

MERCY Peace & Justice CALENDAR

Peace and Justice Prayer Calendar May 2025

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

Older Americans Month (USA)

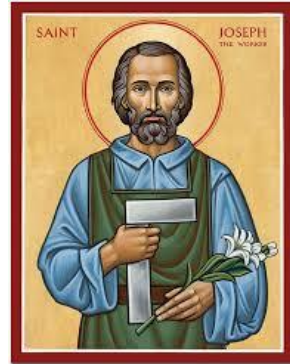
Foster Care Awareness Month (USCCB/USA)

1 Feast of St. Joseph the Worker

International Workers' Day

Catholic Worker Movement founded in 1933

We pray for workers, especially those recently fired without just cause.



Religious Brothers' Day (VA)

We pray with gratitude for the gifts of religious brothers to the Church.



National Day of Prayer

Theme: "Pour Out to the God of Hope & Be Filled"

Romans 15:13

We pray for peace & unity in the USA.



We pray for Jeffrey Hutchinson, scheduled for execution in Florida, for the victims, and for their families.

**1-4 Jubilee 25 Celebration in Rome of Workers,
Business Entrepreneurship**



**2 1st Friday Prayer and Action Against the Death Penalty
(CMN)**

We pray for the end of the death penalty
worldwide.

World Tuna Day (UN)

We pray for the safety and prosperity of
fishing boat workers.



3 Feast of Sts. Philip & James

Peace Pastoral in 1983

World Press Freedom Day (UN)

*Theme: Reporting in the Brave New World: The
Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Press
Freedom and the Media*

We pray for world peace and for a free and
truthful press.

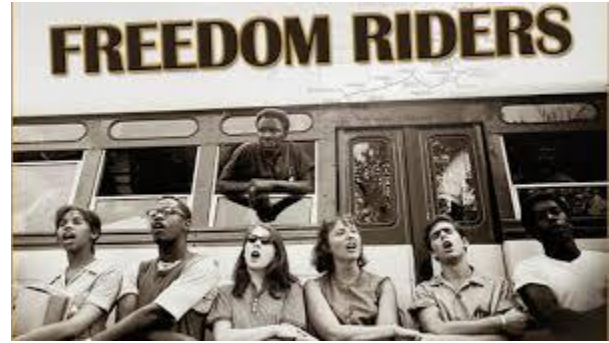
Join Hands Day (AFA), a day of service and
volunteering with others to solve problems in
our communities.



4 Kent State Massacre (1970)

First Freedom ride from
Washington, D.C. to the South in
1961

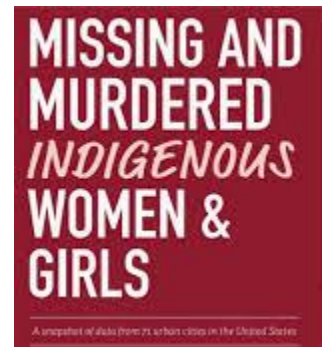
We pray that all public protests be
nonviolent and for the end of racism.



5 Cinco De Mayo (French defeated at Battle of Pueblo,
Mexico in 1862)

National Day of Awareness for
Missing & Murdered Indigenous
Women/Girls (USA)

We pray for the people of Mexico
and that people, primarily white
men, stop kidnapping and
murdering Indigenous women and
girls.



6 National Nurses Day (ANA) *Theme: The Power of
Nurses*

We pray in gratitude for nurses, who dedicate
their lives to those in need of compassionate,
tender care.



May 6

6-12 National Nurses Week
Thank a nurse today!!



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- 7 Let us pray “that through work each person might find fulfillment, families might be sustained in dignity and that society might be humanized” — Pope Francis’s Monthly Intention



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- 8 **National Student Nurses’ Day** Encourage a student nurse today!!
Pray for an increase in the number of nursing students.

Feast of Our Lady of Lujan (Patron of Argentina)

We pray for the people of Argentina.

Red Cross and Red Crescent Day (UN)

We pray for the safety and wellbeing of first responders in disasters and war zones.

Time of Remembrance and Reconciliation for those (20 million) who lost their lives in World War II (UN)



9 Catherine McAuley, RSM declared venerable in 1990

Sophia Scholl born in 1921 (peace activist) who said “stand up for what you believe in even though you are alone”

We pray for peacemakers and the beatification of Catherine McAuley.



