

RACIAL JUSTICE

Last Sunday was Racial Justice Sunday, an annual day which encourages us to give thanks for human diversity, pray for an end to misunderstanding, racism and injustice and to act to truly make a difference so that everyone is seen and recognised as equal.



"Human dignity is the same for all human beings: when I trample on the dignity of another, I am trampling on my own."
-Pope Francis.



WORD OF THE WEEK

God said, 'Let us make man in our own image, in the likeness of ourselves and let them be masters of the fish of the sea, the birds of heaven, the cattle, all the wild animals and all the creatures that creep along the ground. God created man in the image of himself, in the image of God he created them, male and female he created them.'

GENESIS 1: 26-27

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Father, you created each one of us in your own image. Yet yours is a world made glorious by its rich diversity. This we sometimes misunderstand, sometimes fear.

Give us the patience to build on what unites us, To celebrate our differences and to learn from them.

Grant us the wisdom to recognise your Church beyond the walls of a building, reaching out across all communities, countries and cultures.

Give us the courage to offer refuge to those in need, to challenge prejudice and seek justice for all.

Help us see that you created us in your image.

Neighbour or stranger, always our brother and sister. Amen.

Prayer by Yashoda Sutcliffe (Catholic Association for Racial Justice)



We have seen a lot in the news recently about racism and protests fighting for racial justice and for equality. Our Word of the Week this week makes clear that we are all created in the image and likeness of God. And seeing us all as being made in the image of God means there is no place for discrimination. We are all equal. But that is not always the lived experience of us all.

This week we remember all those that have suffered at the hands of others due to race and pray for a world where diversity is celebrated. But also this week is about action. What can we do to make sure we are treating everyone equally and doing what we can to overcome racial injustice.

No one is born hating another person because of the color of his skin or his background or his religion. People learn to hate and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love for love comes more naturally to human heart than its opposite.



Nelson Mandela
www.geckoandfly.com

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

Have you ever experienced being treated different because of your race?

Has a friend or someone you know experienced racism?

Have you ever judged someone or made an assumption about them because of the colour of their skin?

SOMETHING TO DO
AFTER REFLECTING ON RACIAL JUSTICE USING THIS PRAYER SHEET AND OUR ASSEMBLY THIS WEEK, WHAT IS YOUR RACIAL JUSTICE MESSAGE? WRITE YOUR MESSAGE ON A PIECE OF CARDBOARD OR PAPER AND MAKE YOUR OWN RACIAL JUSTICE PLACARD.



SOMETHING TO LISTEN TO

- *IMAGE OF GOD ([CLICK HERE](#)).
- *UNBROKEN FAMILY ([CLICK HERE](#)).
- *IN HIS IMAGE ([CLICK HERE](#)).



"For the Lord loves justice; he will not forsake his faithful ones." Psalm 37: 28