

Racism has no place in our hearts

'In the last decades...marked by the worrying resurgence of aggressive nationalism, ethnic violence and widespread phenomena of racial discrimination, human dignity has often been seriously threatened. Every upright conscience cannot but decisively condemn any racism, no matter in what heart or place it is found.'

Pope St. John Paul II, Angelus address, 26th August 2001

We hope this will help you and your family into uniting against any form of racism and to support everyone in the our community in helping support the black lives matter movement in an anti-racist manner.

ANTI-RACIST

An **ANTI-RACIST** person is someone who is opposed to racism.

Anti-racism is actively working against racism. It is making a commitment to resisting unjust laws, policies, and racist attitudes. Anti-racism is how we get free from centuries of living in a racialized society that keeps us separate and oppressed.



BLACK LIVES MATTER



Black Lives Matter is an international human rights movement, originating in the African-American community, that campaigns against violence and systemic racism towards black people. Click on the image above to watch a Ted Talk with their founding members.

“It is true what Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. said, that riots are the language of the unheard. We should be doing a lot of listening right now. This time, we should not fail to hear what people are saying through their pain. We need to finally root out the racial injustice that still infects too many areas of American society.”

Archbishop Gomez

31st May 2020

We cannot tolerate or turn a blind eye to racism and exclusion in any form and yet claim to defend the sacredness of every human life.

Pope Francis



Bishop Mark J. Seitz 'taking a knee'.
Receives a call of support from Pope Francis

[Read the article](#)

[Watch - Pope Francis speaks out about the killing of George Floyd](#)

Jesus teaches that, like the Good Samaritan, we must go out of our way to help those in particular need. In **Catholic Social Teaching** we support the **Dignity of the Human Person** – that we value and uphold a common dignity for ourselves and each other.

We understand that, sometimes, this dignity is not given to all people and that it is our responsibility to stand with those who are suffering injustice. This includes those suffering from disadvantages woven into society through prejudice. For John Paul II, this **Solidarity** is “ a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to the common good.’

Dignity of the Human Person



We value and uphold a common dignity for ourselves and each other.

1 Corinthians 3:16 "You are holy, for you are God's temple and God dwells in you."

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Solidarity



We are a global family, we are willing to engage in the challenges facing the world

Psalm 72 "Living in right relationship with others brings peace"

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What is Justice?

How does God feel about Justice?

Isaiah 30 v 18 tells us that:

"God is a fair God."

When God sees things in the world that are not fair and just; how does it make him feel?

- God hates injustice and hypocrisy (saying one thing but doing another). Throughout the Old Testament God speaks through his prophets and says He hates it when He sees his people praying and worshipping, but not doing anything to fight injustice. You can find examples in **Isaiah 1, Amos 5, Zephaniah 3** and **Ezekiel 22**.
- God feels the pain of those who suffer injustice. In **Matthew 25 v 31–46** Jesus explains that God will look at how we treated the people we met in the world. God says that when we ignore the needs of those around us, we ignore him. God knows and feels the acts of injustice in our world.

How does injustice make you feel?

Angry? Sad? Frustrated? Confused?



Justice means everybody behaves and is treated in a way and is fair, equal and balanced.

How can I show Justice?

In Micah 6 v 8 we are told that God wants us to:

"do what is right to other people, love being kind to others, and live humbly, obeying your God."



- We can demonstrate Justice by treating those we meet fairly and kindly, sharing God's love with everybody.
- We should not treat anybody differently because of where they are from, what they look like or what they believe.
- We should speak out if we see that something is unfair or if somebody is being treated differently because of their gender, race or beliefs.

Praying for Justice

Why not use these words from Amos 5 v 24 to inspire a prayer for justice in the world.

**But let justice flow like a river,
and let goodness flow like a never-ending stream.**

Peace and Reconciliation

We should be peacemakers and work for forgiveness and reconciliation using non-violent solutions.



Romans 12: 9-18 "Love one another, contribute to the needs of others, live peaceably with all."

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Family, Community & Common Good

We know a sense of belonging. As a community we consider the needs of all.



Micah 6:6-8 "Act justly, love kindness, walk humbly with God."

