

**Slightly edited Emails sent about Celebrating/Assessing the 50th anniversary of the Cambridge Haitian Ministry that had spread through the North of Boston region over several decades. I recall writing about that idea around October 2022, but was only able to find emails sent from November 29, 2022 and beyond. I was told on Summer 2023 that the community has to do it. Have contacted some lay and ordained ministers in the parish; had posted in my Facebook page and that of a bishop and didn't get any response for support to celebrate and assess 50 years of the Haitian ministry in Cambridge and beyond.**

**From:** nl <@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2022 11:38 PM  
**To:** @rcab.org>  
**Subject:** Celebrating the 50th anniversary

Hi X,

Happy Advent! Hope you had a nice Thanksgiving. This email is to share an idea about celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Haitian ministry in Cambridge, which has branched out into the North Boston area. It would be very informative to reminisce history via PowerPoints with photos from the 1970s to the present day. I am thinking of trying to find some people who were in Cambridge from Day 1 and are still alive. Last October there was a party for the celebration of my late mom's classmate, Madan Desjardins for her 90th birthday. She is one person whom it would be nice to have next year God willing

As I am reflecting today on my first Advent as young teenager when the Haitian ministry started in 1973, I am bringing the idea of investing financially, intellectually, and emotionally next year in a big 50<sup>th</sup> year celebration. I am one of the rare Haitians who came here in high school, went to college, grad. school, and still part of the Haitian community. I always wonder what if I were allowed and had the support to use in the church a life of learning, what kind of community we would have had. I came to Cambridge 49 years ago today, November 29<sup>th</sup>, 1973. Please help me celebrate 50 years next year in the ministry that my parents and I were part in creating.

Thank you,  
Nekita

Forwarded message -----  
**From:** l@gmail.com  
**Date:** Sun, Aug 27, 2023 at 1:08 PM  
**Subject:** First email sent on November 2022  
**To:** <@yahoo.com>

**November 2022 email above was also forwarded to a lay minister/group leader after several phone conversations and a text on August 2023. I saw him and the vicar in a funeral about a month later on September 2023; chatted with them, sent an email to the vicar after he told me about a Facebook post of mine that went viral in What's App. However, as in previous emails, particularly about conducting a research for an agency on how CNA and Home Health Aide, domestic workers parishioners were doing during COVID, I didn't get any reply from the following email:**

**From:** @gmail.com>  
**Date:** Sat, Sep 16, 2023 at 12:06 PM  
**Subject:** From Nekita  
**To:** <@camb.org>

**Will stay in touch to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Cambridge Haitian Ministry. Please forward for me the message in What's app. Thanks, Nekita**

**Response sent to an email group- Had posted about that in Facebook as well-**

From: **NI** <@gmail.com>  
Date: **Tue, Dec 13, 2022 at 7:55 PM**  
Subject: Church celebration 50 years  
To: L @gmail.com>

YES! What happened? It didn't take that long for us to go down the drain. I think we are regressing too in the US, at least in my Boston region. I just wrote something about my beautiful grassroots experience with a committee in Boston who raised \$25,000 in 2 weeks for Haiti to organize the first female CONCACAF (Confederation of North, Central America and Caribbean Football Association) tournament some 30 years ago. Can we gather a committee to raise 25K for a cause be it in Haiti or here? I'd like to raise 10K to 15K to celebrate 50th anniversary of the Haitian Church community in Cambridge next year. I have brought that up to some people. Will see if a 21st century celebration could come to fruition next year.

NI @gmail.com>  
Date: **Tue, May 9, 2023** at 12:37 AM  
Subject: About 50th anniversary of Metro North Haitian Ministry  
To: @rcab.org>

Hi X,

I have reread the emails about the 50th anniversary of the Cambridge Ministry that had spread through the Metro North region. Besides a celebration which usually consists of a mass and a reception, I envision a day or 2 with chart papers, power point, small and large groups where people can talk, discuss and look at where we have come in the past 50 years. I am thinking of bringing the elders who have been here since the 1970s. That requires a budget.

Personally I don't have money since I have been out of my tenured teaching job. I spent a life studying Education and religion to realize these are not fields for Black folks. Tenured doesn't mean job security when it comes to K-12 public schools.

In any event, bring this idea to others in the hierarchy. Please forward the thread of my emails to them. I am seeing a budget of 20k at least.

