



PRAYER FOR PEACE AND RACIAL HARMONY IN OUR COMMUNITIES

Tuesday, June 9, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.
Family Life Center, Holy Cross Catholic Church

PRAYER FOR PEACE AND RACIAL HARMONY IN OUR COMMUNITIES

OPENING SONG

There Is A Balm in Gilead

**There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole,
there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.**

1. Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain,
But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.
2. If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul,
You can tell the love of Jesus, and say, "He died for all."
3. Don't ever feel discouraged, for Jesus is your friend; And if
you lack for knowledge, he'll ne'er refuse to lend.

Text: 76 76 with refrain; based on Jeremiah 8:22; Spiritual. Music: Spiritual.

GREETING

OPENING PRAYER

READINGS, REFLECTIONS, AND RESPONSES

SACRED READING

Micah 6:6-8

REFLECTION

Rev. Jared Cooke

RESPONSE

Psalm 25:1-10

℟̕ To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

Remember that your compassion, O Lord,
and your kindness are from of old.

In your kindness remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord. ℟̕

Relieve the troubles of my heart,
and bring me out of my distress.
Put an end to my affliction and my suffering,
and take away all my sins. ℟̕

Preserve my life, and rescue me;
let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.
Let integrity and uprightness preserve me,
because I wait for you, O Lord. ℟̕

SACRED READING

Ephesians 5:2a, 8-16

REFLECTION

Very Rev. Basil Aguzie, MSP

RESPONSE

Psalm 25:1-10

℟ Now is the acceptable time. This is the day of salvation.

There is good news for those
who are beaten down by systems of oppression. ℟

There is a Word for those who face discrimination,
racial profiling, and neighborhood redlining. ℟

There is hope for those who are
unemployed or underemployed. ℟

Holy Spirit, Come!
Let justice roll down like water
and righteousness like a mighty stream! ℟

Text: Rev. Junius B. Dotson, the General Secretary of Discipleship Ministries,
an international agency of the United Methodist Church.

SACRED READING

John 17:20-26

REFLECTION

Very Rev. James A. Misko, VG

REMARKS

F. DeKarlos Blackmon, OblSB
Very Rev. James A. Misko, VG

PRAYER AND BLESSING

*“Many communities, marginalized because of race or ethnicity,
are expressing understandable frustration and anger at the death of
Mr. George Floyd, and those who have lost their lives as he did.*

*The distress caused by this unjust and sinful act, and so many others like it,
serves as a constant reminder that we must do more
to point out how these actions contradict the Gospel of Life.*

*We must continue to pray for and help all people
arrive at a deep individual conversion of heart that will cultivate
positive change and reform of our institutions and society.”*

In Response to the Death of George Floyd
Bishop Joe S. Vásquez of Austin, May 2020

Presiding
Very Reverend James A. Misko
Vicar General, Diocese of Austin

together with

Very Reverend Basil Aguzie, MSP
Pastor, Holy Cross Parish

Reverend Jared Cooke
Parochial Vicar, St. Thomas More Parish

F. DeKarlos Blackmon, OblSB
Director, Secretariat of Life, Charity, and Justice

The Diocese of Austin expresses profound gratitude to
the Very Reverend Basil Aguzie, MSP and Holy Cross Parish
for co-sponsoring this Prayer Service for Peace in Our Communities.



Diocese of Austin

Secretariat of Life, Charity and Justice

Black Ministry • Hispanic Ministry • Social Concerns

The Offices of Black Ministry and Hispanic Ministry provide support to all matters related to the promotion of continued integration of African-American and Hispanic/Latino Catholics into parish and community life, and activities related to the spiritual, educational and societal well-being of Catholics who are served by these offices. The Office of Social Concerns serves as a central diocesan resource for social justice education, and advocacy in support of poor and vulnerable persons and communities. Social Concerns promotes awareness of Catholic social teaching, and opportunities to live the Baptismal call to love God and neighbor. While each of these offices are supported by the the Catholic Services Appeal, Black Ministry is also supported by the National Black and Indian Mission Office.