

GOD OF MERCY AND LOVE

WE place our African American
and African Families before You today.

May we be proud of our history and never
forget those who paid a great price for our liberation.
Bless us one by one and keep our hearts and minds
fixed on higher ground. Help us to live for you and not
for ourselves, and may we cherish and proclaim the gift
of life. Bless our parents, guardians and grandparents,
relatives and friends. Give us the amazing grace to be
the salt of the earth and the light of the world. Help us,
as Your children, to live in such a way that the beauty
and greatness of authentic love is reflected in all that
we say and do. Give a healing anointing to those less
fortunate, especially the motherless, the fatherless, the
broken, the sick and the lonely. Bless our departed
family members and friends. May they be led into the
light of Your dwelling place where we will never grow
old, where we will share the fullness of redemption and
shout the victory for all eternity. This we ask in the
Precious Name of Jesus, our Savior and Blessed
Assurance. Amen. Holy Mary, Mother of Our Families,
pray for us.

Prayer composed by FR. JIM GOODE, OFM, who in 1989
founded this National Day of Prayer for the African Ameri-
can and African Family

© Fr. Jim Goode, 1990

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE AFRICAN AMERICAN AND AFRICAN FAMILY

FEBRUARY 5, 2023

CELEBRATING OUR
BLESSED
ASSURANCE
THIS IS OUR STORY
THIS IS OUR SONG

IN LOVING TRIBUTE
TO
FR. JAMES E. GOODE, OFM, PH.D.
FOUNDER OF THE
NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE
AFRICAN AMERICAN AND AFRICAN FAMILY

REMEMBERING SOME FR. GOODE SPIRITUAL WISDOM

He met us where we were in life... Just like Jesus. Fr. Goode was always reaching out to folks. He especially reached out to those who needed a touch of kindness, a handful of hope and a covering of prayerful song. That touch reminded us all not to give up for there is a blessed assurance that JESUS is OURS. Fr. Jim would be the first to say that knowing Jesus can change your history and because God created you, the human spirit is more powerful than anything. Mercy, Mercy Me! Through his relationship with Jesus, Fr. Goode understood in a deep way, that Jesus' role on earth was to serve as the face of God, the Father drenching us with God's mercy. He wanted us all to know that God's mercy endures forever and that my God is for Me! Mercy, Mercy Me!

When you were with Fr. Goode, you always left him with a clearer outlook on life, a stronger spirit and a deeper connection with God who continues to dwell among us. He knew that when you are connected to God and when you praise God you can be transformed and re-formed. That is why Fr. Jim spent so much time praising God in word and in action! Mercy, Mercy Me!

On this National Day of Prayer for African and African American Families let's practice this spiritual wisdom from Fr. Goode... reach out to others, sturdy your relationship with Jesus for it strengthens the Family as you seek God's mercy and keep praising God because He alone can transform and re-form. Thank you Fr. Goode. Fr. Jim... pray for us!

THERESE WILSON FAVORS

HOW TO CELEBRATE THIS DAY

WORSHIP together at the Eucharistic Table and pray as a family on the National Day of Prayer for the African American and African Family.

Celebrate a meal together and tell your Family Story.

Set aside some time to read the Family Bible.

Say a prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, for the needs of all families throughout the world.

As a family let us prepare and give a meal to a family in need in your Church or local community in this the National Day of Prayer for the African American and African Family.

Join in Solidarity with our African sisters and brothers in the Motherland, as we pray for their needs and their families.

© Fr. Jim Goode, 1990

SPONSORS

BLESSED SACRAMENT SISTERS	NATIONAL BLACK CATHOLIC CONGRESS
BLACK AND INDIAN MISSION	NATIONAL BLACK SISTERS' CONFERENCE
FRANCISCAN HANDMAIDS OF MARY	OBLATE SISTERS OF PROVIDENCE
HOLY FAMILY SISTERS	SOCIETY OF THE DIVINE WORD
KNIGHTS OF PETER CLAVER	THE JOSEPHITES
AND LADIES AUXILIARY	USCCB SECRETARIAT FOR
NATIONAL AFRICAN AMERICAN CATHOLIC	CULTURAL DIVERSITY IN THE CHURCH
YOUTH MINISTRY NETWORK	NATIONAL BLACK CATHOLIC
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BLACK	APOSTOLATE FOR LIFE
CATHOLIC ADMINISTRATORS	NATIONAL BLACK CATHOLIC CLERGY CAUCUS