

My Friends,

We are not only dealing with a pandemic but ongoing racial injustice that has not abated. My first direct experience of this was when I was in Memphis and a young brother college student during the height of the Civil Rights Movement and the assassination of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. As a community we must be part of the solution to the issues that confront us. Our recent experience is not new but has been repeated multiple times. We cannot claim ignorance. We cannot be disinterested.

While we are living through this pandemic, we also have to continue asking ourselves how we promote the Social Teaching of the Church and Justice. We need to ask how we build diverse, loving communities. We have to ask how our schools continue responding to the challenge to become centers where the marginalized, the disenfranchised, the poor have a home - and more - how do we advocate for their legitimate interests. So much of what we do as a Lasallian community does just that, but we cannot rest. The country is sick and not simply because of COVID-19. God willing, and with determination, we can be part of the cure.

Brother Michael Fehrenbach