

Priest's Intentions for Masses

Sun, Jun 14	THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD of
	CHRIST (Corpus Christi) (USA)

5:30 pm For the People of the Parish

8:00 am † Mario Rodriguez

11:00 am † Ann Scott

5:30 pm † Deceased fathers of the Cruz &

Hilgeman families

Mon, Jun 15 Weekday

8:00 am Sp Int Joe Hilgeman

Tues, Jun 16 Weekday

8:00 am † Danica Davis

Wed, Jun 17 Weekday

8:00 am † Maria J. Skrinjar

Thurs, Jun 18 Weekday

8:00 am Sp Int Wren Jones

Fri. Jun 19 THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS

8:00 am † Steve & † Dee Stergios

Sat, Jun 20 The Immaculate Heart of the

Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00 am † Eleanor McGuigan

Sun, Jun 21 TWELFTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

5:30 pm † Maria J. Skrinjar 8:00 am † Joan Maucere

11:00 am † William Weed

5:30 pm For the People of the Parish



We love having you as part of our flock! Get updates about Masses and parish life via email and text! Sign up! Visit olg-church.org and look for the blue and white sheep.

Church and Parish Office Schedules

he church and Blessed Sacrament Adoration Chapel hours are now 8:30 am (after Mass) to 4:30 pm. The Chapel is accessible to all by way of the church.

Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation

onfessions are by appointment through **Jun 21**. Request an appointment with Fr. Peter by using the "Contact Us" link at olg-church.org or call (619) 469-0133.

Masses are being Streamed Online

n the parish website we have listed multiple links to options to participate in Sunday and daily Mass online in the Diocese of San Diego and beyond. Visit olg-church.org and click on the gray "Parish Update..." button and then the yellow "Sustaining Faith in the Time of Pandemic" button. Scroll to listed Mass links.

Parish Calendar

he event status' in this bulletin were accurate as of Jun 10. Visit the website listed in the article or olg-church.org for additional updates.

Welcome to Our LADY of GRACE!

• elcome to all who are joining us for the celebration of the Eucharist. There are many ways and parish organizations to participate in our life in Christ. See the directory on page 7.

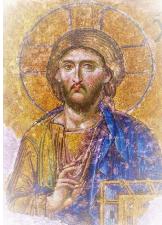
We invite all who attend OLG to become registered members of our parish. Registration forms are available on the table in the main entry of the church or the parish office. Registration allows us to communicate and effectively provide for your needs. It is necessary for baptism, marriage, and godparent or sponsor certification.

Mindfulness of Others—Please silence all devices and refrain from using them during the liturgy. The parish has a Children's Chapel located in the northwest corner of the church. Parents with restless children are welcome to make use of this chapel at any time during Mass should it be necessary. We ask that this chapel, like the church itself, remain free of food and drink.

Allergies—The first morning Mass of the Sunday or holy day will always be incense-free. The Sunday 11:00 am Mass will always include the use of incense.

Invitation to the R.C.I.A.

ur Lady of Grace Parish welcomes all who seek to enrich their faith life and explore the possibility of



becoming a Catholic Christian. Our community shares and celebrates this journey with them through a process called "The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults." If you are curious about what Catholics believe and may be interested in learning more about joining the Catholic faith—or perhaps you are an adult Catholic looking to be fully initiated—you are cordially invited to enter the R.C.I.A. process and experience a new and enriched meaning to your

life through renewed faith and love. Please contact Deacon John Sawaya at (858) 869-5079 or use the "Contact us" link on the parish webpage.

