



Peace and Justice Prayer Calendar

February 2017

African American History Month



- 1 **St. Bridget of Kildare** * We pray for an increase of women in leadership roles in Church and Society.

February 1-7

World Interfaith Harmony Week (UN) *

We pray for harmony among the people of all faiths.

- 2 Feasts of the **Presentation of the Lord** and **Our Lady of Candelaria** (Peru) * We pray for our Sisters and Associates in Peru
World Wetlands Day (UN)



- 3 **Servant of God Mary Elizabeth Lange** - founder of the Oblate Sisters of Providence, the first African American Community in the USA * We pray for the Oblate Sisters of Providence throughout the world.
15th Amendment Ratified - African American males given the right to vote (1870) * We pray in gratitude for the contributions of African Americans to the Church and society.



- 4 **Rosa Parks** (b. 1913) and **Dietrich Bonhoeffer** (b. 1906)
* We pray for all those who work for justice.



World Cancer Day (World Health Organization) * We pray for a cure for cancer.

A quote from Ketteler to ponder, "How is it that the human heart does not break when we think of the indigent sick, who reach out from their sick-beds for consolation and find no one to console them?"

- 5 Super Bowl Sunday * We pray for the identification and rescue of human trafficked Persons, a problem which is known to increase during the events related to the Super Bowl.

- 6 International Day of Zero Tolerance of Female Genital Mutilation (UN) * We pray for the end of genital mutilation.

A quote from Ketteler to ponder: "we ought to recognize the problems of the times in which we live; and this awareness ought to inspire us to abandon our attempt to live without Christ and to begin a new life in Christ."



- 7 European Union Formed (1992) - Currently dealing with the United Kingdom vote to withdraw (known as “Brexit”) * We pray for a positive solution to this problem. For all those on Death row and for Tilon Lashon Carter scheduled for execution in Texas, the victim, and their families.

February 7-14 World Marriage Week (VA) *

We pray for all married couples and those preparing for marriage.



- 8 ***St. Josephine Bakhita*** - Sudanese born former slave, patron of trafficked persons * We pray for the victims of human trafficking and for the people of Sudan and South Sudan.

A Quote from Ketteler to ponder: “*How is it possible for us to still enjoy our affluence while many are in desperate need?*”

- 9 We pray for the end of the death penalty and the repose of the souls of Christopher Wilkins and Ricky Javon Gray executed in the USA in January.
- 10 ***St. Scholastica*** - Patron of the Benedictine Sisters throughout the world * We pray for women leaders in the Church and religious communities.

- 11 World Day of Prayer for the Sick (VAT)
Thomas Edison (b. 1847) – Inventor of many things, including the telephone, light bulb, and phonograph * We pray in thanksgiving for all the geniuses that contribute to the good of world.



- 12 Abraham Lincoln (b. 1809) & NAACP founded (1909) * *We should emphasize, not Negro History, but the Negro in History. What we need is not a history of selected races or nations, but the history of the world void of national bias, racism, hate and religious prejudice.* [Carter Wooden 1926 Founding Negro History Week]

- 13 World Kindness Day * We pray for a kinder world that embraces all people no matter their race, color, creed, or gender.
Make the world kinder with at least one act of kindness today.



- 14 ***Valentine's Day***
Violence Against Women Awareness Day (USA) * We pray for women in abusive relationships.

- 15 Susan B. Anthony (b. 1820) – Social reformer, women's rights activist * We pray for women working for human rights for all.
We pray for Ronald R. Phillips scheduled for execution in Ohio, the victims, and their families.

16 In gratitude for the contributions of African Americans have made to the life and culture of the USA.



17 We pray “that all those who are afflicted, the poor, refugees, and marginalized may find welcome and comfort in our communities”

A quote from Ketteler to ponder: “*Surface poverty is not our real problem, rather the poverty of our attitudes. Correct the latter and you eliminate the former.*”

18 We pray that President Trump and his administration will make decisions that will benefit the common good, and the earth, our common home.

19 President Franklin Roosevelt orders detention and internment of all west coast Japanese-Americans * We pray for all those who are unjustly imprisoned.



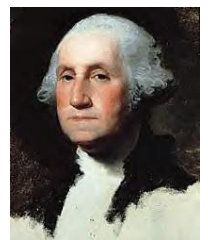
20 Presidents Day * We pray for the Well-being of our current president D. Trump, and our living former Presidents B. Obama, G.W. Bush, W. Clinton, G. H.W. Bush, and J, Carter.

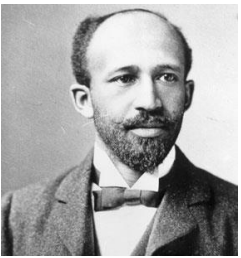
World Day for Social Justice (UN) * We pray that all peoples of the world will experience a just Society where they live.

21 International Mother Language Day (UN) We pray for those who are struggling to keep their language and culture alive for future generations.

22 George Washington (b.1732) * We pray for those who help us to new beginnings.

Sophie and Hans Schell, martyrs of the White Rose, executed (1943) for nonviolent resistance to the Nazis * We pray for all those in prison because of their opposition to oppression.





23 W.E. Du Bois, educator and abolitionist (b. 1868) * We pray in gratitude for those who work to end all forms of slavery and violations of human rights.

A quote from Ketteler to ponder: *“Individual persons can only achieve their full dignity after they realize within themselves that they cannot reach their high destiny by their own unaided strength.”*

24 Ground war begins in Iraq (1991) * We pray for the people and for peace in Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria, Palestine, and all other countries where conflicts and wars continue.



25 Hiram Revels becomes first African American Senator (1871) * We pray for an increase of diversity in the Congress and other legislative branches of state governments.

26 International Stand Up to Bullying Day (25 countries) * We pray for the success of this campaign to end bullying in all its forms and we pray for the victims of bullying.



27 U.S. Electoral College picks Rutherford B. Hayes as President (1877), despite Samuel J. Tilden winning more votes - sounds familiar. * We pray that President Trump and other elected leaders make decisions that respect human dignity.



Marian Anderson (b. 1897) - denied the right to perform at Constitution Hall by the Daughters of American Revolution (DAR) because of her color. Instead, at the urging of Eleanor Roosevelt, was permitted her to perform at the Lincoln Memorial on April 9, 1939. * We pray for an end to Racism.

28 **Mardi Gras** * We pray that the celebrations of Mardi Gras will all be happy and safe.



We pray that the Lenten season to come will be blessed time in all our lives.