

Introducing... the Members of the Executive Board!

Sister Eunice Marie Timoney ***Vice President of the Association***

I welcome the opportunity to be of service to the Association again. Currently I serve as DRE at SS. Philip and James Parish. My responsibilities as DRE include a four year old through level 8 weekly program, the Sacramental program, a Vacation Bible School experience, and a released time program, coordinated with neighboring parishes, for parish students of public schools. I also have the good fortune of being Religion coordinator for the parish elementary school, and one of the most precious of all duties, the coordinator of the RCIA process.

Prior to coming to SS. Philip and James Parish I served on the Administration of y Congregation and during eleven years of that time was able to teach in the high school Religious education Program at St. Isaac Jogues Parish.

I also taught at Villa Maria Academy High School, and elementary schools in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia and Allentown Diocese. Finally, but perhaps the most precious assignment of all, I assisted in the formation of our very youngest Congregational members.

The network of peers the Association provides has been a tremendous support to my work. I urge you to be active at your vicariate level and to participate in the programs provided for professional and spiritual enrichment.

Ms Amelia Sheen ***Representative for the specifically designated ministry*** ***of the African-American Catholic Community***

My name is Amelia Sheen and I am the Director of Religious Education at Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament in West Philadelphia. I live with my sister and my mom in University City. My family is always the top priority in my life, and I love all different kinds of music.

From the time I was in the 6th grade, I wanted to be a teacher and all my life I've loved music. I graduated from Our Lady of Victory Grade School and West Catholic Girls' High School. I continued my education at Chestnut Hill College where I received a Bachelor of Science in Music Education in 1985.

My first teaching experience was at Our Mother of Sorrows School in West Philadelphia, where I taught second grade, then the fourth grade, and also used my gift of music.

After Our Mother of Sorrows, I taught music at my parish school of Our Lady of Victory, which is also in West Philadelphia. Over the years, I also worked at Victory as the school librarian and as the Director of the After Care Program. My next opportunity to teach

was at St Philip Neri School in Lafayette Hill where I taught music appreciation and helped with the children's liturgies and school shows.

In 2000, Our Lady of Victory was twinned with Our Lady of the Rosary parish. The DRE at Victory passed away after suffering from many health issues and the new pastor called me in to interview for the job. I was the Coordinator of Religious Education at Victory and when we merged and became a new church, Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament, I continued in this position.

I attended St Charles Seminary and completed the MAAC certificate program. This year I received my Masters in Sacred Scripture and with it came the new title of Director of Religious Education. Along with all the religious education in the parish, I also oversee our food pantry which helps many people in West Philadelphia.

As I work with other DREs in the West Philadelphia area, I hope to help them this year by being the Community Representative for African-American DREs. We meet on the second Tuesday of each month at the St Peter Claver Center & Church, a historic site for the African-American community of Philadelphia. At our meetings we share ideas and encourage each other to continue being strong in our ministries.

Our first meeting will be on September 9th and all who are interested in what is happening in the African-American Catholic community are welcome!

Brian Jefferes
Chester County Representative

I was born March 12, 1984 in West Chester, PA. I grew up in Saints Simon and Jude Parish (which still serves as my home parish) in West Chester where I also attended elementary school. I later attended Bishop Shanahan High School where I was the first class to complete 4 years in the new facilities in Downingtown in 2002. After Shanahan, I went on to attend The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC and graduated in 2006 with a B.A. in Theology and Religious Studies with a Certificate in Pastoral Ministry. I am currently working on my Master's degree at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary. Something that I am very proud of is I obtained the rank of Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts of America back in 2001.

I am currently the CRE at Saint Gabriel of the Sorrowful Mother in Avondale where I have been employed for the past 2 years under the pastor of Fr. Richard Maisano. Many ask why I choose this ministry at such a young age. It was during my junior year at Shanahan, that my theology teacher, Mr. Joseph Aquilante, had so much passion for teaching the faith that I decided I wanted to do the same thing. I get the same satisfaction coming to work every day. It is a real privilege now to serve Chester County as their representative to the Executive Board of the PD/CARE. I look forward to meeting many more of you in the other Vicariates. I invite all C/DRE's in Chester County to our first formal meeting on Thursday, October 16, 2008 at St. Peter's Church in West Brandywine.