READINGS FOR JUN 14 - 21

Sun: Dt 8:2-3, 14b-16a; 1 Cor 10:16-17; Jn 6:51-58

Mon: 1 Kgs 21:1-16; Mt 5:38-42

Tue: 1 Kgs 21:17-29; Mt 5:43-48

Wed: 2 Kgs 2:1, 6-14; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thu: Sir 48:1-14; Mt 6:7-15

Fri: Dt 7:6-11; 1 Jn 4:7-16; Mt 11:25-30

Sat: 2 Chr 24:17-25; Lk 2:41-51

Sun: Jer 20:10-13; Rom 5:12-15; Mt 10:26-33

GUEST COLUMNIST

ALICE CAMILLE

To Hold in Holy Memory

've got a wooden box that once belonged to a friend of mine. When this friend died, this beautifully carved box became mine. I wasn't sure at first, but gradually its new purpose has become clear. It has become my memory box. In it I put the prayer cards of family members that are distributed at funerals. I keep stones from special places, palms from Holy Week, drawings from children, prayer requests from friends. I am a poor one to rely on when it comes to remembering things. But I believe God is better at the task of remembering. It does not seem to be in the nature of God to forget anything, short of our repented sins.

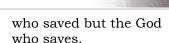
For Christians, remembering isn't just a kindly and generous thing to do. It's a holy action, part of the mission of being church. We are the ones primarily commissioned to keep certain memories alive through the telling of stories and the celebration of ritual acts. Because human beings are notoriously bad at holding things in memory for long, our religion has come up with lots of ways to keep us from forgetting the most important things. The church calendar reminds us all year long of the central events of salvation history.

Our Eucharist is a daily opportunity to retell the stories of all we have to be thankful for. Each celebration of the sacraments reinforces the mysteries of

our faith: that we are invited to be members of Christ's body, called to be witnesses and given the grace to do so, nourished with food for the journey of faith, forgiven our offenses and reconciled through God's mercy, united in special partnerships for the spreading of the gospel, commissioned for service. and even in times of sickness and death, we remain valuable participants in the testimony of God's faithfulness and love. When you think about it. we have a lot to remember, and the institution of church works very hard to keep centuries of teaching, tradition, and testimony from getting lost in the mists of forgetfulness.

Moses' theme song

hroughout the Deuteronomic tradition. Moses alerts the people to their appointment as stewards of the past. They are to recall the 40 years in the desert, remembering all that God has done for them in providing them with water, manna, quail, guidance, companionship, instruction, and protection. But most of all, they are charged to tell the story of their astonishing deliverance from Egypt, the single greatest act of salvation in Israelite history. By the telling and retelling of this story at Passover each year, the Jewish community pledges their allegiance to the God who liberates for all time. The story of deliverance is always told in the present tense: The Hebrew God is not the God



"Remember," Moses says repeatedly, and "Do not forget." In generations when the community grows lax and the story is neglected, the very identity of the people is up for grabs. In some of the most poignant hours of Israel's history, the Book of the Law is brought forth and read in the midst of an assembly that has forgotten its contents and is unsure how to respond to a covenant they have largely abandoned. In one instance, the people weep in the streets when the story is proclaimed, mindful of who they were meant to be and how far from the mark they have strayed.

Keeping more than memory alive

esus gives us more than a checklist of things to remember or even a story to faithfully retell. Jesus gives us living bread from heaven that will hold us in life for all eternity. Our understanding of *anamnesis*—the part of the Eucharist in which the Passion, Resurrection, and Ascension of Christ are front and center—is that the Eucharist we celebrate is more than a memorial supper or an opportunity to keep tabs on the past. It makes the past present. What was, is now—and will be forever, as we say in our doxology, world without end. Just as God remains the God who continually saves, Jesus is always the living bread set before us to meet the needs of our

(Continued on page 4)

OUR LADY OF GRACE CHURCH

Founded 1954

CLERGY

PASTOR

Very Rev. Peter McGuine

AUXILIARY PRIEST

Rev. Maxime Villeneuve, OSA

PRIESTS IN RESIDENCE

Rev. Jerome Molokie, O Praem. Rev. Curtiss Dwyer, LT, CHC, USN

DEACON

Dcn. John Sawaya

SCHEDULE of MASSES

SUNDAY VIGIL

(Saturday) 5:30 pm

SUNDAY

8:00 am, 11:00 am, 5:30 pm

MONDAY-SATURDAY

8:00 am

Holy days and holidays listed separately in bulletin.

