

In solidarity with all those who have expressed outrage at the virulent attacks against persons who are discriminated against; in solidarity with all those who non-violently stand with their brothers and sisters of color; in solidarity with all those who pray for an end to violence against all marginalized people, we, members of the Council of Religious for the Archdiocese of San Francisco urge all to see and respect “the spark of the Divine” in all persons.

In particular, the Council of Religious condemns the brutal killing of George Floyd, and so many others, at the hands of police officers. We are horrified at the brutality and constant harassment to which black men and women are subjected, as well as the denial of full rights and dignity that people of color too often experience. This has to stop.

As people who believe that we are all created in the image of God, we must raise up justice, peace, and the respect of each person's life. We must become aware and work to change the inequities that the pandemic and the recent murders have unveiled. We must eliminate the systemic racism that permeates every aspect of our nation.

Working with all people of good will, we commit to acting in every way possible to bring the change that is necessary so that all of our brothers and sisters can live in the liberty and justice promised to all. It is long past time to dismantle white privilege and rededicate ourselves to building God’s beloved community.

Sister Celeste Arbuckle, SSS
Sister Diane Aruda, OP-MSJ
Sister Judith Benkert, OP-Adrian
Sister Eva Camberos, MFP
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