10 Feast of St. Damien of Molaki

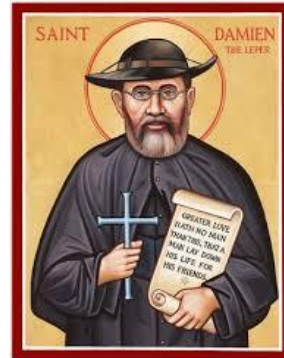
We pray for those with incurable conditions and for their caregivers.

International Day of the Argania Tree (UN), an important, sustainable resource in the desert.

World Migratory Bird Day (UNESCO)

World Fair Trade Day (UN)

Feed a bird! Buy a fairly traded item!



10-11 Jubilee 25 Celebration of Musical Bands in Rome

11 Mother's Day founded by Julia Warde Howe in 1872 as "Mother's Day for Peace"

We pray for all mothers: adopted, foster, step, and spiritual, especially those in war-torn countries & detention camps.



World Day of Prayer for Vocations (USCCB)

We pray for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life.

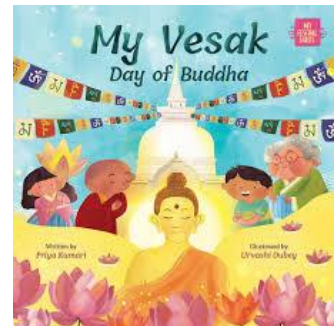
12 Buddhist Feast of Vesak (celebrates birth, death, enlightenment of Buddha)

Florence Nightingale born in 1820

We pray for those without adequate health care.

International Day of Plant Health (FAO) Love a plant!

Bro. Roger Schultz, founder of the Taizé community, born in 1915



13 Feasts of Our Lady of Fatima and Bl. Julian Norwich

“The fullness of Joy is to behold God in Everything”

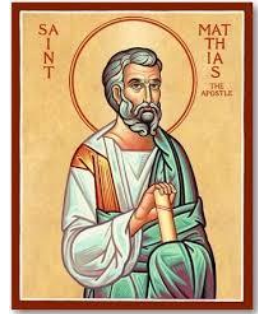
We pray for peace in Ukraine, Palestine, Myanmar, Yemen, Iran, Iraq, Haiti, Sudan, Somalia



14 Feast of St. Matthias

A racist kills 10 and wounds 3 in Buffalo supermarket attack (2022)

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



15 Feasts of Sts. Isidore and his wife, Maria de la Cabeza, patron of farmers

We pray for all farmers and their families.

Feast of St. Dymphna, patron of victims of mental illness and incest

International Day of Families (UN)

We pray for families separated by migration, wars, poverty.



16 International Day of Living together in Peace (UN) Theme: Cultivating a culture of peace
This is the 25th anniversary of the UN adopting the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace.



International Day of Light (UN)

We pray that all countries work to develop a culture of peace, and we pray in gratitude for the sun's gift of solar energy.

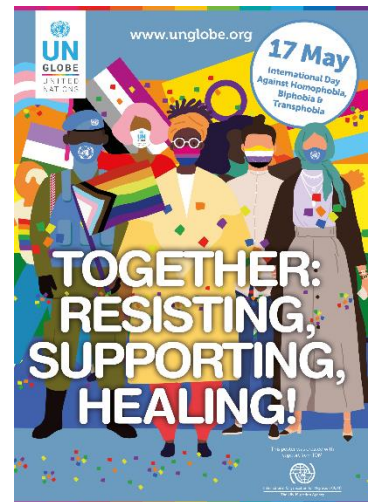


17 International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia (UN)

Theme: No one left behind: Equality, freedom, justice for all

We pray for the end of homophobia, transphobia, and biphobia.

Armed Forces Day (USA) We pray for the safety and wellbeing of members of the U.S. armed forces.



18 We pray for the repose of the souls of Thomas James, Wendell Grissom, Mikal Mahdi, Michael Tanzi, and Aaron Gunches, executed in the USA last month.

19-25 Global Road Safety Week (WHO)

We pray for safe-minded, courteous drivers.



19 Endangered Species Day (UN)

We pray that governments would work together to preserve the diversity of our environment and help preserve the future of endangered species.

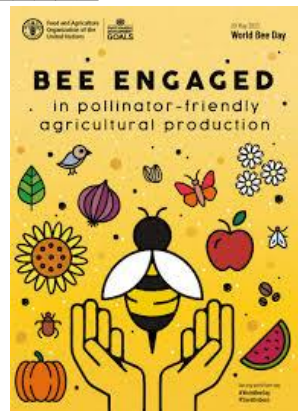


Birthday of Malcolm X (1925–1965)

20 Feast of St. Bernadine of Siena

World Bee Day (UN) Thank God for bees!

