

Peace and Justice Prayer Calendar

April 2014

Environmental Awareness Month

- 1 Let us be Fools for Christ!! * We pray for all those who are bullied or ridiculed because they are different and we pray for the conversion of their antagonists.
- 2 Joseph Cardinal Bernardin (b. 1928) * That we may all strive for a Consistent Ethic of Life in our culture.
World Autism Day * For all those afflicted with behavioral health issues, especially those without adequate care.
- 3 Washington Irving (b. 1783) * Author of "Rip van Winkle" & "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" * For all authors who delight our minds and spark our imaginations.
We pray for the end of the death penalty and for Tommy Sells scheduled for execution in Texas, the victim, and their families.
- 4 Martin L. King, Jr. assassinated (1968) * May we all continue in the struggle for racial equality.
George Bernard Shaw wrote in his play, *The Devil's Disciple*, "The worst sin towards our fellow creatures is not to hate them, but to be indifferent to them: that's the essence of inhumanity,"
- 5 We pray for the 269 passengers & crew, and the loved ones of Flight 370 from Malaysia. May they rest in peace.
- 6 Fifth Sunday of Lent
Raphael (b. 1483) - Italian painter/architect of the High Renaissance. (Together with Michelangelo and Leonardo da Vinci, he forms the traditional trinity of great masters of that period.) * For all artists who remind us of the beauty in the world.
- 7 World Health Day (UN) & Rwanda Genocide (1994) * We pray for those without adequate health care and for all victims of genocide.
- 8 Buddha was born in 536 b.c. We pray for tolerance among persons of different religious beliefs.
- 9 Marian Anderson - Not permitted to sing in Constitution Hall because of her race, she gave a historic concert at the Lincoln Memorial (1939)
We pray for all prisoners on death row especially Ramiro Hernandez scheduled for execution in Texas, the victim and their families.

- 10 Peace Agreement in Northern Ireland (1998) * We pray for continued peace in Northern Ireland.
- 11 Pacem in Terris published (1963) * We pray for peace in the Ukraine, Syria, Nigeria and the Congo
- 12 Global Warming Day * Don't be a climate change denier....
We pray for the survivors of the genocides in Rwanda, Darfur, Cambodia, and Bosnia.
- 13 Passion/Palm Sunday
We pray that the leaders of governments will seek the common good for all their people.
- 14 Pax Christi USA founded in 1972
Karen Klimczak, SSJ, Buffalo - Peacemaker killed in 2006. * We pray in gratitude for all those who leave "peace prints on this earth".
Passover begins at sunset
- 15 We pray that governments may foster the protection of creation and the just distribution of natural resources. (Pope Francis Monthly Intention)
USA Tax Day
Boston Marathon Bombing (2013)
- 16 St. Bernadette of Lourdes * We pray those who are tested by pain and sickness that the Risen Lord may fill their hearts with hope. (Pope Francis Monthly Intention)
- 17 Holy Thursday * We pray for the grace to wash the feet of our sisters and brothers in need.
- 18 Good Friday * We pray for all those who are condemned to die without cause.
- 19 Holy Saturday *
We pray for all those separated from their families especially due to migration or wars - For comprehensive Immigration Reform in the USA
- 20 Easter - Jesus is Risen!! May we have the courage to proclaim His gospel of love and forgiveness, we pray.

- 21 John Muir (b. 1838) – Naturalist, early advocate of the reservation of the wilderness.
“Everybody needs beauty as well as bread, places to play in and pray in, where nature may heal and give strength to body and soul.” John Muir
- 22 Earth Day * Let us celebrate Earth Day by Reducing, Recycling, Reusing, Renewing, Repairing, and Rejoicing!!
Last Day of Passover
We pray for Nickolus Johnson & Clayton Lockett scheduled for execution in Tennessee & Oklahoma, the victims, and their families.
- 23 St. George, the ‘dragon slayer’ – *“gave his life to repelling attacks on Christianity and rejecting evil. These are dragons to be slain in the course of every life. We could use a new respect for dragon-slayers perhaps.”* (Joan Chittister)
Administrative Professionals Day * For all those workers who make their “bosses” look good!
- 24 St. Vincent de Paul (b. 1581) * For all those who serve persons who are poor in their ministries.
- 25 St. Mark, Evangelist * One of four who collected the words and actions of Jesus to bring us the “joy of the Gospel” - may we always appreciate and live the gospel.
Arbor Day * We pray in gratitude for the gift of trees.
- 26 Joan Chittister (b.1936) * For all those who speak truth to power.
World Intellectual Property Day (UN) * We pray that the God-given intellect of humans will be used to help further the common good.
- 27 Coretta Scott King (b. 1927 – d. 2006) * As a proponent of civil and human rights, Coretta Scott King helped her husband, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., lead the modern civil rights movement.
Yom Hashanah Holocaust Remembrance Day
- 28 Oskar Schindler (b. 1908) - Saved thousands of Jews by providing them with work in his factory in WWII * For risk takers.
World Day of Safety and Health at Work * We pray for the safety and health of all workers and for those who have died this year in unsafe circumstances.
- 29 St. Catherine of Siena * We pray for women in leadership roles in the Church and religious communities.
For an end of the death penalty and for Charles Warner scheduled for execution in Oklahoma, the victim, and the families.

30 1789 - On the balcony of Federal Hall on Wall Street in New York City, George Washington takes the oath of office to become the first elected President of the United States of America - just 13 at that period of history. * May we live up to the ideals which began our country.