MADE IN GOD’S IMAGE

Pray and Work to End the Sin of Racism

(CCC 1935)

Mass of Peace and Justice in commemoration of the 1963 March on Washington

Friday, August 28, 2020, 4:00 p.m.

Cathedral of Saint Matthew the Apostle

Most Reverend Wilton D. Gregory
Archbishop of Washington
Principal Celebrant
Our Father, Who art in heaven, we who are assembled here in a spirit of peace and in good faith dedicate ourselves and our hopes to You. We ask the fullness of your blessing upon those who have gathered with us today, and upon all men and women of good will to whom the cause of justice and equality is sacred. We ask this blessing because we are convinced that in honoring all Your children, we show forth in our lives the love that You have given us.

Bless this nation and all its people. May the warmth of Your love replace the coldness that springs from prejudice and bitterness. Send in our midst the Holy Spirit to open the eyes of all to the great truth that all men are equal in Your sight. Let us understand that simple justice demands that the rights of all be honored by every man.

Give strength and wisdom to our President and Vice President. Enlighten and guide the Congress of these United States. May our judges in every court be heralds of justice and equity. Let just laws be administered without discrimination. See to it, we implore, that no man be so powerful as to be above the law, or so weak as to be deprived of its full protection.

We ask special blessings for those men and women who in sincerity and honesty have been leaders in the struggle for justice and harmony among races. As Moses of old, they have gone before their people to a land of promise. Let that promise quickly become a reality, so that the ideals of freedom, blessed alike by our religious faith and our heritage of democracy, will prevail in our land.

Finally, we ask that You consecrate to Your service all who in this crusade are dedicated to the principles of the Constitution of these United States. May we be sensitive to our duties toward others as we demand from them our rights. May we move forward without bitterness, even when confronted with prejudice and discrimination. May we shun violence, knowing that the meek shall inherit the earth. But may this meekness of manner be joined with courage and strength so that with Your help, O heavenly Father, and following the teachings of Christ, Your Son, we shall now and in the days to come live together as brothers in dignity, justice, charity and peace.
Introductory Rites

Processional Hymn

Lift Ev’ry Voice and Sing

James Johnson

1. Lift ev’ry voice and sing, Till earth and heaven ring,
   Ring with the harmonies of liberty;
   Let our rejoicing rise high as the listening seas.

2. Stony the road we trod, Bitter the chastening rod,
   Felt in the days when hope unborn had feet;
   Come to the place for which our people sighed.

3. God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
   Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
   Thou who hast by thy might Led us into the skies;

4. Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
   Sing a song full of the watered; We have come, treading our wa-
   We have come over a way that with tears has been ta-

5. Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;
   Lest our hearts, drunk with the hope that the present has brought us;
   Facing the path through the blood of the slaughtered; Out from the wine of the world, we forget thee;

6. Rising sun Of our new day begun,
   Gloomy past, Till now we stand at last neath thy hand,
   May we forever stand,

Let us march on until victory is won.
Where the bright gleam of our bright star is cast.
True to our God, true to our native land.

Text: James W. Johnson, 1871–1938
Tune: ANTHEM, 66 10 66 10 14 66 10; J. Rosamund Johnson, 1873–1954
Greeting

Penitential Act

Collect

Let us pray.

O God, who gave one origin to all peoples and willed to gather from them one family for yourself; fill all hearts, we pray, with the fire of your love and kindle in them a desire for the just advancement of their neighbor, that, through the good things which you richly bestow upon all, each human person may be brought to perfection, every division may be removed, and equity and justice may be established in human society.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

R. / Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

Isaiah 9:1-6

El pueblo que caminaba en tinieblas vio una gran luz; sobre los que vivían en tierra de sombras, una luz resplandeció.

Engrandeciste a tu pueblo e hiciste grande su alegría. Se gozan en tu presencia como gozan al cosechar, como se alegran al repartirse el botín. Porque tú quebrantaste su pesado yugo, la barra que oprimía sus hombros y el cetro de su tirano, como en el día de Madián.

Porque toda bota que calza el guerrero en el fragor de la batalla, y el manto revolcado en sangre, serán para quemar, combustible para el fuego.

