

in a

# Word™

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**The King of Glory comes**

(Photo by Fr. James Pawlicki, SVD)



**February 2024**

## **Dr. Ansel Augustine appointed Assistant Director of African American Affairs by the USCCB Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church**

Washington, D.C.—Ansel Joseph Augustine, D.Min., has been appointed Assistant Director of the Secretariat of Cultural Diversity in the Church at the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. In this capacity, Dr. Augustine will staff the Bishops’ Subcommittee on African American Affairs and assist the Secretariat’s efforts to promote intercultural competence in ministry and the pastoral care of many diverse Catholic communities. He will join the Bishop’s Conference starting April 2, 2024.



Up until now, Dr. Augustine has been the Director of the Office of Black Catholic Ministries for the Archdiocese of New Orleans, where previously he served also as the Associate Director/Coordinator of Black Youth & Young Adult Ministry for the CYO Youth & Young Adult Ministry Office. He also is the former Executive Director of Cultural Diversity and Outreach for the Archdiocese of Washington.

Dr. Augustine serves on the Board of Trustees of St. Michael's College (Burlington, Vermont). He is also on the Faculty of the Institute for Black Catholic Studies at Xavier University of Louisiana, Graduate Theological Foundation, and Loyola University New Orleans’ Institute for Ministry. Dr. Augustine has also served as a campus minister at Xavier University of Louisiana, Loyola University New Orleans, and St. John’s University in Queens, NY. Dr. Augustine has served on the board of directors for the National Catholic Young Adult Ministry Association (NCYAMA) and the National Federation of Catholic Youth Ministry (NFCYM).

He began his career in ministry over 25 years ago when he became the youth minister at his home parish of St. Peter Claver in the Treme area of New Orleans, which he helped to rebuild following hurricane Katrina. He has presented workshops and keynotes around the country and has written various pieces related to ministry including *The African American Catholic Youth Bible* and, the award-winning book, *Leveling the Praying Field: Can the Church we Love, Love us Back?* Dr. Augustine is also an Emmy-nominated producer for the documentary “Black Faith Matters.” He has also worked in prison ministry for over 25 years. He is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., the Knights of Columbus, the Knights of Peter Claver, and the Wild Tchoupitoulas (Black Masking) Mardi Gras Indians. He is also an Associate Member of the Sisters of the Holy Family in New Orleans, LA.

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## in a word or two



On the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning, while it was still dark, and saw the stone removed from the tomb.

So she ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, “They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don’t know where they put him.” So Peter and the other disciple went out and came to the tomb.

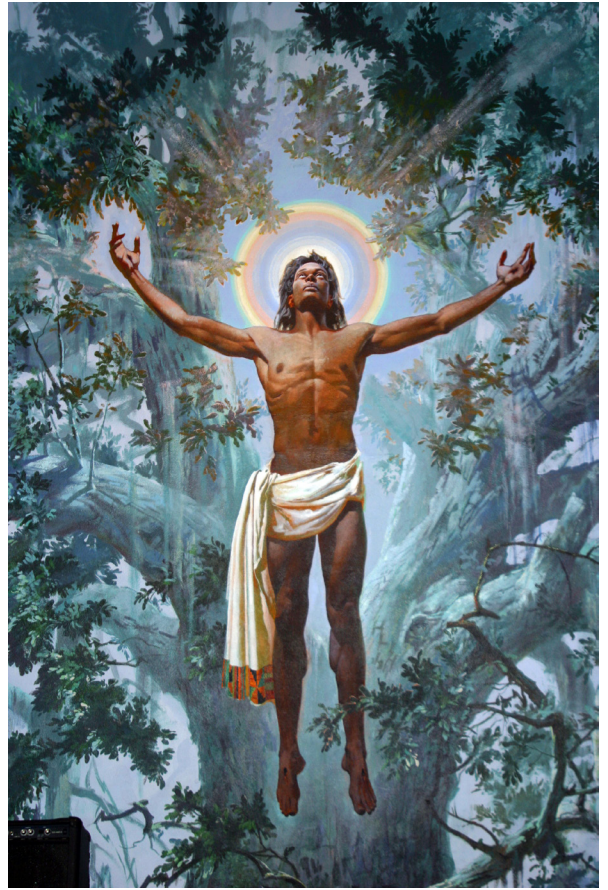
They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and arrived at the tomb first; he bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did not go in.

When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place.

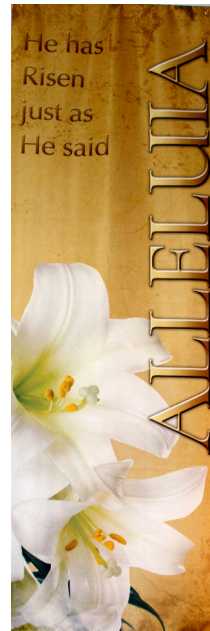
Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed.

For they did not yet understand the Scripture that he had to rise from the dead.

John 20:1-9



## Alleluia Christ is risen!



Divine Word Missionaries is an international missionary community of over 7,000 brothers and priests. In 1905 the SVDs began working among African Americans in the Southern United States. Today, Divine Word Missionaries work in over 35 parishes in Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas, Florida and Arkansas.

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