



**Statement by The Old Catholic Church,  
Province of the United States,  
Condemning the Sin of Racism**

**9 June 2020**

The Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr said, “Protest is the language of the unheard.” We raise our voices in solidarity with the voiceless.

The centuries-long abhorrent treatment of our siblings in God whose skin tones run from tan to ebony is well-documented. Police brutality, institutionalized racism, mass incarceration are facts of life for our siblings of color, who are created in the image and likeness of God (Genesis 1:26). The National Council of Churches has reported and reiterated data, findings, and research on these topics. We join with other faith-based organizations to name and condemn the sin of racism. We commit to mobilize in addressing these issues as disciples of Jesus at the national, local, and community levels to bring about racial justice and reform.

The socio-economic and political systems are not broken; the systems were built this way. They continue to operate with injustice, cruelty, and evil built on racism, oppression, imperialism, colonialism, greed, and white supremacy.

We have learned from history that the Church cannot remain silent during times like these. The Christian church cannot stand by while innocent people are systematically attacked by governmental entities. We cannot ignore the teachings of Jesus, the One who taught us to love our neighbor and our enemy, who spoke out against oppression and injustice, who displayed righteous anger over abuse of power (Matthew 21:12, Matthew 23:1-5ff).

It is the moral obligation of the Church to speak against such behavior. Since we reject passivity in the face of conflict, it is the moral imperative of the People of God to act. The superiority of any race over another is *anathema*.

We, the Bishops of The Old Catholic Church, Province of the United States, call on **ALL** people to join us in prayer and action to end this blight on our country. “We must act justly, love tenderly, and walk humbly with our God” (Micah 6:8) .

The Most Rev. Rosemary Ananis  
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The Most Rev. Robert T. Fuentes  
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The Most Rev. Martin Shanahan  
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