Regarding Father Rothrock’s June 28, 2020 bulletin article

The pastor of St. Elizabeth Seton parish published an article on June 28th dealing with recent events related to race related turmoil and associated public demonstrations. I neither approved nor previewed that article. Pastors do not submit bulletin articles or homilies to my offices before they are delivered. I expect Father Rothrock to issue a clarification about his intended message. I have not known him to depart from Church teaching in matters of doctrine and social justice.

I reaffirm my own public statement following the killing of George Floyd which was posted online on June 2, 2020, and printed in our bi-weekly edition of The Catholic Moment on June 15, 2020. “Peaceful demonstrations in the streets are one way to elevate voices for fairness and justice. Not so the wanton destruction of property and violence. Each of us is called to be a healer and peacemaker by virtue of our baptism. This same baptism calls us to link arms with others whose work is to set wrongs right and promote respect for each human being.”

This was not my first statement on matters of social justice and race. My other related articles can be found at https://dol-in.org/catholic-moment sorted by date of publication:

- August 20, 2017
- November 11, 2018
- March 24, 2019
- September 19, 2019
- February 23, 2020