



ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS

Office of Communications and Planning

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ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS HOSTS SOCIAL JUSTICE CONFERENCE

WHAT: Inaugural Sr. Antona Ebo Social Justice Conference

WHEN: Saturday, September 30, 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.

WHERE: Cardinal Rigali Center (20 Archbishop May Dr., St. Louis, MO 63119)

WHO: Hosted by offices and agencies of the Archdiocese of St. Louis; keynote speaker, Rev. Starsky Wilson

ST. LOUIS – The Archdiocese of St. Louis will host the inaugural Sr. Antona Ebo Social Justice Conference on Saturday, September 30, at the Cardinal Rigali Center (20 Archbishop May Dr., St. Louis, 63119). The conference will feature keynote speaker Rev. Starsky Wilson, former co-chair of the Ferguson commission, president and CEO of the Deaconess Foundation, and pastor of St. John's Church (The Beloved Community).

"Sr. Ebo was thrilled when we shared with her the concept of this conference," said Marie Kenyon, director of the Peace & Justice Commission of the Archdiocese of St. Louis. "She personally suggested the theme of 'Pray. Listen. Testify.' We are excited to honor her in this way and to continue her legacy of working for justice in the context of our faith."

The conference will also feature workshops on the death penalty, human trafficking, caring for God's creation, immigration, the school-to-prison pipeline, health and mental health, and poverty.

The conference is sponsored by the Peace & Justice Commission, Catholic Charities of St. Louis, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Catholic Youth Apostolate, St Charles Lwanga Center, the Office of Laity and Family Life, Office of Hispanic Ministry, Office of Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs, and the Catholic Education Office.

Sr. Ebo was one of the first African-American women to join what was then the Sisters of St. Mary, now the Franciscan Sisters of Mary. She and more than 50 St. Louisans flew to Selma, Alabama, three days after the infamous "Bloody Sunday" when civil rights marchers were attacked on the Edmund Pettus Bridge. Fifty years later the courageous actions of Sr. Ebo have taken on new significance for the St. Louis area.

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