Okay . Thanks  
Warm Regards,  
Nekita

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **NI** <[gmail.com](mailto:NI@gmail.com)>  
Date: **Thu, Mar 30, 2023**, 3:18 PM  
Subject: Re: Left a message a month or two ago  
To: @rcab.org

Okay X. Will write something about people coming together to celebrate and assess together 50 years of the Cambridge ministry.  
Thanks, Nekita

**From:** nl > @aol.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 14, 2023 6:15 PM  
**To:** @rcab.org  
**Subject:** Left a message a month or two ago

Hi X,

Hope you are staying dry in the last couple days of winter. I left a voice message about a month or two ago about celebrating the 50th year of Cambridge ministry in the 21st century style. Please share with Father H. and other administrative staff. We will need at least 20K for this project. I need an assistant for various reasons. I need to pay couple people to help going through physical albums, take pictures and prepare them for a collage. I will need a video producer to make some productions. I would need to search for others who may have photos. I probably have to fly the 80 and 90 year olds who were younger adults in the 1970s and 80s, pay transportation for those who are still alive, live out of state, and/or live in the area. My friend's mother is 104 years old ( Mrs. Prophete is 105 as I am revising this email on November 2023). I hope she'll be alive at the end of the year. My high school friend's wedding reception was at the former Our Lady of Pity church hall. Her mother was the adults of the 1970s when I was a teenager. I got to ask some of my high school friends for their wedding pictures. One of them, her husband died last year. In any event capturing 50 years of the Haitian church history will be a priceless event worth investing in.

Frere G. is sick. He cannot do that much. I don't know how much he can do as he is in and out of the hospital. I have to go his house for things. It's a lot time, experience, education, and knowledge that I will put into this. It's time that I could work another job that I'll put into organizing this special event. I'll be asking around for financial assistance. I am asking the diocese first in case people would ask me if the Cardinal knew about the finance for a 50 year, golden anniversary celebration in a 21st century style. It wouldn't be just a mass and food.

Okay. Have wanted to shoot you this email for a while.

Thank you.

Warm regards,

Nekita

From: **NI** @gmail.com>  
Date: **Thu, Jun 29, 2023** at 2:49 PM  
Subject: Re: Hello and info  
To: @rcab.org>

Thank you X. It was great speaking with you as well. It's an overwhelming work to be doing and not having any body to collaborate or talk with. It's hard. Keep working now wasn't my plan. My plan was to take an early retirement to focus on research, writing and producing materials for the Black/Haitian church and children. Things didn't work out this way when I mysteriously lost my tenured teaching job of 27 years.

I think I have said that before. While taking BTI classes at EDS (The Episcopal Divinity School), I was approached by a professor to follow the ordination tract. A Lutheran administrator suggested the same thing to me while taking a class with her at Harvard Divinity. Being a college professor was never in my mind. However, I do similar work that college professors do. I know college professors and doctoral holders who don't do as much writing and producing as I do. In terms of the Haitian ministries, forget it. We don't do that much to show our theological productions and discourse at all. Had I followed ordination tract in the Episcopal Church or the Lutheran community, I would have been able to create, produce and write. In any event, I have started doing a portfolio of my work to share. In case I don't have the chance to formally write books, these samples from the sites below can help one way or another.

Again nice talking with you.

Here are the two portfolio/sites after my signature .

Warm regards,  
Nekita

<https://lovingthewords.org/>

<https://lovingthewords.org/Lamourconsulting/>

**Facebook post shared via email- I have started posting once in a while in this prelate's page since the July 2023 Black Catholic Congress XIII.**

Date: **Sun, Oct 22, 2023** at 1:03 AM  
Subject: September 22 Bishop post  
To: line@gmail.com>

I would have loved to see a celebration on the 50<sup>th</sup> year of the Haitian ministry in Cambridge, Massachusetts alluded to above. My first email suggesting a celebration/assessment and planning for next 50 years was sent on October 2022 and have continued to call, text and post on my Facebook thread about organizing a gathering. Finally on June 2023, was told the community has to do it.

Sadly there won't be a golden celebration of the Cambridge ministry that branched through the North of Boston region in the past 50 years. However, given that the Haitian ministries in the United States were not actively engaged from October 2021 to October 2023 in the Synod on Synodality process, I would like to suggest the Cambridge or North of Boston ministries to start a "synodal conversation" or summit which results can be included in the 2024 closing of the Synod as well for long term planning and ACTIONS of local ministries. Please help me start a conversation/gathering/summit to celebrate/assess 50 years of the Cambridge/North of Boston ministry that my parents and I were part in creating.

Facebook post sent in September and October 2023. Nekita

**Emails sent between November 2022 and October 2023 about Celebrating/Assessing the Cambridge Haitian Ministry since the first Christmas the writer attended mass there on December 1973. The appeal for a 50th anniversary/ gathering had not been heard.**