



Tufts

UNIVERSITY CHAPLAINCY

E-NEWS 11.16.22



Tufts Memorial Steps, Medford Campus

A Reflection from your Catholic Chaplain

“Sometimes people think they have to do big things in order to make change. But if each one would light a candle we’d have a tremendous light.” - Sister Thea Bowman

November is Black Catholic History Month, a time to lift up and celebrate the incredible contribution, ministry, and witness of Black Catholics, and specifically African Americans, like Sister Thea Bowman, quoted above.

The designation of this month was made official in 1990 in the United States by the National Black Clergy Caucus. This year, Black Catholic History Month feels especially powerful. In May, Professor Shannen Dee Williams published the first ever history of Black Catholic nuns. This comprehensive text, *Subversive Habits: Black Catholic Nuns in the Long African American Freedom Struggle*, tells the stories of Black sisters—those who joined white religious communities, those who were rejected and formed their own communities, and all tirelessly working for justice locally, nationally – in religious and secular contexts.

Saints are human beings whose stories serve as inspiration, guiding us, showing us how to be faithful, how to serve others and what it means to be friends with God. At the moment, none of the 10,000 official saints in the Catholic Church are African American. To address this painful and unjust reality, a

movement has formed to advocate to Pope Francis, head of the Catholic Church, on behalf of six African Americans more than worthy of official sainthood: Mother Mary Lange, Sr. Thea Bowman, Julia Greeley, Pierre Toussaint, Fr. Augustus Tolton, and Mother Henriette Delille. Each of these heroes devoted their lives to serving God through serving others. Their stories deserve to be amplified so that we may truly understand and celebrate all they brought into this world.

In just a few weeks, we will have the opportunity to dwell in the light of one of these heroes, Sr. Thea Bowman, when we screen the much-anticipated documentary that follows her life and ministry. She was a musician, scholar, teacher, and an integral part of producing an African-American Catholic Hymnal; she is currently being considered for sainthood in the Catholic Church, and the film tells her compelling story. You can find event information below – all are welcome.

As you head into this new week, I invite you to consider who—whether living or deceased—inspires you? Whose stories show you a way forward? How do stay close to examples of lives lived with compassion, justice, and commitment?

Warmly,
Lynn Cooper
Catholic Chaplain and Associate Director of the University Chaplaincy

Giving Tuesday



Giving Tuesday 2022: Support the CAFE Pre-Orientation Program

On November 29, join Tufts University alumni, friends, faculty, staff, and students in supporting the impactful programs and communities of the University Chaplaincy! Especially this year's special program focus: CAFE, our award-winning Pre-Orientation Program.

CAFE is a signature program for the University Chaplaincy. Led by two student co-coordinators and supported by University Chaplaincy staff and chaplains, this 4-day program embodies Tufts at its best. It centers and celebrates students' diverse identities and experiences and creates brave spaces for dialogue and reflection about religion and spirituality, practices of well-being and resilience, and action for justice and inclusion on campus and in the world.

CAFE is a key experience that seeds student leadership and meaningful participation in campus life. Peer Leaders receive in-depth training that contributes to their leadership across our University Chaplaincy communities and the wider Tufts community. Many first-year participants go on to engage in a wide range of

University Chaplaincy communities, programs and gatherings, including the Interfaith Ambassador Program, Interfaith Student Council, and leadership on e-boards.

While a portion of the funding for this program comes from Pre-Orientation registration fees, the majority of the costs are covered by the University Chaplaincy budget. Please join us on Giving Tuesday with a special donation to CAFE!

Give to CAFE this year

Religious and Philosophical Programs

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True Colors November meeting

Chosen + Interfaith Family

Join True Colors for a discussion about chosen family, and how we find chosen family through queer + faith communities. We will be enjoying crafts, snacks, and music!

**November 16th
Wednesday, 7pm
LGBT Center**

LGBT CENTER | TUFTS

True Colors: Chosen + Interfaith Family
Wednesday November 16 at 7:00 p.m., LGBT Center

Come join True Colors, the LGBT Center and University Chaplaincy's queer interfaith student group, for their November meeting! As the winter holidays draw near, we will be discussing what family can mean to us and how we can find chosen families through queer and faith communities. There will also be crafts, sensory grounding materials, and pizza. All queer students, with and without religious/faith/philosophical identities, are welcome. [Please RSVP here.](#)

Join the Tufts LGBT Center in
attending the **Trans Day of
Remembrance** Vigil in Boston

Sunday, Nov. 20

Leave campus together at 12:30pm

RSVP at bit.ly/3GdQViW



Trans Day of Remembrance Vigil in Boston

Sunday, November 20, leave campus together from the LGBT Center at 12:30 p.m.

Each year, local community organizations such as Trans Resistance Massachusetts and Trans Emergency Fund of Massachusetts host a vigil and fundraiser in recognition of Trans Day of Remembrance. This year, the LGBT Center would like to encourage Tufts students, staff, and faculty of ALL genders and orientations to join us in honoring the lives of trans folks lost to violence this year, and to come together in a powerful display of community and love.

