

Church of St. Ignatius Loyola

ESTABLISHED IN 1851 • JESUIT SINCE 1866

October 10, 2021 | Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Systemic Racism?

Many Americans bristle at the idea that there is systemic racism in the United States; the understanding that public policies and socio-economic realities work together to perpetuate inequities between racial groups. Sadly, ample evidence is available to confirm its existence.

One of the most significant contributing factors to the enormous wealth gap between Black and White families is the rate of homeownership and the values of those homes. Black Americans who achieve the dream of homeownership often face the pernicious impact of lower appraisals for their homes in comparison to comparable homes owned by Whites. A 2018 study from the Brookings Institution found that homes in majority-Black neighborhoods were appraised for 23% less than properties in mostly White neighborhoods—even when the homes were of similar quality and with similar amenities. The study estimated that homes in majority-Black neighborhoods are undervalued by \$48,000 per home on average, leading to a \$156



billion cumulative loss in value nationwide. In Jacksonville, Florida, a White husband and a Black wife had their home in a predominantly White neighborhood appraised twice. The second appraisal was 40% higher than the first. The second occurred when only the White husband was at home and all evidence of a mixed-race family was removed from their house. Another mixed-race family in Hartford, Connecticut, had a similar experience and employed the same strategy. Their second appraisal came in \$160,000 higher, which better reflected the actual selling price of their home.

Why is a New York City summer a greater health hazard to persons of color? Timon McPhearson, a researcher at the Urban Systems Lab at the New School, has spent a decade studying the disproportionate impact that heat has on Black and Brown neighborhoods where a lack of tree cover and green space creates “urban heat islands” whose air temperature can be two to four degrees warmer than neighboring areas, with the difference in surface temperatures considerably greater than that. The areas most likely to be urban heat islands are in Harlem, the South Bronx, and Manhattan’s Lower East Side—all areas that historically were marked by government disinvestment and neglect. In these neighborhoods, persons suffer from high rates of obesity, asthma, and cardiovascular disease, all of which have roots in socio-economic factors to which public policies contributed, and all of which exacerbate the risks of high heat. African Americans in the city are twice as likely to die from heat exposure as White New Yorkers, according to the city’s health department. On a summer day this past August, the sidewalk temperature on well-shaded 94th Street on the West Side was 84 degrees, while directly across town in East Harlem, the sidewalk temperature was a blistering 115.

For years, FEMA has required applicants for disaster aid to provide a deed or other formal proof of homeownership to receive assistance. This policy denied assistance to thousands of Southern families seeking grants for repairs after disasters destroyed their homes. More than a third of Black-owned land in the South is passed down informally. Land handed down in such a manner becomes heirs’ property, a type of ownership in which families hold property collectively. This became a necessity after the Civil War when Blacks, attempting to acquire property, were met by violence, swindles, and an inability to register titles. Only after investigative reporters highlighted this disparity did FEMA finally act to modify the rule so that families could access aid through a process of self-certification of ownership.

Only if we admit the reality of systemic racism can we hope to uproot it and so create a society of equity and justice for all.

— Rev. Mark Hallinan, S.J.
Associate Pastor

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12th

Tuesday Night Book Group: *St. Augustine's Confessions*.
7 PM. Zoom.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13th

Society of St. Vincent de Paul.
7 PM. Gonzaga Meeting Room.

*Note: Proof of vaccination is required to attend.
Email documentation to svdpmembership980@gmail.com
prior to the day of the meeting.*

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14th

Ignatian Social Justice: Viewing of Asthma Alley Video.
7 PM. Zoom.

Scripture Class: *The Bible as Dream*. 7 PM. Zoom.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16th

Tuesday Night Book Group: Saturday Field Trip.
Noon to 3 PM.

RETREAT



"Autumn Reflects God's Grandeur"

*Friday, November 5th - Sunday, November 7th
Jogues Retreat, Cornwall, New York*

We will "harvest" the graces of the past year, gathering up and sorting out, discriminating what is abiding from what is evanescent. We will use scripture, poetry, music, private prayer and faith sharing, wonderful food, and the beauty of the Hudson Valley.

*The requested offering is \$150.
Financial assistance is available.*

To register, email AutumnParishRetreatSIL@gmail.com.

Weekday Masses (Monday to Friday)

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

For the Weekend of October 17th

Saturday Vigil	5:30 PM	Fr. Bergen
Sunday:	8:00 AM	Fr. Gustafson
	9:30 AM	Fr. Gustafson
Solemn (Livestream)	11:00 AM	Fr. Yesalonia
Wallace Hall Family	11:00 AM	Fr. Hallinan
	7:30 PM	Fr. Yesalonia

Announced Masses and Readings for the Week

Monday, October 11th

(Twenty-eighth Monday in Ordinary Time)
Romans 1:1-7 Psalm 98 Luke 11:29-32
8:30 MEM The Meehan Family

Tuesday, October 12th

(Twenty-eighth Tuesday in Ordinary Time)
Romans 1:16-25 Psalm 19 Luke 11:37-41
8:30 MEM Arthur Murphy
12:10 MEM Charles Tantillo
5:30 MEM Ann Nawn

Wednesday, October 13th

(Twenty-eighth Wednesday in Ordinary Time)
Romans 2:1-11 Psalm 62 Luke 11:42-46
8:30 MEM The Choix & Gordon Families
12:10 MEM Veronica Raible
5:30 MEM Elizabeth Troilo

Thursday, October 14th

(Twenty-eighth Thursday in Ordinary Time)
Romans 3:21-30 Psalm 130 Luke 11:47-54
8:30 MEM Hugh O'Lunney
12:10 MEM Donald Melanson
5:30 MEM Living & Deceased Members of the
Wallace Family

Friday, October 15th

(St. Teresa of Jesus)
Romans 4:1-8 Psalm 32 Luke 12:1-7
8:30 MEM Jack O'Leary
12:10 MEM Jackie La Penna
5:30 MEM Bill Hassett

Saturday, October 16th

(Twenty-eighth Saturday in Ordinary Time)
Romans 4:13, 16-18 Psalm 105 Luke 12:8-12
8:30 MEM Diane Sobera

Sunday, October 17th

(Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time)
Isaiah 53:10-11 Psalm 33
Hebrews 4:14-16 Mark 10:35-45



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