



**African Conference of Catholic Clergy
and Religious in the United States**

OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT

May 12, 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

ACCCRUS 2020 CONVENTION SUSPENDED UNTIL 2022

I extend greetings of peace to you all, brothers and sisters, members of ACCCRUS Family. I hope you are all keeping safe and well during these deeply unsettling and challenging times.

Since the conclusion of our 2019 Convention in Atlanta, Georgia, our minds have been directed towards the 2020 Convention scheduled to be held in Des Moines, Iowa, from July 22-25. So much work has been done by both the Executive Board and the Host Chapter in preparations and planning towards making the convention a remarkable and memorable event for all of us. Every year, we look forward with great anticipation and excitement to the annual convention which offers us the opportunity, not only to listen to informative and educative presentations but also the opportunity for social interaction.

The outbreak of Covid-19 - Coronavirus as a global pandemic, which was quite unprecedented, has affected the human society at a very deep level. Its negative impact is evidently being felt not only in social and economic life but also in academic and religious institutions. We've watched our world change instantly and there is uncertainty about the future. After due and diligent consultations with the Executive Board, we made a decision to suspend our ACCCRUS Convention for this year 2020, previously scheduled to be held from July 21-25, in Des Moines, Iowa, until July 2022. It was indeed a very difficult decision to make but having considered the devastating effect of Covid-19 on human health and life, the decision became necessary in order to mitigate the spread of the virus and to avoid exposing ourselves and our companions to the deadly infection. We shall return to Des Moines in 2022 for our convention when the time arrives.

Those who have already registered for the convention are encouraged to contact Lendy Zink individually at our Secretariat Office to discuss either the refund or the retention of their registration fee. Our focus should now be directed towards the Fourth African National Eucharistic Congress scheduled to be held in Houston, Texas, in August 2021.

Let us keep one another in our prayers, especially our brothers and sisters on the “frontline”, those working in hospitals and in different healthcare departments and facilities. May Christ our Divine healer bring healing and restoration to our wounded world. Take good care of yourselves, stay safe and stay alive.

Thanks.

Fraternally in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alphonsus I. Enelichi" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Rev. Fr. Alphonsus I. Enelichi, MSP
ACCCRUS National President