Plan to arrive at the LGBT Center around 12:00 p.m. for lunch provided by the LGBT Center. We will be leaving campus at 12:40 p.m. to Jamaica Plain via the T (train fare will be provided). Please note that we will be walking 10-15 minutes from the T to the location of the event. If this poses a barrier for you, please reach out to LGBT Center Associate Director [joel Gutierrez](#)

The event is scheduled from 2:00 p.m.- 6:00 p.m., during which time there will be performances, community connection, and a vigil. The last hour or two is typically time for folks to connect and be in community, so there is always an option to leave earlier. [Please RSVP here](#), and reach out to [joel Gutierrez](#) with any questions.

Film screening and Dinner conversation

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2 5:30-7PM

ALUMNI LOUNGE



IN CELEBRATION OF BLACK CATHOLIC HISTORY MONTH



University Chaplaincy
Catholic Chaplaincy



Screening and Dinner Conversation: *Going Home Like A Shooting Star*

Friday, December 2, 5:30 p.m., Alumnae Hall

Join us for our celebration of the life, work and ministry of Sr. Thea Bowman. Sr. Bowman, who died in 1990, is currently being considered for sainthood in the Catholic Church, and the film tells her story. The Catholic Chaplaincy and the Africana Center are thrilled to be able to screen this much anticipated documentary, which just came out last month. The film (56 minutes) will be accompanied by dinner and small group conversation. All are welcome and as always, come as you are.

Partner Programs



Fall Break Cultural Bash

Friday, November 18, 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., Science and Engineering Complex Atrium

Join the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Community Fellows for Fall Break Cultural Bash to build community and share in cultural cuisine among students who will be on campus during the fall break. Both graduate and undergraduate students are welcome. You can [RSVP here](https://go.tufts.edu/fallbreakculturalbash). Feel free to bring cans for our canned food drive and/or bring food/drink to be entered into a raffle.



Cherish Chinatown Challenge

The month of November

This November, Tufts' Cherish Chinatown has organized a challenge for the university community. The goal is to support small businesses in Boston's Chinatown, the vibrant and diverse home of our Health Sciences Campus. Like all Chinatowns across the US, Boston's Chinatown was negatively impacted by the combined effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and anti-Asian sentiment. Many Asian-owned restaurants were forced to close their doors permanently. As neighbors and friends of Chinatown, we want to show up for our neighborhood. To this end, we are hosting a fun and delicious month-long event: the Cherish Chinatown Challenge.

To join, Tufts University students, faculty, and staff members order from local Chinatown restaurants during the month of November. You can dine-in or place an order for take-out/delivery. For every purchase you make at a small business in Chinatown, you will be eligible for a raffle entry. [To enter the raffle, complete this short form](#) each time you make a purchase. There is no limit to how many times you may enter, as long as you are logging new purchases. Five winners will be drawn each Monday and receive \$25 gift cards to local restaurants. Winners will be notified via email to claim their prize. To sweeten the challenge, all participants will be automatically eligible for the grand prize, a \$200 meal (takeout or in-person) for you and friends from a restaurant of choice in Boston's Chinatown.

For inspiration, check out [We Love Boston Chinatown](#) or [this list of local restaurants](#) compiled by Tufts Dental students. You can reach out to [Tufts community relations](#) with any questions. Find [more information here](#).

Resources, Scholarships, and Opportunities

TUFTS FOOD RESOURCES

Need Help with Meals?

Learn about:

- Swipe It Forward
- Free Food e-list
- Support During Academic Breaks
- Food Emergency Fund for International Students
- Graduate Student Meal Tickets
- Recipes
- and Much More



Information:

VISIT

[HTTPS://GO.TUFTS.EDU/MEALS](https://go.tufts.edu/meals)

Resources for Finding Meals at Tufts

If you are a Tufts student needing aid with food security, please [find more on the Student Life website about resources for ensuring your access to food](#). You can also find more information about the Food Solutions Coalition, which is a group of students, faculty, and staff who are actively working to improve food access for students. You are welcome to reach out to any member of the coalition with suggestions, questions, and ideas (find their contact information on the page linked above).

Rwanda Fellowship

Including an Ex-college class*,
trip to Rwanda and more.

Tuesdays 6:30 pm - 9:00pm

The Rwanda Fellowship program offers an in-depth analysis of Rwandan history, culture, genocide, and reconstruction as impacted by external colonial powers and internal political and ethnic dynamics.