Porque un niño nos ha nacido, un hijo se nos ha dado; lleva sobre sus hombros el signo del imperio y su nombre será: “Consejero admirable”, “Dios poderoso”, “Padre sempiterno”, “Príncipe de la paz”; para extender el principado con una paz sin límites sobre el trono de David y sobre su reino; para establecerlo y consolidarlo con la justicia y el derecho, desde ahora y para siempre. El celo del Señor lo realizará.

The Word of the Lord. R. / Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 85:9-10.11-12.13-14

Rawn Harbor

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En aquel tiempo, cuando Jesús vio a la muchedumbre, subió al monte y se sentó. Entonces se le acercaron sus discípulos. Enseguida comenzó a enseñarles, hablándoles así:

“Dichosos los pobres de espíritu, porque de ellos es el Reino de los cielos. 
Dichosos los que lloran, porque serán consolados.
Dichosos los sufridos, porque heredarán la tierra.
Dichosos los que tienen hambre y sed de justicia, porque serán saciados.
Dichosos los misericordiosos, porque obtendrán misericordia.
Dichosos los limpios de corazón, porque verán a Dios.
Dichosos los que trabajan por la paz, porque se les llamará hijos de Dios.
Dichosos serán ustedes cuando los injurien, los persigan y digan cosas falsas de ustedes por causa mía. Alégrese y salten de contento, porque su premio será grande en los cielos”.

The Gospel of the Lord. R. / Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.
Universal Prayer

**Read in English**
For our Holy Father Pope Francis, Archbishop Gregory, and all leaders of our Church, that they may guide us to deeper faith in God and love for others.

Let us pray to the Lord. R. / Lord, hear our prayer.

**Read in Spanish**
For all government leaders, that they may strive to end the violence perpetrated by harsh words, deadly weapons, or cold indifference, and that our homes, our nation, and countries around the world become havens of peace.

Let us pray to the Lord. R. / Lord, hear our prayer.

**Read in American Sign Language**
For solidarity in our global human family, that we may work together to protect the most vulnerable, and for the grace to see every human being as a child of God, regardless of race, language or culture.

Let us pray to the Lord. R. / Lord, hear our prayer.

**Read in Chinese**
For the equitable treatment of women in our country and throughout the world, as we celebrate the centennial of the 19th amendment, that women’s voices may be heard and their contributions recognized.

Let us pray to the Lord. R. / Lord, hear our prayer.

**Read in Italian**
For all members of our society, that the dream for truth and justice of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. may inspire them to work for equality.

Let us pray to the Lord. R. / Lord, hear our prayer.

**Read in French**
For those who are sick, lonely, discouraged or oppressed, and for those suffering from the current coronavirus pandemic, that they may be strengthened by God’s consolation and aided by their friends.

Let us pray to the Lord. R. / Lord, hear our prayer.

**Read in Portuguese**
For those who have died, especially our loved ones and all those who suffered in the struggle for civil and human rights, that God may bring them into the peace of eternal life.

Let us pray to the Lord. R. / Lord, hear our prayer.

**Read in Tagalog**
For each of us present here today, that we may hear Christ’s call to be witnesses and faithfully live the joy of the Gospel.

Let us pray to the Lord. R. / Lord, hear our prayer.
Prayer over the Offerings

Preface

Holy, Holy, Holy

The Mystery of Faith

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

Great Amen
COMMUNION RITE

Lord's Prayer

Sign of Peace

Lamb of God

Communion Hymn

Let us pray.

Having been fed with the one Bread by which you constantly renew the human family, we pray, O Lord, that from participation in this Sacrament of unity we may draw a love strong and pure to help peoples in their development and, prompted by charity, to fulfill what justice requires.

Through Christ our Lord.  

R. / Amen.
CONCLUDING RITES

Pontifical Blessing and Dismissal

Recessional Hymn

Lead Me, Guide Me

Verses

1. I am weak and I need thy strength and
2. Help me tread in the paths of right - eous -
3. I am lost if you take your hand from

pow’r To help me o - ver my weak - est
ness, Be my aid when Sa - tan and sin op -
me, I am blind with - out thy Light to

hour. Help me through the dark - ness thy face to
press. I am put - ting all my trust in
see. Lord, just al - ways let me thy ser - vant

see. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.
thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.
be. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Text: Doris M. Akers, 1922–1995
Tune: LEAD ME, GUIDE ME, Irregular with refrain; Doris M. Akers, 1922–1995; harm. by Richard Smallwood, b.1948
The following column by Catholic Standard Editor Mark Zimmermann appeared in the August 15, 2013 special edition marking the 50th anniversary of March on Washington.

