

End Racism Resource List

1 Corinthians 12:12-14 "As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts, though many are one body, so also Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons, and we were all given to drink of one Spirit."

In the pastoral letter, *Open Wide Our Hearts*, the US Bishops say "racism is an evil that divides our neighborhoods, our cities, and our country. Like an illness that weakens a physical body, racism weakens the Body of Christ. Any act of racism is a sin that harms both the perpetrator and the victim and denies dignity to both.

Racism manifests itself in an individual's thoughts, attitudes, actions, and inactions. It also manifests in social structures and unjust systems that perpetuate centuries of racial injustice. In solidarity, we are called to share the suffering of our sisters and brothers in Christ who have been wounded by the evil of racism. Their wounds are the pain of the whole Church. In the same way, when we take on the responsibility of healing racism, we imitate Jesus, who heals us of all sin and spiritual sickness."*

Change begins within each of our own hearts and our own minds.

*In *Open Wide Our Hearts*, the US Bishops present these questions to help each of us examine our participation in racism through our thoughts, attitudes, actions and inactions:

1. Have I fully loved God and fully loved my neighbor as myself?
2. Have I caused pain to others by my actions or my words that offended my brother or my sister?
3. Have I done enough to inform myself about the evil of racism, its roots, and its historical and contemporary manifestations? Have I opened my heart to see how unequal access to economic opportunity, jobs, housing, and education on the basis of skin color, race, or ethnicity, has denied and continues to deny the equal dignity of others?
4. Is there a root of racism within *me* that blurs my vision of who my neighbor is?
5. Have I ever witnessed an occasion when someone experienced personal, institutional, systematic or social racism and I did nothing, leaving the victim to address the pain alone?
6. Have I ever been in a situation when someone experienced personal, institutional, systematic or social racism-and I helped to cause their pain, acting contrary to love of God and love of neighbor?
7. Have I ever supported or aided a person who experienced personal, institutional, systematic or social racism and paid a price for it? How did I react? Did my faith grow? Am I willing to grow even more in faith through my actions?
8. How am I called to respond to the evil of racism?

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“What we are called to respect in each person is first of all his life, his physical integrity, his dignity and the rights deriving from that dignity, his reputation, his property, his ethnic and cultural identity, his ideas and his political choices. We therefore are called to think, speak, and write respectfully of others, not only in his presence, but always and everywhere, avoiding unfair criticism or defamation. Families, schools, religious teaching, and all forms of media have a role to play in achieving this goal....”(*Pope Francis and the Family*, p. 33).

Diocese of Manchester

<https://www.catholicnh.org/community/public-issues/issues/racism/>

<https://www.catholicnh.org/assets/Documents/About/Bishop/Parable-Articles/PAL-Sept20.pdf>

“What is racism? Racism arises when-either consciously or unconsciously-a person holds his or her race or ethnicity is superior, and therefore judges persons of other races or ethnicities as inferior and unworthy of equal regard.”*

Catechism of the Catholic Church # 360-361

<https://www.usccb.org/sites/default/files/flipbooks/catechism/94/index.html>

Address of His Holiness pope John Paul II to a Symposium on Roots of Anti-Judaism (1997)

https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-1-d&q=31_com-teologica.html

Nostra Aeta (Declaration on the Relation of the Church to Non-Christian Religions (1965)#5

https://www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_decl_1965

USCCB

www.usccb.org

<https://www.usccb.org/committees/ad-hoc-committee-against-racism>

Open Wide Our Hearts (USCCB)

www.granitestateorganizing.org

603-668-8250

NH Catholic Charities

www.cc-nh.org

Mary, friend and mother to all, through your Son, God has found a way to unite himself to every human being, called to be one people, sisters and brothers to each other. We ask for your help in calling on your Son, seeking forgiveness for the times when we have failed to love and respect one another. We ask for your help in obtaining from your Son the grace we need to overcome the evil of racism and to build a just society. We ask for your help in following your Son, so that prejudice and animosity will no longer infect our minds or hearts but will be replaced with a love that respects the dignity of each person. Mother of the Church, the Spirit of your Son Jesus warms our hearts: pray for us. *