We pray for Matthew Johnson, scheduled for execution in Texas, for the victims, and for their families.



21 Christian de Cherge, OSCO & companions, martyred by Muslims in Algeria in 1996

We pray for tolerance among Christians and Muslims worldwide.

World Day for Cultural Diversity (UN)



22 Feast of St. Rita of Cascia (patron of desperate causes)

We pray for U.S. government officials.

Day of Prayer and Remembrance for Mariners and People at Sea (USCCB)

We pray for those who work on the sea.

International Day of Biological Diversity (UN)

Thank you, God, for our biological diversity.

We pray for Oscar Smith, scheduled for execution in Tennessee, for the victims, and for their families

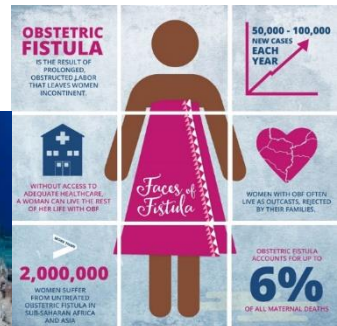


23 International Day to End Obstetric Fistulas (UN)

We pray for an increase of medical care that can end this preventable condition.

World Turtle Day (UN)

Thank you, God, for turtles!



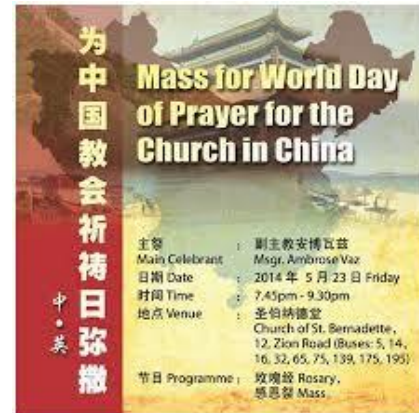
24-31 Laudato Si Week celebrates the 10th Anniversary of the encyclical *Theme: Raising Hope*



24 Feast of Our Lady, Help of Christians

World Day of Prayer for the Church In China (VA)
We pray for the Church in China.

Shooting in Uvalde, Texas, where 19 children and 2 teachers were killed in 2022
We pray for the end of violence.



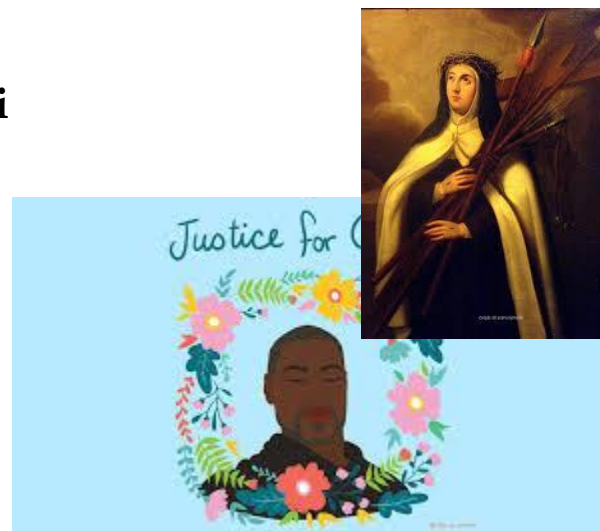
25-31 Solidarity with people of non-self-governing territories. There are 17 non-self-governing territories, including Guam, American Virgin Islands, and American Samoa.



25 Feast of St. Mary Magdalene de Pazzi

George Floyd murdered by police in 2020

We pray that police officers would demonstrate compassion, self-restraint, and a presumption of innocence for those accused of crimes.



National Missing Children's Day (USA)

26 Memorial Day

We pray for all those who have died, especially in the service of their country, and that government leaders would exercise diplomacy to minimize the deaths of military servants and collateral civilians



27 Environmentalist Rachel Carson born in 1907

We pray for women in leadership in Church & Society.



Those who dwell among the beauties and mysteries of the earth are never alone or weary of life. Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts. The more clearly we can focus our attention on the wonders and realities of the universe, the less taste we shall have for destruction.

— Rachel Carson —

AZ QUOTES

28 We pray for Darrell Draughn, scheduled for execution in Louisiana, for the victims, and for their families.



29 Feasts of the Ascension and St. Pope Paul VI
We pray for a nuclear weapon – free world.

30 Feast of St. Joan of Arc

We pray for an increase of women in leadership roles in Church and Society.



31 Feast of the Visitation

Tulsa Race Massacre in 1921

We pray for expectant mothers, the end of racism, and justice for victims of bigotry and oppression.



World No Tobacco Day (UN)

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