

GOD HAS
SOMETHING
FOR US
TO DO

God of Mercy and Love we place our African American 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 American and African Family.

**NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
FOR THE AFRICAN AMERICAN
AND AFRICAN FAMILY**

THE
24TH
YEAR

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February 3, 2013

SUPPORTERS

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



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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.

Make a **FAMILY RESOLUTION** no matter how big or small, on the National Day of Prayer for the African American and African Family. Strive to fulfill that resolution throughout the year.

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

www.solidgroundministry.com

GOD HAS SOMETHING FOR YOU TO DO



One of the most awesome and overwhelming action of God is the miracle of YOU! The creation of YOU was not by happenstance nor an aimless action. YOU are the result of God speaking in this world. YOU came into the world, at just the right time for just the right purpose. The incomparable power that GOD exerted in creating YOU is the same power GOD used in placing YOU within the FAMILY. YOU were on GOD'S mind when He placed YOU into His spiritual family and surrounded YOU with a village of folks. GOD knows that we cannot navigate this world all by ourselves... So here comes the Family, those related to YOU by blood, by faith and by experience. That's a wide circle. GOD knows that the journey may have dark places and slippery corridors... So, here comes Jesus, the Redeemer... providing light for the journey and hope for the future!

As we travel, Jesus provides the repeated revelation that GOD has something for us to do. Our lives and our destiny is not just for ourselves... it is for GOD and GOD'S human family. If we seek our own personal agenda, then we corrupt the abundant life that GOD has in mind for us. Jesus can point us in the right direction. Jesus floods the path we walk with HIS light for a reason... to prove the message that GOD has something for YOU to do!

When the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, Jesus took up residence in our lives, within our families and in our world. And when Jesus came, He came bearing the gifts we call Grace and the "blessed assurance" that the gifts of the Holy Spirit will make YOU spiritually strong and confident in joining Jesus in His transformation project.



Jesus message is clear and He did not waiver in filling a pair of "one and only shoes" of history- the redemption and transformation of the world. Jesus invites us into His work of redemption and transformation and urges us to put on our own "one of a kind" work shoes, fitted for a specific purpose that only YOU can achieve. Therefore, believe GOD to accomplish and achieve something eternal and intentional with YOUR life. GOD has something for YOU to do! When our children and families seem to be without hope and challenges abound, reflect and pray about what GOD is calling YOU to do. GOD created YOU! In doing so, let's remember that YOU are Divinely designed and Divinely defined; hardwired by GOD'S touch for such a time like this! Your creation alone is proof positive that YOU are integral to GOD'S transformation project. Understand that YOU have something (not any ole thing) to do for GOD and humankind. Achieve something eternal and intentional with YOUR life.

Gabriel Okara, a noted Nigerian writer says... There are two hard things to accomplish in life; one is knowing your purpose, the other which is harder is not to corrupt it after knowing what your purpose is. Now is the time to achieve YOUR purpose. Therefore, put your work shoes on. Fix your eyes on Jesus. Cover YOURSELF with the Word of GOD and lovingly take your family by the hand into the future... understanding and accepting the reality that GOD has something for YOU to do!

THERESE WILSON FAVORS

