



8.5.2020

**Bishop Persico invites Catholics to prayer and to service,  
addressing racism this week**

United Clergy of Erie leaders are planning two events this week to stand in solidarity against systemic racism and violence. The Most Rev. Lawrence T. Persico, bishop of Erie, invites all clergy, women religious and lay Catholics to attend, particularly those who live in the region.

On Friday, Aug. 7 at 7 pm, the organization will hold an outdoor prayer service of racial reconciliation on the steps of the Episcopal Cathedral of St. Paul, 134 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Erie. Members will ask God's blessing on their shared ministry in the Erie community.

The prayer service will be livestreamed by the Episcopal Diocese and shared on the Catholic Diocese of Erie's Facebook page as well.

As a sign of their commitment to work together for justice, United Clergy of Erie leaders also are inviting the public to participate in a canvassing effort, distributing information about COVID-19 and resources including signs and masks to residents living on the east side of Erie. Those taking part

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in this event are invited to gather at the large field near the corner of East 22nd and Wallace streets, Erie, on Sat., August 8, beginning at 7:30 am.

Bishop Persico plans to participate in both events. Those in attendance at the service must wear a mask and maintain social distance.

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