



# Diocese of Lancaster

## Racial Justice Charter



### **We believe:**

Every single person is created in the image and likeness of God.

If any one person suffers, all people suffer in some way.

All people are equal in the eyes of God.

We are living examples of the richness and diversity God's world.

Catholics should promote racial justice.

We should work for a better quality of life for all people no matter who they are.

Racial Justice is at the heart of the Good News of Jesus Christ.

### **We reject and condemn racism because**

Christ commanded us to love our neighbour: all people are our neighbours. .

Racism denies people their dignity as children of God.

Racism is contrary to God's plan for the world.

Racism destroys lives and divides communities

### **We commit ourselves**

To pray and work for an end to racial injustice in our Church,  
our communities and our world

To study the Gospels and Catholic social teaching,  
so that we can learn how to fight racial injustice.

To identify the skills and experience of all people in our parish,  
so that we work together to build a Church in which we all feel valued

To encourage all parishes to participate fully in Racial Justice Sunday

To support victims of racism in whatever way we can.

To work to ensure that all young people from all backgrounds  
are equally valued in our schools.

To take up Pope Paul VI's challenge: "If you want peace, work for justice".

To foster relationships with international organisations of all faiths  
that are committed to working for racial justice.

### **Conclusion**

We are called to be 'doers' of the Word, and not just 'hearers'.

We must show by our lives and our actions that we are putting the Gospel  
into practise in the decisions we make every day