

STA Anti-Racism Pledge

As members of St. Thomas Aquinas Church, we recognize that we are “God’s People in Extraordinary Variety”, and we are committed to being “A Caring Community”. We recognize God’s mandate to fight racism through sacred resistance. We pledge to join hands and become anti-racist leaders. We commit to protect and preserve the dignity of all, and uplift the most vulnerable in our society.

To accomplish these goals, I pledge to do the following (pick at least 1-2 statements that speak to you):

___ I pledge to pray every day to end racial injustice in all its forms.

___ I pledge to examine my assumptions, biases and actions regarding those of a different race, and with prayer and humility, seek the wisdom to correct my actions that are hurtful to others.

___ I pledge to expand my consciousness to become more aware of the use of overt and subtle expressions of racism.

___ I pledge to participate in discussions about race, and listen to others without judgment.

___ I pledge to educate myself on African and African American history, inclusivity, and racial justice issues, and share what I learn with my family, friends, and co-workers.

___ I pledge to challenge members of my family, my friends, my co-workers, and those I encounter, when racist conversations or actions emerge.

___ I pledge to do the 21-Day Ignatian Racial Equity Challenge, by myself or with others. <https://ignatiansolidarity.net/ignatian-racial-equity-challenge/>

___ I pledge to examine policies, practices, and structures of businesses that I support, to determine if racism is evident in their history or current dealings, then write letters of support or condemnation of these practices, and determine if I will continue to support them.

___ I pledge to support local African American businesses, and encourage family, friends and colleagues to do the same.

___ I pledge to volunteer and/or make donations to organizations devoted to eliminating racial disparities and helping the underserved (Ex. NAACP, Historically Black College & Universities (HBCU), St. Vincent De Paul, etc.)

___ I pledge to push for African American representation in organizations where I work or volunteer.

___ I pledge to choose one institution of our society (Ex. banking, housing, healthcare, education, criminal justice, churches, etc), research the past and present racial policies, and determine what actions I can do to eliminate racial disparities, and promote equity.

___ I pledge to embrace God’s plan for all people, “That They All May Be One”.

___ I pledge to (write your own pledge)

“THAT THEY ALL MAY BE ONE” John 17:21
Racial Justice through Reconciliation
October 2020

STA Anti-Racism Pledge - Young People Version

As members of St. Thomas Aquinas we've learned that we are "God's People in Extraordinary Variety". We know God wants us to stand up for people who are treated unfairly. We pledge to join hands and become leaders towards ending racism. We promise to protect and help everyone in our world.

In order to this, I pledge to do the following (pick at least 1-2 statements that speak to you):

I pledge to pray every day to end racial injustice in all its forms.

I pledge to pray for wisdom to know when my actions hurt others, and how to say I'm sorry.

I pledge not to judge people based on their skin color.

I pledge to listen to others' ideas when discussing racism, without judgment.

I pledge to learn more about how racism shows up in our world.

I pledge to learn how to fight racism with my words and actions, and share what I learn with others.

I pledge to learn more about African and African-American history.

I pledge to help others understand the harm that is done when racist conversation and jokes are used.

I pledge to make sure that African Americans are included in clubs and groups that I participate in.

I pledge to embrace God's plan for all people, "That They All May Be One".

I pledge to (write your own pledge)

**"THAT THEY ALL MAY BE ONE" John 17:21
Racial Justice through Reconciliation
October 2020**