

PARISH LIFE & FAITH JUSTICE

Becoming Anti-Racist - June 2021: Juneteenth

As we approach the Juneteenth holiday, the St. Joe's Anti-Racism Committee would like to invite you to reflect, learn, and grow as we walk the path of Jesus with radical love, working to become an equitable and inclusive anti-racist parish, where everybody feels like they belong.

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:25-26 "For the body does not consist of one member but of many; that there be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together".



Juneteenth (June 19): Juneteenth is a celebration of the Emancipation Proclamation in the United States. While the Emancipation Proclamation took effect in January, 1863, it wasn't until June 19, 1865, that the announcement was made in Texas that all slaves were free. The observation of this celebration began the following year to celebrate the day in history that slaves in the far South were told they were free. In 1979, Texas was the first state to make Juneteenth an official holiday. Although 47 states (including Washington) currently recognize Juneteenth as a celebration or holiday, many Americans are still not aware of its importance. (Information from "The African Americans, Many Rivers to Cross, What is Juneteenth?" with Henry Louis Gates Jr. on PBS.org., PBS Learning Media, 2013.)

Further Reading on Racism in America: "We should hope not for a colorblind society but instead for a world in which we can see each other fully, learn from each other, and do what we can to respond to each other with love". (From the book *The New Jim Crow* by Michelle Alexander, 2012, pg. 244.)

Video Learning: Although on Juneteenth the freedom of slaves in America was announced, during the following years there were many Jim Crow laws and obstacles put in place that prevented black Americans from being truly free. For more about the era in America after Emancipation and the Reconstruction era (1865-1877) during which attempts were made to redress the inequities of slavery, watch Reconstruction After the Civil War <https://www.pbs.org/show/reconstruction-america-after-civil-war>

Reflection Question: How does the Gospel call us to celebrate Juneteenth in a way that shows solidarity with our brothers and sisters who still struggle for freedom in America?

Compiled by the Anti-Racism Committee bulletin team. Questions? Comments? Email antiracismbulletin@stjosephparish.org

Kino Border Initiative – Fall Immersion Trip Info Session

Wednesday, June 23rd, 7pm – St. Joseph Church

Join us for an informational session as we plan our Border Immersion trip to the Kino Border Initiative in Nogales, Arizona, this fall. This is sure to be a life-changing experience – come and learn more! For more information about KBI, visit www.kinoborderinitiative.org/education/ Questions? Email markp@stjosephparish.org

Housing Needed! Can You Help?

A parishioner is looking for a small rental house in Seattle (Capitol Hill, Madrona, Greenlake, or other neighborhoods are great!). She's a nurse practitioner at UW, and has two small well-behaved dogs. Do you know of a small house or mother-in-law unit that will be available at the end of June? Let us know! A place with a small yard and storage would be ideal – budget is \$2400/month. Contact Mark Petterson markp@stjosephparish.org and he will send information to the renter.