



Sisters of Saint Joseph U . S . F E D E R A T I O N

United in Mission – Loving God and Neighbor

Action Items to Take to Combat Racism and White Privilege

Listen

- Learn more about black history in the Catholic Church:
 - [The Black Catholic Experience](#)
 - [National Black Sisters Conference](#)
 - [National Black Catholic Conference](#)
 - [Black Catholic Theological Symposium](#)
 - Dr. Shannen Dee Williams is the Albert LePage Assistant Professor of History at Villanova University. She is completing her first book, *Subversive Habits: The Untold Story of Black Catholic Nuns in the United States*. Follow her on [social media](#) and read her articles at [America Magazine](#), [National Catholic Reporter](#), and [U.S. Catholic](#).
 - Fr. Bryan Massingale is one of the world's leading Catholic social ethicists and scholars of African-American theological ethics, racial justice, and liberation theology. [Buy](#) his book, *Racial Justice and the Catholic Church*. You can also read his work in [National Catholic Reporter](#) and [U.S. Catholic](#).
 - [The History of Black Catholics in the United States](#) by Cyprian Davis

Learn

- [“How Can Catholics Help Lead the Fight Against Racism?”](#) by Olga Segura for America Magazine
- [“Black Rage in an Anti-Black World is a Spiritual Virtue”](#) by Dante Stewart for Sojourners
- [“George Floyd Deserved to Breathe Free”](#) by Rev. Adam Taylor for Sojourners
- [“Bryan Stevenson on the Frustration Behind the George Floyd Protests”](#) by Issac Chotiner for The New Yorker
- Racism in Our Streets and Structures: A webinar hosted by Georgetown University's Initiative on Catholic Social Thought and Public Life will happen Friday, June 5 at 12:00 pm. Register [here](#).
- Read up on antiracist work including “Me and White Supremacy” by Layla Saad and “How to be an Antiracist” by Ibram X. Kendi (while supporting [black-owned bookstores](#)).
- [Prison Abolition and Alternatives to Incarceration Starter Resources](#)

U.S. FEDERATION OF SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH • 314-925-7676 • INFO@CSSJFED.ORG

The U.S. Federation of the Sisters of Saint Joseph is a dynamic union of all the Sisters of Saint Joseph of the United States who claim a common origin in the foundation at LePuy, France in 1650. Today there are approximately 3,740 vowed members as well as 2,609 associates and 34 agrégées in the United States. Worldwide there are over 10,749 Sisters of Saint Joseph and 4,399 associates in over 50 countries.

Confront

- [Speak Up](#): Southern Poverty Law Center provides a series of how to respond to everyday bigotry
- [Anti-Racism Resources for White People](#): provides books, websites, social media, movies, podcasts, and more to educate on anti-racism work
- [What is White Privilege Really?](#)
- Educate [yourself](#) on Black Lives Matter, institutionalized racism, and anti-racism work

Act

- [Text or Call](#) to demand justice for those killed by police violence and call for reform
- Rethink sharing images and videos of police brutality or protestors on social media, as this can be re-traumatizing to black followers and could put protestors at risk for police retaliation. However, do continue to show your support via your social media platforms, while amplifying black voices.
- Email for justice for George Floyd and those in your community [templates taken from [here](#)]:

Email the Hennepin County Attorney to demand justice for George Floyd at citizeninfo@hennepin.us using this template:

Attention: Hennepin County Attorney

I am writing as a person of faith who believes in the inherent dignity of every human life to demand that the office of the Hennepin county attorney use its power to arrest and charge the police officers responsible for the murder of George Floyd.

George Floyd is a victim of unchecked police brutality and violence, and these officers must be held accountable for this murder.

Email the police department in your own city [try Googling your city's name + police department email] to demand accountability, screening, and policies for officers that builds a culture of racial equity and justice using this template:

Attention: Chief of Police

I am writing as a person of faith and a citizen of [YOUR CITY] in light of the recent murder of George Floyd at the hands of Minneapolis police officers.

In order to build a culture of safety and justice in our community, I ask that you institute mandatory training and independent accountability review boards for all officers in our city to prevent similar injustices—policies that uphold the dignity of the life of every person in our community, regardless of their race and background.

- Sign NAACP's [petition](#) to demand justice for George Floyd
- [75 Things White People Can Do for Racial Justice](#): concrete actions white and non-black individuals can take

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Pray

- [A Prayer for a Violent Nation](#)
- [Lamentations 5 for 2020](#)

Support

- [Bail funds](#) in your neighborhood and across the country. Research state-wide and local bail funds that will contribute to your community or donate to bail funds that are assisting in areas that have faced extreme police violence in the face of protests
- [Black Lives Matter](#): you can donate to the national organization
- [Minnesota Freedom Fund](#): has a list of resources and ways to get supplies to protestors in need
- Donate to the [families](#) of those who have been murdered by police
- Follow and donate to your local social justice advocacy organizations, specifically those focused on transformative justice and with black leadership.

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