SACRAMENTS

INFANT BAPTISM

Baptisms are celebrated on the second and fourth Sundays of each month at 12:30 pm. Preparation packet is available in the parish office.

RITE of CHRISTIAN INITIATION of ADULTS

Contact Deacon Sawaya (858) 869-5079.

HOLY MATRIMONY

Marriage preparation begins nine months in advance. Please contact Fr. Peter McGuine or Deacon Sawaya.

PENANCE AND RECONCILIATION

Monday 6:00 pm Thursday 8:30 am Saturday 4:00 pm

Anointing of the Sick

Call the parish office (619) 469-0133.

AROUND THE PARISH

Father's Day Mass Cards

special Triduum of Masses will be celebrated at OLG on Jun 25-27 for fathers, living and deceased. Mass cards are available on the publications table in the main entry of the church. Completed envelopes may be returned by



way of the Offertory basket, the US Mail or the black "drop box" located to the right of the front door or the Parish Office.

No Pantry Food Collection During June, But...

onetary donations can be made through the parish "Online Giving" link at olg-church.org or send a check to the parish by way of the US Mail or use the black "drop box" located to the right of the front door to the parish office.

Flag Day ~ June 14

Almighty God, we thank you for the flag that flies today with it's great symbol of freedom.

Keep love's banner flying o'er us as we walk in the way of those who do justice, love, mercy,

and walk humbly with you.



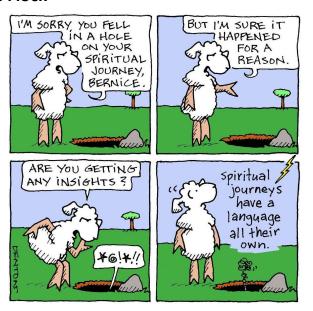
Fashion our desires, our duties, and our deeds in accordance with your will that we may labor for a better world filled with better people for the betterment of all.

In your holy name we pray.

Amen

~ taken from the Civil Air Patrol Book of Prayers

The Flock



(Continued from page 3)

world. There's nothing "past" about the good news of our salvation. Christ lives, and we are invited to share everlasting life with him by uniting ourselves with his flesh and blood.

This is a visceral invitation, perhaps more carnal than we care to have our religion. Catholicism insists on being this earthy; our sacraments are perceptible to the touch, as tangible as water and oil and a human hand outstretched. We are not asked simply to pray or to profess but to eat, among the most vital human activities. Those who eat. live—and those who do not eat, die. The sign of our Eucharist is this vivid because the facts of life are this stark and insurmountable.

A feast of Body and Blood

aint Paul sometimes speaks of memory but

more often in the boldersounding terms of participation. Otherwise, our commission to remember may be mistaken for a head trip or a passive state, the way we might speak of the "reception" of communion as a spiritual gift that comes our way and stops there. Paul prefers to declare that our "partaking" of the cup and loaf automatically involves us in the realities of Christ -life. We participate in the Blood of Christ (that was poured out for us), and we participate in the Body of Christ (that was nailed to the cross). This is the kind of participation that comes at a price. Let's not be naïve about what we are getting into when we come to this table. Eternal truths by definition don't change. What was, is, and what the world rejected once, it continues to reject. If we are united with the life of Christ, we cannot escape the way of sacrifice.

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St. Emily de Vialar, 1797 - 1856 Feast day June 17

mily was the only daughter of a French baron. At 15 she left school in Paris to become her widowed father's companion in Gaillac. Despite his wishes, Emily would not marry,



and for 15 years tended neglected children and the poor. In 1832, when her maternal grandfather left her a fortune, she bought a large house in Gaillac, which became the first home of the Congregation of Sisters of St. Joseph of the Apparition. In 1835, the order won approval and Emily and 17 other sisters professed vows. Their charisms were care of the needy and education. Emily oversaw the formation of 40 houses, before dying from complications of a hernia she'd gotten in her youth while doing a good deed.

