

Bishop Sylvia Djenaba Bradshaw

Bishop Sylvia Djenaba Bradshaw was born in Detroit, Michigan. A graduate of Martin Luther King Jr., Senior High School, she joined the Shrine of the Black Madonna #1 in Detroit, Michigan in November, 1971. A “rabble-rouser” at a young age, she became an outspoken leader in high school as well as an honor student. Upon entering college at the University of Michigan, she functioned in College Cadre #2. While a student at U. of M. she volunteered to work daily at the “Free Breakfast Program” serving 7 am breakfast to Ann Arbor area elementary students. At the age of 19 she transferred to Clark Atlanta University in 1973 accepting the mission to establish a new Shrine in Atlanta, Georgia as a part of College Cadre #4. Djenaba was instrumental in helping to organize more than 200 college students and local residents that ultimately led to the formation of Shrine of the Black Madonna #9 in Atlanta, Georgia.

While in Atlanta, Djenaba formed an Evangelist Training Group (Community Outreach) that brought countless new members into the church. Serving as Missionary Coordinator and Research and Development, she traveled extensively throughout the Southeastern United States touching the lives of many who aided in the church’s early expansion program.

Djenaba’s service to the church spans four decades in roles such as, youth worker, nursery coordinator, Mtoto House parent, youth training group leader (teens) security personnel, teacher, lecturer, Sunday School coordinator, Leader for Confirmation Training, Basic Training and Advanced Training groups, actor-play-write, choir, and cook. She has served in Detroit, Atlanta, Houston and Beulah Land.

Her involvement in the community includes: martial arts instructor teaching Tae Kwon Do (Karate) to Houston area students, and summer camp participants; Reading & Writing Tutor, guest lecturer for the National Association of African American Studies, and community organizer/volunteer canvassing and conducting voter education for the Black Slate Inc.. Djenaba also help establish the church’s first community computer center in Atlanta open to area youth.

Djenaba presently holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Mass Communications – University of Houston; Masters of Education – University of St. Thomas, and a Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do (Karate). Last year she formed a school-wide “Travelers Reading Club with 175 students. She serves as a liaison for her school and local petrochemical corporations: HCAP (Houston Community Advisory Panel) and was successful in securing a corporate donations to purchase 20 iPads for students this semester to bridge the technological divide among minority students. Djenaba is a Teacher Trainer, assisting in HISD New Teacher training as well as serving as Teacher Mentor and 4th Grade Level Chairperson. Awards include: HAASBE (Houston Area Alliance of Black School Educators 2008 & 2009. HISD Campus Teacher of the Year; HISD Regional Finalist 2010, HISD Elementary Campus Teacher of the Year 2011, and Golden Apple Award 2011.

Djenaba is happily married to Mwalimu Jerry (Sababu) Bradshaw (21 years) and has two children; a daughter, Nefertiti (Eric) and son Ayinde. She is also the proud grandmother of Meagan and Morgan Gatlin.

Djenaba currently serves as Associate Pastor of Shrine 10 Christian Center, Ministry Leader for the WOW-P.E.A.R.L.S. Women Ministry, and Facilitator of Women’s Discipleship Training & Bible Study now in its 3rd year.