



May 31, 2020

Dear Students, Faculty, Staff, Alumni and Families,

As I heard the first reports of George Floyd's murder early this week, I struggled to find the right words to express my grief, anger and sorrow. Watching the protests unfold across the country yesterday, it is clear everyone is struggling with the best way to respond. But whether our words are imperfect or our protests are imperfect, we must respond.

The abhorrent violence directed at our brothers and sisters in the black community must be fought against by all of us. As Catholics we are called to mortification in the face of injustice and brutality. As a community built on the social justice values of the Sisters of Divine Providence, OLLU must speak out when our brothers and sisters are being hurt and abused. We are called to act and we are called to pray.

Monday, June 1, at 5 p.m., our Mission and Ministry Division will hold a live-streamed prayer service which can be viewed via Facebook live. We will be praying for the family and friends of George Floyd, and for justice and healing for our brothers and sisters in the black community. We will raise our voices to hold our nation to its promise of creating a place where all God's people are treated with dignity and equality.

As a Providence community, let us hold to our values of Community, Integrity, Trust and Service and work to create a more perfect world where the dignity of every person is valued and protected.

Praying for peace and justice,

Diane E. Melby  
President