

How does our faith call us to respond to systemic racism?

Anti-Racism Resources



As people of faith, we have the responsibility to stand up against injustice in our society and in our world. We must affirm and demand that **Black lives matter**. This document contains clickable links that will take you to articles, prayers, and reflections written by Black scholars, clergy, and religious. Engaging with these resources is a step that does not replace action and advocacy. We must support our brothers and sisters and listen to their prophetic call to real peace and real justice.

A Healing Beatitude, Patrick Saint-Jean, S.J.

Blessed are you who are willing to engage in a sincere conversation about race.
Blessed are you who embrace your Black sisters and brothers in the fight for social justice.

Blessed are you who are willing to be uncomfortable for the sake of healing our society.

Blessed are you who ask your bishop about racial equity training and programming in your diocese.

Blessed are you who pray to end racism as a pro-life issue.
Amen

[CLICK HERE TO READ "HOW CATHOLICS CAN WORK FOR RACIAL JUSTICE" BY PATRICK SAINT-JEAN, S.J.](#)

Black history is Catholic history

The incredible scholarship of Dr. Shannen Dee Williams allows the opportunity to learn about, engage with, and reflect on the history of Catholicism and racial justice in America.

"Black history is Catholic history". Catholic News Service via The Catholic Review, Archdiocese of Baltimore, February 6, 2020.

"Religious orders owning slaves isn't new—black Catholics have emphasized this history for years". America. August 6, 2019.

“Radicals Habits: Unearthing the History of Black Catholic Nuns in the Black Freedom Struggle”, an interview with Dr. Shannen Dee Williams and Jaimee A Smith. Black Women Radicals, June 2020.

Prophetic Voices in Our Church

What Black Lives Matter Can Teach Catholics About Racial Justice
by Olga Segura

What We Have Seen and Heard: A Pastoral Letter from the Black Bishops of the US
1987

The Magis and Justice: Keynote Address from Fr. Bryan Massingale
2017

Papal calls for racial justice



Pope Francis

“We cannot tolerate or turn a blind eye to racism and exclusion in any form and yet claim to defend the sacredness of every human life.”



Pope Benedict XVI

“Let us pray that respect for every person everywhere will increase, together with a responsible awareness that only in the reciprocal acceptance of one and all is it possible to build a world distinguished by authentic justice and true peace”.



Saint John Paul II

“Indeed, the Church can never remain silent in the face of injustice, wherever it is clearly present.”

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