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ne particular four-year-old prayed the Our Father this way: "And forgive us our trash baskets as we forgive those who put trash in our baskets."

A Little Humor

Have you heard about the first baseball game in the Bible? Eve stole first, Adam stole second, Cain struck out Abel. The Giants and the Angels were rained out.



- A little boy and his mother were walking home from Mass in the rain. As they rounded the final corner toward home, the rain stopped and with the sun came a vivid double rainbow in the sky.
 - Doesn't it look like an artist painted this rainbow?" his mother exclaimed. "I bet God painted this just for you!"
 - "Yes," replied her son, "God did it and he did it left handed."
 - Confused, his mother asked him, "What makes you say God did this with his left hand?
 - "Because," the boy said, "we learned in Faith Formation that Jesus sits on God's right hand!"
- Son: "Hey, mom, can you loan me twenty bucks?" Mom: "Does it look like I'm made of money?" Son: "Isn't that was M.O.M stands for?"

Seen in church bulletins:

- Eat well at our potluck supper Sunday after 5:30 pm Mass. Prayer and medication to follow.
- Come to our special event: Don't Let Worry Kill You Off - Let the Church Help.
- All singles are invited to join us Friday at 7:00 pm for our annual Sing Alone!

YOUTH MINISTRY

Escape Middle School Youth Group

scape will not meet until further notice.

New Life High School Youth Group

www. Life gathers by Zoom on Sun, Jun 14. Information about the new virtual Steubenville Live can be found on our website. See the info below.

To get all Escape and New Life event details visit olg-church.org, click on Start Here and choose Youth Ministry.

EAST COUNTY YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

o learn the status of events for San Diego East County Young Adults follow Instagram @sd.ecya or visit sdcatholic.org/office-for/young-adult-ministry to see a complete list of spiritual development and social opportunities for 18-39 year old Catholic Young Adults.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for those who have requested prayer and for the special intentions written in the Book of Intentions in the Baptistery of our church.

Joan Acord Patricia Adams Heberto Albanez Grizelda Albanez Gabriela Alvarenga Marvin Alvarenga Mari Kay Ames Angie Arrayan Angela Biner Margaret Bostwick Anita Branch Pat Burke Stephanie Butcher Brian Cashman Tim Clasemen Jeannine Estepa, RN Julian Forcier Mark Habina Brenda Hilgeman Hannah Hilgeman Susan Hori Richard Jimenez Nathan Kahan

Stephanie Kahan Lenora Kneeshaw Rebecca Leyden Tim Leyden José A. Lopez Natalie Mascari Mary Mele Vivianna Mullins Ruben Panlaqui Greg Ranches, MD Ann Renzi Anthony Renzi Becky Romenesko Carter Santos Clayton Schenkelberg Pattie Sloan-Deacon Hibe Thornton Manuel Blas Garcia Toca Andy Tong John Tucker Jan Vyzinkar Marilyn Winger Tyler Woddell, MD

Names remain listed for four weeks and can be renewed by contacting Marie Pospichal at mpospichal@olg-church.org.

"Where we find hate and darkness may we bring love and hope, in order to give a more human face to society."



~ Pope Francis, @Pontifex, Sep 30, 2013



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2020 Annual Catholic Appeal supports Catholic Schools, Clergy & Seminarian Support, Faith Formation and Catholic Charities.

Visit olg-church.org to give or pledge!

Prayer of Gratitude to the Sacred Heart

Lord, you deserve all honor and praise, because your love is perfect and your heart sublime

My heart is filled to overflowing with gratitude for the many blessings and graces you have bestowed upon me and those whom I love.

