

MERCY Peace & Justice CALENDAR

February 2025

Black History Month (USA)

Jubilee Year 2025 Pilgrims of Hope

1 Feast of St. Brigid of Kildare

We pray for Sister Simona Brambilla, historic first woman prefect for the Dicastery for the Institutes of Consecrated Life.



National Freedom Day (USA)

In 1865, Abraham Lincoln signs Joint Resolution for the 13th Amendment, which would eventually end slavery except as punishment, which was then sent to the states for ratification.



Woolworth's counter sit-in in 1960 in Greensboro, NC to end segregation

We pray for the end of racism.



Birth of Leymah Roberta Gbowee

Liberian peace activist who led nonviolent action to end Liberia's civil war

1 - 7 World Interfaith Harmony Week

Theme: Love of God (or Good) and Love of Our Neighbor

We pray for greater interaction among peoples of different faiths.

WORLD INTERFAITH
HARMONY WEEK



2 Feasts of the Presentation of the Lord and Our Lady of Candelaria (Peru)

We pray for the people of Peru.

Candlemas Day

World Wetlands Day (UN)

Foreign slave trade outlawed in USA in 1807

Groundhog Day

World Day of Consecrated Life (VA)

(celebrated 2/9 USCCB)

We pray for those who live the consecrated life.



3 Feast of St. Blaise, healer of throat ailments

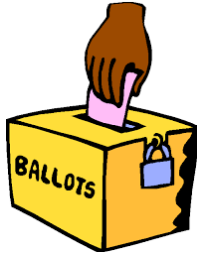
Our Lady of Suyapa (Honduras)

Feast of Venerable Mary Elizabeth Lange,
founder of the first African-American religious
community, Oblate Sisters of Providence



15th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution ratified,
prohibiting denial of voting rights due to race, color, or
servitude

We pray for the end of U.S. interference in Honduras and
for the Oblate Sisters of Providence



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- 4 We pray for a U.S. federal government that
establishes policies that provide
compassionate, comprehensive laws
regarding immigration and that seek the
common good of all residents.



World Cancer Day (WHO)

*Theme: United by Unique
(United in our goals, unique in
our needs)*



Birth of Rosa Parks (1913)

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- 5 **Feast of St. Agatha, interceder against volcanos
and fires & Feast of St. Felipe De Jesus, Mexican
missionary martyr in Japan**

We pray for the people of Los Angeles County
and the first responders as they deal with the fires
and recovery.

We pray for Steven Nelson, scheduled for
execution in Texas, for the victim, and for their
families.



**6 Feast of St. Paul Miki and companions,
Japanese martyrs**

We pray for Demetrius Frazier, scheduled for execution in Alabama, for the victims, and for their families.

**International Day of Zero Tolerance of Female
Genital Mutilation (UN)**

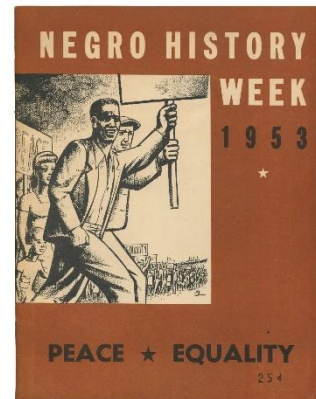
We pray for the more than 52 million girls and women worldwide who are victims of this abuse.



**7 First Negro History Week observed in 1926,
forerunner of Black History Month**

**1st Friday Prayer and Action Against the Death
Penalty**

We pray in gratitude that Governor Cooper of North Carolina commuted 15 death sentences to life without parole, and that President Biden commuted 37 death sentences.



7 - 14 National Marriage Week (USSCB)

We pray for married couples.



8 Feast of St. Josephine Bakhita (first Sudanese saint and victim of human trafficking)



International Day of Prayer and Awareness Against Human Trafficking (VA)

We pray for the more than 27.6 million human trafficking victims worldwide and for the conversion of their captors.



8 – 9 We pray for the success of the Jubilee of the Armed Forces, Police, and Security Officials in Rome.

9 Superbowl LIX in Caesars Superdome, New Orleans

We pray for the identification of trafficked persons and the prevention of trafficking operations during the celebration of the Superbowl in related events and places.



World Marriage Day (VA)

We pray for married couples and their families.

10 Feast of St. Scholastica

We pray for the Benedictines and all those who carry on the charism of Sts. Benedict & Scholastica.



11 Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes

World Day of the Sick (VA)

We pray that the sick have the care and support they need to endure their suffering.



International Day of Women & Girls in Science (UN)



12 International Day for the Prevention of Violent Extremism when Conducive to Terrorism (UN)

We pray for the end of terrorism.

International Day Against the Use of Child Soldiers (UN)

Sr. Dorothy Stang SNDdeN, missionary in Brazil, advocate for the Amazon, martyred in 2005



Red Hand Day (UNESCO)

People paint hands red in protest of the 250,000 children in 50 countries who are soldiers

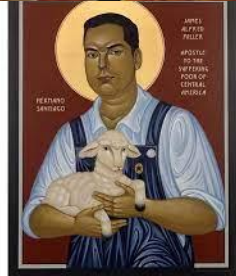
Magha Puja, Buddhist Festival of All Saints

We pray for tolerance among peoples of different religions.



