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PRESS RELEASE

The New Face of Black Catholic National Leadership: National Black Sisters' Conference and National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus Announces New Board of Directors

The National Black Sisters' Conference (NBSC) and the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus (NBCCC) are thrilled to announce the introduction of their new Board of Directors, marking the beginning of an influential and transformative period for Black Catholic clergy and religious women.

The newly appointed Board of Directors for NBSC and NBCCC signifies a momentous milestone in fostering collaboration, unity, and collective influence within the Black Catholic community. This diverse and dedicated group of leaders brings a wealth of experience, passion, and vision to their roles. Organizationally and collectively, they are poised to advance the mission of the Black Church and work collaboratively with their organizations and committees to empower Black Catholic clergy and religious individuals, reclaim their voices, and lead with courage and compassion.

The National Black Sisters' Conference kicks off its new 2024-2027 Board of Directors with an invigorated, envisioned, and inspired team of Black women religious with diverse expertise in leadership, nonprofit development, fundraising, and organizational history. Their collective dedication to reclaiming the voice and positioning of Black women within the Church promises to inspire, empower, and transform the lives of Black women religious and the communities they serve. The new board is likely to bring a fresh perspective and strategic vision to the organization. They can develop new initiatives, programs, and partnerships that will empower Black women religious and strengthen their position within the community.

The new 2024-2027 officers for the National Black Sisters' Conference are as follows:

President	Sr. Barbara Spears, SNJM
Vice President	Sr. Josita Colbert, SNDdeN
Treasurer	
Secretary	Sr. LaKeshia Church, CPPS
Board	Sr. Jacqueline Nedd, RSM
Board	Sr. Jannette Pruitt, OSF
Board	Sr. Patricia Ralph, SSJ
Board	Sr. Callista Robinson, OSF
Board	Sr. Odessa Stanford, SFCC

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The future is bright for the National Black Sisters' Conference, as the new Board of Directors leads toward a more empowered community of Black women religious within the Catholic Church. It is the mix of fresh vision and experienced leadership that marks the beginning of intentionally dynamic partnerships, strategic planning, and organizational collaboration.

Overall, the new board of the National Black Sisters' Conference can lead the organization and Black women religious into a new era of empowerment, visibility, and impact. Their leadership, vision, and commitment will be instrumental in reclaiming the voice and positioning of Black women religious and their Beloved Community.

This is also an exciting and pivotal time for the National Black Catholic Clergy as they reaffirm and revise their board following the passing of Father Norman Fischer and the conclusion of the joint conference marks an important transition for the organization. This change presents an opportunity for new leadership and direction to further the mission of the caucus and serve the needs of Black Catholic clergy members.

The revision of the board allows for a reevaluation of the caucus's goals, strategies, and initiatives, ensuring that they remain relevant and effective in supporting Black Catholic clergy and their communities. New leadership can bring innovative approaches to address challenges, foster collaboration, and promote the interests of Black Catholic clergy within the broader Catholic community.

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The re-affirmed officers for the National Black Catholic Clergy Caucus are as follows:

President: Rev. Kareem Smith

Vice-President: Vacant

Secretary: Dcn. Michael J. Taylor

Treasurer/Staff: Dcn. Larry Chatmon

Immediate Past President: Dcn. Melvin Tardy

At-Large Board Member: Rev. Robert Boxie, III

At-Large Board Member: Rev. Jeffery Ott, OP

At-Large Board Member: Bro. Herman Johnson, OP

At-Large Board Member: [Vacant]

Religious Brothers Representative: Bro. Ernest Miller, FSC

President, National Association of Black Catholic Deacons (NABCD):

Dcn. Joseph Connor

President, National Black Catholic Seminarian Association (NBCSA):

James Johnson IV



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The newly appointed and revised Board of Directors for both organizations comprises visionary leaders who are dedicated to advancing the individual and collective mission of the NBSC and NBCCC. As both organizations embark on this journey of transformation and renewal, they invite members of the Black Catholic community to join them in shaping a future where all voices are heard, valued, and embraced. Both organizations will work towards building a more inclusive and equitable Church that reflects the diversity and richness of the Black Catholic tradition.

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