

# *Peace and Justice Prayer Calendar*

## **July 2015**

- 1 Blessed Junipero Serra**  
*“Living our vocation to be protectors of God’s Handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience.”* (from *Laudato Si*) \*  
We pray for the wisdom and courage to be protectors of God’s Handiwork -Earth.
- 2** Civil Rights Act Signed (1964) \* We pray for the end of racism.
- 3 St. Thomas the Apostle**  
We pray for the people of Charleston S.C. especially those who have lost loved ones in the Emmanuel AME Church Massacre.
- 4** Independence Day, USA \* We pray that all Americans experience the freedoms that were cherished by the founders of the USA and their successors.
- 5 St. Elizabeth of Portugal - Peacemaker** \* We pray for peace in all war torn countries especially in Israel, Syria, Iraq, and Afghanistan.
- 6 St. Maria Goretti** \* We pray for the safety and well-being of all youth, especially those who are in abusive situations.  
Dali Lama (b. 1935) Nobel Peace Prize (1989); known for his heartfelt advocacy for Tibetans worldwide and his lifelong interest in science.
- 7** *We pray “that amid social inequalities, Latin American Christians may bear witness to love for the poor and contribute to a more fraternal society.”* (Pope Francis Monthly Intention)
- 8** *“Obsession with a consumerist lifestyle, above all when few people are capable of maintaining it, can lead to violence and mutual destruction”.* *Laudato Si* \* We pray for a greater sharing of resources among the “haves” and the “have nots”.
- 9 St. Augustine Zhao Rong and Companions** \* We pray for those persecuted for their religious beliefs, especially in China and Iraq.
- 10** We pray in gratitude for the early release from prison of Sr. Megan Rice, 84 year-old peace activist in a protest action.  
Mary McLeod Bethune (b. 1875) - Educator, Civil Rights Leader, Advisor to Franklin D. Roosevelt.
- 11 St. Benedict** of Nursia - Patron of farmers \* We pray for all farmers, migrant workers and their families. Anniversary Srebrenica genocide in Bosnia (1995) \* We pray for those who mourn their loved ones killed during that genocide in Bosnia.
- 12** Henry David Thoreau (b. 1817) - An Author, Abolitionist, Historian . Thoreau once said *“It is never too late to give up your prejudices.”*
- 13 St. Teresa de los Andreas** \* We pray for the people of Chile and for all those who care for those who are ill, especially those who lack insurance and supportive friends.

- 14 St. Kateri Tekawitha** – Informally known as ‘The Lily of the Mohawks’, Patron of Ecologists, Native Americans, and People in Exile \* We pray for the Native Americans of North America and that all peoples will take to heart Pope Francis’ encyclical on the environment. We pray for the end of the death penalty and for David Zonk scheduled for execution in Missouri, the victims and their families.
- 15 St. Bonaventure** \*  
In gratitude for the exoneration of Dewayne Brown, the 154<sup>th</sup> person released from Death Row. We pray for the 3,004 persons on death row in the USA.
- 16 Our Lady of Mt. Carmel** \* We pray for women in leadership roles in the Church and Religious Communities.
- 17 Eid al-Fitr (Islam) “Breaking of the Fast”** \* We pray for peace among Muslims and Christians.
- 18 International Nelson Mandela Day- (b.1918)** \* We pray for all peacemakers and justice seekers.
- 19 First Women’s Rights Convention in Seneca Falls, NY (1848)** \* We pray for an increase of women in leadership roles in government and society.
- 20 Anniversary of the Aurora CO shooting in 2012** \* We pray for stricter gun control laws. Geneva Agreement (1954) \* We pray for the end of violence in our community and countries.
- 21** We pray for all those immigrants in detention Centers in the USA and for their release. We pray for a compassionate comprehensive USA Immigration ACT. First Human Walks on the Moon (1969)
- 22 St. Mary of Magdala** - Apostle to the Apostles \* We pray in gratitude for the role women have played in the Church, especially bringing the good news to those in need.
- 23 St. Bridget of Sweden**, Church reformer, patron of widows \* We pray for those who have lost their spouses due to violence and many times poverty.
- 24 St. Sharbel Makhluf** - Hermit of Lebanon \* We pray for peace in the Middle East. Amelia Earheart (b. 1897) - First woman to fly solo across the Atlantic.
- 25 St. James the Apostle** \* We pray for those who are imprisoned unjustly.
- 26 Saints Joachim and Ann** \* We pray for all grandparents, especially those raising their grandchildren because of violence, immigration, or poverty. Americans with Disabilities Act signed into law (1990 ) We pray that those with disabilities receive the support they need to live normal lives.
- 27** We pray for the repose of the souls of Lester Brown, Richard Strong, Gregory Rousseau who were executed last month in the USA.
- 28 Nineteenth Amendment (1868)** Gave U.S. citizenship to African Americans \* We pray that all people will be treated with respect and justly by those administering the law. Gerard Manley Hopkins (b. 1844) – Poet who once wrote, “The world is charged with the grandeur of God.” May we always be aware of that.

- 29 St. Martha** - Patron of housekeepers and waiters \* We pray that all workers will receive a living wage and just benefits.
- 30** International Day of Friendship (UN) \* We pray that governments, communities, families, and individual reach out in friendship to others, especially those who may be different that they are.  
National Whistleblowers Appreciation Day (USA) \* We pray in gratitude for those who seek the truth and risk their lives, reputation, and jobs to make the truth known.
- 31 St. Ignatius Loyola** – Founder of the Jesuits; Patron of Retreats, Soldiers, and Educators \* We pray for all those whose spread God’s Word.

*“Everything is related, and we human beings are united  
as brothers and sisters on a wonderful pilgrimage,  
woven together by the love God has  
for each of his creatures and  
which also unites us in fond affection  
with brother sun, sister moon,  
brother river and mother earth”.*

(from Laudato Si’ On Care of our Common Home May 24, 2015)