

NEGRO HEADS CATHOLIC HIGH

Go to the Church of your choice.

Appreciate our freedom of religion
Renew your strength, courage and faith



Church Directory

NOTICE

The VOICE is attempting to compile a complete and accurate Church Directory. Please inform us if your church is not included below, or listed incorrectly. All church news submitted for publication must include sender's signature, address and telephone number.

BAPTIST

PLEASANT GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. J. L. Kemp, 642-5708
1189 Hassell St., Vegas Hts.

GREATER FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. P. S. Walker, 384-1248
Balzar St., Vegas Hts.

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. M. Carroll
712 W. Owens Ave., Las Vegas

ST. JAMES BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. J. L. Simmons, 382-2748
311 Madison Ave., Las Vegas

SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. V. C. L. Coleman, 384-3131
1209 N. "E" St., Las Vegas

PILGRIM REST BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. E. C. Cline, 382-7263
101 N. "A" St., Las Vegas

VICTORY BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. A. J. Thompson, 642-4001.
1305 N. "E" St., Las Vegas

EVERGREEN BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. A. B. Carr
723 N. "B" St., Las Vegas

THE 35TH NEGRO to be ordained a Catholic priest in the United States is believed to be the first of his race to become a Catholic high school principal in this country.

Father Joseph Francis, 40, is principal of the new million and a half dollar Verbum Dei High on South Central Ave. in Los Angeles. Surrounded by lumber yards, cabinet shops and a tire factory, Verbum Dei is the first Catholic high school to be constructed in a predominantly Negro neighborhood in the Southern California metropolis.

For Father Francis, it's a dream come true, according to a feature article by Charles Hillinger in the Los Angeles Times.

The school, designed to accommodate 640 freshmen through senior boys with emphasis placed on college preparatory courses, has no shops, offers no vocational courses.

In this its beginning year 140 freshmen and sophomores are enrolled.

"Students, parents and residents of the area are as enthusiastic as I am with this wonderful place," the handsome priest declared.

"Our rate of absenteeism is one of the lowest in the city."

Father Francis mentioned the booster club that came into being during the first few weeks of school.

"PEOPLE WHO LIVE in the neighborhood—several non-Catholic and many who do not have children—came forward, organized the club and devote a great deal of their time doing anything they can."

Father Francis, who during his career as an educator coached high school baseball, basketball and football, eagerly looks forward to future Verbum Dei teams.

"I'm certain we're going to give the Catholic League a run for its money," he insists.

Verbum Dei—which translated from Latin means word of God, is an integrated school with 46% of its students non Negro.

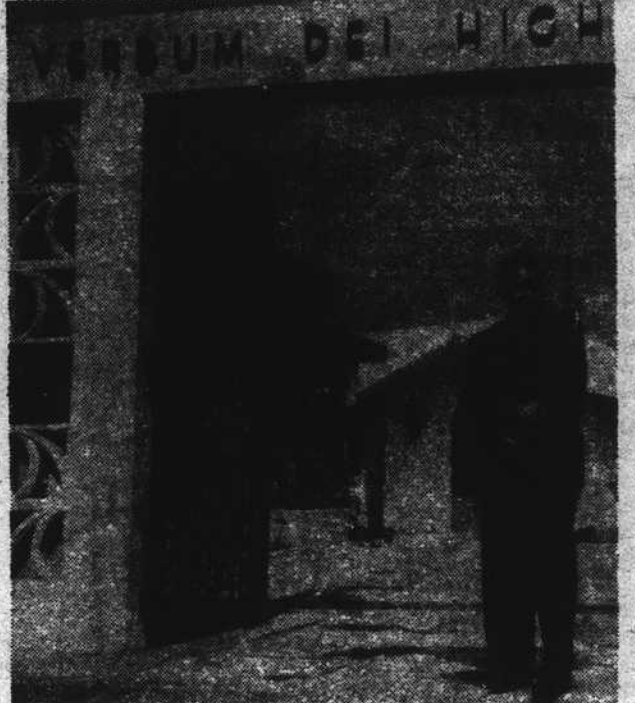
On father Francis' staff are seven other Divine Word Missionaries priests—three of whom are Negro.

