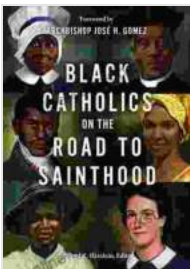


# Black Catholics on the Road to Sainthood: Exploring the Lives of Extraordinary African American Faith Leaders

The Catholic Church has a long and rich history of recognizing the sanctity of individuals who have lived lives of extraordinary faith and virtue. Among them are a growing number of Black Catholics who have made significant contributions to the Church and are now on the path to sainthood.



## Black Catholics on the Road to Sainthood

by Michael R. Heinlein

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 3179 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 107 pages  
Screen Reader : Supported



The journeys of these individuals are not only inspiring but also a testament to the power of faith and the profound impact that African Americans have had on the Catholic Church. Here are some of their stories:

## Venerable Pierre Toussaint



Born in Haiti in 1766, Pierre Toussaint was brought to New York City as a slave at the age of 20. Despite the challenges he faced, Toussaint remained a devout Catholic and became known for his generosity and service to the poor. He founded a school for children of color, provided food and shelter for the homeless, and cared for the sick during the yellow fever epidemic of 1798.

Toussaint died in 1853 and was declared Venerable by Pope John Paul II in 1996. His cause for canonization is still ongoing.

### **Venerable Henriette Delille**



Venerable Henriette Delille

Born in New Orleans in 1813, Henriette Delille was a free woman of color who dedicated her life to serving the Black community. In 1842, she founded the Sisters of the Holy Family, a religious order dedicated to educating and caring for the poor and marginalized. Delille died in 1862, and her cause for canonization is still ongoing.

## Venerable Augustus Tolton



Born into slavery in Missouri in 1854, Augustus Tolton faced numerous obstacles in his pursuit of the priesthood. Despite being rejected by several seminaries, he eventually found acceptance at the Pontifical College of Propaganda Fide in Rome. In 1886, Tolton became the first African American priest ordained in the United States.

Tolton served as a pastor in Illinois and Chicago, where he faced discrimination and prejudice. He died in 1897 and was declared Venerable by Pope John Paul II in 1990. His cause for canonization is still ongoing.

### **Servant of God Thea Bowman**



Servant of God Thea Bowman

Born in Mississippi in 1937, Thea Bowman was a Franciscan Sister who dedicated her life to promoting racial justice and inculturation. She was

known for her powerful storytelling and her ability to connect with people from all walks of life. Bowman died in 1990, and her cause for canonization is still ongoing.

### **Servant of God Father Patrick Peyton**

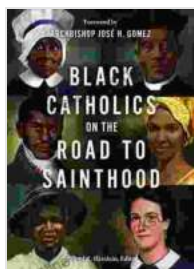


Born in Ireland in 1909, Father Patrick Peyton was a priest who founded the Family Rosary Crusade, a movement dedicated to promoting the rosary

as a means of strengthening families. He was known for his devotion to the Blessed Mother and his tireless efforts to spread the message of peace and love.

Peyton died in 1992, and his cause for canonization is still ongoing.

The stories of these Black Catholics on the road to sainthood are a reminder of the power of faith and the importance of serving others. Their lives are an inspiration to us all and a testament to the diversity and richness of the Catholic Church. As we continue to pray for their canonization, let us also strive to live lives of faith, hope, and love, following in their footsteps.



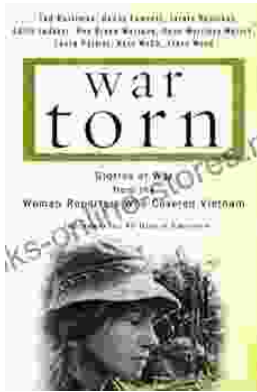
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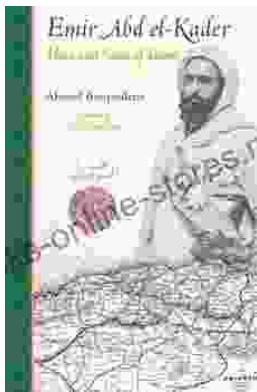
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