

*The Diocese of Bridgeport
Apostolate of Black Catholics*

Holy Hour Against Racism &

Juneteenth Celebration

June 19, 2023



Holy Hour Against Racism 7:00PM

Please Kneel: While the presider places the Luna with the Host into the monstrance on the altar.

Once the presider has reached the front of the altar and kneels, he will lead all in singing the Salutaris :

O salutaris Hostia

Quae coeli pandis ostium:

Bella premunt hostilia,

Qui vitam sine termino

Da robur, fer auxilium

Uni trinoque Domino

Sit sempiterna gloria,

Qui vitam sine termino

Nobis donet in patria. (Amen.)

All reply: Amen.



(Bishop Caggiano) Let us pray.

O God, who gave one origin to all peoples and willed to gather from them one family for yourself, fill all hearts, we pray, with the fire of your love and kindle in them a desire for the just advancement of their neighbor, that, through the good things which you richly bestow upon all, each human person may be brought to perfection, every division may be removed, and equity and justice may be established in human society. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

All reply: Amen.

(Masses for Various Needs and Occasions, no. 29. For the Progress of Peoples)



LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is of God; everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Whoever is without love does not know God, for God is love. In this way the love of God was revealed to us: God sent his only Son into the world 4:7-16, LFM 170A 3 so that we might have life through him. In this is love: not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as expiation for our sins. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also must love one another. No one has ever seen God. Yet, if we love one another, God remains in us, and his love is brought to perfection in us. This is how we know that we remain in him and he in us, that he has given us of his Spirit. Moreover, we have seen and testify that the Father sent his Son as savior of the world. Whoever acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God remains in him and he in God. We have come to know and to believe in the love God has for us. God is love, and whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him.

The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R: The Lord is near to all who call upon him.

Every day I will bless you, and I will praise
your name forever and ever.

Great is the LORD and highly to be praised; his
greatness is unsearchable. **R.**

The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to an-
ger and of great kindness.

The LORD is good to all and compassionate to-
ward all his works. **R.**

The LORD is just in all his ways and holy in all
his works.

The LORD is near to all who call upon him, to
all who call upon him in truth. **R.**



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

R: Alleluia, alleluia.

If we love one another, God remains in us and his love is brought to perfection in us.

R: Alleluia, alleluia

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a scholar of the law, tested him by asking, "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments."

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

At the conclusion of the last reading a Bishop Caggiano preaches the homily, followed by a period of silent prayer.

INTERCESSIONS

Bishop Caggiano: God is the Father of all peoples and wills all to be gathered into one family free from division and strife. Trusting in His providence, we place our petition for an end to racism before him as we pray:

1. For our country, that we may be united in building a society in which all people have the opportunity to live with dignity and hope, especially the poor, immigrants and refugees, the elderly, and the unborn, let us pray to the Lord.

R: WE PLACE OUR PETITION FOR AN END TO RACISM BEFORE HIM

2. That all people may live in greater harmony and work to put an end to racial prejudice and discrimination, believing that God can heal every wound and right every wrong, let us pray to the Lord.

R: WE PLACE OUR PETITION FOR AN END TO RACISM BEFORE HIM

3. That the Lord will raise up saints in our time who will be leaders in the particular fight to bring souls to Christ amidst their efforts to rid the nation of the evil of racism, let us pray to the Lord.

R: WE PLACE OUR PETITION FOR AN END TO RACISM BEFORE HIM

4. That all would work to eradicate racism from every civic and social institution, let us pray to the Lord.

R: WE PLACE OUR PETITION FOR AN END TO RACISM BEFORE HIM

5. That those groups disproportionately impacted by the pandemic will receive the care they need and the comfort and compassion of our Lord and the hope of his resurrection, let us pray to the Lord.

R: WE PLACE OUR PETITION FOR AN END TO RACISM BEFORE HIM



6. That all people would work to restore hope, right wrongs, maintain commitments, and promote the well-being of individuals and of peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

R: WE PLACE OUR PETITION FOR AN END TO RACISM BEFORE HIM

7. That we would see Christ in the people we meet and open wide our hearts to them, let us pray to the Lord.

R: WE PLACE OUR PETITION FOR AN END TO RACISM BEFORE HIM

8. That God would bless the efforts of all who seek to deepen understanding, foster reconciliation, and publicly witness to the Church's commitment to ending racism, we pray to the Lord.

R: WE PLACE OUR PETITION FOR AN END TO RACISM BEFORE HIM



9. That, above all, we will see a spirit of truth wash across the country causing all to recognize the inherent dignity of all human life and a deeper recognition that racism is an attack on human dignity.