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Books to read to learn about diversity

AGES 8-12

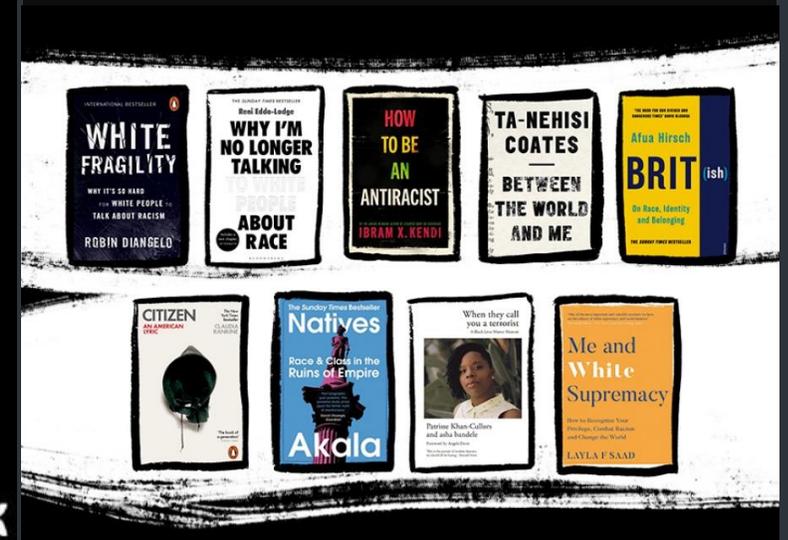
The Crossover by Kwame Alexander
One Crazy Summer by Rita Williams-Garcia
Ghost by Jason Reynolds
Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson
Ninth Ward by Jewell Parker Rhodes
Schomburg by Carole Boston Weatherford
I Am Not A Number by Jenny Kay Dupuis & Kathy Kacer
Something Happened In Our Town by Ann Hazzard, Marianne Celano, and Marietta Collins
Voice Of Freedom by Carole Boston Weatherford
Ruth And The Green Book by Calvin Alexander Ramsey
Little Leaders by Vashti Harrison
Shining Star: The Anna May Wong Story by Paula Yoo
The Whispering Town by Jennifer Elvgren
Sit-In: How Four Friends Stood Up by Andrea Davis Pinkney
The Boy And The Wall by the Aida Refugee Camp

AGES 12+

Darius & Twig by Walter Dean Myers
Noughts & Crosses by Malorie Blackman
Tyrell by Coe Booth
This Side Of Home by Renée Watson
To Kill A Mockingbird by Harper Lee
All American Boys by Brendan Kiely & Jason Reynolds
Dear Martin by Nic Stone
How It Went Down by Kekla Magoon
American Born Chinese by Gene Luen Yang
Out Of Darkness by Ashley Hope Pérez
Tyler Johnson Was Here by Jay Coles
Dreamland Burning by Jennifer Latham
The Bluest Eye by Toni Morrison
The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas
This Is What I Know About Art by Kimberly Drew

KIDADL.COM

KS4/5 Books to read



We Pray

We pray for all those who have died because of racism and injustice.

May we all open our eyes to the injustice that exists in our communities and our world and may we work for justice and promote dignity.

God of Justice, hear our prayer

We pray for peace in our world, for the leaders of countries that they will work for peace and equality.

God of Peace, hear our prayer

We pray for all those that suffer because of the injustices that exist, may God comfort them and bring them strength.

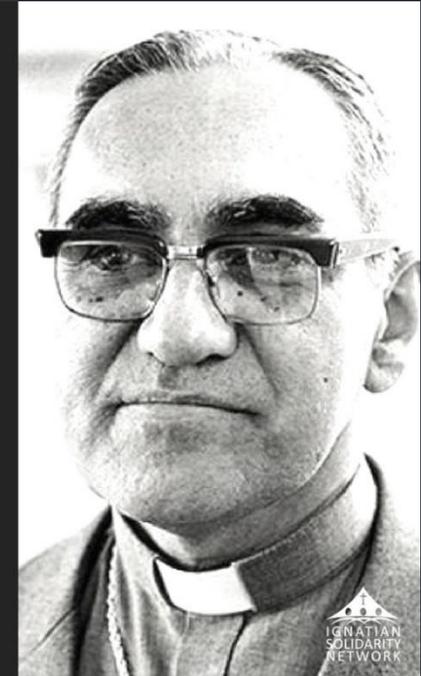
God of the oppressed, hear our prayer

***God of peace and justice,
help us to change,
so that we work for a world that mirrors your wisdom.***

***Give us the desire to act in solidarity,
so that the pillars of injustice crumble
and those now crushed are set free. Amen***

LET US
NOT TIRE OF
PREACHING
LOVE
IT IS THE
FORCE
THAT WILL
OVERCOME
THE WORLD.

BLESSED OSCAR ROMERO



IGNATIUS
SOLIDARITY
NETWORK

God of Heaven and Earth,
you created the one human family
and endowed each person with great dignity.

Aid us, we pray, in overcoming the sin of racism.
Grant us your grace in eliminating this blight
from our hearts, our communities,
our social and civil institutions.

Fill our hearts with love for you and our neighbour
so that we may work with you
in healing our land from racial injustice.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

**Taken from Prayer Service for Racial
Healing www.usccb.org**

► [I'll stand by you](#)

