

# MERCY Peace & Justice CALENDAR

**January 2026**

***International Year of the Woman Farmer (UN)***  
***International Year of Volunteers for Sustainable Development (UN)***  
***National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month (USA)***



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**1 Feast of the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God**

**World Day of Prayer for Peace (VA)**

*Theme: Peace be with you all:*

Toward an unarmed and disarming peace "Peace begins with each one of us in the way we look at others, listen to others and speak to others"

Pope Leo XIV Global Family Day (UN)  
We pray for peace



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**2 We pray for the success of the World's Women Farmers' Harvests**

**First Friday Pray and Act For the end of the death Penalty (CMN)**



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**3 Feast of the Most Holy Name of Jesus**

We pray for peace in the Ukraine,  
Israel, Gaza, Venezuela



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**4 Feast of the Epiphany (Día de los Reyes}**

We pray with gratitude for the  
diversity of cultures in our world

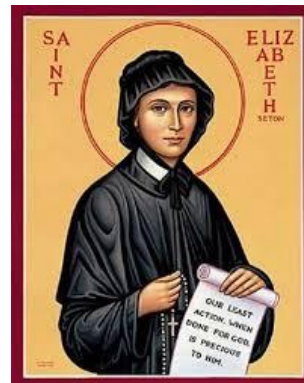


**Feast of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Patron of Catholic Schools**

We pray for the teachers, staff,  
students, benefactors of Catholic  
schools, and all Sisters of Charity.

**World Braille Day (UN)**

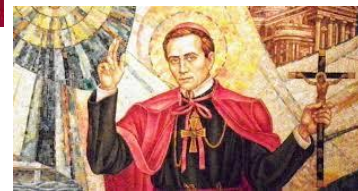
We pray for those who are blind



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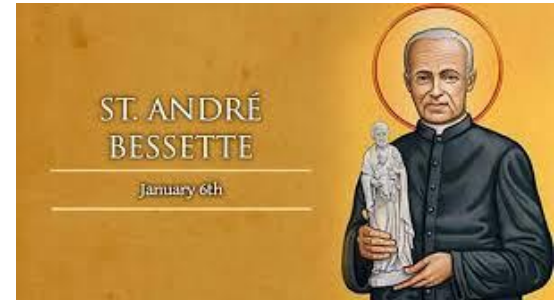
**5 Feasts of St. Syncletica, Desert Mother & St. John Neumann, patron of immigrants**

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**6 Feast of St. Andre Bessette, Holy Cross Religious and Patron of caregivers**

We pray for first responders, health care workers, family caregivers.



**Violent Mob Sieges Congress (2021)**

We pray for the safety and wellbeing of all elected officials.

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**7 Orthodox Christmas**

We pray for tolerance among believers of different religions.



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**8 We pray for the victims and those affected by the violence in Australia and Brown University in December**



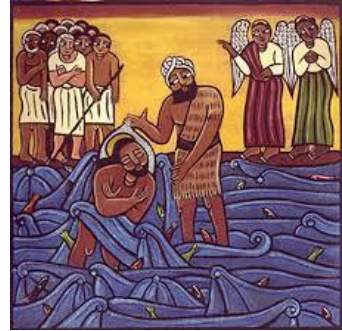
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**9 Birthday of Rigoberta Menchu Tum (1959)**  
Guatemalan Indigenous human rights activist  
Nobel Prize winner 1992  
We pray for the people of Central America especially Guatemala and Honduras

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- 10** We pray for the repose of the souls of Harold Nichols, Mark Gerald, Malik Abdul-Sajjad and Stephen Bryant executed last year in the USA
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- 11 Feast of the Baptism of the Lord**

**National Human Trafficking Awareness Day (USA)**

We pray for the 600,000 to 800,000 persons who are sold across borders each year and the end of human trafficking



- 12 Earthquake in Haiti in 2010**

We pray for the people of Haiti and the end of the violence and political upheaval.

