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MEMORANDUM

To: All Bishops

From: Reverend Monsignor J. Brian Bransfield, General Secretary *JBB*

Date: June 2, 2020

Subject: Communication from Most Reverend Shelton J. Fabre, Chairman, USCCB Ad Hoc Committee Against Racism and Key Links to resources

Your Eminence / Your Excellency,

I take this opportunity to convey to you the attached June 1, 2020 communication from Most Reverend Shelton J. Fabre of Houma-Thibodaux and Chairman of the USCCB Ad Hoc Committee Against Racism by which the Chairman shares resources from the Committee.

It is also available at this link:

- **Resources from the Ad Hoc Committee Against Racism**

At the same time, for reference, I convey materials and resources already sent in the past week to the members of the Conference and advanced through the multiple USCCB Social Media platforms:

- **Statement of U.S. Bishops' President on George Floyd and the Protests in American Cities**
- **Statement of U.S. Bishop Chairmen in Wake of Death of George Floyd and National Protests**

A video link is available at:

- **Bishop Shelton Fabre on the Death of George Floyd**

The following are links to coverage from Catholic News Service:

- **[After weekend of protests, bishops express sorrow over Floyd killing, racism](#)**
- **[Vatican official: Racism is 'spiritual' virus that must be wiped out](#)**
- **[Catholics in Twin Cities grappling with Floyd's death, related rioting](#)**
- **[Gomez: Killing of Floyd is a 'sin that cries out to heaven for justice'](#)**

The following are links to coverage from Vatican News covering the statements from USCCB:

- **[US bishops condemn killing of George Floyd, deplore violence and destruction](#)**
- **[US Bishops: Racism not a thing of the past](#)**



Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux

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TO: Bishops of the USCCB
FROM: Bishop Shelton J. Fabre, Chair, Ad Hoc Committee Against Racism
DATE: June 1, 2020
RE: Resources from the Ad Hoc Committee Against Racism

Dear brother bishops:

At this time, when our nation is again focused on the reality of racism in response to the death of George Floyd, I want to remind you of the resources that are available for you in planning a practical action response to what we see unfolding before us in our nation and in our world.

On the *Ad Hoc Committee Against Racism* website, usccb.org/racism, you will find many resources that can be of help to you in these days. On the right side of the website, you will find links for: Education and Prayer Resources for Adults and Children; Parish Resources and a resource for Campus Ministers; Videos and Articles that all address the evil and sin of racism. Some of the particular resources that I would like to point out that you will find are:

1. [Open Wide Our Hearts](#) – *The Enduring Call to Love* – People can be encouraged to read the Pastoral Letter;
2. A [Study Guide](#) for Open Wide Our Hearts; - Sessions to utilize the study guide in groups can be scheduled in Parish Communities;
3. Information on [Everyone Belongs](#) – A children’s book on the reality of racism and our Catholic response;
4. A [Stations of the Cross for Overcoming Racism](#) prayer resource;
5. A St. Peter Claver [Prayer Service](#) and [Mass Formularies](#) that can be used now.

There are currently many resources on the website that can be utilized to invite people into the encounters that will lead to action in assist us all to overcome the evil of racism.

Finally, if you have hosted a Listening Session on Racism in your diocese, in addition to the other ways that you have followed up on the Listening Session, you might consider bringing together the team that was assembled to host the Listening Session. As you are already aware, you can also seek the counsel of any other racial harmony or Peace and Justice Committee that serves in your diocese. They will certainly have practical suggestions from a local perspective on ways that you can propose action for follow up, or practical ways to put the resources mentioned above to use at this moment.

Please know that we stand ready to assist you in any manner that we are able at this time.
Thank you.