

[Spirituality](#)



Statues are part of the Juneteenth Memorial Monument, which commemorates African Americans' emancipation from slavery, at the George Washington Carver Museum, Cultural and Genealogy Center in Austin, Texas. (Wikimedia Commons/Jennifer Rangubphai)

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Juneteenth will be celebrated throughout the United States on June 19 as a federal holiday, giving Americans ample opportunity to honor the legacy—and eventual freedom—of enslaved African Americans.

The original Juneteenth celebrations were born from the 1865 decree, "[General Order No. 3](#)," issued in Galveston, Texas, where the last enslaved African Americans remained for some time after President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation in 1863. In that same city in 1528, an enslaved Black Catholic named [Esteban Dorantes](#) had been one of the first Africans to set foot in what is now the United States.

Below can be found a variety of events celebrating Juneteenth this year in the Catholic tradition, those organized by Catholics, as well as those being held in a Catholic venue.

(This list is not exhaustive. All the included information is subject to change and should be confirmed with event organizers. Please contact your local diocese, [Black Catholic organization](#) or [a Black parish in your area](#) for any additional events.)

Virtual

- Recording: [Juneteenth Mass](#) with Pax Christi USA and Fr Gregory Chisholm, SJ.

Austin

- 6/19: [Juneteenth Mass, Rosary, and celebration](#) at St. Thomas More Catholic Church.

Baltimore

- 6/20: ["A Place at the Table" documentary screening](#) at the National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton.

Baton Rouge

- 6/20: [Juneteenth celebration](#) with RISE St. James at Welcome Park in St. James.

Boston

- 6/19: [“Hidden in Plain Sight” documentary short screening](#) at the Massachusetts College of Art and Design as part of the Roxbury International Film Festival.

Camden

- 6/19: [Juneteenth celebration](#) at St. Monica Catholic Church in Atlantic City.

Chicago

- 6/19: [Juneteenth interfaith service](#) at Sacred Heart School chapel.
- 6/19: [Juneteenth commemoration](#) at Wrigley Field for Chicago Cubs game with Leo Catholic High School choir.
- 6/21: [Juneteenth Mass](#) at St. Sabina Catholic Church with guest speaker Marc Lamont Hill.

Cleveland

- 6/19: [Juneteenth Mass and celebration](#) at St. Dominic Catholic Church in Shaker Heights.

Colorado Springs

- 6/19: [Juneteenth Mass](#) at St. Mary’s Cathedral with Frs Kyle Ingels, Steve Akujobi, and Emeka Okwuosa.

Dallas

- 6/20: [Juneteenth celebration](#) at Holy Cross Catholic Church.

Milwaukee

- 6/19: [Juneteenth Mass](#) at St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church with Auxiliary Bishop Jeffrey Haines.

Nashville

- 6/19: [Juneteenth party and potluck](#) at Christ the King Catholic Church in Nashville at 5:30pm CT.

New York

- 6/19: [Juneteenth concert](#) at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Manhattan with the UC Davis Choirs, Pacific Edge Voices, and Granite Bay High School Choirs.
- 6/19: [Ecumenical Juneteenth prayer service](#) at St. Nicholas National Shrine in Manhattan.
- 6/19: [“Rock the Blessings” Juneteenth concert](#) at Greater Allen AME Church in Queens with gospel artists, LL Cool J, and speakers including Urban League president Marc Morial.
- 6/20: [Juneteenth Mass](#) and celebration at Immaculate Conception Catholic Church on Staten Island with Fr Wesbee Victor, homilist Fr Levelt Germain, and the St. Joseph Parish Choir.

Oakland

- 6/19: [Juneteenth celebration](#) at St. Columba Catholic Church.

Omaha

- 6/19: [Juneteenth Mass](#) at St. John Catholic Church at Creighton University.

Philadelphia

- 6/20: [Juneteenth Mass](#) at St. Raymond of Penafort Catholic Church.

Pittsburgh

- 6/19: [Juneteenth celebration](#) in Duquesne University’s Gumberg Library Simon Silverman Phenomenology Center with Doris Carson Williams.

Richmond

- 6/19: [Juneteenth celebration](#) at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception in Norfolk.

- 6/19: [Juneteenth Rosary and Mass](#) at Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Virginia Beach. Potluck breakfast to follow.

Rochester

- 6/19: [Juneteenth “Overcoming Racism” Stations of the Cross](#) at St. Mary Catholic Church in Elmira, New York.

San Diego

- 6/21: [Juneteenth Mass](#) at St. Rita Catholic Church with Bishop Michael Pham.

Santa Fe

- 6/28: [Annual Fr Rollins Lambert Memorial Mass](#) at St. Joseph on the Rio Grande Catholic Church with Fr Art Anderson, OFM.

St. Augustine

- 6/19: [Juneteenth concert](#) at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Augustine with the St. Augustine Music Festival, SAMF Chamber Orchestra, conductor Jorge Peña, and baritone Robert Sims.

St. Louis

- 6/20: [Maafa procession](#) at the Old Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis, King of France.

Washington

- 6/18: [Georgetown University Diaspora Juneteenth celebration](#) on Harbin Patio.
- 6/19: [Juneteenth Family Day](#) at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Bowie, Maryland.
- 6/19: [Juneteenth celebration](#) at St. Augustine Catholic Church and the Dupont Circle Citizens’ Association.
- 6/20: [Juneteenth prayer breakfast](#) at St. Luke’s Center.

Wichita

- 6/20: [Juneteenth parade](#) beginning at Holy Savior Catholic Academy.

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