

Facing Racism Action/Project Group Activities October 2020

Prayer Service group

Contacts: Chelsea Duffy chelsea.duffy17@gmail.com & Mary Utschig pmutschig@sbcglobal.net

1. Our Facing Racism group, in partnership with Black Lives Are Sacred MKE, will be hosting a public witness for racial justice and human dignity at **St. Catherine's** on Nov 14th from 10 am-11 am. This peaceful and prayerful event is family-friendly and will take place rain or shine. It may include a representative from EXPO (Ex-incarcerated People Organizing) speaking about their efforts to get Gov. Evers to take action to lessen the effect of Covid on the prison population. All are welcome, and more details will be posted on our parishes websites and Facebook page.

We do need some volunteers for this, so anyone interested in helping please contact Chelsea.

2. The Prayer Service group has not met since the Rosary for Racial Justice on Aug 28 at St. Sebastian. Mary Utschig is interested in continuing to create prayer opportunities after the upcoming holidays, around significant dates having to do with racism events.

Voting Access group

Kudos to the members of the Voting Promotion Group for all their efforts for this important presidential election. There will be another important election in two years, but in the meantime, group members are invited to join another Action/Project group.

Mass Incarceration group

Contact: Rhonda VanPembrook rvp7@yahoo.com 414-640-3805

1. Our main issue in the upcoming months is involvement with Wisdom and MICAH's ROC (Restoring Our Communities) Criminal Justice reform taskforce to **shape the state budget to include more TAD funding including AODA and mental health treatment courts**. To that end there is a statewide meeting **ON TUESDAY, 11/10 at 5pm** to get everyone up to speed on those efforts. I foresee us bringing this issue to our parishioners once we have the facts and budget proposal info at the end of the year so we can hopefully impact state funding in this area.
2. Members have reached out to county supervisors on the issue of providing a kitchen at the juvenile detention facility not only to provide on-site cooked meals, but also to provide kitchen & restaurant training for detained youth.
3. Next meeting, 6 p.m. on Thu Nov 12 **or** Thu Nov 19, please contact Rhonda for confirmation

Social Action group

Contact: Chris Dwyer cndwyer@gmail.com

1. Discussion of “*By Every Measure*,” a new podcast exploring systemic racism in various sectors of Milwaukee. Every episode ends with concrete recommended action steps.
2. Continuing to support Kneel for Nine every Tuesday.
3. Racial Justice on Tap planning. "Racial Justice on Tap" will be a virtual event. A presenter will present on a topic, followed by discussion, finished with an opportunity to take action.
4. Next meeting: Wednesday **11/18** 6-7pm on Zoom. Contact Chris Dwyer to join

Educate the Parish group

Contact: Mary Krolikowski mkemk4418@gmail.com 414-873-3576

1. A Zoom video discussion event called "How We Got Here" will focus on a broad overview of key historical elements over the past 600 years leading to racism, to engage thought and curiosity with short video clips. Jon Metz at jmetz@saintsebs.org is the contact person for the Zoom link.
2. The 8-week JustFaith module “Faith and Racial Equity” is underway and will continue through December, led by Mary Krolikowski.
3. The JustMatters module on Advocacy is being planned for early 2021, to be led by Carole Poth.
4. Anne Haines of the Archdiocese has expressed interest in starting a “Table Setters” group for children at St. Sebastian School. Connections are being fostered.
5. Longer term: NETWORK’s Economic Inequity game may be offered, not yet scheduled.

Next meeting Monday Nov 23 at 6:30 p.m. Contact Mary Krolikowski

Resources

[By Every Measure](#) In “*By Every Measure*,” 88Nine Radio Milwaukee’s (WYMS-88.9 FM) new podcast, award-winning data expert and research journalist Reggie Jackson and 88Nine’s Director of Digital Strategy & Innovation Tarik Moody explore systemic racism in various sectors of Milwaukee, looking closely at how those systems were formed and how they can – and need – to be changed.

Abuse of bail in court hearings for poor defendants

<https://www.facebook.com/NowThisPolitics/videos/422776105336760/?vh=e&etid=0>

Residents of Wisconsin town near Kenosha in uproar over teacher's racism lesson

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/how-one-teacher-s-black-lives-matter-lesson-divided-small-n1244566>

On Being radio host Krista Tippett interviews trauma expert Resmaa Menakem and white fragility researcher Robin DiAngelo

<https://onbeing.org/programs/robin-diangelo-and-resmaa-menakem-in-conversation/>