

January 18, 2021

## Statement on Martin Luther King Jr. Day

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that." – Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Today, January 18, 2021, the United States commemorates the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Dr. King gave his life to a vision of a peaceful, democratic, anti-racist society.

Along with the entire world, on January 6 we watched a racist, white supremacist mob attempting to subvert our nation's democratic processes. We are told there may be additional violence in the coming days and weeks.

In honor of Dr. King's legacy, the Society of the Sacred Heart, United States -Canada Province reaffirms our stand against racism and white supremacy. We recognize President-elect Biden as the lawfully elected leader of the United States. We condemn the use of violence and call on the people of our great country to express their views through peaceful means. We pledge to continue our work contributing to creating a society founded on love and inclusion.

The Gospel and Catholic teaching reject the violence of white supremacy and racism painfully evident in the current crisis. We call on all faith leaders to join us in taking a stand against it.

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