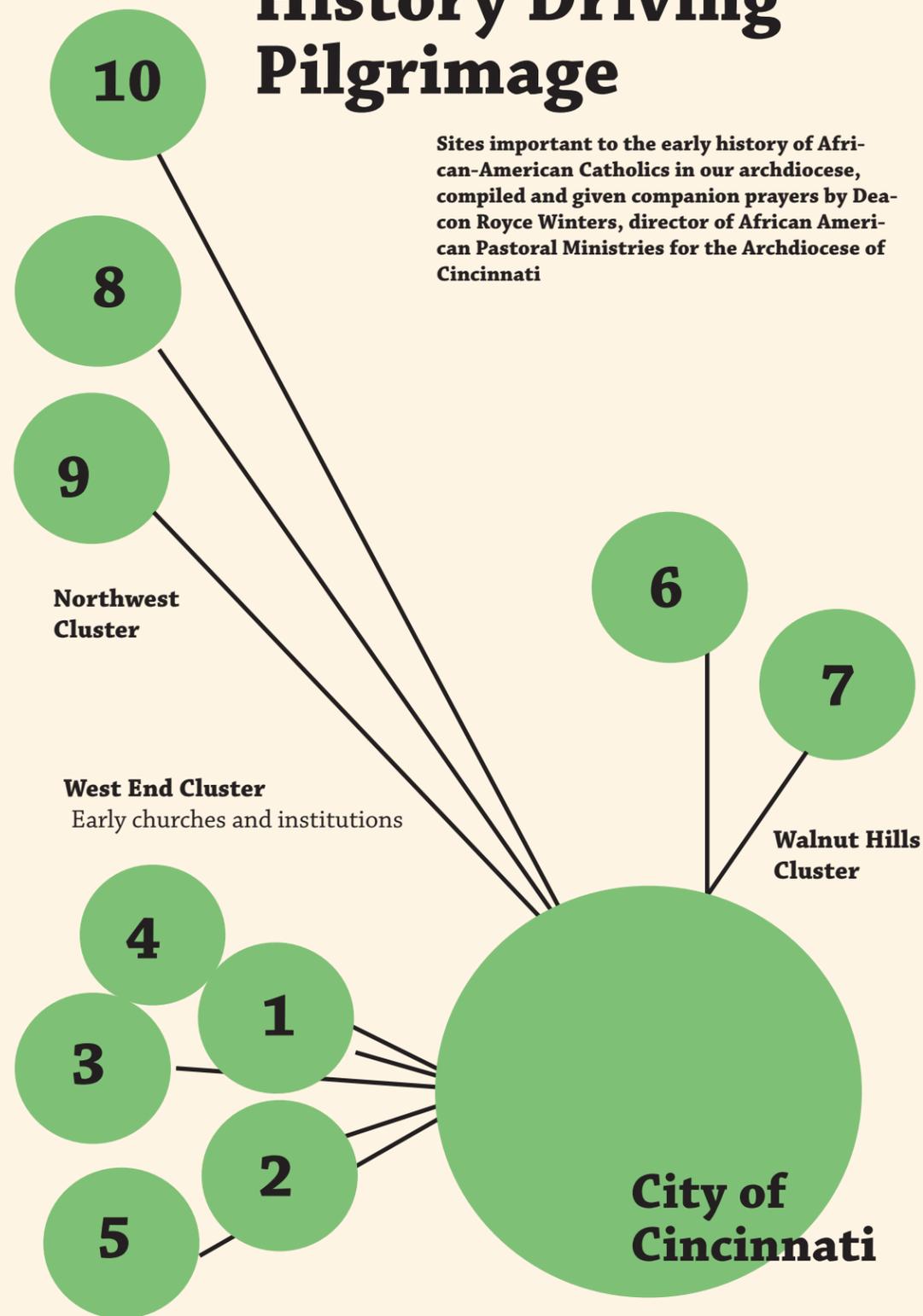




Cincinnati Black Catholic History Driving Pilgrimage

Sites important to the early history of African-American Catholics in our archdiocese, compiled and given companion prayers by Deacon Royce Winters, director of African American Pastoral Ministries for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati



Cincinnati Black Catholic History Driving Pilgrimage Sites and Prayers

The difference between a tour and a pilgrimage is prayer, said Deacon Royce Winters, Director of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati's Office of African-American Ministries, who chose the sites on this special archdiocesan pilgrimage created for National Black Catholic History Month. He chose a saint and feast day symbolic of each site, and for a prayer he suggested the collect for that feast day. Each collect, a short prayer said by the priest at Mass before the readings, asks God to grant one specific thing inspired by the saint of the day (or, on a Marian feast day, Our Lady) to help lead us to salvation.

In the midst of the changes of this world, may his prayers keep us free from sin and help us on our way toward you. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

West End Cluster: first parishes and institutions

1. St. Joseph Catholic Church
745 Ezzard Charles Drive

Collect – Feast of St Joseph, March 19
Grant, we pray, almighty God, that by Saint Joseph's intercession your Church may constantly watch over the unfolding of the mysteries of human salvation, whose beginnings you entrusted to his faithful care. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

2. St Ann Church (site)
John Street, between Richmond and Court; the third exclusively African-American parish in the United States and the first in Cincinnati

Collect – Sts. Joachim and Anne, July 26
O Lord, God of our Fathers, who bestowed on Saints Joachim and Anne this grace, that of them should be born the Mother of your incarnate Son, grant, through the prayers of both, that we may attain the salvation you have promised to your people. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

3. Saint Henry Church (site)
Flint and Dalton Streets

Collect – Feast of St. Henry, July 13
Lord, you filled St. Henry with your love and raised him from the cares of an earthly kingdom to eternal happiness in heaven.

4. Saint Mary's Catholic Hospital (site)
Linn Street (near Washburn School)

Collect – St. Mary, Feast Day Sept. 8
Impart to your servants, we pray, O Lord, the gift of heavenly grace, that the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin may bring deeper peace to those for whom the birth of her Son was the dawning of salvation. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

5. St. Martin de Porres High School (site)
Court and Mound Streets

Collect – Feast of St. Martin de Porres, Nov. 3
O God, who led Saint Martin de Porres by the path of humility to heavenly glory, grant that we may so follow his radiant example in this life as to merit to be exalted with him in heaven. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Walnut Hills Cluster: moving north and east

6. Father Clarence Joseph Rivers home
17 Erkenbrecker Avenue; the First African American ordained to the priesthood in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati

Collect – The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Nov. 21 [date of his death in 2004]
As we venerate the glorious memory of the most holy Virgin Mary, grant, we pray, O Lord, through her intercession, that we, too, may merit to receive from the fullness of your grace. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.