



# The Catholic Parishes of Athens & Meigs Counties

75 Stewart Street, Athens, Ohio 45701

[www.athenscatholic.org](http://www.athenscatholic.org)

June 5, 2020

## RE: June 5 Update

As events continue to unfold in our nation and our world, I want to share with you these words from the National Association of Black Catholic Administrators, a "group established in 1977 dedicated to addressing the needs and concerns of Black communities and to being agents of change for an inclusive church." Their words speak from an experience that I will never have. I pray daily for guidance to stand against racism and for an end to all forms of violence and injustice in our society.

I also pray that we continue to grow in our respect of the dignity of life, and work toward unity in our world, the unity that the Lord Himself prayed for while he was on earth. In the context of the Last Supper, Our Lord Himself made this prayer to His Father, "*I pray....that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me. And I have given them the glory you gave me, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may be brought to perfection as one, that the world may know that you sent me, and that you loved them even as you loved me.*" (John 17:20-21).

May each one of us recognize our dignity in Christ, as loved children of God, and work to see that same dignity in all.

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### National Association of Black Catholic Administrators (NABCA) Response to Protests June 2, 2020

*The horrible death of George Floyd in Minneapolis, caught on video for the world to see, has incensed our nation. His death and other recent incidents around the country have brought a piercing light on deep-seated problems in our country that need to be answered by each of us in a spirit of love and conversion of heart, as we embrace a culture of life and respect for all, remembering that every one of us is made in the image and likeness of God.*

*Saint Paul tells us, "God has reconciled the world to himself in Christ... entrusting to us the message of reconciliation" (2 Corinthians 5:18-19). As racism continues to manifest itself throughout our country, we must strengthen our efforts in continuing Christ's work of reconciliation. Our Christian faith calls us to see each other universally as members of God's family; therefore, our faith also calls us to confront and overcome racism. While we pray for peaceful and non-violent methods to confront this sin, we also stand in passionate support of our communities that are understandably outraged. We, as a Church, must find ways to understand the pain of our brothers and sisters and respond to the hurt with the love that Christ demonstrates to us.*

*The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops have called upon all Catholics to, "Pray and work toward a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit, the spirit of truth to touch the hearts of all in the United States and to come down upon our criminal justice and law enforcement systems." Let us step up and be the Church of love, compassion, mercy, and understanding that Christ created us to be as we join those who are marginalized and on the peripheries in the pursuit of justice.*

*May the spirit of God unite us in love and respect and heal our broken society.*

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I invite you to pray this prayer from *For The Love of One Another* (1989), a special message from a U.S. Bishops' Committee on the Occasion of the Tenth Anniversary of the Pastoral Letter, *Brothers and Sisters to Us*, the U.S. Catholic bishops' Pastoral Letter on Racism (1979).

### **Wake Me Up Lord**

Wake me up Lord, so that the evil of racism  
finds no home within me.  
Keep watch over my heart Lord,  
and remove from me any barriers to your grace,  
that may oppress and offend my brothers and sisters.  
Fill my spirit Lord, so that I may give  
services of justice and peace.  
Clear my mind Lord, and use it for your glory.  
And finally, remind us Lord that you said,  
"blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they shall be called children of God."  
Amen.

## **Congratulations!**

It is with great pleasure that we announce the recipients of this year's St. Paul Scholarship: Ami Brannan, Caleb Bryant, Baelyn Carey, Theresa Haruna, Myeong-Yeol 'Eric' Kim, Abagael Webb, & Bailey Zorn.

## **Catholic Ladies of Columbia**

Members of the CLC will meet at 6:00 p.m. on the front lawn in front of Christ the King Church on Monday, June 8.

## **Athens Knights of Columbus**

The Athens Knights meet at the Holy Family Center on the second Tuesday of each month. The next meeting is at 7:00 p.m. on June 9.

## **Online Giving**

During this time of continued social distancing, baskets will be placed at the doors of all parishes for financial offerings. We also encourage you to set up online giving if you are able. Visit our website and click the "[Giving](#)" tab at the top of the page to learn more. You can also continue to mail your envelopes to the office or donate directly to our parishes' D/PSC. Visit the [Diocesan D/PSC page](#) to learn more.

## **This Weekend's Mass & Confession Times**

Confessions will be heard on Saturday at 10:00 a.m. at Christ the King and Sacred Heart churches.

Last weekend, the reopening of Masses went smoothly and we had plenty of room for everyone in church. We thank you for your continued patience as we work through the new procedures.

As a reminder, the new weekend Mass schedule is:

**5:00 p.m. Saturday at Christ the King**

**8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., Noon, & 6:00 p.m. on Sunday at Christ the King**

Masses in Pomeroy, Glouster and Buchtel are:

**4:30 p.m. Saturday at Sacred Heart**

**8:30 a.m. Sunday at St. Mary of the Hills**

**9:30 a.m. Sunday at Sacred Heart**

**10:00 a.m. Sunday at Holy Cross**

We will continue to stream Mass to Youtube at 5:00 p.m. Saturday and 10:00 a.m. Sunday. The Bishop has granted a dispensation for those who feel it is best to continue to stay at home at this time.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "F. Wink". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "F" and a long, sweeping underline.