



Peace and Justice Prayer Calendar

December 2016

1 World AIDS Day we pray for the 34 million victims of AIDS.
Rosa Parks arrested as she sits on the bus (1955.) * We pray for the end of racism.

2 The Four Church Women - **Ita Ford, Jean Donovan, Maura Clarke, and Dorothy Kazel** martyred in El Salvador (1980) * We pray for those religious men and women who have been murdered as they spend their lives to care for the least fortunate of society.



International Day for the Abolition of Slavery (UN) * We pray for victims of modern day slavery - human trafficking.

3 *Feast of St. Francis Xavier*

International Day of Persons with Disabilities (WHO) We pray for those with disabilities will have what is necessary for a productive life...



4 *Second Sunday of Advent*

World Soil Day (FAO) * We pray in gratitude for the gift of soil that produces the food we eat.

5 International Volunteer Day (UN) * We pray in gratitude for volunteers, especially those who work to feed the hungry, to care for the frail elderly, and shelter the Homeless.
Walt Disney (b.1901) * For all those who delight children through the ages.

6 *Feast of St. Nicholas* * We pray that the children of the world will have the persons and resources they need to achieve their full potential for growth and development.



7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day (1941) * We pray for unity in the USA.
We pray for the end of the death penalty and for John Battaglia scheduled for execution in Texas, the victims, and their families.

8 *Feast of the Immaculate Conception*

Feast of Bodhi Day “Day of enlightenment” (Buddhist) * We pray for tolerance among believers of differing religions.
We pray for all those on death row, especially Ron Smith scheduled for execution in Alabama, the victim s and their families.



9 Feast of St. Juan Diego * We pray for the people of Mexico and for the end of violence related to drug trafficking.

International Anti-Corruption Day (UN) * We pray for integrity of government officials.

- 10 Universal Human Rights Day (UN)** * We pray that all may have basic human rights.
In gratitude for 2016 Nobel Peace Prize winner Juan Manuel Santos, Columbia's President who has worked for peace in his country for 50 years.



11 Third Sunday of Advent

International Mountains Day (UN) In gratitude for the gift of mountains which help sustain life on earth.

El Mozote Massacre in El Salvador (1981) * We pray for the end of violence in Central America.

- 12 Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe** * We pray in gratitude for the contributions of the Hispanic people to our world.
Islamic Feast of Mawlid-An-Nabi "Birth of the Prophet Mohammed" We pray for all Muslims.



- 13 Feast of St. Lucy - Martyr**
We pray "that the scandal of child soldiers may be eliminated"
Pope Francis Monthly Intention

December 14-18

Vigil for gun violence victims and National Gun Violence Prevention * We pray for victims of gun violence and for legislation that will restrict gun access and violence.

- 14 Feast of St. John of the Cross** * We pray for all Carmelites and Church reformers.
Sandy Hook School Shooting (2012) - 26 victims * For the end of violence in our countries and communities.
- 15 U.S. Bill of Rights ratified (1791)** *. We pray that the U.S. government will ensure that all the rights of its citizens and countries which it provides funds are protected.



December 16-24

Los Posados is celebrated in Mexico, Philippines, Spain, Puerto Rico symbolizing the journey of Mary and Joseph to find lodging. * Let us remember all those who are without lodging.

- 16** We pray “that the peoples of Europe may rediscover the beauty, goodness, and truth of Gospel which gives joy and hope to life.” Pope Francis Monthly Intention
- 17** **O Wisdom of God!** Give our political leaders the ability to lead with the wisdom of God for the common good of the people. Pope Francis (b. 1936). * We pray in gratitude for Francis and his service to all creation and peoples.



- 18** **Fourth Sunday of Advent**
O God of Strength! Be with those who are strangers in unknown, unfriendly lands and keep them safe and find them homes.
13th Amendment abolishing slavery went into effect (1865)

- 19** **O Flower of Jesse's Stem!**
Protect the Children of the world from all evils, especially the children of refugees, immigrants, and persecuted Christians. We pray for peace as U.S.A. Presidential Electors vote.
- 20** **O Key of David!**
International Solidarity Day (UN) * Let all peoples and governments work to eliminate poverty by 2030 (The 17 UN Sustainability Development Goals)
- 21** **O Radiant Dawn!**
Shine your light of peace on those who have died in the streets of the world without family or shelter. Homeless Memorial Day (USA)
First Day of Winter -1` ‘Cheer up!’ The days are getting longer.
- 22** **O God of all the earth!**
Bring peace to our World.
- 23** **O Emmanuel!**
Be with us! Be the hope for those who live in the despair of violence, drugs, and poverty.
- 24** Hanukkah begins (ends Jan 1) * We pray for peace in Israel and Palestine for the safety of all those celebrating at the Holy sites. .



25

Blessed Christmas! * We pray that the people of earth may open their hearts to Christ and the gospel of peace, solidarity, and justice.



26

Feast of St. Stephen, martyr * We pray for all those suffering persecution because of their beliefs.

Kwanzaa begins. - Seven day principles for a strong African American Family which includes, Unity, Self-determination, Collective work and Responsibility, Cooperative economics, Purpose, Creativity, and Faith. * We pray for the recognition that all persons are children of God.



27

Feast of St. John, the Apostle * In gratitude for peacemakers and justice seekers.

28

Feast of Holy Innocents * We pray for children living in poverty, for human trafficked victims, and for child soldiers and laborers .

Endangered Species Act (1973) * For the will to conserve and care for the variety of species on Earth

29

Feast of St. Thomas Becker, martyr * We pray for leaders who lead with integrity and concern for the common good.

Wounded Knee Massacre (1890) * We pray for indigenous people who are struggling to keep their lands and cultures violated by governments and corporations especially now in North Dakota.



30

Feast of the Holy Family * For all families, especially those who are separated by migration, war, violence, and poverty.

31

We pray in gratitude for the blessings and the sorrows of this year. Let us consider making a resolution for 2017 to be advocates for nonviolence, peace, and unity in our country and world.

Happy New Year!