

STATEMENT AGAINST RACISM

We, the Missionary Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, are deeply appalled and profoundly saddened by the brazen display of deadly violence inflicted upon George Floyd as he begged for his breath with a knee forced upon his neck. During eight suffering minutes, Mr. Floyd's human dignity and his sacred life were totally disregarded and abused.

Sadly, this gut-wrenching image of a person of color crying out for justice will not be the last one that we witness. Mr. Floyd represents a long list of individuals, who simply because of the color of their skin, have been victimized or traumatized, often by those responsible for ensuring safety for all citizens and all communities. The outrageous actions against Mr. Floyd magnify the systemic racism that is insidious in our culture – whether blatant or subtle.

As religious women called to “be the Heart of God on earth” we commit ourselves to live non-violently, to work to transform structures that promote violence and to affirm the dignity of persons.

Let us turn to the God of mercy and peace to help us move forward with compassion, nonviolence, and respect for one another.