13 Brother James Miller, FSC, martyred in Guatemala in 1982

We pray for the people in Central America / Abya Yala, especially in Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua.



14 Feasts of Sts. Cyril & Methodius

we pray for the safety of Slavic people along the Russian Border.

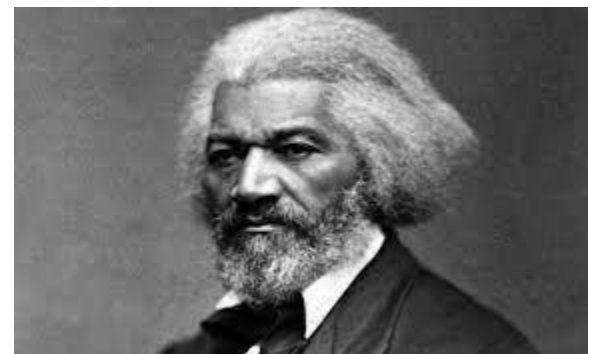
Valentine's Day

Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shootings in Parkland, Florida (2018)

We pray for the end of violence against women and shootings in schools.



Frederick Douglass, civil rights leader, born in 1817



League of Women Voters founded in 1920

15 Susan B. Anthony born in 1820

We pray for the safety and wellbeing of those running for political offices and for an informed voting public.



We pray “that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ in the priesthood and religious life” – Pope Francis’s monthly intention

16 - 18 We pray for the success of the Jubilee of Artists in Rome.

16 We pray for the repose of the souls of Ray Kevin Underwood and Joseph Corcoran, executed in December in Oklahoma and Indiana respectively.

A black rectangular box containing the text "END DEATH PENALTY" in white and red capital letters. "END" is in red, "DEATH" is in white, and "PENALTY" is in white.

17 Presidents’ Day (observed)

We pray for the wellbeing of Presidents Trump, Biden, Obama, Bush, and Clinton and in gratitude for the life and service of President Jimmy Carter.



Global World Tourism Day (UN)

We pray for the safety and wellbeing of travelers.

**18 Feast of St. Kuriakose Elias Chavara, CMI
(first Saint of India)**

We pray for the Catholics of India.

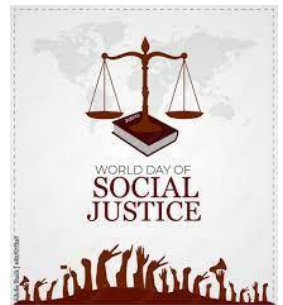


19 We pray in gratitude for the release of 11 Yemeni prisoners from Guantanamo Bay prison after 20 years without charges or justice, and we pray for the 15 who are still prisoners, 6 never charged.



20 World Day of Social Justice (UN)

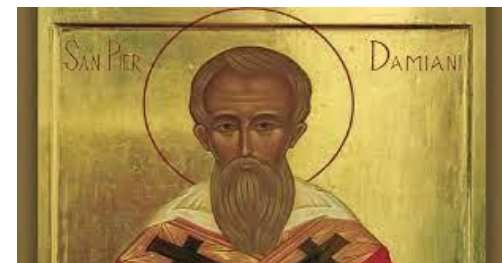
We pray for an increase in awareness of issues of justice by governments and an increase in effort to resolve issues of injustice in their countries and the world.



21 - 23 We pray for the success of the Jubilee of Deacons in Rome.

21 Feast of St. Peter Damian

We pray with gratitude for the release from prison after a year of Nicaraguan Bishops Alvarez and Mora and 17 other Catholic clergy.



We pray for the end of persecution of Catholics and Christian minorities everywhere.

We pray for peace in Israel, Palestine, Sudan, South Sudan, Iran, Iraq, Yemen.



22 Feast of the Chair of Saint Peter

Execution of Sophie and Hans Scholl, martyrs of the White Rose, for nonviolent resistance to the Nazis in 1943

We pray for all those unjustly imprisoned, especially in Russia, Israel, and Nicaragua.



23 W.E.B. Dubois, educator and civil rights activist, born in 1869 We pray for the end of racism.

Anniversary of the racially motivated killing of Ahmaud Arbery in Brunswick, Georgia in 2020
We pray for the end of racism.



24 Russia invades Ukraine in 2022
We pray for peace for the people of Ukraine and the people of Russia.



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- 25 **Herman Revels becomes first Black Senator in 1870**
We pray for a Congress that seeks the common good.
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- 26 **Philippine People Power Day**
(1986 nonviolent change of a violent government in the Philippines)
We pray for the people of the Philippines.



Anniversary of the killing of Trayvon Martin, an unarmed Black teenager, in Sanford, Florida in 2012

We pray for the end of racism and violence in our communities.



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- 27 We pray for refugees, immigrants, and migrants, especially those at the U.S. southern border, living in the U.S., and in Gaza.



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- 28 **Ramadan begins**
We pray for the end of Islamophobia.



A special note of gratitude for Sister Jean Murin, for all of her work
gathering the information for our
Mercy Peace and Justice Calendar.
