



Peace and Justice Prayer Calendar

March 2016

National Women's History Month

- 1 Peace Corps (est. 1961) by Pres. John F. Kennedy - Sends American volunteers to developing countries to assist with health care, education, and other basic human needs continuing to this day * We pray for all Peace Corps Volunteers.
- 2 Theodor Seuss Geisel/"Dr. Seuss" (b. 1904) * In gratitude for all those who bring delight to children by their writings. *"Today you are you! That is truer than true! There is no one alive who is you-er than you!"* (Dr. Seuss) 
- 3 **St. Katharine Drexel** - Founder of the Blessed Sacrament Sisters * We pray for the Sisters who carry on the mission of serving African Americans & Native Americans in need.
Chief Joseph (b. 1840) Chief Joseph once remarked, *"We gave up some of our country to the white men, thinking that then we could have peace. We were mistaken. The white man would not let us alone."*
- 4 **World Day of Prayer USA** - promotes justice and equality for women through prayer, partnerships, service, and celebration.
Frances Perkins first woman USA cabinet member (1933) and Jeanette Rankin first USA woman Senator (1917) * We pray for an increase of women in leadership roles in government and Church.
- 5 **Karl Rahner, SJ** (b. 1904) - Along with several others, considered one of the most influential theologians of the 20th century. *"The Christian of the future will be a mystic or he will not exist at all."* (Karl Rahner)
International Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (1970) * We pray for the destruction of all nuclear weapons.
-  6 **Fourth Sunday of Lent**
Michelangelo (b. 1475) - painter, sculptor, architect, poet, and visionary *
For all artists who bring beauty to our world
- 7 **St. Thomas Aquinas** (d. 1274) Influential Theologian of the 13th Century.
"People should not consider theirs material possessions their own, but as common to all, so as to share them without hesitation when others are in need."
(Thomas Aquinas)

8 **International Women's Day (UN) - Theme "Pledging for Parity"** *
We pray that governments and corporations work toward parity of
income and benefits for all women.



9 Amerigo Vespucci (b. 1451) - Explorer of South America and the Amazon River.
In 1507 a German mapmaker first referred to the lands discovered in the 'New
World' as America (and the rest is history).
We pray for all those on death row, especially Coy Westbrook scheduled for
execution in Texas, the victim, and the affected families.

10 Harriet Tubman, abolitionist, (b. 1821) * We pray for all those who work to bring
about equal opportunities for all people, no matter their race, religion, sexual
preference, or gender.



11 **Johnny Appleseed Day (USA)** We pray ingratitude for the gifts of creation,
especially all the fruit trees.

Kudos to Sr. Judy Connor for going the extra mile for one of her clients - a homeless man who had an
opportunity for a job interview. Judy approached the Social Concerns Office for some funds (from the
Ketteler Fund) to pay for a motel room the night before the interview. Happily the man reported he got a
job and a small advance so he had a place to stay until he got a paycheck.

Through the Ketteler Fund Judy was able to help a man with no income to purchase waterproof
boots for the winter.

12 **Rutilio Grande, SJ**, martyred in El Salvador in 1977 * We pray for the end of
violence in Central America



13 ***Fifth Sunday of Lent***

Pope Francis(elected 2013) * We pray for Pope Francis & all
Peacemakers.

Pax Christi International (founded 1945)

Daylight Savings Time begins at 2:00 am

14 Albert Einstein (b. 1879) – received a Nobel Prize (1921) Einstein once said, *“Life
is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving.”*
“We pray that families in need may receive the support and that children may grow
up in healthy and peaceful environments,” (Pope Francis Monthly Intention)

15 **St. Louise De Marillac** - Founded with St. Vincent de Paul of the Daughters of
Charity * We pray for those who care for people who are sick or poor, especially
the Daughters of Charity and those who live out the Charism of St. Louise and St.
Vincent DePaul.



- 16 Peace activist, Rachel Corrie, was killed in Gaza. We pray for peace in Israel and Palestine.
We pray for the end of the death Penalty and for Ricky Javon Gray scheduled for execution in Virginia, the victim, and the families affected.



- 17 **St. Patrick** * We pray for the people of Ireland, especially of Northern Ireland, that they may continue in peace and be witness to the power of non violence.
We pray for all those on death row, especially Mark James Asay scheduled for execution in Florida, the victim, and the affected families.

- 18 We pray that food will arrive to prevent the starving of 1 million children in Southern Africa, especially Lesotho where 1.4 million people are at risk of starving.

- 19 **St. Joseph** – Foster Father of Jesus * We pray for the Sisters of St. Joseph throughout the world.



International Earth Hour (2016) from 8:30 to 9:30 pm turn your lights out to “Shine a light on Climate Action”

National Day Against Bullying and Violence (USA) , for those who are victims of bullying and all kinds of violence.



20 ***Palm Sunday***

International Day of Happiness & International Day of Forest and Trees (UN)

Smile and be happy. Spring (1st Day) is here and the forests and trees are alive with the grandeur of God, so let us pray in gratitude.

- 21 **St. Benedict** - Founder of the Benedictines
International Day for the elimination of Racial Discrimination
Selma March (1965)/ Sharpeville massacre in South Africa (1960) * We pray for all those experiencing racial discrimination.

- 22 International Water Day (UN) * We pray for those without safe water and sanitation.

We pray that governments work toward achieving the Sustainability Development Goal of providing safe water for all by 2030.

For Adam Ward, scheduled for execution in Texas, the victim, and the families affected.



- 23 Magha Puja Day (Buddhist) & Jewish Feast of Purim today - We pray for understanding among persons of all religions.
World Meteorological Day (UN) * We pray that all peoples work to improve the environment.



24 Holy Thursday

Feast of Bl. Oscar Romero martyred (1980) * We pray for the end of violence in Central America.

International Day for the right to the truth concerning gross human rights violations and for the Dignity of Victims (UN) * For all those who are victims of human rights violations, we pray.

25

Good Friday

International Day for the remembrance of victims of slavery and slave trade (UN)

We pray for all those who are unjustly in prisons and for all victims of human trafficking.



26

Holy Saturday

We pray “that those Christians who are persecuted may remain strong and faithful to the gospel, thanks to the incessant prayers of the Church.”

(Pope Francis Monthly) Intention



27 JESUS IS RISEN! As Easter people and people of Peace we rejoice and share our joy and peace. Let us pray for the grace to be always “bridge building people”.

28

Three Mile Island meltdown (1979) * We pray for the end of the threat of nuclear weapons, especially in North Korea and the adherence to the treaty with Iran.

29

We pray for all those who have been victims of violence throughout the world. We pray for the repose of the souls of Travis Hittson, Gustavo Garcia, James Freeman, Brandon Jones, and Christopher Brooks executed last month in the United States.

30

Vincent Van Gogh (b. 1853) - During his 10-year painting career he produced over 800 oil paintings, but sold only one during his lifetime. We pray for all those who persevere in pursuits despite all the odds.

We pray for John Battaglia scheduled for execution in Texas, the victim, and the affected families.

31

Cesar Chavez (b. 1927) – Along with Dolores Huerta founded the UFW of America Union * We pray that all farm workers are adequately compensated for their labors.

