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November 1, 2020 | Solemnity of All Saints

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

On Tuesday we have a decision to make that will shape the future of our country. Election Day in America can be called a "holy day of civic obligation." The principles that are woven into the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights — the self-evident truths of justice and equality, representative government, individual rights, the rule of law — are hallowed in our national conscience and are expressed in a concrete way when we vote.

As we enter this pivotal week for our country, I cannot think of more appropriate and inspirational words for us to ponder than those delivered by the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on 28 August 1963 on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, DC.

God bless you!

Sincerely in the Lord,

Fr. Jesalonia

I HAVE A DREAM

I am happy to join you today in what will go down in history as the greatest demonstration for freedom in the history of our nation.

Five score years ago, a great American, in whose symbolic shadow we stand today, signed the Emancipation Proclamation. This momentous decree came as a great beacon light of hope to millions of Negro slaves who had been seared in the flames of withering injustice. It came as a joyous daybreak to end the long night of their captivity.

But one hundred years later, the Negro still is not free. One hundred years later, the life of the Negro is still sadly crippled by the manacles of segregation and the chains of discrimination. One hundred years later, the Negro lives on a lonely island of poverty in the midst of a vast ocean of material prosperity. One hundred years later, the Negro is still languished in the corners of American society and finds himself an exile in his own land. And so we've come here today to dramatize a shameful condition.

In a sense we've come to our nation's capital to cash a check. When the architects of our republic wrote the magnificent words of the Constitution and Declaration of Independence, they were signing a promissory note to which every American was to fall heir. This note was a promise that all men, yes, black men as well as white men, would be guaranteed the "unalienable Rights" of "Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." It is obvious today that America has defaulted on this promissory note, insofar as her citizens of color are concerned. Instead of honoring this sacred obligation, America has given the Negro people a bad check, a check which has come back marked "insufficient funds."

But we refuse to believe that the bank of justice is bankrupt. We refuse to believe that there are insufficient funds in the great vaults of opportunity of this nation. And so, we've come to cash this check, a check that will give us upon demand the riches of freedom and the security of justice.

We have also come to this hallowed spot to remind America of the fierce urgency of Now. This is no time to engage in

the luxury of cooling off or to take the tranquilizing drug of gradualism. Now is the time to make real the promises of democracy. Now is the time to rise from the dark and desolate valley of segregation to the sunlit path of racial justice. Now is the time to life our nation from the quicksands of racial injustice to the solid rock of brotherhood. Now is the time to make justice a reality for all of God's children.

It would be fatal for the nation to overlook the urgency of the moment. This sweltering summer of the Negro's legitimate discontent will not pass until there is an invigorating autumn of freedom and equality. Nineteen sixty-three is not an end, but a beginning. And those who hope that the Negro needed to blow off steam and will now be content will have a rude awakening if the nation returns to business as usual. And there will be neither rest nor tranquility in America until the Negro is granted his citizenship rights. The whirlwinds of revolt will continue to shake the foundations of our nation until the bright day of justice emerges.

But there is something that I must say to my people, who stand on the warm threshold which leads into the palace of justice: In the process of gaining our rightful place, we must not be guilty of wrongful deeds. Let us not seek to satisfy our thirst for freedom by drinking from the cup of bitterness and hatred. We must forever conduct our struggle on the high plane of dignity and discipline. We must not allow our creative protest to degenerate into physical violence. Again and again, we must rise to the majestic heights of meeting physical force with soul force.

The marvelous new militancy which has engulfed the Negro community must not lead us to a distrust of all white people, for many of our white brothers, as evidenced by their presence here today, have come to realize that their destiny is tied up with our destiny. And they have come to realize that their freedom is inextricably bound to our freedom.

We cannot walk alone. And as we walk, we must make the pledge that we shall always march ahead. We cannot turn back.

There are those who are asking the devotees of civil rights, "When will you be satisfied?" We can never be satisfied as long as the Negro is the victim of the unspeakable horrors of police brutality. We can never be satisfied as long as our bodies, heavy with the fatigue of travel, cannot gain lodging in the motels of the highways and the hotels of the cities. We cannot be satisfied as long as the Negro's basic mobility is from a smaller ghetto to a larger one. We can never be satisfied as long as our children are stripped of their self-hood and robbed of their dignity by signs stating: "For Whites Only." We cannot be satisfied as long as a Negro in Mississippi cannot vote and a Negro in New York believes he has nothing for which to vote. No, no, we are not satisfied, and we will not be satisfied until "justice rolls down like waters, and righteousness like a mighty stream."



