

# Our Lady of Victory

Second Edition

*The Saga of an African-American  
Catholic Community*

Our Lady of Victory

SHIRLEY HARRIS-SLAUGHTER

One act set in motion a chain of events that threatened one Catholic community's ability to thrive.

It happened between 1945 and 1946 at the headquarters of the Archdiocese of Detroit in the Chancellor's office. Msgr. John C. Ryan called an emergency meeting with the cardinal...

And so the stage was set for the years of turmoil that followed and the subsequent demise of this once vibrant church. Here comes the author who gives the reader an intimate look at her church, the township she grew up in, and its historical significance to World War II, Henry Ford's auto plant, migration from the south, and the housing crisis that was unfolding.

The reader is introduced to the pioneers of this West Eight Mile Community who helped shape and establish this community that shaped her. But the book takes a different turn as the research uncovers forgotten secrets...

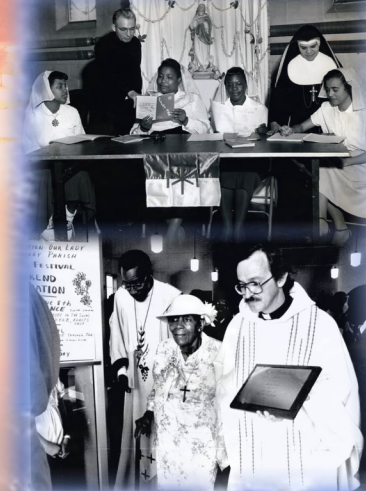
Shirley Harris-Slaughter seriously felt compelled to write this story because being the history buff that she is, it became alarming that her church was gone and there was nothing left of its history to share with the new generation. Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church on West Eight Mile Road was doing it all before it was forced to close its doors.

In the year 2020, the church has moved to the chapel of another church. It didn't exactly close its doors, but it didn't exactly get a church of its own. The membership is aging, and dying. There is hardly any new generation Catholics coming in. All of this amongst a Pandemic that nobody saw coming.

Slaughter obtained her BBA from Cleary University in Howell, married Langston and is active in her Oak Park community.

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Detroit, Michigan



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