> Forever undeserving, may I always be attentive and never take for granted the gifts of mercy and love that flow so freely and generously from your Sacred Heart.

> > Heart of Jesus, I adore you. Heart of Jesus, I praise you. Heart of Jesus, I thank you.

Heart of Jesus, I love you forever and always.

Amen



Prayer to the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary

O Immaculate Heart of Mary, full of goodness, show your love towards us. Let the flame of your heart, O Mary, descend on all people.

We love you immensely. Impress true love in our hearts so that we have a continuous desire for you.

O Mary, gentle and humble of heart, remember us when we are in sin. You know that all men sin.

Give us, by means of your Immaculate Heart, spiritual health. Let us always see the goodness of your motherly heart and may we be converted by means of the flame of your heart.

Amen.

- A Faith Formation catechist began the week's lesson with a recap of the previous week's topic by saying, "We have been learning about how powerful the kings and queens were in biblical times. But there is a higher power. Who can tell me what it is?"
 - Six-year-old Peter blurted out, "I know! Aces!"
- A mother was bemused when her five-year-old daughter came downstairs before church lugging three of her pocketbooks.

- "Lucy, what are you doing with those?" she asked. "Mommy, I heard Father's sermon last week and he
- said God was in three purses. We can't leave part of God at home!"
- After the birth of his baby brother a little boy was thoroughly annoyed at all of his crying and screaming. "Where did we get him anyway?" he asked his mother. "Why, he came from heaven!" his mother exclaimed.
 - In his frustration the boy responded, "Well! I can see why they threw him out!"

WEEKLY OFFERING REPORT

June 3—8, 2020		\$14,412.00
Plate	\$	0.00
Envelopes	\$	8,719.00
Online Giving	\$	5,693.00
Breakdown of gifts received		
\$0.01 - \$5.00		6
\$5.01 - \$10.00		16
\$10.01 - \$25.00		34
\$25.01 - \$50.00		49
\$50.01 - \$100.00		26
\$100.01 - \$150.00		8
\$150.01 - \$500.00		17
\$500.01 - Over		3
Total Contributing Households 1		159
Additional Gifts		

zaattionat aljoo		
Ascension	\$150.00	
Building Fund	\$663.11	
Food Pantry	\$383.00	
School Support - Greatest Need	\$575.00	

Secure Parish Online Giving Give a one-time gift or set up recurring gifts.

Visit olg-church.org and click on the "Online Giving" link in the upper right corner of the webpage (or use the QR code with your smart phone app!).





Shop at smile.amazon.com/ch/27-3860489 and Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase to Our Lady of Grace!

OUR LADY of GRACE PARISH AND SCHOOL DIRECTORY

2766 NAVAJO ROAD, EL CAJON, CA 92020

Parish Office



PHONE: (619) 469-0133 Fax: (619) 469-0575 Wfb: **OLG-CHURCH.ORG**

Hours: Weekdays 8:30 am-4:30 pm

& PATRICK ROGERS

Pastor	FR. PETER McGuine Ext. 17
Deacon	DCN. JOHN SAWAYA
Business Manager	PATRICIA KANE Ext. 12
Special Projects Coordinator	KEN DISCENZA Ext. 24
Bookkeeper	RACHEL TEIXEIRA Ext. 16
Office Manager	Marie Pospichal Ext. 10
Publicity & Communication	s Georgene Kruzel Ext. 33

Housekeeping MARIA ARIAS Maintenance & Facilities DAN BRESLIN, MATTHEW HILGEMAN

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Liturgy Coordinator Rosa Hilgeman | Ext. 14

Director of Liturgical Music PAUL MAY | Ext. 26 Cantate Kids and Gaudete Choir (11:00 am Sun)

Director ROBERT FILLEY Laudate Ensemble (5:30 pm Sun)

FAITH FORMATION MINISTRY

PHONE: (619) 466-5656

Director of Catechetical Ministry LISSA HUTCHESON

Program Coordinator GEORGENE KRUZEL

Youth Ministry Coord. **DORIS HERTZIG** | (619) 466-5451 Jr. High, High School

Young Adults (18-39 yrs) BERNADETTE ROSE HILGEMAN



For answers to almost every question about Our Lady of Grace liturgies, ministries and parish activities please visit our website at: olg-church.org And Like Us on Facebook!

f any of your personal information has changed please be so kind as to update us in the Parish Office. It is important that we update our family records.



