

2016 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION



VENERABLE

PIERRE TOUSSAINT

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Pierre Toussaint Scholarship Fund (PTSF) and Program was established in 1983 and administered by the Archdiocese of New York, Office of Black Ministry. PTSF has provided scholarships to graduating high school seniors of diverse backgrounds from public, private and parochial schools throughout the Archdiocese of New York, to assist them with the educational fees and expenses associated with their college studies.

Students selected into the PTSF are chosen based on their strong academic record, their active participation with their parish and school communities, and their demonstration of good character and sound leadership ability. Scholarship awards are renewable for up to 3 consecutive years, based upon their meeting certain academic and service requirements. PTSF also provides the scholars with ongoing mentorship and advisement: spiritually, professionally and personally.

To obtain more information regarding and /or to support the Pierre Toussaint Scholarship Fund contact the office at 646-794-2681 or via email at obm@archny.org.

2016 VENERABLE PIERRE TOUSSAINT SCHOLARSHIP

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for a 2016 Venerable Pierre Toussaint Scholarship Award, an applicant must:

- A. Be a member of a Roman Catholic Archdiocesan parish, active in parish/community affairs and submit a **letter of recommendation** from his/her Pastor or Parish priest;
- B. Be a graduating senior from a Catholic, private or public high school in the Archdiocese (during the 2015-16 school year);
- C. Show high academic achievement/promise, supported by a **transcript and letter of recommendation** from a teacher and/or guidance counselor;
- D. Submit a 2016 Pierre Toussaint **Scholarship Application Form**, by the required deadline. (Application form may be obtained by contacting the Office of Black Ministry at (646) 794-2681 or by visiting the website www.obmny.org.);
- E. Submit an essay (typed) of approximately 300-500 words on one of three topics that are listed on the application, and demonstrating a basic knowledge of the life of **Venerable Pierre Toussaint**. (Please note that Pierre Toussaint IS NOT the same person as Toussaint L'Ouverture. Applicants who confuse this fact in their essays may have their essays deemed unacceptable.);
- F. Demonstrate good character and leadership abilities, both in school and in the community;
- G. Be available for a personal interview during the selection process should such an interview be deemed necessary by the committee.

The completed application form, together with transcript, letter(s) of recommendation and essay, should be sent or delivered to the Office of Black Ministry at the following address: **Office of Black Ministry – 1011 First Avenue, 7th Floor, New York, New York 10022**. The decision of the Office of Black Ministry Commission, upon recommendation of the OBM Education Committee, is final. Scholarship recipients will be notified of their awards during mid-spring and will receive them prior to the start of their fall semester in college. New awardees also will be notified of the date, in June, for the Scholars Retreat and a Mass with their families, at which ALL scholars are expected to be in attendance!

N.B. In order to receive the award, the candidate must ultimately be accepted to a college or university and have taken the necessary steps toward enrollment.

APPLICATIONS FOR 2016 AWARDS MUST BE RECEIVED AT THE OFFICE OF BLACK MINISTRY OR BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2016.

ADDITIONAL REQUIRED INFORMATION

All information in response to the following areas must be typed. These responses should be addressed on separate sheet(s) of paper with applicant's full name on each sheet. (As an easier alternative, if any of the requested information is available on an applicant's Student Activity Resume, the resume itself may be submitted as a response to these areas.)

1. Please list and describe any extra-curricular activities that you have participated in while attending high school. State any offices held, the length of your membership and any awards or special recognition you have received.
2. Please list and describe significant contributions you have made to your church and/or community organizations and any civic awards or special recognition you have received. Indicate any positions you have held.
3. To what colleges, trade schools or post-secondary training programs have you applied? (Please indicate if you've been accepted at any of the indicated schools as of the date of your application).
4. Please list academic awards or honors you have received during high school or expect to receive upon graduation.
5. Indicate your career interests.

ESSAY

In an essay of approximately 300-500 words (typed, 12-font and double spaced), discuss one of the following, while demonstrating a basic knowledge of the life of Venerable Pierre Toussaint:

1. As a Christian today, how can you incorporate (or how have you already tried to incorporate) the values of Venerable Pierre Toussaint in your life?
2. What does it mean to you to give tribute to the legacy of Venerable Pierre Toussaint?
3. Imagine that you were a student who received an education with the assistance of funds provided by the Venerable Pierre Toussaint himself. Imagine also that you had an opportunity to meet him after graduation (from high school OR college). What would you say to him?

PIERRE TOUSSAINT SCHOLARSHIP FUND
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