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A Reckoning. America the Beautiful. Remembering George Floyd

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The death of George Floyd left a hole in the hearts of his family and friends. And it left a hole in the fabric of our society. Or maybe it just made the hole visible for all to see and witness.

We have endured much over the past 12 months and we have lost many. Yes the nearly unfathomable numbers of people who died from Covid-19, but also the men and women, boys and girls who have died through violence because they were black – either at the hands of the police or because of the unsafe neighborhoods where they lived and played.

People of all colors and backgrounds deserve to live in safety and with opportunity. And as people of goodwill, we pray for an America united in love and purpose: united in our aspiration for racial equality, in freedom for all to dream, and an opportunity for all to become who they choose.

We remember George Floyd and pray for his family on this painful first anniversary of his death. We pray also for healing and understanding, for mercy, justice and change.

George Floyd was a child of God. He had dignity and worth. And in death he is initiating change. The evil of racism cannot be eliminated overnight, but it can no longer be overlooked. The patching and mending of America has begun.

<u>The National Advocacy Center</u> educates and advocates on social justice issues for the transformation of society to the benefit of all people reflecting the spirituality, history and mission of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd. NAC advocates at the Federal level for people living in poverty, immigrants, survivors of human trafficking, survivors of domestic abuse, and other vulnerable populations.

The Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd was founded in France in 1835 and are in 70 countries on 5 continents and have had a presence in the United States for over 175 years. With a presence in 22 states and 1 U. S. Territory, the Sisters and their Lay Mission Partners have dedicated themselves to serving girls, women and families who experience poverty, exploitation, vulnerability and marginalization.