

MERCY Peace & Justice CALENDAR

February 2026
Black History Month (USA)

1 **Feast of St. Brigid of Kildare**

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



National Freedom Day (USA)

In 1865, Abraham Lincoln signs a congressional 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.



Birthday of Leymah Roberta Gbowee

Liberian peace activist lead nonviolence action to end Liberia's civil war

1-7 World Interfaith Harmony Week (UN)

Theme: Love of God and Love of the Neighbour

We pray for dialogue among peoples of different faiths to bring about understanding, tolerance, and peace.

WORLD INTERFAITH
HARMONY WEEK



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

Candlemas Day

World Wetlands Day (UN)



Foreign slave trade outlawed in USA in 1807

Groundhog Day

World Day of Consecrated Life (VA) (celebrated Saturday & Sunday)

We pray for the people of Peru and for those who live the consecrated life.



3 Feasts of St. Blaise and Our Lady of Suyapa (Honduras)

Feast of Servant of God Mary Elizabeth Lange, died in 1882; founder of the Oblate Sisters of Providence, the first African-American community in the USA.



We pray for the Honduran people and the Oblate Sisters

15th Amendment ratified prohibiting denial of voting rights due to previous servitude

We pray that voting rights restrictions will not continue today.



4 Birthdays of Rosa Parks (1913) and Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906)

World Cancer Day (UN)

We pray for justice seekers and cancer researchers.



International Day of Human Fraternity (UN)

The New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) is due to expire. If it does, it will mark the first time since the early 1970s that there will be no legally binding limits on U.S. and Russian strategic nuclear forces without another agreement being under negotiation.

5 Feast of St. Agatha

We pray for the end of ICE raids and their cruel, indiscriminate violence.



6-22 Milano-Cortina 2026 Winter Olympiad in Italy
We pray for the safety and wellbeing of all participants with just and peaceful competitions.



6 Feast of St. Paul Miki and Companions Japanese martyrs



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

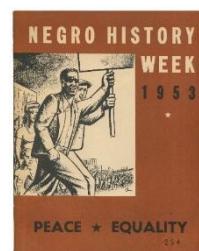
We pray for the people of Japan and for the 200 million victims of FGM.



1st Friday Pray and Act against the Death Penalty (CMN)

7 First Negro History Week begins in 1926, forerunner of Black History Month.

We pray with gratitude for the contributions of African-Americans to U.S. culture and society.



7-14 National Marriage Week (USSCB)
We pray for all married couples.



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

Day of Prayer and Awareness of Human Trafficking (VA)



Super Bowl LX in Levi Stadium in Santa Clara, CA

We pray for the end of human trafficking, for the safety and wellbeing of all participants of the Super Bowl, and for the identification of trafficked victims and their liberation.

World Marriage Day (VA)



9 We pray for the repose of the soul of Frank Athen Walls, executed last month in the USA.

END DEATH PENALTY

10 We pray for those on death row, especially Ronald Heath, scheduled for execution in Florida, for the victims, and for their families.

World Pulses Day (UN) (beans, peas, lentils)

Feast of St. Scholastica

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



11 Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes

World Day of the Sick (VA)

Theme: The Compassion of the Samaritan: loving by bearing the pain of another

We pray for the sick and the dying.

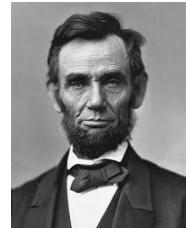


International Day of Women and Girls in Science (UN)

We pray for women scientists.

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

Abraham Lincoln born 1809



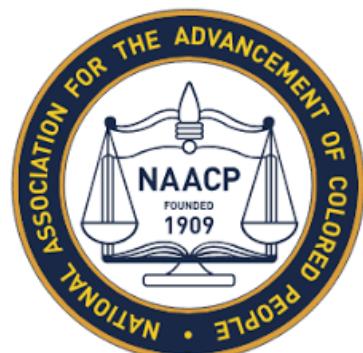
NAACP founded in 1909



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

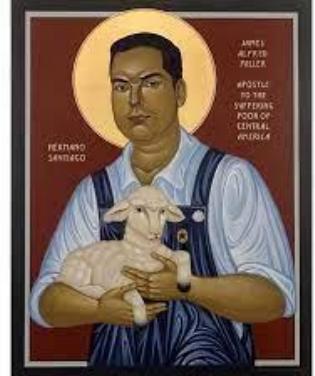
We pray with gratitude for justice seekers, especially those working with Indigenous people.

We pray for Kendrick Simpson, scheduled for execution in Oklahoma, for the victims, and for their families.



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

We pray for the people in Abya Yala (a.k.a. Central & South America), especially in Guatemala, Venezuela, Honduras, and Nicaragua.



