

Peace and Justice Calendar
August 2026

National Black Business Month: May all business owners around our country respect and support Black business endeavors.

National Immunization Awareness Month: Let us pray for all those who support immunizations.

Don't Be a Bully Month: May all the adults who were bullied as children guide the youth of today to end bullying.

Spinal Muscular Atrophy Awareness Month: Let us pray for all those we know who suffer from spinal ailments.

National Road Victim Month: May those families who are grieving the death of a loved one find support as they promote safe driving laws.

World Cancer Support Month: Let us continue to pray for all those we know who are suffering from any form of cancer and for the researchers who are developing new cures.

- 1 Today is Mother Marie Day. Let us celebrate her life. May her spirit live on in all of us, bringing us closer to our call to be People of Providence. "Visibly do I see in all things the wonderful Providence of God." Marie de la Roche.
- 2 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Today is primarily known in history as the date in 1776 when the finalized, engrossed copy of the [United States Declaration of Independence](#) was officially signed by the 56 delegates of the Second Continental Congress. May we continue to pray and defend our Democracy.
- 3 Today is National Friendship Day. Let us give thanks for all those who befriended us and continue to pray for them and develop new friends along the road of life.
- 4 Today is the Feastday of St. John Vianney. He was a French Catholic priest and member of the Third Order of Mary. Let us pray for all parish priests, deacons, and ministers.
- 5 Today is the anniversary of the Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major. May we cherish the beauty of all great basilicas and more importantly, the hearts of people where God abides.
- 6 Today is the Feastday of the Transfiguration of the Lord. Today on this date in 1965 President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act into law. Let us do our part to support and protect the voting rights of all people. May we see Christ alive in one another.
- 7 During this month of August, let us pray for all those living and ministering at St. Mary's Orphanage, in Neustadt, Germany where Mother Marie died and is buried. May she continue to intercede for them and us.
- 8 Today is the Feastday of St. Dominic. He was a Castilian priest who founded the **Order of Preachers**, the Dominicans. His order is famous for combining deep theological education with active apostolic preaching. Today on this date in 1796 the Boston African Society was established. May the spirit of St. Dominic continue to be present in all those who follow the Gospel message, promoting freedom and justice.
- 9 Today is the 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Today is also the UN's International Day of the World's Indigenous People. Let us give thanks for the giftedness of all indigenous peoples around the world.
- 10 During the twenty-seven years of Bishop Ketteler's episcopate, he wrote ninety-two pastorals, brochures, pamphlets, and longer newspaper articles. In 1869, he preached to 10,000 laborers. He inspired not only Pope Pius IX, but also Pope Leo XIII in his writing of *Rerum Novarum* in 1891. May Bishop Ketteler's spirit live on in us and give us the courage to speak up for those who have no voice today.

11 Today is the Feastday of St. Clare, Virgin (1194–1253). She was an early follower of St. Francis and the foundress of the Poor Clares. Renowned for her radical embrace of poverty and devotion to the Eucharist, let us also live simply and be devoted to Christ in the Eucharist.

12 On this day in 1922 the home of Frederick Douglass was dedicated as a memorial in Washington, DC. Today is also the UN's International Youth Day. May we continue to study and know our country's history as well as promote and support the wholesome efforts of our youth today.

13 The first issue of the Baltimore newspaper, *The Afro-American* was printed in 1892. May we never take for granted the written word and look for reliable sources. Today Anthony Hines is scheduled to be executed in TN. Also Carlos Cuesta-Rodriguez is scheduled to be executed today in OK. Let us pray for them, their victims and their families.

14 Today is the Feastday of St. Maximilian Kolbe. He is best known for volunteering to die in place of a stranger in the Auschwitz concentration camp during World War II, earning him the title "Martyr of Charity." May we witness God's love by assisting all those we don't know by name but view them as in need.

15 Today is the Feastday of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Let us strengthen our devotion to Mary and may she intercede for us here on earth.

16 Today is the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Let us recall that Fanny, our Foundress, when she began her novitiate in Ribeauville, was introduced to large paintings of Founders: Sts. Joseph Calasance, Jeanne Frances de Chantal, Teresa of Avila, and Saints: Stanislas Kostka, Louis of Gonzaga, Philomena, Cassian and Catherine of Alexandria. May we glean from paintings and stories of saints of old how to follow our vocation today.

17 On this date in 1968 the 1st. National Black Sisters' Conference was held in Pittsburgh, PA. Let us continue to support our Black Sisters' Conference in their efforts to spread the Gospel message.

