

Reverend Shawn Patrick Torres, Jr. was born in Philadelphia, PA on March 30, 1991 to Ms. Nikki Dyer and Mr. Shawn Torres! He is the eldest of three children! He was educated in the School District of Philadelphia graduating with honors from The Philadelphia Military Academy at Elverson.

Shawn continued his education by relocating to Columbia, SC to attend Benedict College and have graduated on May 11, 2013 with a Bachelor's of Science in Child and Family Development.

While in Columbia; Shawn needed to grow spiritually and was led to become a member of First Nazareth Baptist Church where the Pastor is Rev. Dr. Blakely N. Scott. Shawn was licensed to preach the Lords Gospel on June 13, 2010 at First Nazareth and ordained September 4, 2011 under the Midlands Baptist Association through the Progressive National Baptist Convention.

Shawn felt another nudge to further his education and relocated to New York to attend Union Theological Seminary. Shawn is in his third year at Union as candidate for a Masters of Divinity with a concentration in Practical Theology focusing on the intersection of Spirituality and Sexuality. Shawn has served as the chair of the FIERCE Caucus, Queer Caucus for Black & People of Color and is currently serving as Co-chair for Student Senate.

As someone dedicated to social justice and the eradication of oppression in the lives of the ALL members of the Black community, Shawn has been active in the Black Lives Matter Movement. Understanding Gods love to permeate and transcend all forms of exclusive thought, Shawn's mission is to create safe and accessible spaces for all of Gods people.