

## [News](#)



NCR culture/opinion editor Olga Segura speaks to Tia Noelle Pratt, courtesy assistant professor of sociology at Villanova University, and Byron Wratee, a doctoral candidate in systematic theology at Boston College. (NCR screengrab/YouTube)



by Stephanie Yeagle

[View Author Profile](#)

[syeagle@ncronline.org](mailto:syeagle@ncronline.org)

Follow on Twitter at [@ncrSLY](https://twitter.com/ncrSLY)

## [Join the Conversation](#)

Send your thoughts to *Letters to the Editor*. [Learn more](#)

April 14, 2022

[Share on Facebook](#)[Share on Twitter](#)[Email to a friend](#)[Print](#)

NCR culture/opinion editor Olga Segura speaks to Tia Noelle Pratt, director of mission engagement and strategic initiatives and courtesy assistant professor of sociology at Villanova University, and Byron Wratee, a doctoral candidate in systematic theology at Boston College, [about a recent Pew Research Center study on Black Catholics](#), and reclaiming space for them in both the church and society.

### **Background reading:**

- [A new Pew study highlights the often-distinctive religious beliefs, practices and experiences](#) of the approximate 3 million Black Catholics in the United States — about 4% of the nation's Catholics.
- [In a commentary](#), Pratt says the recent Pew Research Center report on Black Catholics is a call to action for scholars and church leaders alike to understand and minister to this population.
- [In Wratee's essay](#), he says that the rich Black prophetic tradition doesn't maintain a strict contrast between the sacred and secular. The prophetic often manifests in Black Christians' words and deeds outside the institutional church.
- NCR's editorial staff addresses the recent Pew study on Black Catholics in America and [calls for a higher prioritization of racial justice in our churches](#).

Advertisement