We pray for the closure of Guantanamo Bay Prison (opened 2002) and for justice for its 30 prisoners.



help *for* haiti

- 13** We pray for the end of nuclear weapon production in the eleven countries of the world
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- 14** We pray for the will to conserve the earth's resources
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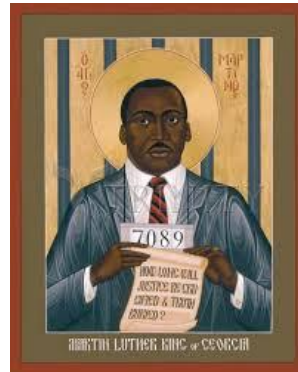


**15 Feast of the Black Christ of Esquipulas**

We pray for the people of Central America / Abya Yala

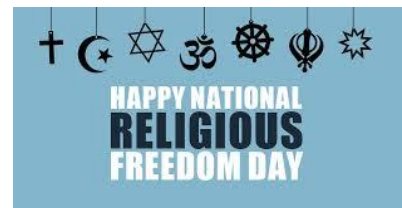
**Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr (born in 1929)**

We pray for the end of Racism



**16 National Religious Freedom Day (UN)**

We celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Passage of the Virginia Statute on Religious Freedom



We pray that all Americans value and respect the right of every citizen to practice their religion in peace and freedom

**17 Benjamin Franklin born 1706**

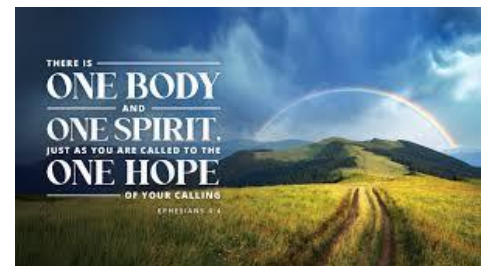
We pray for the safety and wellbeing of all government officials



**18-25 Christian Unity Octave**

*Theme: One Body, One Spirit (Ep 4:4)*

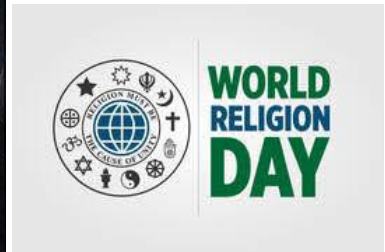
\* Intersessions below



## 18 Feast of the Chair of Peter

### World Religions Day started by the Baha'i Religions

We pray for the unity of all Christians in the Faith as called by Jesus

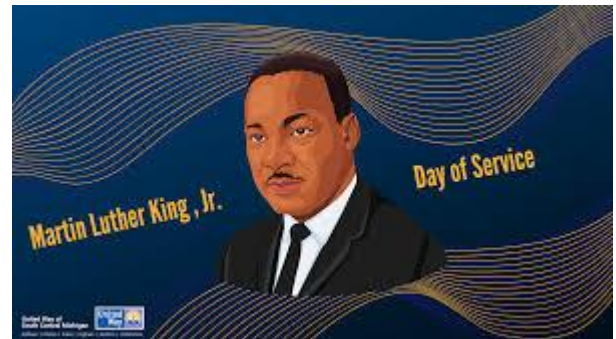


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## 19 Martin Luther King Jr Day of Service observed (USA)

We pray for the end of racism

We pray that the Christian Churches can embrace the challenge of our one calling to the same hope while maintaining our unique identity and traditions



### Fiesta Señor Santo Niño, feast celebrated by the Filipino people.

We pray for the people of the Philippines.