Let us not wallow in the valley of despair, I say to you today, my friends. And so even though we face the difficulties of today and tomorrow, I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream.

I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal."

I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia, the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood.

I have a dream that one day even the state of Mississippi, a state sweltering with the heat of injustice, sweltering with the heat of oppression, will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice.

I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character.

I have a dream today.

I have a dream that one day, down in Alabama, with its vicious racists, with its governor having his lips dripping with the words of "interposition" and "nullification" — one day right there in Alabama little black boys and girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and girls as sisters and brothers.

I have a dream today.

I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, and every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made plain, as the crooked places will be made straight; "and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all flesh shall see it together."

This is our hope, and this is the faith that I go back to the South with.

With this faith we will be able to hew out of the mountain of despair a stone of hope. With this faith, we will be able to transform the jangling discords of our nation into a beautiful symphony of brotherhood. With this faith, we will be able to work together, to pray together, to struggle together, to go to jail together, to stand up for freedom together, knowing that we will be free one day.

And this will be the day — this will be the day when all God's children will be able to sing with new meaning: My country 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing. Land where my fathers died, land of the Pilgrims' pride, from every mountainside, let freedom ring!

And if America is to be a great nation, this must become true.

And when this happens, and when we allow freedom's ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual:

Free at last! Free at last! Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!

"I Have a Dream," Address Delivered at the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. August 20, 1963. The Martin Luther King, Jr. Research and Education Institute.



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THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Social Distancing Socials. Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays. 6 PM. Zoom.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1st Sunday Morning Sing-In. 9:45 AM. Zoom.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1st & WEEKEND OF NOVEMBER 7th Society of St. Vincent de Paul Thanksgiving Food Drive.

> THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5th Just Faith Workshop. Presented by Ignatian Social Justice. 6:30 PM. Zoom.

For more information about our upcoming programs, please visit stignatiusloyola.org.

Weekday Masses (Monday to Friday)

8:30 AM (Church), 12:10 PM (Church) & 5:30 PM (Livestream only) Saturday: 8:30 AM (Church)

Saturday Vigil Sunday:

Solemn Livestream 5:30 PM Fr. Hallinan 8:00 AM Fr. Amiot 9:30 AM Fr. Bergen 11:00 AM Fr. Hilbert 11:00 AM Fr. Hallinan 7:30 PM Fr. Hilbert

Join Our Email Mailing List!

We invite you to join our email mailing list to receive updates on parish news and events.



To sign-up, scan the QR code at left or visit stignatiusloyola.org/index.php/ about_us/parish-email-list

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To stay up-to-date on parish news, follow us on Instagram and Facebook at *stignatiusnyc*.

Announced Masses and Readings for the Week

Monday, November 2nd (Feast of All Souls) Readings will be taken from the Masses for the Dead

Tuesday, November 3rd

(31st Tuesday in Ordinary Time) Philippians 2:5–11 Psalm 22 Luke 14:15–24 8:30 MEM Ciro Saracino 12:10 MEM Francis Ennis McCollum 5:30 MEM Noel Sumulong

Wednesday, November 4th

(St. Charles Borromeo) Philippians 2:12–18 Psalm 27 Luke 14:25–33 8:30 LVG Thomas & Karen Flannigan 12:10 MEM Shirley Goodingham 5:30 MEM Raymond E. Baker

Thursday, November 5th

(All Saints of the Society of Jesus) Deuteronomy 30:11–14 Psalm 16 John 12:23–26 8:30 MEM Joseph Zickel 12:10 MEM Francisco Gonzalez Rivera 5:30 MEM Jack Kehoe

Friday, November 6th

(31st Friday in Ordinary Time) Philippians 3:17–4:1 Psalm 122 Luke 16:1–8 8:30 MEM The Meehan Family 12:10 MEM Alexander Urtula 5:30 MEM Ann Nawn

Saturday, November 7th

(31st Saturday in Ordinary Time) Philippians 4:10–19 Psalm 112 Luke 16:9–15 8:30 MEM John Maguire

Sunday, November 8th

(32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time)Wisdom 6:12–16Psalm 631 Thessalonians 4:13–18Matthew 25:1–13