



Fratelli tutti

BROTHERS AND SISTERS ALL TOGETHER

Racism

In addition, a readiness to discard others finds expression in vicious attitudes that we thought long past, such as racism, which retreats underground only to keep re-emerging. Instances of racism continue to shame us, for they show that our supposed social progress is not as real or definitive as we think.

Pope Francis, *Fratelli tutti*, paragraph 20

Watch

Bishop Shelton Farbe (USCCB) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hfQvYelf_9k&feature=emb_logo

A message from Bishop Shelton Farbe, chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee Against Racism.

Scripture

It is your faith in the Anointed Jesus that makes all of you children of God because all of you who have been initiated into the Anointed One through the ceremonial washing of baptism have put Him on. It makes no difference whether you are a Jew or a Greek, a slave or a freeman, a man or a woman, because in Jesus the Anointed, the Liberating King, you are all one. Since you belong to Him and are now subject to His power, you are the descendant of Abraham and the heir of God's glory according to the promise.

Galatians 3:26-29

Questions for discussion

- How aware am I/are we of racism and discrimination in our society/ community/ church?
- How aware am I/are we of the history of racism in our church/ our country, have we addressed this history, or do we ignore it?
- *Fratelli tutti* was released following wide spread protests following the murder of George Floyd in the USA. How aware am I/are we of the struggle for civil rights by minority groups in our country or around the world? What role has faith played in these?

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Other Church Teaching

"Our Catholic Faith does more than condemn racism, it also calls us to challenge racism, to eliminate its causes and to heal the wounds it brings. We each have a part to play, first by making sure that we think of every other person as someone worthy of respect. We uphold the rights, the equality, and the sanctity of every human life. To God, and to us, every life is a gift and irreplaceable. We affirm that every person's life matters and that the life of every black person matters."

Bishops of the Archdiocese of Southwark, June 2020

"Any kind of social or cultural discrimination in basic personal rights on the grounds of sex, race, colour, social conditions, language or religion, must be curbed and eradicated as incompatible with God's design."

Gaudium et Spes, para. 29

Listen

Kingdom Come (Sanchez Fair) <https://commonhymnal.com/songs/kingdom-come>

Prayer

Father, you created each one of us in your own image.

Yet yours is a world made glorious by its rich diversity.

This we sometimes misunderstand, sometimes fear.

Give us the patience to build on what unites us, to celebrate our differences and to learn from them.

Grant us the wisdom to recognise your Church, beyond the walls of a building, reaching out across all communities, countries and cultures.

Give us the courage to offer refuge to those in need, to challenge prejudice and seek justice for all.

Help us see that you created us in your image.

Neighbour or stranger, always our brother or sister.

Amen.

CARJ Prayer for Racial Justice

Further Learning

Being Black and Catholic (RCADW) <https://rcdow.org.uk/news/being-black-and-catholic/>

Discrimination against gypsies/Roma/traveller communities (Council of Europe) <https://www.coe.int/en/web/roma-and-travellers/anti-gypsyism/-/discrimination>

Let's Fight Racism (United Nations) <https://www.un.org/en/letsfightracism/migrants.shtml>