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## 19-23 No Name Calling Week In Schools (USA) a national effort to end bullying



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## 20 We pray that Christian Churches strengthen the bonds of peace among themselves and their communities

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- 21 Feast of St. Agnes, martyr**  
We pray for an increase of women in leadership roles in Church and Society



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## 21-29 Nine Day Novena for Life Begins

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- 22 Feast of Blessed Laura Vicuna, patron of abuse victims**  
We pray for children and women in abusive relationships

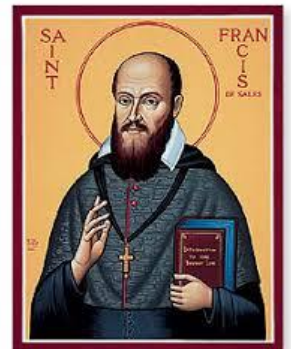


- 23 53<sup>rd</sup> March for Life In Washington**  
We pray for the safety and wellbeing of the participants



**Feast of St. Francis De Sales and Feast of St. Marianne Cope Syracuse Franciscan who cared for lepers at Molokai**

We pray with gratitude for those who care for those who are most vulnerable



## 24 International Day of Education (UN)

We pray that all children have access to education.

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## 25-31 Catholic Schools Week Theme: *United in Faith and Community*

We pray for Teachers, Staff, Students Parents of Catholic Schools

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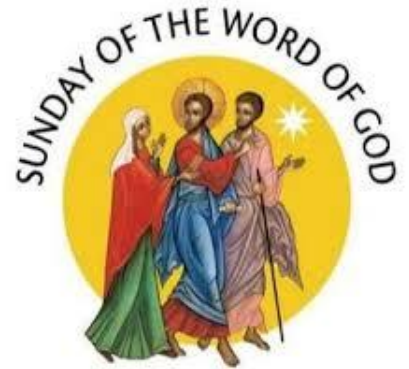
## 25 Conversion of St. Paul

We pray for the safety of the participants of the Walk for Life on the West Coast.



## Word of God Sunday

We pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities helping us become a more fraternal and missionary church Pope Leo XIV monthly intention



## 26 International Clean Energy Day (UN)

We pray for an increased use of wind and solar energy over fossil fuels.

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## 27 Feast of St. Angela Merici

We pray for the Ursulines and all those who work for equality for women and girls in society.



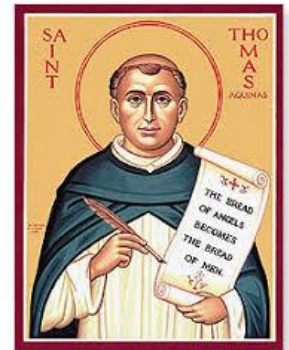
## International Holocaust Remembrance Day (UN)

We pray for the end of anti-Jewish bigotry.



## 28 Feast of St. Thomas Aquinas, patron of Catholic schools

We pray for teachers, students, and staff of Catholic schools.



We pray for healing in the Church and for those who suffer abuse and conversions of those who perpetuate abuse.

We pray for Charles Victor Thompson scheduled for execution in Texas, the victims and their families

## International Day of Peaceful Coexistence (UN)

We pray for the end of violence



## Vietnam War ceasefire in 1973

We pray for those suffering the effects of war.



- 29** We pray in gratitude for all of creation and pray for the will to conserve earth's resources
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**30 Birth of Saul Alinsky (1909-1972), founder of modern community organizers**

We pray for community organizers and leaders and for the end of violence in our communities.



**Slavery abolished in 1865**

We pray for the victims of Human Trafficking

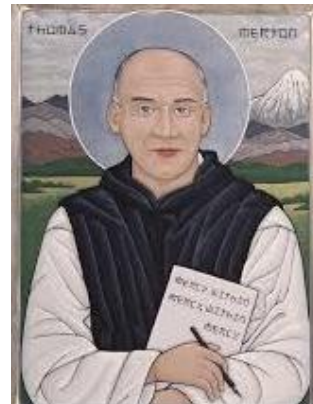
**Gandhi Martyred in 1948**

We pray in gratitude for justice seekers and peacemakers

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**31 Feast of St. John Bosco  
"Apostle of Youth"**

We pray for those who are responsible for nurturing the youth of the world: parents, teachers, coaches, relatives and mentors.



**Thomas Merton OCSO born in 1915**

We pray for peace

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