**Call to Action to Address Systemic Racism**

**By Margaret Magee OSF**

In many newsletters we have read articles from Sr. Gloria Oehl on her work with [Investor Advocates for Social Justice](https://iasj.org/)  (IASJ). Their mission is to advocate on behalf of a community of investors whose faith-based values promote human rights, climate justice, racial equity and the common good. As a Congregation we are members of IASJ. We are grateful for the work that Gloria continues to do on our behalf.

IASJ has drafted a [Statement of Solidarity and Call to Action](https://www.iccr.org/investors-commit-address-systemic-racism-through-their-portfolios-corporate-engagements-and-policy):

1. Commit to actively engage with, amplify, and include Black voices in investor spaces and company engagements

2. Commit to embed a racial equity and justice lens into our own organizations.

3. Commit to integrating racial justice into investment decision-making and engagement strategies.

4. Reinvest in Communities.

5. Use Investor Voice to Advance Anti-Racist Public Policy.

The Finance Committee has been attentive to many of these calls, especially those directly related to investment decisions and policies. As Leadership we are keeping a particular focus on the second call to commit to embed a racial equity and justice lens into our own organizations.

At our last FSA Board of Directors (BOD) meeting in October 2020 the IASJ statement was shared with the members. The Leadership in each of our countries was asked to see how they could commit to embed a racial equity and justice lens in their organizations. This information will be brought to our next BOD meeting in March of 2021.

As Leadership, we have sent out a number of articles and documents on the topics of Racism and White Privilege. We have had sisters write articles in the newsletter on topics of Social Justice, Racism and Black Lives Matter. A number of sisters and associates have volunteered to provide statements, articles and reflections to the students of St. Bonaventure University as they develop a new website, [Brothers and Sisters to All.](https://www.brothersandsistersall.org/)

As Leadership, we will continue conversations and meetings with our Partners in Ministry at BayCare, Allegany Franciscan Ministries (AFM) and with the Directors of our Sponsored Ministries. Together we hope to deepen our understanding of what it means to embed a racial equity and justice lens and more importantly to make this a reality.