My dear friends in Christ,

“Take My Hand Precious Lord” an African American spiritual song came to mind as I read about Mr. George Floyd.

This moving song was written in the midst of deep grief of an African American husband and father. This Gospel song writer, Jim Reeves poured out his heart and soul to Lord in the midst of the sudden and tragic loss of both his wife and his newborn child.

Recently, Mr. Floyd poured out his heart, begging for his life, begging for air, while a white police officer pressed his knee against his neck for total of 8 minutes 46 seconds, while still other police officers held their knees pressed to Mr. Floyd’s still body. He could not breathe and repeatedly cried out, over and over, “I can’t breathe!” As he was dying he cried out, “Mama!” “Mama!” --perhaps, many veteran soldiers can attest to their fallen comrades crying out to their mothers as they lay dying-- then Mr. Floyd grew quiet and unresponsive.

“Precious Lord, take my hand. Lead me on, let me stand. I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.”

The callous behavior of the arresting officer shocked bystanders angrily pleading for the officer to remove his knee, but the officer continued to strongly press his knee against Mr. Floyd’s neck for nearly three minutes, even after he became unconscious and unresponsive. Mr. Floyd died of suffocation according to an independent medical examiner.

“Through the storm, through the night; Lead me on through the light. Take my hand, Precious Lord. And, lead me home.”

Who heard Mr. Floyd’s cry? Was Mr. Floyd also crying out to us?

“When my way grows dreary Precious Lord, lead me near. When My life is almost gone.”

We saw much of what happened, because the whole scene was captured on video, and so perhaps for the very first time in my memory, the eyes of the hearts of our entire nation may have been opened. Those who viewed this video saw the cruel reality of racism in America. We were sickened.

Perhaps many white Americans experienced for the first time with open eyes and hearts what so many African Americans sadly experience with racism, and have repeatedly reported to us, when confronted by racist police officers? Is it possible that we see together with one vision? Do we see Mr. Floyd with the eyes of Christ? Are we collectively . appalled?

“Precious Lord, take my hand. Lead me on...”

For over a week, massive street protests filled our streets. Men and women of every race,
We saw something remarkable: a white police chief kneeling with protesters; a white sheriff walking with the protestors, protesting police brutality; and, a young police officer to the rapt attention of protestors, telling them that she as an African American police officer was strongly opposed to police violence and racism. We saw multiple protesters hugging police and multiple police hugging protesters. Later, we saw protesters in Washington, DC, singing in unison “Lean on Me” as they stood peacefully for an end to police and civilian violence.

“At the river I will stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.”

We witnessed many positive and uplifting moments. And, yes, we witnessed some very nasty moments, too. But perhaps these positive experiences are leading us collectively to some real conversations among groups that heretofore could not imagine such conversation were possible. And we saw those encouraging nasty ones universally and strongly condemned -- and going nowhere.

“Take my hand, precious Lord”

Many have prayed for a graced opening for peace and reconciliation. Perhaps this has been the prayer of tens of millions of Americans? How many long for such honest and respectful conversations? How many long for authentic national dialogue leading to an end to racism? How many are united in seeking action to identify and remove any racists who cynically misuse their institutional authority to foment racial violence?

McDonald’s has released a new video on twitter that takes a strong stand against police violence and racist violence. Could real change be happening?! Praise God!

We want to believe real progress is definitely possible. Millions want it. The eyes of our hearts are opening!

“When my life is almost gone, at the river I will stand. Guide my feet, hold my hand. Take my hand, precious Lord. And lead me (us) home.”

Blessings of peace to all,

Fr. Garry, O.P.
We ask for your patience. Due to limited space, and more folks wanting to attend Mass, there is a chance you may not be able to attend on a weekly basis. The Archdiocese asks us to use an equitable program so that everyone has an opportunity. Due to this we may not be able to fulfill your request to attend Mass on a particular date and time. Please note that the dispensation by the Archbishop is still in place. We are still streaming Mass on Saturday evening, and there are openings for daily Masses Tuesday through Friday at 5:15pm. We have also now added the Sunday, 7:30pm Mass.

It is still necessary to call and request to attend a Mass, as our headcount is still limited and we must keep an accurate accounting of who is in attendance, and their contact information. If you have a mask, please use it. We do have some masks available.

All Mass intentions are prayed for as scheduled, as our Priests continue to say a private daily Mass in their Chapel. There are many openings; if you would like to request a Mass Intention, please go to our website: https://www.uonewman.org/mass-intentions-calendar.html

**MASS INTENTIONS THROUGH JUNE**

June 5    Pauline Marie Miller (d)
June 6    Elizabeth Keegan (d)
June 7    Dick Stokes (d)
June 9    Carl Noelle (d)
June 10   Leona and Dennis
June 11   Fr. Vincent Bui
June 13   David Craig (d)
June 14   Dick Stokes (d)
June 20   Marie D’Arcy Vanderveer (d)
June 21   Dick Stokes (d)
June 27   Phyllis Porter (d)
June 28   Dick Stokes (d)
June 29   The Roman Pontiff, Pope Francis

**Sunday Readings**

June 7, 2020

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity

EX 34:4b-6, 8-9  2 COR 13:11-13  JN 3:16-18

**Coffee Talk with Fr. Peter**

On Wednesdays at 8:30am, Fr. Peter will be on Zoom and invites you to join him in his chat room. Here is the link to join in, and it is also on the website.