Reporting Sexual Abuse

Complaints about sexual abuse by a member of the clergy or by a parish or Catholic school employee or volunteer can be made by calling Mary Acosta at (858) 490-8353 or writing misconduct@sdcatholic.org.



PARISH SCHOOL

PHONE: (619) 466-0055 (619) 466-8994 Fax:

WEB: **OLG.ORG**

Hours: WEEKDAYS 7:15 AM-3:30 PM (DURING SCHOOL YEAR)

Principal **ERIN MARES** | Ext. 11 emares@olg.org

RACHEL SATO | Ext. 27 Vice-Principal rsato@olg.org

Development & Admissions Kelli Balistreri | Ext. 16

kbalistreri@olg.org

LINDA PETERS | Ext. 10 Secretary lpeters@olg.org

Parish Ministries and Organizations

To email members of the parish staff or the ministry leaders listed below please visit our website at:

olg-church.org - click on the "Contact Us" link in the upper right corner of the browser window.

For a ministry leader phone number please call the Parish Office at (619) 469-0133.

55 Plus Club—Mary Cloward

BLOOD DRIVE—Debbie Ipsen

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CLUB—CWC

CWC-Mary Cloward Book Club—Julie Hazelton Craft Fair—Kathy Porterfield

CENTERING PRAYER—Irma Eichinger or Beatrice Doblado

CUB Scouts—Pack 951—Crystal Carr

Cursillo—Dcn. John Sawaya

EVENTS COMMITTEE—Nettie Aguinaldo

FOOD PANTRY—Since 1981 (619) 469-0061 M-F, 9:30-10:30 am Bob Cosgrove

HOLIDAY ANGELS—Since 1988—Lesley Bradley

INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC FAMILIES—ICF

Carla Pedroncelli

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS—Frances Cabrini Council 8879 Kelly Missey, Grand Knight

LADIES OF GRACE—Rosemarie McLain

LEGION OF MARY—Since 1987—Dee Draper

MEN FOR CHRIST—Steve Faucher

MINISTRY TO THE SICK & HOMEBOUND Rosa Hilgeman

PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY—Since 2006 Nettie Aguinaldo

PRO-LIFE

Mary Dixon

Vicki Whitmire (40 Days for Life)

WALKING WITH PURPOSE—Women's Bible Study Danica Hertzig



God's Work in Our Hands



The Call to Address Racism in Our Hearts and Communities

In their new pastoral letter against racism, *Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love*, the Catholic bishops of the United States invite conversion of hearts, minds, and institutions in order to address the evil of racism that still exists in our communities.

By our baptism, we are members of Christ's body and sharers in his mission. Imitating Christ, we must care for all members of our communities, honoring each person as unique, sacred, and created in the image of God. We know that the evil of racism cuts to the core of God's plan for humanity, devaluing the diversity God created within the human family. As followers of Christ, we seek to reclaim the God-given sanctity of each person's inviolable human dignity. The bishops remind us, "The command of love requires us to make room for others in our hearts. It means that we are indeed our brother's keeper (see Gn 4:9)."

Some among us may want to believe that our country has moved beyond the reality of racism that has so profoundly stained its past, or that racism does not involve us. Almost every day, news headlines demonstrate that our country's "original sin" of racism continues to impact the lives of many Americans, many of them Catholic—particularly those who belong to the African American, Hispanic/Latino, or Native American communities.