The popular principal was born in Lafayette, La. He attended parochial school in his home town and entered the Seminary of the Divine Word Fathers in Bay St. Louis, Miss. in 1936.

HE DID HIS COLLEGE WORK at St. Mary's Seminary, Techny, Ill. and returned to Bay St. Louis to be ordained in 1950. Father Francis received his MA from Catholic University of America, Washington, D. C.

The priest's father is a barber in Lafayette. "To this day, dad has never owned a car. Instead, he has spent what spare money he had making sure his children made it through college."

Father Francis' brother is an attorney and dean of Xavier University in New Orleans. He has a sister who is a teacher and two other sisters went through school but are now housewives.



PROUD PADRE--Rev. Joseph Francis, first Negro priest to be named principal of Catholic high school in nation, stands at entrance of new \$1.5 million Verbum Dei High at 11100 S. Central Ave., Los Angeles

Of the 140 Negro priests in this country, Father Francis said 30 are members of his order and 20 others had some of their training at the Mississippi seminary.

He said there has been a big increase in interest to study for the priesthood by young Negro boys in recent years.

"It is really quite incredible that in 1950 I was the 35th Negro to be ordained in this country but today there are 140 of us," he observed.

Of the roughly 20 million Negroes in the United States, 300,000 are members of the Catholic faith.

Despite bitter opposition from a number of Southern clerics, the Methodist General Conference has approved a measure to provide relief funds for ministers and laymen suffering economic deprivation due to racial problems.

Advanced by Dr. K. Morgan Edwards of the Southern California School of Theology, Claremont, the program was opposed by Dean William Cannon

of Atlanta's Candler School of Theology, who argued that it might be misunderstood.

During debate on the measure, layman Edwin Jones, Sr., Charlotte, N. C., suggested that the Council of Bishops set aside one Sunday annually to collect funds "for the relief of those charged with civil disobedience." The suggestion was not approved.

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. I. W. Wilson, 382-2632
400 Adams Ave., Las Vegas

NEW JERUSALEM BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. F. N. Addison
"D" & Jefferson Sts., Las Vegas

GREAT EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. C. L. Alexander
721 N. "C" St., Las Vegas

METHODIST

ZION METHODIST CHURCH
Rev. M. D. Bennett, 382-9900
911 N. "G" St., Las Vegas

CATHOLIC

ST. JAMES CATHOLIC CHURCH
Magr. W. J. Devlin, 382-9953
"H" & Morgan Sts., Las Vegas

Sunday Mass - 9, 11 am, 7:30 pm
Wednesday Mass - - - - - 7:30 am
Holy Days M. - 9:30 am, 7:30 pm
Confessions
Saturday--4, 4:30, 7:30, 8 pm

CHURCH of GOD in CHRIST

UPPER ROOM C. of G. in C.
Bishop C. C. Carr, 382-1541
1117 N. "F" St., Las Vegas

POWERHOUSE C. of G. in C.
Supt. J. W. Logan, 382-6187
1216 Adams Ave., Las Vegas

LIGHTHOUSE C. of G. in C.
Eld. Willie Rawls, 384-5539
E. Sahara Ave., Fourmyle

PRAYER HOUSE C. of G. in C.
Eld. W. M. Shaw, 382-1743
Blankenship St., Vegas Hts.

MOST HIGH C. of G. in C.
Eld. J. Washington, 642-5675
Henderson

PROGRESSIVE C. of G. in C.
Eld. Jos. Prudhomme, 642-5556
1155 Lawry Ave., Vegas Hts.

(All Churches of God in Christ)

Tuesday 8 pm - - - - - Bible Band
Wednesday 8 pm - - - - - *Young People
Friday 8 pm - - - - - Consecration
Sunday 10 am - - - - - Sunday School
Sunday 12 m - - - - - Morning School
Sunday 6:30 pm - - - - - YPW
Sunday 8 pm - - - - - Evening Worship
*Progressive - - - - - Inspirational