

FAITH JUSTICE

Becoming Anti-Racist

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:20, 26 – “As it is there are many members, yet one body. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it.”

Quote: “For Native Americans, Columbus Day has long been hurtful. It conjures the violent history of 500 years of colonial oppression at the hands of European explorers and those who settled here — a history whose ramifications and wounds still run deep today.” --Leila Fadel on NPR Morning Edition, October 14, 2019

Commemorating Indigenous People’s Day

On October 11, we will celebrate Indigenous People’s Day in honor of the Native Peoples who first inhabited and stewarded the land of the Americas, including the lands that later became the U.S. These First Peoples, still suffering the effects of colonization, genocide, and attempts at erasure, are still here, working to heal from generational trauma and showing resilience and vibrancy of culture.

To commemorate Indigenous People’s Day in alignment with Jesuit values we focus on four movements: listening to Native voices, educating ourselves, acknowledging and repenting of a devastating history, and taking action.

Listen to Native Voices

“Reconsider Columbus Day– A PSA-style video featuring multiple voices urging us all to abolish the holiday and use the day to learn Indigenous history. (2 minutes) - [Reconsider Columbus Day.](#)

“Resiliency in the Face of Colonization” – This short article by Derrick Belgarde from the Summer 2021 issue of “A Matter of Spirit” highlights Native Americans’ biggest strength: resiliency. [Resiliency in the Face of Colonization](#)

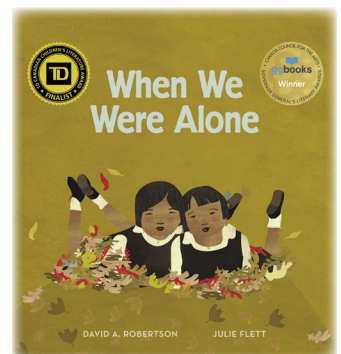
Educate Ourselves

“Unpacking Histories: Reflecting on the relations of Indigenous Peoples and Jesuits in what we currently call the US and Canada” – This series, sponsored by St. Ignatius Community in Baltimore, kicks off on Sept. 30, at 6:00am – 11:00am Pacific Time - [Unpacking Histories.](#) Register at: <https://bit.ly/UnpackingHistories>

Truth and Healing - Resources on Red Cloud Indian Boarding School’s history. [Truth and Healing Response.](#)

When We Were Alone - For Grades K-2. by David Alexander Robertson and Julie Flett (Illustrator)

When a young girl helps tend to her grandmother's garden, she begins to notice things that make her curious. Why does her grandmother have long braided hair and beautifully colored clothing? Why does she speak another language and spend so much time with her family? As she asks her grandmother about these things, she is told about life in a residential school a long time ago, where all of these things were taken away. When We Were Alone is a story about a difficult time in history and, ultimately, one of empowerment and strength.



BECOMING ANTI-RACIST

Acknowledge and repent of a devastating history



Is Healing Possible? Confronting Catholic Indian Boarding School History – This online presentation is sponsored by the Institute for Catholic Thought and Culture at Seattle University. The presenter is Maka Black Elk (Oglala Lakota), Executive Director for Truth and Healing at Red Cloud Indian School. Questions to ponder include: What must the Church do to reckon with this history? How can we imagine a Catholic faith that rejects the colonial project? October 12 at 4pm on Zoom. <https://www.seattleu.edu/ictc/events/ictc-events/>

U.S Catholic Bishops Pledge -This article describes the U.S. Bishops pledge to assist in the review of past Indigenous boarding schools made urgent by the finding of unmarked graves on the grounds of Indian schools in Canada. [Catholic Bishops Pledge.](#)

Jesuit Conference statement on indigenous boarding schools – Jesuit provincials of Canada and the U.S. express deep sorrow and commit to studying the history of Indigenous boarding schools. [Statement from the Jesuit Conference](#)

Take Action

Petition to replace Columbus Day with Indigenous People's Day. [Sign the petition.](#)

Advocate with our Washington U.S. Congressional leaders for the creation of a National Truth and Healing Commission on Indian boarding schools. - [2020 bill sponsored by Warren and Haaland](#)

LGBTQ: IT'S ALL ABOUT LOVE

Welcome back, and into a new season. Rain finally. Jackets and sweaters. Back to school for many. And some questions to consider:

What's it like for someone who spent the time away from school becoming comfortable with realizing they're gay, to come back into the classroom? Student or teacher?

How about someone whose classmates last saw him as a boy, who returns to in person classes as the person she realizes she's meant to be? Dressing differently. Maybe a new name. Definitely new pronouns.

Our **Scripture** is from Paul's Letter to the Galatians 3:28- "There is neither Jew nor Gentile, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus."