

## **Diversity, Racism, and our Life in Christ: A Statement of Commitment**

The trustees, staff, and students of St Augustine's College of Theology affirm their commitment to the gospel of reconciliation in Jesus Christ and we take as the measure of our faithfulness Paul's words, "there is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." Since we have failed to live up to this calling, we repent of our hard-heartedness and of the prejudices and fear that perpetuate racism and discrimination against our brothers and sisters, made in God's image. We dedicate ourselves to fostering a community of formation and learning, free from the blindness and bias of privilege, in which all may thrive and participate fully in the calling of God.

We acknowledge and take to heart the deep hurt and suffering caused to our neighbours in the Church and in our nation by the collective and individual sin of racism. As trustees, staff and students, we shall listen to the witness of this suffering, learn what we must do to live and work in the unity of Christ, act with and encourage those who are seeking racial justice, pray for those who live under the burdens of racism, and, with God's help, strive to become a community of reconciliation that dares hold out Christ's hope in the world.