R: WE PLACE OUR PETITION FOR AN END TO RACISM BEFORE HIM

10. For those who have died, especially those who lost their lives because of racial hatred and a disregard for the sanctity of human life, that they might know eternal joy in the presence of Jesus Christ and all the saints, let us pray to the Lord.

R: WE PLACE OUR PETITION FOR AN END TO RACISM BEFORE HIM



(After a period of silent prayer:)

READING

As St. Paul proclaimed, “Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. Of these I am the foremost. But for that reason, I was mercifully treated, so that in me, as the foremost, Christ Jesus might display all his patience as an example for those who would come to believe in him for everlasting life” (1 Tm 1:15-16). St. Paul’s own conversion is a powerful reminder of how God’s grace can transform even the hardest of hearts. Prayer and working toward conversion must be our first response in the face of evil actions. “I tell you, in just the same way there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need of repentance” (Lk 15:7). Therefore, we must never limit our understanding of God’s power to bring about the conversion of even those whose hearts appear completely frozen by the sin of racism. Our communities must never cease to invite and encourage them in love to abandon these sinful thoughts and destructive ways. 6 Conversion is an essential aspect of evangelization, which “is a question not only of preaching the Gospel in ever wider geographic areas or to ever greater numbers of people, but also of affecting and as it were upsetting, through the power of the Gospel, mankind’s criteria of judgment.” Like St. Paul, this requires us to examine our most deeply held “values, [our] points of interest, lines of thought, sources of inspiration and models of life”—all that may be “in contrast with the Word of God and the plan of salvation.”

Open Wide Our Hearts, pp. 24-25

After a period of silent prayer:

LITANY

Lord, have mercy

Lord, have mercy

Christ, have mercy

Christ, have mercy

Lord, have mercy

Lord, have mercy

God our Father in heaven

have mercy on us

God the Son, Redeemer of the world

have mercy on us

God the Holy Spirit

have mercy on us

Holy Trinity, one God

be our salvation

Blood of Christ, only Son of the Father

be our salvation

Blood of Christ, incarnate Word

be our salvation

Blood of Christ, of the new and eternal
covenant

be our salvation

Blood of Christ, that spilled to the ground
be our salvation

Blood of Christ, that flowed at the scourging
be our salvation

Blood of Christ, dripping from the thorns
be our salvation

Blood of Christ, shed on the cross
be our salvation

Blood of Christ, the price of our redemption
be our salvation

Blood of Christ, our only claim to pardon
be our salvation

Blood of Christ, our blessing cup
be our salvation

Blood of Christ, that makes the barren fruitful
be our salvation

Blood of Christ, protection of the threatened
be our salvation

Blood of Christ, comfort of the weary
be our salvation

Blood of Christ, solace of the mourner
be our salvation

Blood of Christ, hope of the repentant
be our salvation

Blood of Christ, consolation of the dying
be our salvation

Blood of Christ, our peace and refreshment
be our salvation

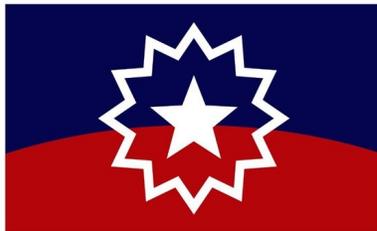
Blood of Christ, our pledge of life
be our salvation

Blood of Christ, by which we pass to glory
be our salvation

Blood of Christ, most worthy of honor
be our salvation

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the
world

have mercy on us



Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world

have mercy on us

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world

have mercy on us

Lord, you redeemed us by your blood.

You have made us a kingdom to serve our God.

Let us pray.

O God, who by the Precious Blood of your Only Begotten Son have redeemed the whole world, preserve in us the work of your mercy, so that, ever honoring the mystery of our salvation, we may merit to obtain its fruits. Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Now let us offer together the prayer our Lord Jesus Christ taught us:

All: Our Father ...

BENEDICTION

Tantum ergo Sacramentum

Veneremur cernui:

Et antiquum documentum

Novo cedat ritui

Praestet fides supplementum

Sensuum defectui.

Genitori, Genitoque

Laus et jubilatio

Salus, honor, virtus quoque

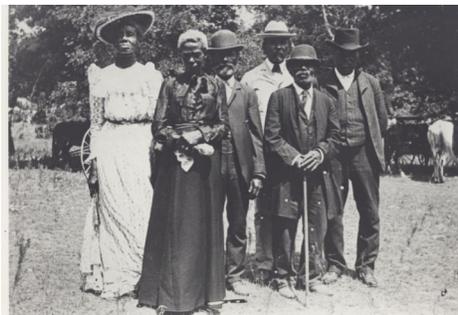
Sit et benedictio:

Procedenti ab utroque

Compar sit laudatio. (Amen.)

