

USCCB Special Task Force to Promote Peace in Our Communities
 Overview of Activities for The Archdiocese of St. Louis
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Overarching Focus: Efforts to promote peace in our communities in response to the recent unrest in Ferguson have concentrated on 1st internal/Archdiocesan based programs which explore and challenge the relationships and administrative practices within the Archdiocese and 2nd community based outreach programs which seek to bring peace and healing to our neighborhoods and neighbors. The following highlights a few of our activities.

Ministry	Overview	Program(s)	Internal or External	Date(s)	Notes
Peace and Justice Commission	The Commission develops its priorities by looking at how issues affecting our region specifically impact the family. By working to help strengthen the family, the Commission hopes to help build stronger communities and a peaceful and just region and world. http://archstl.org/peace-justice	Various	Internal and External	Continuous	Established by Archbishop Carlson – Direct response to killing of Michael Brown in August 2014 and the Unrest In Ferguson.
		Racial Equity Sub Committee	Internal	Continuous	Explores the policies, initiatives, programs and projects of the Archdiocese in an effort to identify and address core priorities. Ex. Hiring practices and awarding of contracts.
St. Charles Lwanga Center	Promotes Christian spiritual formation and leadership development within the African American Catholic Community and for all who collaborate with them in accordance with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and in the tradition of the Catholic Church.		Internal and External	Continuous	
	Lecture: The Most Reverend Edward Braxton *presented in partnership with Peace	Presentation of his pastoral letter – The Racial Divide in the US	Internal and External	August 8, 2016	Presentation, discussion and Q & A with Bishop Braxton

	and Justice	Revisited			
		National Black Catholic Congress	Internal	Continuous	Activities focus on preparation for Congress XII and an examination the role our faith plays in examining who we are in light of the recent unrest.
		MLK Mass and Model of Justice Award Honorees	internal	Annual - MLK Weekend	Recently recognized 32 Catholic HS and Parish Students from Archdiocese who exemplify the mission of MLK.
		Youth Ministry	Internal and External	Continuous	Various programs focus on "Who Are You?" training our young folks as a result of the increase in racial tensions.
	<i>A Conference Around Howard University's "Committed to Breathing: The United States Reconstruction Project" What might this mean for our region in light of Ferguson?</i>	Howard University Alternative Spring Break St. Louis Initiative	External	March 17, 2015	Howard University Alternative Spring Break participants spent a week in service to the St. Louis area. The Lwanga Center hosted a prayer service, dinner and conference including a panel discussion connecting the work being done at Howard with the needs of the St. Louis region. http://stlouisreview.com/article/2015-03-18/sacrifices-and
Teach In Series	Peace and Justice in partnership with Catholic Education present a workshop and discussion series for students focusing on race relations.		Internal	Spring 2017 Semester	
Archdiocese Young Adult Ministry	Young adults gather to listen to guest speakers, discuss relevant topics and socialize.	Theology on Tap	Internal and External	Continuous	Originally designed as a spiritually focused social gathering for young adults ages 21-35 in St. Louis, post Ferguson, Theology on Tap started to include more topics focusing on Social Justice and Racial Equity based upon Catholic Social Teaching. The age of the groups that gather is now 21 and up when race and justice are the focus.
beOne – A bold vision for Catholic St. Louis...We are more than just fish fries.	beOne is a call to the revitalization of our local Church. It is a call to renew our baptismal promises to be the Church, to live out the Gospel and help one another be more Catholic	Four Focal Points 1. Fostering Missionary Discipleship 2. Promoting	Internal	Resource Days April 30, 2016 January 28,	"I pray not only for them, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, so that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me."

	and get to Heaven. http://beone.archstl.org/	Human Dignity and Social Responsibility 3. Embracing a Culture of Leadership 4. Securing the Future of Catholic Education		2017	-John 17: 20-21
Archdiocesan Commission on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs.	Outreach to other religions	Cultural Exchanges	External	Various	Tours of houses of worship outside of the Catholic Faith and support for non-Catholics such as assistance cleaning a Jewish cemetery that had recently been vandalized (Feb. 22, 2017)
Sacred Conversation on Race & Courageous Conversations	Series of discussion groups designed to confront systemic racism.	Catholic and other churches hosted numerous sessions.	Internal and External	Various	
Fontbonne University – Take Your Summer Seriously	Weekly “Eyes on the Prize” viewing sessions dealt with the history of racial injustice in the United States.	n/a	Internal	June 22 – July 20, 2016	Roughly 80 to 90 people — about 67 percent white and 33 percent African-American — from approximately 25 parishes gathered for each session, watching an hour-long episode of the PBS documentary "Eyes on the Prize," which aired in 1987. Discussions afterward have extended well beyond the hour allotted for them.
North City Deanery Interracial Relations Committee	Year of Mercy Pilgrimage “Crossing the Delmar Divide”	n/a	External	September 10, 2016	Walk was organized to emphasize the extent to which St. Louis is still segregated by “crossing” through one of St. Louis’ most historically racially and economically divided communities.
One Voice, One Lord	Concert for Peace	n/a	External	July 24, 2016	Choirs from various houses of worship in the St. Louis Region gathered in song.