

# Peace & Justice Prayer Calendar

February 2015

**Vision Statement:** *We Will Strive for Right Relationships with All African American Heritage Month*

- 1 St. Brigid of Kildare - Irish Abbess, Founder of many monasteries \* For all women in leadership roles throughout the world.  
Langston Hughes (b. 1902) – African American poet, playwright, social activist . Hughes once wrote, *“Hold fast to your dreams/for if dreams die/life is a broken-winged bird/that cannot fly.  
Hold fast to your dreams/for when dreams go/life is a barren field/covered with snow.”*
- 2 Feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple \* For all children who are victims of abuse.  
*Groundhog Day* – Six more weeks of winter? - We hope not....
- 3 St. Blaise - Physician, Patron of persons with throat ailments – May the words coming out of our throats always give spiritual health and inspiration to others.
- 4 Rosa Parks (b. 1913) – civil rights leader, peace activist, the “spark” of the Civil Rights movement in 1955 \* In gratitude for the contributions of African Americans to the USA. Our CDP Pledge: We will strive for right relationships with all.  
For Donald Newbury scheduled for execution (TX), for the victim, and the families.
- 5 St. Agatha - Martyr, patron of those with breast cancer, rape victims, and the human trafficked \* We pray for all those who are victims of the above.
- 6 St. Paul Miki & Companions – Executed for their preaching of the Christian faith in Japan \* We pray today for all those throughout the world who are persecuted because of their religious beliefs.  
International Day of Zero Tolerance of Female Genital Mutilation (UN) \* We pray that all governments will outlaw the practice of genital mutilation.
- 7 Dom Helder Camara (b. 1909) – Bishop of El Salvador, Strong advocate for the rights of the poor once said, *“When I feed the poor, they call me a saint, but when I ask why the poor are hungry, they call me a communist.”*  
The first Negro History Week celebrated in 1926 (celebrated today as African American Heritage Month. \* We pray in gratitude for the contributions of African Americans to the USA. Our CDP Pledge: We will strive for right relationships with all.
- 8 St. Josephine Bakhita – (Feast Day) - Kidnapped at age seven, sold into slavery, upon freedom joined the Canossian Order in Italy where she is revered by the people to this day \* We pray for all the persons trafficked for labor or sex in the world.  
15<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Constitution Ratified giving African American men the right to vote (1870)  
Women were given the right to vote in 1920 by the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment [50 years later]

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*February 9-15 – International Random Acts of Kindness Week*  
Try to do one or more acts of kindness daily.

- 9 Satchel Paige becomes the first Negro-League player elected to the baseball Hall of Fame. (1971) \* We pray for better interactions between peoples of differing backgrounds or ideologies. Our CDP Pledge: We will strive for right relationships with all.
- 10 St. Scholastica - Founder of the women's branch of Benedictine Monasticism \* We pray for all Benedictines throughout the world and for all women religious.
- 11 Our Lady of Lourdes- Miraculous Healer of the Sick - World Day of the Sick (UN) \* We pray for those suffering from all kinds of illnesses and for those who care for them. For the end of the death penalty and for Michael Storey scheduled for execution (MO), the victim, and the families affected.
- 12 Sr. Dorothy Stang SND - martyred in Brazil (2005) \* We pray for all those who risk their lives to be voice for those who are without voice.  
Abraham Lincoln (b. 1809) – 16<sup>th</sup> President of the U.S., his Emancipation Proclamation freed the slaves in the U.S., a strong and momentous cause of the Civil War.  
NAACP Founded (1929)
- 13 World Kindness Day & World Radio Day (UN) We pray for the safety of all journalists and media members who risk their lives to tell the truth about oppression in our world.
- 14 Valentine's Day - On this holiday of focusing on love let us remember, pray, and be of the aware of violence against women who are victims of abuse.
- 15 Susan B. Anthony (b. 1820) - suffragette and abolitionist \* We pray for all women who struggle for equality and justice for women in society and in the Church.
- 16 Presidents Day observed \* We pray that President Obama and his staff may work for the common good and steadfast in dialog with congress to bring about a compassionate, comprehensive Immigration Reform .
- 17 Mardi Gras \* We pray for those who cannot feast today because they have inadequate food and shelter.
- 18 Ash Wednesday \* Let us repent and ask forgiveness for whatever ways we have contributed to the lack of peace and justice in our world today. Let us strive to act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with God and God's people.  
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- 19 Chinese New Year (Year of the Goat)  
We pray for the end of the death penalty and for John Gant scheduled for execution (OK), the victim, and the affected families.
- 20 Henri de Lubac (b. 1896) - Writings greatly influenced the shaping of Vatican II \* We pray that the documents of the Council be sincerely implemented.  
World Day of Social Justice (UN) \* We pray in gratitude for all justice seekers.
- 21 International Mother Language Day (UN) \* We pray for those who work to insure cultural diversity is preserved.  
The White Rose Martyrs resistance to the Nazis (1943) \* We pray for those who resist oppression in all its forms.
- 22 1st Sunday of Lent  
George Washington (b. 1732) \* First President of the USA \* In gratitude for the strong leaders who inaugurated the country on a solid footing as it was being formed.
- 23 W.E.B. Dubois, African American Educator (b.1869) \* We pray in gratitude for the contributions of the more than 39.3 million African Americans to the USA.
- 24 We pray that peoples experiencing war and conflicts may be protagonists in the building of a future of peace.  
We pray for the repose of the souls of Andrew Brannan, John Kormanly, Charles Warner, and Arnold Prieto executed in January.
- 25 Herman Revels, First black U.S. Senator (1870) \* We pray for a greater diversity in ethnicity and gender in government officials and public servants such as police, fireman, emergency crews.
- 26 Trayvon Martin killed in 2012 (FL \* We pray for the safety of African-American Youth.  
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We pray for Jerry Correll scheduled for execution in Florida, the victim, and the affected families.
- 27 International “Stand Up to Bullying Day” - This annual day provides a focus for all schools to say Bullying. No Way! and to strengthen their existing everyday messages that bullying and violence at school are not okay at any time. \* We pray for all people who experience bullying.
- 28 “That prisoners, especially the young may feel welcome and supported in the Christian Community” Pope Francis Monthly Intention