(Join Zoom Meeting ID: 880 9638 6186 )
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88096386186

**Spiritual Communion Prayer**

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.

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Congratulations to Fr. Augustine Hilander, O.P., who celebrated the 12\textsuperscript{th} anniversary of his ordination on May 31, 2020. Fr. Augustine was assigned here in 2008/2009. Fr. Augustine is now at Blessed Sacrament in Seattle.

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If you’re having a rough time, please email or phone the priests or other members of staff. Fr. Garry is taking appointments one on one meetings; please contact him directly via: FrGarryOP@gmail.com or the ‘Contact Fr. Garry’ link on our website https://www.uonewman.org/contact-fr-garry.html
The Mysteries of the Rosary

In this month of May, I will write a short, weekly reflection on the mysteries of the Rosary, so that at the end of the month there will be here a reflection on all four sets of mysteries. I hope they might be helpful aids for some, in praying the rosary. Br. Paul Maria

Second Luminous Mystery: The Wedding Feast at Canaan

Jesus chose, after some promptings from his mother, to perform his first miracle at a wedding. It is interesting to note that marriage was the first sacrament to be instituted. Marriage was given to humans by God in the beginning, all the way back in Genesis. One thing we can learn from that is that the new covenant builds on the old covenant. It is also interesting that the prophets often compared the covenant between God and Israel as a marriage. And Jesus is often compared to a bridegroom coming to his bride, the Church.

There are many reasons that it is fitting that Jesus performed his first public miracle at a wedding.

I knew a deacon, who loved to elaborate on the sheer quantity of wine Jesus made. There were six large stone water jars. When we are saying large, we mean large. Each contained two to three ‘measures.’ The Attic liquid measure that is talking about contained 39.39 liters. If one does the math, this means Jesus gifted the wedding couple between 624 and 936 bottles of wine. That is an astounding amount of wine.

What can we say about this, aside from the implications that Jesus was not a teetotaler? Deacon Chuck would always stress that this miracle is supposed to show how much God blesses marriage. He blesses it with superabundance. He really blesses it with overflowing grace.

Another lesson we can draw from this comes when we look at this miracle from the eyes of the servants. Filling those water jugs did not make immediate sense. The servants did it anyway, mainly because it was their job. But afterwards they saw why Jesus wanted them to do this. Our lesson is simple “do what he tells you,” even if we can’t see immediately why.

Third Luminous Mystery: The Proclamation of the Gospel

This mystery is dramatically different in scope from all the others. All the others refer to a specific event. They usually only have a few scripture passages that one can examine. In contrast, this mystery covers the three years from the life of Christ, in which he proclaimed the Good News throughout Judea. This opens many directions one can take this mystery. In ones private meditation while praying the rosary there is ample opportunity to explore all these directions.

In this short meditation, we will focus on the beginning of Jesus’ ministry. Jesus went preaching in Galilee and proclaimed: “This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel.” (Mk. 1:15)

When Jesus speaks of the kingdom of God, what does he mean? Does he mean heaven, the future fulfillment we hope for? No, Jesus proclaimed: “The kingdom of God is at hand.” It is beginning today. God is building his kingdom right now. He wants to enter our life and transform it. The basic starting point for the kingdom is deceptively simple: “Repent, and believe in the gospel.”

Thus, the beginning of Jesus ministry and the beginning of the kingdom in our lives is a call to conversion. We have turned away from God, through sin. And what is sin, but a distraction from what is essential and really something that makes us miserable. When we repent from our sins, it allows God to enter and frees us from this wretchedness.

But we cannot stop there. When we internalize the Good News, we have to share it. We are all called to follow Jesus’ example. Which means we are also called to proclaim the Gospel to the people around us. What can I do to do this?
Is there anything you’d like to say to the Streaming Team?

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!
Because of my family situation, I would not be able to attend mass - perhaps for a long time - so I am grateful to be 'attending' Mass via Live Stream.
Sally Long

Simply “thank you”. I so appreciate being able to see Mass every week.
Rosemary Barr

The recording team and those performing the mass have done a wonderful job. Professional and well planned! I’ve watched multiple masses and Newman is one of the best I’ve seen. Thanks so much, I’ve really felt connected To God through this pandemic!
Cat McGovern-Zlotek

Thanks for doing this! I will also add I have been participating in Word on Fire Mass through Pentecost due to its availability in the morning.
Jeff Baumgart

Dear Streaming Team,
Thank you for all you do to bring the celebration of Mass to us. Your efforts are much appreciated!
Diza Hilles

Streaming Team:
Thank you for bringing your talents forward to provide the online Masses to us. The divine light in you serves the communities of faith with love thru life streaming Masses. You are also providing evangelical tools for us to help spread the gospel. May you be blessed with Christ’s peace for your goodness. Thank you!
Wendy Truxal

