

Info Alert 239

February 10, 2026

“The memory of the dark chapters of America's history, involving the practice of slavery and other situations of social discrimination, must awaken a sincere desire for conversion leading to reconciliation and communion.” *Ecclesia in America, Pope John Paul II, 1999 n. 58*

Black History Month

The achievements of Black Americans in the United States are celebrated during the month of February. This month also provides an opportunity to revisit the history of the Black American and to acknowledge the prosperity our country has achieved “off the backs” of our brown and black brothers and sisters. Bishop Daniel Garcia of Austin, TX, and Auxiliary Bishop Roy E. Campbell of Washington, DC, published a letter to the Catholic Church in November 2025. This letter, entitled: “The Treasures of Memory: A Reflection on Truth-Telling,” speaks to us today. You can read it here:

<https://www.usccb.org/resources/The%20Treasures%20of%20Memory%20Reflection.pdf>

Human Trafficking

This is an opportunity to report good news! With our advocacy, Congress has passed H.R. 4323 into law. It is called the Trafficking Survivors Relief Act. You can read the details of this law in this press release: <https://alliancetoendhumantrafficking.org/the-alliance-to-end-human-trafficking-aekt-welcomes-the-signing-of-h-r-4323-into-law/>

FYI: We are partnering with the Alliance Against Human Trafficking to cover the sports events in Philadelphia this summer. More information will follow.

The USCCB provided an excellent webinar entitled: Human Trafficking and Sporting Events. You can view it here.

You must enter the passcode. Passcode: qh5@?h#E

https://usccb.zoom.us/rec/share/eCn6786O6CKw1ejHyuRH5Sxiunem3YUXiYKhLXvln1tqhSvTmam11T_LIVh6HNOB.bB4BmQ9aesdsqCeT?from=hub

There is also an attachment with helpful information about these types of events.

Season of Faithful Witness

The Season of Faithful Witness is the Catholic Church’s continuing response to its One Church, One Family event last Fall. The Season of Faithful Witness committee is organizing events spread across our nation. These events will bear witness to the beliefs and values we, as Catholics, hold in common. They will happen during the season of Lent, through Holy Week, Easter, Pentecost, and climax on the feast of Corpus Christi. This handout further explains this action.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/17P-nzs7ww01c_s0R012mKT-oWZwty0A0/view

Haiti Update

Judge temporarily blocks axing deportation protections for Haitian migrants

A federal judge has temporarily blocked attempts to end deportation protections for more than 350,000 Haitian immigrants, who are allowed to live and work in the US legally under Temporary Protected Status (TPS). A day before the TPS was set to lapse, US judge Ana Reyes said the Department of Homeland Security boss does not have the facts or law on her side.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c5yxn7kqww8o>

Prayer

Join with the Ignatian Solidarity Network for daily reflections and prayer during Lent. Sign up here:

<https://ignatiansolidarity.net/lent-2026/>

IHM Scranton CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER

THURSDAY, Feb 19, 2026, 6:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Cry for Justice Nepal

Action

1. Enter into Lent praying for the needs of our country and our world.
2. Support Operation Rice Bowl.
3. Support Haiti Awareness Week, February 22-28.
4. Ask Congress to extend TPS for Haitian immigrants.

<https://secure.faithinactioninternational.org/a/haititps>