By Mark Zimmermann

The March on Washington will forever be remembered for the inspiring words of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s “I Have a Dream” speech. But it is also worth remembering that the march’s invocation was delivered by Washington Archbishop Patrick O’Boyle, who not only stood with Dr. King that day, but dedicated his life to seeking justice for all people.

Shortly after becoming Washington’s first resident archbishop in 1948, Archbishop O’Boyle began integrating local Catholic parishes and schools. Washington’s new archbishop was a no-nonsense man, a native of Scranton, Pennsylvania, whose father was an Irish immigrant and worked in a steel mill. As a New York parish priest, Father O’Boyle served in a poor neighborhood and later helped lead the U.S. Catholic Church’s relief efforts to refugees affected by World War II and its aftermath.

In a 1987 interview, retired New Orleans Archbishop Philip Hannan, who had been a key administrator during that era in the Archdiocese of Washington, assisting Archbishop O’Boyle in the effort to integrate schools, said, “He (Archbishop O’Boyle) thought everybody at that time needed to be reminded we were all children of God, regardless of race.”

By the time the Supreme Court issued its landmark 1954 Brown vs. Board of Education ruling that outlawed segregated schools, integration was well underway at Catholic schools in the nation’s capital and in surrounding Maryland. Chief Justice Earl Warren conferred with Archbishop O’Boyle about the archdiocese’s integration efforts before the court’s historic ruling, said Archbishop Hannan, who died in 2011.

 Archbishop O’Boyle led efforts with Washington interfaith leaders to increase educational and employment opportunities for minorities in the nation’s capital. “Whenever he saw injustice, he want after it. He was really his brother’s keeper,” said Col. John Posey, a prominent D.C. educator and African-American Catholic who died in 1989.

During Vatican II, Archbishop O’Boyle strongly called for a statement against racism and anti-Semitism.

The plain-speaking prelate was at home as he stood at the Lincoln Memorial and offered the opening prayer at the Aug. 28, 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. “Bless this nation and all its people. May the warmth of Your love replace the coldness that springs from prejudice and bitterness,” prayed Archbishop O’Boyle. “Send in our midst the Holy Spirit to open the eyes of all to the great truth that all men are equal in Your sight. Let us understand that simple justice demands that the rights of all be honored by every man.”

Archbishop O’Boyle concluded his prayer with the words, “May we move forward without bitterness, even when confronted with prejudice and discrimination. May we shun violence, knowing that the meek shall inherit the earth. But may this meekness of manner be joined with courage and strength so that with Your help, O Heavenly Father, and following the teachings of Christ, Your Son, we shall now and in the days to come live together as brothers in dignity, justice, charity and peace.”

But Archbishop O’Boyle did more than attend the march. He had encouraged local parishioners to participate, and march with their pastors holding banners identifying their parishes and ministries. Along with The Catholic University of America and Georgetown University, five local parishes – Sts. Paul and Augustine, Holy Redeemer, Holy Comforter, St. Anthony and the Shrine of the Sacred Heart – offered overnight accommodations to out-of-town marchers. The Knights of Columbus and the Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women played key roles in offering hospitality to the marchers. On the morning of the march, special Masses were held at the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception and at the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle and at several Catholic churches in the city.

In his 2006 book Steadfast in the Faith: The Life of Patrick Cardinal O’Boyle published by The Catholic University of America Press, author Morris MacGregor noted, “(Archbishop) O’Boyle’s forthright endorsement of the march, as well as his participation, influenced many of his fellow bishops and American Catholics. Thousands of religious and laity, marching under banners that proclaimed their parish affiliation, provided a visual affirmation of the Church’s commitment to racial justice.”

Cardinal O’Boyle was named a cardinal in 1967, and retired in 1973 after leading the Archdiocese of Washington for 25 years. At his death in 1987 at the age of 91, Cardinal O’Boyle was eulogized as the “founding father” of the Archdiocese of Washington. In the post-war Baby Boom, he oversaw the formation of dozens of parishes and the construction of over 300 buildings, and he once said he was proud that all of the new buildings had been built for a spiritual purpose. He also built bridges of understanding and opportunity between people of different races and backgrounds. His episcopal motto, fittingly, was State in Fide, Latin for “Stand Fast in the Faith.”