

KWANZAA FOR LIFE 2013

December 26, 2013 - January 1, 2014



A Time for Rededication and Renewal

Jesus, Star of Life, shine through us as we walk with you!

The Kinara of the Soul

The Kinara is a seven-place candleholder that represents the original stalk from which all African people sprang. It also represents reason and social structure. In Kwanzaa for Life it represents the soul of each individual, the vessel which contains the spirit of life.

In the octave of celebrating His presence among us, it is truly fitting to rededicate ourselves to the mission of the Beatitudes and the Seven Principles of Kwanzaa!

Response: Jesus, Star of life, shine through us as we walk with you!

UMOJA UNITY

We pledge to work for unity among all people instead of disunity. We will honor reputations instead of tearing them down. We will do this because we walk in His light!

Response: Jesus, Star of life, shine through us as we walk with you!

KUJICHAGULIA SELF-DETERMINATION

We will live as who we are and whose we are just because He made us so. We will respect the rights of others to be able to be self-defined. We will do this because we walk in the light of Jesus, God-Hero!

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UJIMA COLLECTIVE WORK AND RESPONSIBILITY

We will strive to be compassionate to our brothers and sisters so that they may lighten their burdens. Life is not always easy and we must open the doors of our souls to let His light shine through us to maintain our communities. We will promise to do this because Jesus has been a mighty Counselor to us!

Response: Jesus, Star of life, shine through us as we walk with you!

UJAMAA COOPERATIVE ECONOMICS

We will share our resources wisely and participate in ventures which uphold our dignity as persons and which return benefits to our communities. We will uphold this principle because we know if we do it in His name it will reap goodness. Jesus is a Wonder-Worker!

Response: Jesus, Star of life, shine through us as we walk with you!

NIA PURPOSE

We will pray daily to know which way the light of the Star is leading us, so that we can follow in the footsteps of our ancestors along a pathway to greatness. We know if we keep our eyes on the prize, we will succeed in every undertaking. Jesus is our Emmanuel, God with us!

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KUUMBA CREATIVITY

We will continue to search for new ways and cherish the positive old ways to keep our communities alive and beautiful. We will acknowledge that every day is a new gift for us to grow. We are assured we can do this because we are walking with Jesus, the Anointed One!

Response: Jesus, Star of life, shine through us as we walk with you!

IMANI FAITH

We will continue to walk by faith and not by sight! Faith carried our ancestors through and faith will lead us on our way. We believe we can make it through all trials and tribulations because our faith tells us that these last only a moment and joy comes in the morning! Jesus is the Rock of Faith!

Response: Jesus, Star of life, shine through us as we walk with you!

During Kwanzaa for Life
(December 26, 2013- January 1, 2014)
let us also offer the following prayers:

The Lord's Prayer

The Marian Prayer (Hail Mary)

Psalm 27

(The Lord is my light and my salvation...)

Kwanzaa for Life Prayer

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Kwanzaa for Life Prayer

O Star of Wonder, Star of Life, as we celebrate Kwanzaa and the African American Heritage, we give you thanks and praise for the journey of another year past and another year to come. In Your divine mercy, grant us the grace to cherish this life and walk in your light. With your guidance may we uphold the dignity of and respect for life from the moment it begins to its natural end in Your presence. We ask these things in the name of Jesus, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.



Kwanzaa For Life 2013

prepared by James Paul Newson, Jr.

Kwanzaa was founded 47 years ago

by Dr. Maulana Karenga