

Peace and Justice Prayer Calendar

March 2015

*Vision Statement: We will risk being marginalized.
Women's History Month*



- 1 Second Sunday of Lent
Zero Discrimination Day (UNAIDS) * We pray for compassion, tolerance, and love among all people.
- 2 Pope Leo X¹¹¹ (b. 1810) - His encyclical, *Rerum Novarum*, was the first of the modern wave of social encyclicals. This encyclical introduced the 'just wage theory', principles which included protecting the rights of workers. * We pray that the rights of all workers be respected and observed.
International Death Penalty Abolition Day * We pray for the end of the death penalty in the 12 countries of the world who use it and for all those condemned to die.
- 3 Alexander Graham Bell (b. 1847) - Inventor, scientist, engineer, teacher of the deaf, noted mostly as the inventor of the telephone.
Chief Joseph (b.1840) - We pray in gratitude for Native Americans and their respect of all of creation, especially wildlife.
- 4 Jeanette Rankin becomes first woman in Congress (1917) * We pray for an increase of women in leadership roles in governments and in Society.
- 5 Magna Puja Day (Buddhists commemorate the teachings of Buddha * We pray for respect and tolerance among peoples of different religious beliefs.
We pray for Rodney Reed scheduled for execution in Texas, the victim, and their families.
- 6 Michelangelo (b.1475) – Sculptor, painter, architect, and poet especially known for his sculptures of the Pieta and David * For all those who bring beauty into our lives.
For the safety and well-being of Christians in Iraq, the Philippines and other areas where ISIS exists.
- 7 Saints Perpetua and Felicity * We pray for women who are victims of abuse.
- 8 Third Sunday of Lent
International Women's Day (UN) - Theme: "Empowering Women-Empowering Humanity: Picture it!" * We pray that each woman and girl can exercise her choice in politics, education, and live free of violence and discrimination.
Daylight Savings Time Begins

- 9 First female cadets accepted at West Point Military Academy (1976)
Dr. Antonia Novello sworn-in as first Hispanic female U.S. surgeon general
- 10 Senate approves amendment lowering the voting age to 18. (1971) * We pray that more young people will take an interest in government and use their right to vote more often.
- 11 Today is Johnny Appleseed Day – Legend says that Johnny planted trees everywhere he went. He went to a place that was empty and left it full of life. What seed will you plant today that will last beyond your life? (Joan Chittister)
We pray for all those on death row and for Manuel Vasquez scheduled for execution in Texas * We pray for his victim, and the families affected.
- 12 Youth Day 2015 at Los Angeles Religious Education Gathering (USCCB) * We pray that all Catholic Youth will live out the gospel values in their lives.
Fr. Rutilio Grande, SJ martyred in El Salvador (1977) * We pray for all those who risk their lives to help the most vulnerable of the world.
- 13 Election of Pope Francis (2013) - Pope Francis has said many times, “Find new ways to spread the word of God to every corner of the world.”
- 14 We pray in gratitude that Eve Tetaz and Nashua Chantel arrested for their November protest at Fort Benning were not imprisoned for their actions. We pray for the closing of the School of the Americas.
- 15 Fourth Sunday of Lent
St. Louise de Marillac * We pray “ that the unique contribution of women to the life of the Church may be recognized always” Pope Francis Monthly Intention
- 16 USA Lenten Hunger Fast - Global Catholic Climate Movement (GCCM). Today let us fast and pray for all those who are affected by the climate change and for the will to do something positive to lessen our impact on our environment and climate.
- 17 St. Patrick, patron of Ireland and Nigeria * We pray for lasting peace in Nigeria and Ireland and in gratitude for the contributions of culture by these peoples to the world.
We pray for Cecil Clayton scheduled to be executed in Missouri, for his victim, and the families affected.
- 18 Cosmonaut Aleksei Leonov, leaving his spacecraft Voskhod II for 12 minutes, becomes the first person to “walk” in space. (1965)
We pray for the end of the death penalty and for Randall Mays scheduled for execution in Texas, the victim, and their families.

- 19 St. Joseph - Patron of families and workers * We pray for families struggling due to unemployment and underemployment.
- 20 National Day Against Bullying and Violence (USA) * We pray for the victims of bullying and violence. Spring Begins!!
- 21 International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (UN) * We pray for the end of racial discrimination.
International Day of Forests and Trees (UN) * We pray in gratitude for the foliage of the forests.
- 22 Fifth Sunday of Lent
World Water Day (UN) Theme: "Water and Energy" If we save water, we save energy!
We pray for the 1.3 Billion people who cannot access electricity; the 758 Million who lack improved water sources; the 2.5 Billion people without proper sanitation.
- 23 English premiere of Handel's "Messiah" (1743) – For all the composers of sacred music who have inspired us throughout the ages.
- 24 Bishop Oscar Romero martyred (1980) * We pray for all those who speak out against corruption in Social Systems, especially political prisoners.
We pray for the end of the use of torture by governments and that the US will close Guantanamo Prison.
- 25 Feast of the Annunciation * We pray that all pregnant women are able to rejoice and respect the new life that they nurture.
International Day for the commemoration of the anniversary of the abolition of trans-Atlantic Slave Trade * We pray for the victims of human trafficking.
- 26 Robert Frost (b. 1874) – Highly regarded for his realistic depictions of rural life in America.
"Half the world is composed of people who have something to say and can't, and the other half who have nothing to say and keep on saying it." -- Robert Frost
We pray for the repose of the souls of Arnold Prieto, Warren Hill, Robert Ladd, Donald Newbury, Walter Storey who were executed last month in the USA.
- 27 We pray for women in leadership roles in Church and Society and we pray in gratitude for women, who teach, who preach, who heal, who feed, who love the children of the world.

- 28 Earth Hour 8:30 pm to 9:30 pm - Turn off the lights and join peoples around the world in considering ways to conserve the earth's resources * We pray in gratitude for all of creation.
Three Mile Island Accident (1979) * For a nuclear-free World
- 29 Palm Sunday * We pray that this Holy week will be a time of renewal of our commitment to bring Christ's love and peace to those in our world.
- 30 Vincent van Gogh (b. 1853) * For all those who through their artistry help us to see beauty in the world in many ways.
- 31 Cesar Chavez (b. 1927) * Labor Leader, Civil Rights Activist * We pray for all farm workers, especially those who still must struggle for rights and respect.