

Peace and Justice Prayer Calendar

May 2014

- 1 St. Joseph the Worker * We pray for all workers, especially for migrants and immigrants. National Day of Prayer - “one voice united in prayer for USA”.
- 2 We pray for the South Koreans in the Ferry that sunk with many high school students on a field trip and for the missing Flight #370 members; especially for all their loved ones.
- 3 World Press Freedom Day * “We pray that the media may be instruments in the service of truth and peace.” Pope Francis Intention
- 4 Third Sunday of Easter
Teacher Appreciation Week * In gratitude for all the teachers who gave of their many gifts that have influenced our lives throughout the years.
- 5 Cinco de Mayo - Observed in the United States as a celebration of Mexican heritage and pride * We pray for an end of violence in Mexico.
- 6 Maria Montessori (b. 1880) * We pray that all children may attain their potential for health and happiness.
- 7 We pray for the 628 supporters of President Morsi sentenced to death in Egypt.
- 8 Our Lady of Lujan, Patroness of Argentina * We pray for the people of Argentina.
World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day * For those who support and volunteer for disaster work.
- 9 Daniel Berrigan, SJ (b. 1921) - peace activist, author, and poet; given peace awards from War Resisters League (1974), Thomas Merton Center (1988), Pax Christi USA (1989), Pacem in Terris (1993) * For all those who risk speaking truth to power.
- 10 Nelson Mandela (1918-2013) inaugurated as 1st Black President of South Africa (1994). Nelson Mandela once said, “I dream of an Africa which is in peace with itself.” * In thanksgiving for his life among us.
- 11 Fourth Sunday of Easter
Mother’s Day * We pray for all mothers, especially those separated from their children due to war, poverty, and immigration.
- 12 Florence Nightingale (b. 1820) – English social reformer and pioneer of modern nursing. * We pray in gratitude for all who care for the sick especially those in extreme poverty situations, in clinics, and in shelters.

- 13 Blessed Julian of Norwich – Contemplative Mystic, venerated in the Anglican and Lutheran churches, although unofficially venerated in the Catholic Church.
We pray for the end of the death penalty and for Robert Campbell scheduled for execution in Texas, the victim, and their families
- 14 St. Matthias – Elected to replace Judas among the apostles, Patron saint of Carpenters
We pray for the people of Syria and Ukraine that they may soon have peace among one another.
- 15 Saints Isidore and Maria de la Cabeza – Patron saints of Farmers * We pray for good harvests and for families who tend the soil.
- 16 That those states in the USA, working to end the death penalty, especially New Hampshire, are successful.
- 17 Brown vs. Board of Education (1954) * We pray for the end of Racism.
World Telecommunications and Information Society Day
- 18 Fifth Sunday of Easter
We pray for the end of violence in Honduras and for the repose of the soul of Carlos Mejia Orellana murdered because he spoke the truth and was a “voice for the voiceless”.
- 19 We pray for the repose of the souls of Ray Jasper, Robert Henry, Jeffrey Ferguson, Anthony Doyle, Tommy Sells, Ramiro Hernandez, Jose Villegas executed in the USA in April, the victims, and their families.
- 20 Franz Jagerstatter (b. 1907) peacemaker, martyr, Austrian conscientious objector during World War II, sentenced to death by the Nazis and executed in 1943.
We pray for all those who were on death row and exonerated of the crimes, especially Glenn Ford who was released after 30 years on death row.
- 21 Christian de Cherge, OCD and companions martyred in Algiers in 1996. We pray for peace among Christians and Muslims.
We pray for all those on death row, especially Robert Pruett in Texas and Russell Bucklew in Missouri, scheduled for execution, the victims, and their families.
- 22 St. Rita Cascia * For women leaders in the Church and in Religious communities.
International Day of Biological Diversity (UN) * We pray that governments work together to conserve the world’s resources and biological diversity.
- 23 We pray for support and understanding for immigrants, migrants, and refugees.
- 24 We join the Worldwide Church in praying for the underground Catholic Church in China.
Vesak Day/Buddha’s birth and enlightenment * We pray for religious tolerance.

- 25 Sixth Sunday of Easter
Africa Day * For the end of violence in many countries in Africa, especially the Central African Republic and Nigeria, and for aid for those suffering from lack of food.
- 26 Memorial Day * We pray for all those who have died especially those who have served their country in the Armed Services or as peacemakers.
- 27 Rachel Carson (b.1907) * We pray in gratitude for all those who teach us how to conserve the resources of the earth.
- 28 For all those on death row, especially Arthur Tyler scheduled for execution in Ohio, the victim, and their families.
Amnesty International founded (1961)
- 29 Ascension of Jesus Christ to Heaven
International Day of Peacemakers * We pray for peacemakers.
G.K. Chesterton (b. 1874) Chesterton once said, *“Let your religion be less of a theory and more of a love affair.”*
- 30 St. Joan of Arc * Heroine of France against the English and Roman Catholic saint * We pray for women who are victims of domestic violence.
- 31 Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth * We pray for expectant mothers that they may have the support during their pregnancy to rejoice with the anticipation of their child.

Published by the Social Concerns Office
Sisters of Divine Providence
May 2014