We so appreciate Dylan’s expertise and commitment, plus our musicians planning the music and leading us without a choir.
Gemi & Bob Van Iderstine

Thank you very much! You have been doing a great job. It’s so wonderful to celebrate Mass with our Newman Family.”
Thérèse Hurley
(Viewing from New Jersey)

The streaming Mass has been a pillar, a light, and true nourishment in the midst of these challenging times. I can not express enough how grateful I am for the weekly work and dedication of the Streaming Team and all involved in celebrating the Mass have done. It has been an incredible gift. Thank you!!!
Colin Pip Dixon

Thank you!! You don't know how much we... who can’t come to Mass in our church... we appreciate you!!! You keep us joined TOGETHER!! The Church is the people!!
God bless you!!
Patty Roland

Omgosh...Thank you!!!!. The quality let alone the effort has been such a reassuring connection. I am not ready for weekly full masses, so hope that this can continue for a while. While I don't see people, I just still feel very connected through these mass recordings. Thank you!!!!
Carey Hilbert

It’s been awesome being able to go to mass “virtually.” Very appreciative of effort.
Marjean Yates

We would like to say thank you.
Parke Blundon

Because our satellite internet is so slow and we have limited data, we have only managed to watch one Mass and part of another during this whole time. What has impressed me is the quality of the video. It is almost as if it were done by professionals. What I did see, I was VERY impressed!
Julie McCauley
Here’s the status of St. Vincent de Paul of Lane County
as the Agency transitions from panic mode toward its new normal.
In keeping with the mission of serving the poor and those in need of consolation, our staff:

• Has administered a 24-hour shelter at the Lane County Fairgrounds, with distancing, hand washing, showers, laundry service, and prepackaged meals for unhoused adults. The site served 140 per day at its busiest and is closing as the county contract ends.

• Reconfigured Dusk to Dawn on Hwy 99N to a 24-hour shelter for 140 unhoused adults, and provides day services at the Eugene Service Station, with distancing recommendations. The bed space is being reconfigured to accommodate another 40 or so while maintaining distancing.

• Provides 24-hour shelter with showers and laundry, meals, homeschool tutoring and childcare to 15-19 unhoused families, about 70 people, who are registered at First Place Family Center. This takes place at the First Place Annex. Eventually that facility will return to “night-shelter only” status.

• Hosts four unhoused families in vehicles in the First Place parking lot, and opens the facility to one family at a time for showers, laundry, etc., followed by sanitation of exposed surfaces. Diapers, hygiene items, and prepackaged meals are available on a drop-in basis so families can conserve resources. About 100 families per week have done so.

• Safely pre-packed and handed out 1,000 more food boxes in April 2020 than were given in April 2019 at the Atkinson Food Room. The May count will be about 1,800.

• Closed all retail outlets initially, and have now opened the St. Vinnie’s stores that best lend themselves to social distancing. The re-opened locations are Division, Seneca, West Eugene, Thurston, Q St., Junction City, Albany, Florence and The Dalles. Furloughed workers are returning; we have successfully brought back 50% of the staff who had been furloughed.

• Halted construction and related projects initially, but are now moving forward with Iris Place on River Road and a grant-funded exterior rehab project at the Ross Lane Apartments.

• Served 52 veteran families with quarantine accommodations in motels, beds, and/or household items from the Division Store.

• A cashier’s check for a large amount came from an anonymous donor who indicated, “Jesus sent this.” Thank you as well for your prayers and support as St. Vincent de Paul traversed a deep valley and is seeing the light!

Update on The Carmelites
Please stay tuned for information regarding the Carmelites Dinner, that has been postponed to fall. In the meantime, the sisters may be feeling a financial crunch and could use a little extra in donations. Since they supply the hosts for communion and that need has been significantly reduced, they are not receiving income in.

Just a consideration of either checks or Winco cards will help them.

Mailing address:
Carmel of Maria Regina Monastery
87609 Greenhill Rd., Eugene, OR 97402
Combating Racism
Pray that our Lord soften the hearts of those who hate and embolden those whose hearts are full of love. Lord, raise up disciples in these days who can lead our nation towards justice and peace.

Please find parish resources, prayers & statements from the USCCB and Archbishop Sample on Combating Racism here:
https://pastoralministry.archpdx.org/racism

Pope Francis on the Death of George Floyd, Racism & Protests

In his General Audience today, the Holy Father said:

“Dear brothers and sisters in the United States, I have witnessed with great concern the disturbing social unrest in your nation in these past days, following the tragic death of Mr. George Floyd. My friends, we cannot tolerate or turn a blind eye to racism and exclusion in any form and yet claim to defend the sacredness of every human life. At the same time, we have to recognize that the violence of recent nights is self-destructive and self-defeating. Nothing is gained by violence and so much is lost.”

Link to video of the Pope’s full remarks:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ou2owd-efm4&feature=youtu.be

Newman Center Mass Attendance Request Line: 541-357-9099

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