your ballot** over and **VOTE NO** on **Proposal 1**. This unnecessary and dangerous amendment would enshrine abortion in the NYS Constitution and endanger religious freedom protections.

Pray for Our Country:

Novena for Faithful Citizenship



November 1-
November 9

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops is asking Catholics in America to pray a novena for our country, starting on **November 1**. They write: "Prayer is one of the first steps in acting for justice in our world. This novena, rooted in the biblical tradition and the Church's social teaching, is intended to promote justice and peace in our neighborhoods, our country, and our world."

May this novena help to give hope to the poor who suffer from injustices and hope in your life that you may know the peace of Jesus Christ."

You can find the novena online at www.usccb.org/prayers/novena-faithful-citizenship

November is Black Catholic History Month

The images of saints and other holy people we find in our churches tend to look white— even the images of people who were not actually white! The commemoration of **Black Catholic History Month** gives us an opportunity to be inspired by examples of holiness among people of color whose stories are often marginalized. The story of Pierre Toussaint is one such example.



As reported on the New York Archdiocese [web site](#):

Venerable Pierre Toussaint (1766-1853) was born a slave in Haiti and died a freeman in New York City.

He is credited by many with being the father of Catholic Charities in New York.

Pierre was instrumental in raising funds for the first Catholic orphanage and began the city's first school for black children. He also helped to provide funds for the Oblate Sisters of Providence, a religious community of black nuns founded in Baltimore, and played a vital role in providing resources to erect Old Saint Patrick's Cathedral in Lower Manhattan.

During a Yellow Fever epidemic when many of the city's political leaders fled the city in search of healthier rural climates, Pierre Toussaint cared for the sick and the dying. He was a successful entrepreneur, who did not hesitate to share the fruits of his labor with others.

In recognition of Pierre Toussaint's virtuous life, the late Cardinal Cooke introduced Pierre's cause for canonization at the Vatican in 1968... On December 17, 1997, Pope John Paul II declared Pierre Toussaint, Venerable, thus placing him firmly on the road to becoming North America's first black saint.

Venerable Pierre Toussaint was a man who was proud of his faith, proud of his culture, and committed to serving others.

Who will be the first Black Catholic Saint in the United States?

Learn about the Black Americans whom the Catholic Church has declared venerable and servants of God at the video at this [link](#). Along with Venerable Pierre Toussaint, they are:

Venerable Mother [Mary Lange](#), O.S.P.
Venerable [Henriette Delille](#), S.S.F.
Venerable [Augustus Tolton](#)
Servant of God [Julia Greeley](#)
Servant of God [Thea Bowman](#), F.S.P.A.

These holy people's lives spanned from the 1700s to the 1900s. Some were born into slavery, and all faced racism within the Church and the broader society. Their ministries included selfless service to poor people and education of Black children.



As “the holiday season” approaches... Don't Buy Into Consumerism

BUY NOTHING DAY

SALE

SAVE BIG UP TO 50% OFF!

SAVE BIGGER

WHEN YOU

BUY NOTHING!

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BLACK FRIDAY IS AN ANNUAL HEAVILY-ADVERTISED MEGA SHOPPING DAY WITH THE GOAL OF CONVINCING YOU TO BUY AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.

But every product you buy has an environmental cost, from long before it hits store shelves to long after you toss it in the bin.

Instead of engaging in the joyless, stressful frenzy of “Black Friday”, celebrate **Buy Nothing Day** on November 29. In lieu of shopping, spend time with your family and prepare your heart for Advent.

Boycott Amazon: Use Your Money for Good! For Christmas gift giving, please consider spending your dollars at locally owned businesses and socially conscious Fair Trade enterprises.

Shopping at local businesses instead of Amazon means:

- supporting local owners and workers who live in your community;
- keeping your sales tax dollars in your local community
- circulating money locally instead of funneling it to a billionaire
- avoiding further enriching those who profit off **unsafe working conditions, poverty wages, and the union-busting** that Amazon has long engaged in

BOYCOTT
amazon

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