

# Peace and Justice Prayer Calendar

February 2014

*African American Heritage Month*

- 1 St. Brigid of Kildare, Abbess \* We pray for women in leadership role in Church, religious communities, and civil government.
  - 2 Presentation of the Lord World Day for Consecrated Life We pray for all those of Consecrated Life that they may be true to the gospel values of Jesus.  
Super Bowl Sunday we pray for those men, women and children for whom the Super Bowl means abuse, exploitation, and entrapment through human trafficking.
  - 3 St. Blaise \* We pray for those who are suffering from throat infirmities.  
Simone Weil (b. 1909) - Christian Mystic & Social Activist
  - 4 World Cancer Day (World Health Organization) \* We pray for victims of cancer, especially those who have no access to appropriate treatment.  
Rosa Parks (b. 1913) - The spark of the Civil Rights Movement in the 1950s
  - 5 St. Agatha \* Patron of persons with breast cancer, rape victims, and nurses.  
For the end of the death penalty and for Suzanne Basso in Texas and Christopher Sepulvado in Louisiana scheduled for execution, the victims, and their families.
  - 6 St. Paul Miki and Companions \* Martyred for their faith in Japan. (1597)  
International Day of Zero Tolerance of Female Genital Mutilation (WHO) \* We pray for the 140 million women and girls suffering from the consequences of mutilation.
- 7-23 The Olympics in Sochi, Russia \**  
*We pray for the safety of all participants.*
- 7 Dom Helder Camara (b.1909 – d. Aug, 1999) \* Bishop of Recife , Brazil, worked tirelessly for the poor of his diocese.  
*"When I give food to the poor, they call me a saint. When I ask why they are poor, they call me a communist."* (Dom Helder Camara)
  - 8 St. Josephine Bakhita (Feast Day) - Born in Sudan, Josephine was kidnapped at the age of seven and sold into slavery. She was re-sold many times, experiencing the humiliations and sufferings of slavery, both physical and moral.  
World Day of Prayer and Fasting for the end of Human Trafficking - (Pope Francis) . We join Pope Francis and Catholics worldwide in praying for the end of human trafficking.
  - 9 We pray for the end of violence in Central African Republic, especially for the release of 3500 child soldiers and the return of 400,000 refugees.
  - 10 St. Scholastica \* We pray for Benedictines throughout the world & for women in Church ministry.  
Leontyne Price (b. 1927), opera singer\* For those who bring us the joy of music.
  - 11 Our Lady of Lourdes  
World Day of the Sick \* We pray for those who are sick and those who care and love them, especially those without good health care.

- 12 Sr. Dorothy Stang, SND – (d. 2005) \* Murdered by henchman of the wealthy because of her work with the indigenous people to save their lands and cultures.  
Abraham Lincoln (b.1809). NAACP founded in 1909.  
We pray for Juan Chavez scheduled for execution in Florida, the victim, and their families
- 13 We pray for the end of the political unrest and violence in the Ukraine.
- 14 **Valentine's Day**  
pray for the safety of all women and especially those who suffer from domestic violence.
- 15 Susan B. Anthony (b. 1820) \* We pray in gratitude for women who work for equality for all peoples, especially to end racism.
- 16 We pray in gratitude for the contributions of the 39.4 million African-Americans to the USA.
- 17 Presidents Day \*  
Day of Action by religious leaders in Washington to protest the deportation of 7 million immigrants. We pray that the President of the USA will heed the pleas of the religious leaders on behalf of the immigrants and end unjustified deportations.
- 18 We pray for the repose of the souls of Askan Muhammad, Edgar Mayo, Michael Wilson and Dennis McGuire executed last month and the 39 persons executed in 2013 in the USA.
- 19 We pray for an adherence to the peace pact in South Sudan.  
“If you want to make peace with your enemy, you have to work with your enemy. Then he [sic] becomes your partner.”
- 20 Henri de Lubac (b. 1896 - 1991) \* Writings greatly influenced the shaping of Vatican II.  
World Day of Social Justice (UN) \* We pray in gratitude for all justice seekers.
- 21 We pray for peace in Egypt, Syria, Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Israel.  
*“If we want to create a viable, peaceful world, we've got to integrate compassion into the gritty realities of 21<sup>st</sup> Century life.”* (Karen Armstrong)
- 22 Martyrs of the White Rose (1943) \* Today the members of the White Rose (mainly students) are honored in Germany among its greatest heroes since they opposed the Third Reich in the face of almost certain death.  
We pray for all those who are unjustly imprisoned/executed for their beliefs  
George Washington (b. 1732)
- 23 We pray that the Church and society may respect the wisdom and experience of older people.  
(Pope Francis Monthly Intention)
- 24 We pray that Congress will help those in need by increasing the minimum wage and providing benefits for the unemployed.
- 25 We pray that priests, religious, and lay people work together with generosity.
- 26 We pray for the 3108 persons on death row, especially Paul Howell scheduled for execution in Florida & Michael Taylor in Missouri, the victims, and their families.

- 27 We pray for all those recovering from natural disasters or who are suffering because of the effects of climate change, especially the people of the Philippines.
- 28 We pray for peace among the many nations of the world today who are continuously at war with one another.  
*“It isn't enough to talk about peace. One must believe in it. And it isn't enough to believe in it. One must work at it. (Eleanor Roosevelt)*