18 Let us recall that in the initial years of our congregation, when no Sisters had professed final vows, Bishop Ketteler appointed Sister Marie the Superior and Mother of the Institute, with Sr. Vincentia her assistant and Sr. Josepha her second assistant. May Mother Marie intercede for us and guide us into our unknown future, with hope and confidence in the Providence of God.

19 Today is the Feastday of St. John Eudes, Priest. He was the founder of both the Order of Our Lady of Charity in 1641 and Congregation of Jesus and Mary, also known as the Eudists, in 1643. Today is also the UN's International Humanitarian Day. May we, along with these congregations continue to support humanitarian aid around the world.

20 On this date in 1619 the first twenty Africans were brought to Jamestown, VA as slaves. Let us encourage one another to read the book: "The 1619 Project" by Nikole Hanna-Jones, to learn about the beginnings of slavery in this country. Today is also the Feastday of St. Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church. May his writings and sermons which were poetic, rich, and of a deeply nourishing style, continue to challenge us in our faith.

21 Today is the Feastday of St. Pius X, Pope. He was known for opposing modernist interpretations of Catholic doctrine, and for promoting liturgical reforms and Thomist scholastic theology. Today is also the UN's International Day of Remembrance and Tribute to the Victims of Terrorism. On this date in 1831 Nat Turner led a slave revolt in Southampton, VA. Let us remember those who were enslaved and victims of terrorism in the past and present. May we do all we can to reverence life at all stages.

22 Today is the Feastday of the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary. May the Queenship of Mary inspire us to do all we can to promote dignity and honor to all women. On this day in 2006 Guy A. Sansaricq, a Haitian American was ordained bishop of Brooklyn, NY. Let us pray for all foreign born priests who serve in the US Church.

23 Today is the 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time. Also on this day in 1900, Booker T. Washington was elected president of the National Negro Business League in Boston, MA. May the gifts of every person, no matter their skin color be treated with dignity, honor and gratitude for their contributions to society.

24 Today is the Feastday of St. Bartholomew, Apostle. Along with his fellow apostle Jude "Thaddeus", Bartholomew is reputed to have brought and preach Christianity to Armenia in the 1st century; as a result, in 301 the Armenian kingdom became the first state in history to embrace Christianity officially. May we daily preach, with our lives, more than with words, the love of Christ Jesus.

25 On this day in 1908 the National Association of Colored Nurses was founded by Martha Minerva Franklin. Let us support Colored nurses and give thanks for all our nurses and aides who generously serve our Sisters in St. Joseph Center.

26 On July 10, 1854, the feast of Corpus Christi, Bishop Ketteler presided as Mother Marie and the other 7 Sisters pronounced their first vows. He urged them to "Be very simple, interior, and united with God; try to please God alone, and work for God alone. God will take care of everything else." Today, may we live and imitate these words of Bishop Ketteler.

27 Today is the Feastday of St. Monica. She is remembered and honored in the Catholic and Orthodox Churches, albeit on different feast days, for her outstanding Christian virtues, particularly the suffering caused by her husband's adultery, and her prayerful life dedicated to the reformation of her son, who wrote extensively of her pious acts and life with her in his *Confessions*. Today is the birthday of W.E.B. DuBois, author/civil rights activist. He was the most prominent Black civil rights leader of the early 20th century, a pioneering sociologist, and the first African American to earn a Ph.D. from Harvard University. May the lives of both St. Monica and W.E. B. DuBois encourage us to love life with all its ups and downs that are given to us.

28 Today is the Feastday of St. Augustine. Today on this date in 1963, Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, DC. May the writings of St. Augustine and Dr. King, Jr. inspire us to follow Christ in non-violent ways every day.

29 Today is the Passion of St. John the Baptist. Let us give thanks for St. John the precursor of Jesus and all those who have taught us to follow our Christian vocation, no matter the cost.

30 Today is the 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time. On this day in 1983, Col. Guion S. Bluford, Jr. was the 1st African-American astronaut to have traveled in space. Today is also the International Day of the Disappeared. May we give thanks for all those who strive to "reach the stars" no matter what race they come from. May all those who have disappeared have someone to love them and bring comfort to those who continue to search for them and miss them.

31 On this date in 1836 Henry Blair patented the cotton planting machine. Today is also the UN's International Day of African Descent. Let us give thanks for all farm workers and their inventions that assist in harvesting crops. Let us also remember all those of African Descent who are here in the US because their ancestors were enslaved against their will.