

Comments from RJM Program Participants:

“So many great programs but so little time. I want to do them all. Having the option to view livestream after the event is so helpful.”

“I admire the structure and organization of RJM ... impressive work thus far.... THANKS!”

“Great mix of speakers, films and discussion opportunities with plenty of notice to sign up.”

“I've been impressed with the diversity of RJM's programs; loved the prayer service. Thank you!!!”



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**Thank you
for offering
such
insightful
programs.**
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CONTACT

For more information or
to join our email list:
racial.justice.sjn@gmail.com

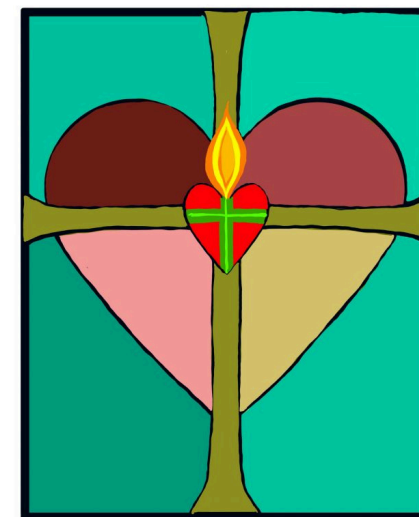
Visit saintjn.org/racial-justice-ministry



“We ask them [clergy, religious, and all the faithful] to fight the evil of racism by educating themselves, reflecting on their personal thoughts and actions, listening to the experience of those who have been affected by racism, and by developing and supporting programs that help repair the damages caused by racial discrimination. . . Racism can only end if we contend with the policies and institutional barriers that perpetuate and preserve the inequality—economic and social—that we still see all around us. With renewed vigor, we call on the members of the Body of Christ to join others in advocating and promoting policies at all levels that will combat racism and its effects in our civic and social institutions.”

“Open Wide Our Hearts: The Enduring Call to Love – A Pastoral Letter Against Racism”
U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (2018)

St. John Neumann Catholic Church
Reston, VA



RACIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY

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Racism is evil because it attacks the inherent dignity of the human person, created in the image and likeness of God. The persistence of racism demands our attention now. Racism emerges in the actions and inactions of individuals; and it is embedded in our institutions and public policies. Our faith calls us both to personal conversion and to transformation of our society.
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U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops
(2020)

OUR MISSION

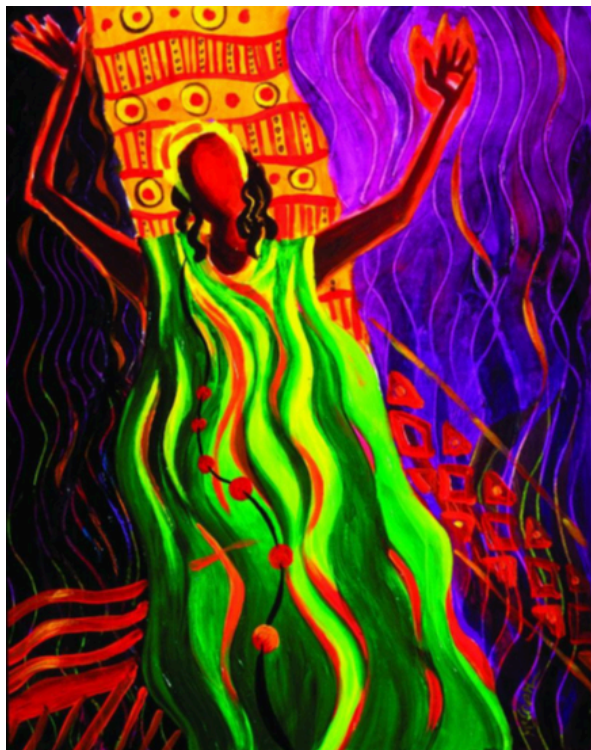
The St. John Neumann Racial Justice Ministry seeks to live Jesus by working to make our parish a positive force for ending racism in our society and in the Catholic Church.

- Through prayer, study, and dialogue, we educate ourselves and our fellow parishioners about the history, current prevalence, and impact of racial inequities in our society and Church.
- We reflect on our own attitudes, behaviors, and experiences shaped by the realities of racial privilege for some and discrimination and burdens for others in our society.
- We advocate for public policies that uphold the dignity of every person and eliminate racial disparities.
- We foster a more inclusive parish community, through ecumenical and social engagement, seeking to make our parish one where “All Are Welcome,” living up to our faith and our parish motto.

OUR PROGRAM

Our program has three main components:

1. A series of films, talks, and discussions. All parishioners (& guests) are welcome to participate in any of these events, without having to commit to the whole series.



2. A set of multi-week study, discussion, and action programs using materials from JustFaith Ministries, the U.S. Catholic Bishops, and others. Everyone is welcome to participate in these programs as well, however, participants who sign up are asked to commit to the entire eight weeks.

3. Membership recruitment and activities. Parishioners are invited to sign up for the Racial Justice Ministry email list and get involved in other activities, including advocacy, liaison with other ministries in the parish, and ecumenical/interfaith engagement.

Artwork © Michael O'Neill McGrath, OSFS

2022-2024 ACTIVITIES

- Panel Presentation: “Sharing Our Journeys – Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month” – October 2022
- Brother Mickey McGrath in-person presentation of “Madonnas of Color” – January 2023
- Bishop Roy Campbell and St. Augustine Gospel Choir, celebrating Black History Month – February 2023
- Dr. Kathleen A. Holescher – “Catholic Boarding Schools in Native America: Truth-Telling Through Historical Research” – March 2023
- Juneteenth, a family celebration – 2023
- Film viewing and discussion: “Summer of Soul” – August 2023
- Multi-week book study – “How the Word Is Passed” – September 2023
- Prayer Service – Unidos en God’s Love: A Bilingual Praise and Worship Service – September 2023
- JustFaith small group multi-week study programs: “Faith and Poverty; This Land Is Not Ours” – Winter 2024
- Bishop Burbidge celebrates Martin Luther King Jr Commemorative Mass – January 2024
- Fr. Joseph Cheah – “Anti-Asian Racism Through the Lens of Catholic Social Teaching” – May 2024
- Juneteenth, a family celebration – 2024
- Fr. Tom Ferguson – “Faithful Citizenship, Forming Your Conscience for Voting” – September 2024