

Facing Racism Summary Reports – March 2021

Prayer Group is meeting and selecting prayers to be shared with parishioners in our bulletins, newsletters, websites, etc. Keep your radar on! Here is one for us to mull over this month:

God of justice,

In your wisdom you create all people in your image, without exception.

Through your goodness, open our eyes to see the dignity, beauty, and worth of every human being.

Open our minds to understand that all your children are brothers and sisters in the same human family.

Open our hearts to repent of racist attitudes, behaviors, and speech which demean others.

Open our ears to hear the cries of those wounded by racial discrimination, and their passionate appeals for change. Strengthen our resolve to make amends for past injustices and to right the wrongs of history.

And fill us with courage that we might seek to heal wounds, build bridges, forgive and be forgiven, and establish peace and equality for all in our communities.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

This was taken from the Catholic Charities site: <https://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Prayer-for-Racial-Healing.pdf>

Social Action Group report from Feb meeting:

1. Debrief Reparations program & further action: group will research history of St. Sebs/St. Catherine and surrounding neighborhoods

Mission statement: Approaching a final draft.

School Antiracism Policy, Focusing on St. Sebs: engage with Heather Grams and existing parent group; Investigate policy at Archdiocese level

Next meeting: Monday 3/15 at 8:30pm

Parish Education Group meeting Mar 3, 2021

A. Planning for upcoming programs:

1. Economic Disparity Game (Racial Wealth and Income Gap Experience) April 26 at 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. Annalisa & Mary will work on logistics. Appropriate for kids ages 12 and up as well as adults. Jon & Lisa will help with contacts with Heather, Margaret Lee etc.
2. Margaret & Judy will look into tours (virtual) of Black Holocaust Museum for June

B. Other ideas for programs:

1. A Screening of a show and a discussion
 - Driving while Black
 - Black Church
2. Speakers / Topics
 - Jesus Villa for workplace discrimination
 - Derek Mosely on Black History
 - Larry Green
3. Books
 - Birth of a Movement, Black Lives Matter and the Catholic Church—Olga Segura
 - Be the Bridge—Latasha Morrison

Mass Incarceration Group – from meeting on February 25, 2021

The governor's budget includes several items we have been advocating – increased money for Treatment and Diversion (TAD), expanded earned release, and transfer of 17 years olds back to juvenile court. Both TAD and the earned release program save the state four or more dollars for each dollar spent. Encouraging the finance committee to keep these items in the final budget is important. Watch for information on contacting them. The governor did stress investing in people rather than prisons but did not explicitly create the Justice Reinvestment Fund that WISDOM and MICAH had requested.

Share Your Faith in Reflections of Faith (St.Catherine's publication)

Next Issue: Formed/Reformed:

What experiences/people have helped form you . . . in childhood? . . . as a teen? . . . as an adult? . . . as a senior? How can we seek out formative experiences? Reform: What do you want to reform? . . . in your life? . . . in our society? . . . in our country? How can you be part of a reformation? Each person, every encounter, every day offers an opportunity to grow in our faith and our love for God's people. Share a story of who/ what formed you and moved you to re-form your life, our society to strengthen God's Kingdom on Earth.

Deadline: March 15, 2021

Submit to secretary@saintcatherine.org