World Radio Day (UN)

Let us pray “for children suffering from incurable diseases and that their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.”
-Pope Leo Monthly Intention



14 Valentine's Day

V-Day to stop Violence against Women *Theme: Rise for our Bodies, Our Earth, Our Future*

We pray for victims of domestic abuse.

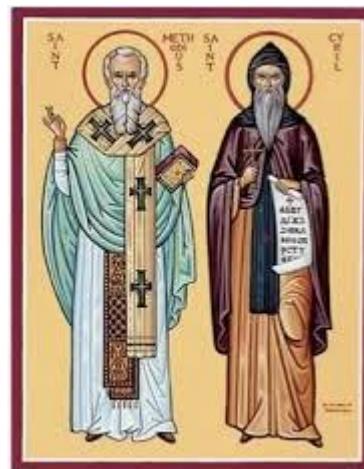
Feast of Sts. Cyril and Methodius, “Apostles to the Slavs”

We pray for peace for the Slavic nations.

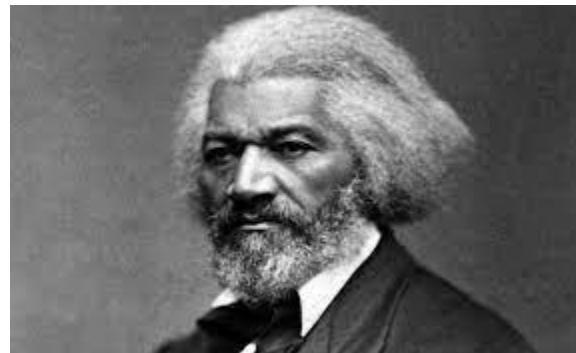
Stoneman Douglas High School Shootings in Parkland, FL (2018)

We pray for the end of random violence in schools.

League of Women Voters founded in 1920



**Frederick Douglass, civil rights leader,
born in 1817**



15 Susan B. Anthony born in 1820

We pray for the safety and wellbeing of those running for political offices and women in leadership in Church & Society, and for an informed voting public.



Nirvana Day (Death of Buddha), 640 BCE

We pray for tolerance among religions.



Hindu Feast of Maha Shivaratri, a night consecrated to Shiva, the destroyer of evil.

16 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.



17 Lunar New Year begins (Chinese year of the Fire Horse)



Mardi Gras



Ramadan begins

We pray with gratitude for the diversity of cultures in our world and for an end to Islamaphobia.



18 Ash Wednesday

Let us "repent and prepare the way of the Lord" Matt 3:2.

We pray for a blessed Lent.

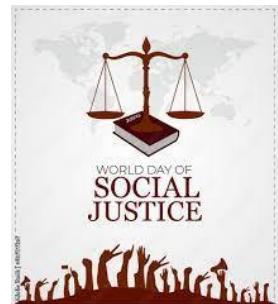


19 We pray for persecuted Christians, especially in Nicaragua, China, and Nigeria.

20 World Day of Social Justice (UN)

Theme: Empowering Inclusion: Bridging the Gaps of Social Justice

We pray that all peoples of the world experience a "just society that is inclusive."



21 International Mother Language Day (UN)

43% of the world's 6,000 spoken languages are in danger of being lost.

We pray in gratitude for this diversity and for governments' work to preserve languages.

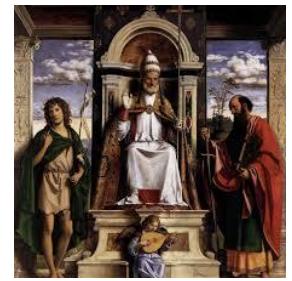


22 Feast of the Chair of Saint Peter

George Washington born in 1732

Sophia & Hans Schell murdered in 1941 for nonviolent resistance to Nazis in Germany.

We pray for those unjustly imprisoned.



23 Orthodox Lent Begins

W.E.B. Dubois educator, civil rights activist, scholar, and educator, born in 1868 We pray for educators and students.

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



24 We pray for peace in Argentina, Ukraine, Gaza, Israel, Yemen, Sudan, South Sudan, Iran, Venezuela.

**PRAY FOR
REFUGEES**

25 Hiram Revels becomes first African-American U.S. senator in 1870

We pray for the safety and wellbeing of all those seeking elected office in government.



26 People Power Day (1986 nonviolent change from a violent government in the Philippines)

Corazon Aquino elected first woman president after nonviolent revolution.

We pray for the people of the Philippines



Eleanor Roosevelt resigns from the Daughters of the American Revolution (1939) in protest of not allowing Marian Anderson to sing in Constitution Hall.

We pray for the end of racism.

27 Unarmed African-American teenager, Trayvon Martin, killed in Florida in 2012

We pray for those who have died violently in our communities and those who mourn their loss.



28 International Stand Up to Bullying Day

Wear a pink shirt!

We pray for the end of bullying and the success of this campaign.



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