*Enrollment by application

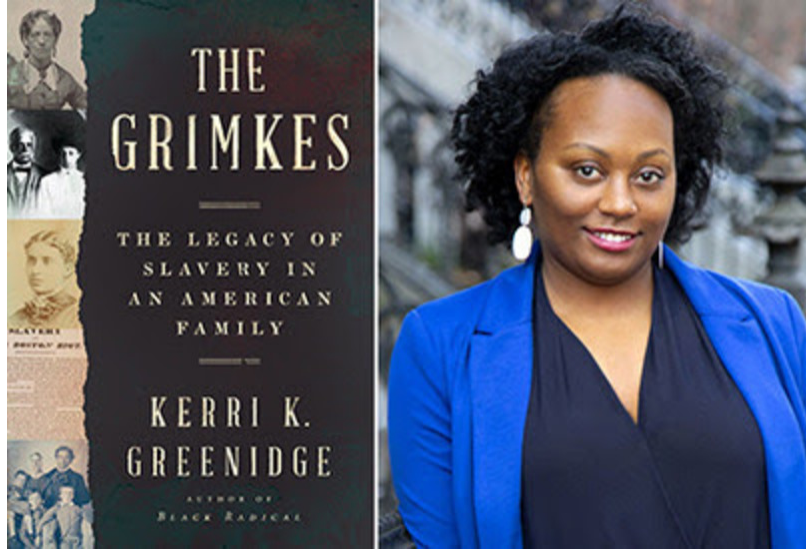


Enroll in the 2022 Rwanda Fellowship

Applications due by Wednesday, November 23, 2022 11:59 p.m. ET

The Rwanda Fellowship program offers an in-depth analysis of Rwandan history, culture, genocide, and reconstruction as impacted by external colonial powers and internal political and ethnic dynamics. Participants will learn from a accomplished array of speakers, including first hand survivors and renowned researchers of the Rwandan genocide, through a community-focused ex-college class that is 2 SHUs and will meet in person on Tuesdays 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

The Fellowship includes a highly subsidized, ten day trip to Rwanda where we plan on visiting memorials and strengthening our bonds with the Agahozo-Shalom Youth Village. We encourage all students of all backgrounds and majors to join for a beneficial experience and to be part of an amazing cohort. If you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to reach out to student coordinators [Soliman Aboutaam](#) and [Timothy Chou](#). This program is hosted by Tufts Hillel, and [you can find more information here](#).



The Grimkes: The Legacy of Slavery in an American Family

Thursday, December 1, 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., Longfellow House, 105 Brattle Street, Cambridge

This program is part of the Longfellow House Washington's Headquarters National Historic Site's Fall Lecture Series. Dr. Kerri Greenidge will discuss her newly released book *The Grimkes: The Legacy of Slavery in an American Family*, cited by the New York Times as one of "15 Works of Nonfiction to Read This Fall." Sarah and Angelina Grimke -- the Grimke sisters -- are revered figures in American history, famous for rejecting their privileged lives on a plantation in South Carolina to become firebrand activists in the North. Yet, retellings of their epic story have long obscured their Black relatives. In *The Grimkes*, award-winning historian Kerri Greenidge presents a parallel corrective narrative, shifting the focus from the white abolitionist sisters to the Black Grimkes and deepening our understanding of the long struggle for racial and gender equality.

Dr. Greenidge is the Andrew W. Mellon Assistant Professorship of Race, Colonialism, and Diaspora at Tufts University, where she also serves as track director for American Studies and as co-director of the African American Trail Project. Copies of her book will be available for purchase at the event. Admission to this in-person program is free, but [registration is required](#).

Upcoming Religious Celebrations and Observances

These events are drawn from the multifaith calendar maintained by the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life at Harvard Divinity School. To see more upcoming religious holidays and festivals, please follow the link to the [Harvard Divinity School calendar](#).

Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji

Thu., Nov. 24, 2022

Tradition: Sikhism

This day commemorates the martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji (1621-1675), the ninth of the Ten Sikh Gurus. He is remembered not only for his defense of the Sikh faith, but also of Hinduism and of religious liberty.

Day of the Covenant

Fri., Nov. 25, 2022

Tradition: Baha'i

Celebrates the anniversary of the appointment of 'Abdu'l-Baha, the son of Baha'u'llah, as the Center of the Covenant. Work is not suspended on this day. Begins at sundown.

Advent

Sun., Nov. 27 – Fri., Dec. 23, 2022

Tradition: Christianity-Protestant, Christianity-Roman Catholic

Period of four weeks in which Christians prepare for Christmas and meditate on the end of all time. In Western churches, the first Sunday of Advent marks the beginning of the Christian liturgical year.

Ascension of 'Abdu'l-Baha

Sun., Nov. 27, 2022

Tradition: Baha'i

Commemorates 'Abdu'l-Baha's death. Begins at sundown.

Support the University Chaplaincy

Supporting dynamic programs at Tufts University in religious, spiritual, ethical, and cultural life is easy and vital to our work. To donate, please click on the button below. Thank you for your generosity.

Give Today

ABOUT US

The University Chaplaincy is a dynamic hub supporting religious, spiritual, ethical, and cultural life for all members of the Tufts community. We provide pastoral care, support religious and philosophical communities, educate about spiritual and ethical issues in society and the world, and promote multifaith engagement.

Tufts University Chaplaincy | Goddard Chapel, 3 The Green | Medford, MA 02155 US
chaplaincy.tufts.edu | chaplaincy@tufts.edu | 617.627.3427



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