



April 4, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For information call: Clifford Laube at (845) 486-7745

**The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum
and the Mid-Hudson Antislavery History Project to present
"Slavery and the Church in New York"
with Reverend Charles Kramer
Sunday, April 10, 2016 at 2:00 p.m.
Henry A. Wallace Center at the FDR Presidential Library and Home**

HYDE PARK, NY -- The Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum and the Mid-Hudson Antislavery History Project will present "**Slavery and the Church in New York**" with Reverend Charles Kramer on Sunday, April 10, 2016. The program will begin at 2:00 p.m. in the Henry A. Wallace Visitor and Education Center. This event is free and open to the public.

At the end of the eighteenth century, New York had the highest concentration of enslaved people of any state north of Maryland. Abolition was not completed till 1827, and even after that, opposing views about the institution of slavery produced varying conflicts in many segments of the citizens of the state -- not least among religious communities. Reverend Charles Kramer, Rector of St. James' Church, Hyde Park -- the Roosevelt family's church, will discuss the various aspects of these conflicts, with emphasis on the way they played out in the Hudson Valley.

Reverend Charles Kramer was born in Illinois, the fifth of six children. After graduating from high school, he spent two years in West Germany, one as an exchange student, and one at the University of Bonn. He earned his BA at Indiana University with a double major in German and Journalism and his MA in teaching. He attended the General

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Theological Seminary in NYC and was ordained a priest in 1990. After serving churches in North Carolina and New York, he came to St. James' Church, Hyde Park in 1997.

Fr. Chuck writes a weekly column for the *Hudson Valley News*, touching on the issues of the day. He is married and enjoys reading, writing, music, ice hockey and skiing. With two sons attending Syracuse University, he is currently an avid fan of the Syracuse Orangemen.

Please contact Cliff Laube at (845) 486-7745 or email clifford.laube@nara.gov with questions about the event.

The Mid-Hudson Antislavery History Project (MHAHP) is a non-profit group created in 2006 to bring together researchers, educators, community leaders, and members of the public to: conduct and synthesize research on the history of antislavery in the Mid-Hudson Valley, with special emphasis on the Underground Railroad; interpret this history and share these interpretations with a wide array of residents and visitors in our area, with particular attention to students and youth; and place this local history in the broader contexts of racial slavery in the New World, the African-American experience, and antislavery legacies today, including the impact of this historic grassroots movement on subsequent struggles for racial and social justice. For information visit www.mhantislaveryhistoryproject.org.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum

Designed by Franklin Roosevelt and dedicated on June 30, 1941, the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum is the nation's first presidential library and the only one used by a sitting president. Every president since FDR has followed his example and established a presidential library administered by the National Archives

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and Records Administration to preserve and make accessible to the American people the records of their presidencies. The Roosevelt Library's mission is to foster a deeper understanding of the lives and times of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt and their continuing impact on contemporary life. This work is carried out through the Library's archives and research room, museum collections and exhibitions, innovative educational programs, and engaging public programming. For more information about the Library or its programs call (800) 337-8474 or visit www.fdrlibrary.marist.edu.

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