There are signs that racism's legacies remain prevalent in many systemic inequalities that have deep impact on people of color. The bishops write, "Racism

can only end if we contend with the policies and institutional barriers that perpetuate and preserve the inequality—economic and social—that we still see all around us."

"We read the headlines that report the killing of unarmed African Americans by law enforcement officials. In our prisons, the numbers of inmates of color, notably those who are brown and black, is grossly disproportionate. Despite the great blessings of liberty that this country offers, we must admit the plan truth that for many of our fellow citizens, who have done nothing wrong, interactions with the police are often fraught with fear and even danger."

- U.S. bishops, Open Wide Our Hearts

Within the walls of the Church, many people of color have experienced discrimination and outright racism. Leadership has been lacking. The bishops write, "All too often, leaders of the Church have remained silent about the horrific violence and other racial injustices perpetuated against African Americans and others." Reflecting on these realities, the bishops implore us to find ways to actively work against the evil of racism. We must seek racial justice within our Church and in our country. Let us all allow the Holy Spirit to convert our hearts to do the work of healing, so we may live authentically in true relationship to one another. Let the fruit of this conversion be evident in our full celebration and integration of ethnic and cultural diversity, which is truly a gift from God.

How Can I Respond?

- (1) Listen to and know the stories of our brothers and sisters who have suffered from racism in history, and in the present. True and authentic encounter is difficult but worth the effort. Authentic relationships require vulnerability, humility, and getting outside of your comfort zones. For some, this will mean actively seeking opportunities to engage with people of diverse backgrounds. For others, this might mean raising your voice or sharing your story. Through authentic engagement we bring together diverse perspectives and experiences which honor the fullness of God's plan.
- (2) **Work to address both individual and systemic racism.** Racism can be individual, when persons fail to recognize certain groups as created in the image of God and equal in dignity, or it can be systemic, where practices or policies are upheld that treat certain groups of people unjustly. These systems are often perpetuated due to the silence or unawareness of many. Commit to learning more about <u>racism and employment</u>, <u>housing</u>, <u>wealth</u>, <u>education</u>, <u>criminal justice</u>, and <u>voting</u>—and then get involved in diocesan, parish or community efforts to pray and work for conversion of both hearts and systems.
- (3) **Think about what you can do, wherever you are**. Commit to raising your awareness in whatever situations you find yourself.
 - a. **As people of faith,** we can intentionally work to create spaces of welcome and opportunities for encounter. Create opportunities for sharing of stories and learn how racism impacts our communities. Regularly think about whose voices may be missing as leaders and volunteers in parish ministry. In parishes and schools, educators can use activities from usccb.org/racism to integrate content on the pastoral letter into their lessons.
 - b. **In your family**, think about who you socialize with on a regular basis. Intentionally create opportunities to interact with those you may not run into over the normal course of your week. Where in your community do you see diverse groups of people come together? Parents: talk with your children about race. Continuing to talk with them about everyone's human dignity and the pain of racism in our country will help form them to respect the dignity of all. Find prayers for children at usccb.org/racism.
 - c. **At school or work,** ask: How you can learn more about other cultures? What resources are available to you? If there are others who are treated differently because of their race, speak up. Think about what you might do if you hear someone make disparaging remarks about a classmate or coworker. How can you be ready to respond?
- (4) **As individuals and communities of faith, examine your conscience.** We all must ask ourselves: Where have I not lived as an example of Christ's love? Where have my attitudes or perceptions caused me to devalue persons of other cultures or ethnicities? When have I been unnecessarily suspicious or allowed a preconceived notion to overshadow the human nature of another? When have I seen the "other" instead of welcoming an opportunity to listen to the story of that person's life, struggles, or joys?

For More Information

Read the new pastoral letter, *Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love* and then talk with others about how your community can respond to the bishops' invitation in the pastoral letter. USCCB resources against racism are at usccb.org/racism.



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