



## Ad Hoc Committee Against Racism

3211 FOURTH STREET NE ■ WASHINGTON, DC 20017-1194 ■ (202)541-3181 ■ FAX (202)541-3339

August 17, 2020

Dear Brothers,

Wednesday September 9, 2020 is the Memorial of St. Peter Claver who, as you may know, ministered to enslaved Africans. Accordingly, he is the patron saint of African Americans and enslaved peoples. I would like to invite us all to celebrate the feast of St. Peter Claver in a special way this year through the sacrifice of the mass in reparation for sins against the Sacred Heart of Jesus and especially in reparation for sins based upon race.

As we suggested last year, apropos mass formats may include (*from* the Roman Missal, Mass and Prayers for Various Needs and Occasions):

- Mass for the Preservation of Peace and Justice (No. 30)
- Mass for Promoting Harmony (No. 15)
- Mass for the Progress of Peoples (No. 29)
- Mass for the Nation or State (No. 21).

Mindful of the cataclysmic divisions this country now faces, please invite the laity to pray for an end to racism in our communities, country and world through any of the resources provided below.

- St. Peter Claver Prayer Service [Petitions and Prayer Feast of St Peter Claver.pdf](#)
- [Knight of Columbus Novena Against Racism](#)

Please also consider recommending these prayers and any other on the USCCB Ad Hoc Committee website for use in parishes or for individual or group prayer.

Fraternally yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shelton J. Fabre".

Most Reverend Shelton J. Fabre  
Bishop of Houma-Thibodaux  
Chairman, Ad Hoc Committee Against Racism