V. You have given them Bread from heaven

R. Having all sweetness within it



Let us pray:

O God, who in this wonderful Sacrament have left us a memorial of your Passion, grant us, we pray, so to revere the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood that we may always experience in ourselves the fruits of your redemption. Who live and reign for ever and ever .

Blessed be God.

Blessed be his holy Name.

Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true man.

Blessed be the Name of Jesus. Blessed be his most Sacred Heart.

Blessed be his most Precious Blood.

Blessed be Jesus in the most holy Sacrament of the altar.

Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete.

Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most holy.

Blessed be her holy and Immaculate Conception.

Blessed be her glorious Assumption.

Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.

Blessed be Saint Joseph, her most chaste Spouse.

Blessed be God in his Angels and in his Saints.

Juneteenth Celebration: 7 PM

Welcome

Fr. Reggie Norman

Drummers

(name of drummers)

Procession

Black Members of Military

Being Blessed by Elders

Ancestral Invocation Prayer

Fr. Reggie Norman

(next page)



My uplifted Ancestors, guides,
fierce protectors and skilled healers.
Please stand with your children of the
Apostolate of Black Catholics,
your children. Be with us in this
moment, and guide us along our road
with a cool head and a clear mind.

We are root of your root, soil of our
soil, bone of your bone, and blood of
your blood.

Not deaf to our sincere cries; not blind
to our honest placations, keep the gifts
of perfect health, wealth and prosperity
close so that we may honor and grow
your legacy.

We have not forgotten our commitment
to our lineage, and we vow to never
forget. Thank you and we honor you
with our work, thoughts and prayers.

Choir Selection

Blessed Assurance

Proclamation

Bridgeport Police Chief

Headquarters District of Texas

Galveston, Texas, June 19, 1856

General Orders, No. 3

The People of Texas are informed that, in accordance with a Proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of rights, and rights of property between former master and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that of employer and free laborer. The freedmen are advised to remain at thir present homes and work for wages. They are informed that they will not be allowed to collect at Military Posts, and that they will not be supported in idleness, there or elsewhere.

By order of :

G. Granger, major General Commanding,
F.W. Emory, Major and A.A. Gen.

Liturgical Dancer

(Dancer Name)

Past Speaker

Jane N’nej

Song

“O Lod, I want you to help me”

Present Speaker

Fr. Reggie Norman

Presentation of Proclamations

(Presenter Name)

Future Speaker

Bishop Caggiano

Final Comments

(Speaker)

Choir Medley:

“We’ve Come this far by faith”



Black National Anthem:

Lift Every Voice

(please stand)

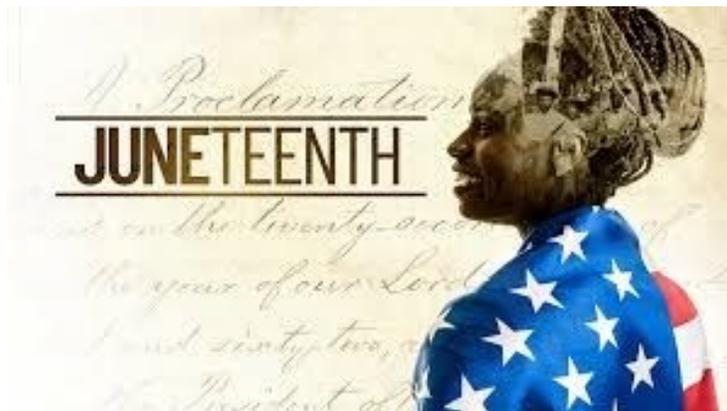
Lift every voice and sing
'Til Earth and Heaven ring
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty
Let our rejoicing rise
High as the listening skies
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark
past has taught us
Sing a song full of the hope that the pre-
sent has brought us
Facing the rising sun of our new day be-
gun
Let us march on 'til victory is won

'Til now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright
star is cast

Stony the road we trod
Bitter the chastening rod
Felt in the days when hope unborn had
died

Yet with a steady beat
Have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our fathers
sighed?
We have come over a way that with
tears has been watered
We have come, treading our path
through the blood of the slaughtered
Out from the gloomy past
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark
past has taught us
Sing a song full of the hope that the
present has brought us
Facing the rising sun of our new day
begun
Let us march on 'til victory is won



Please join us in the Parish basement for refreshments and Fellowship.

Thank you for joining us celebrate our heritage.

Principal Celebrant:

The Most Reverend
Frank J. Caggiano

Episcopal Vicar for Black Catholics:

Rev. Fr. Reginald D. Norman

Juneteenth Committee:

(Names)

