

## Peace and Justice Prayer Calendar May 2026

*Asian-/Pacific-American Heritage Month*

*Older Americans Month (USA)*

- MAY 1** **Feast of St. Joseph the Worker** We pray for all service workers  
**International Workers Day USA**  
**May Day Strong** (Indivisible Movement) protests, rallies, strikes  
*Workers over Billionaires: No Work, No School, No Shopping*  
We pray for the safety and wellbeing of all participants
- MAY 2** **World Tuna Day (UN)** We pray for those without reliable access to food.
- MAY 3** **Feast of Sts Philip & James**  
**World Press Freedom Day (UN)** We pray for the safety of all journalists and the freedom to publish the truth.
- MAY 4** **Kent State Massacre (1970)**  
**First Freedom Ride from Washington, D.C. to the South (1961)** We pray for the end of violence and discrimination in our communities
- MAY 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.
- MAY 6** **National Nurses Day (USA/ANA)** We pray with gratitude for the nurses in our lives and pray for their safety & wellbeing.  
**Maria Montessori born in 1879** We pray for the wellbeing of all children and teachers
- MAY 6–12** **Nurses Week** *Theme: The Power of Nurses (ANA)*
- MAY 7** **USA National Day of Prayer** *Theme “Glorify God among All the Nations Seeking God In All Generations”* We pray for the people of the USA & their government.
- MAY 8** **Time of Remembrance and Reconciliation for those who lost their lives during WWII** We pray for all victims of war, especially Gaza, Israel, Iran, Ukraine.  
**Feast of Our Lady of Lujan, patroness of Argentina** We pray for the people of Argentina.  
**World Red Cross/Red Crescent Day (UN)** We pray for first responders.
- MAY 9** **World Migratory Bird Day (UN)** We thank God for birds.  
**World Fair Trade Day** Have you bought a fair-trade item or food recently?
- MAY 10** **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.
- MAY 11** We pray for the safety and wellbeing of immigrants, refugees and migrants.

- MAY 12** We pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoiding wasting food and to ensure everyone has access to quality food.  
—Pope Leo XIV Monthly Intention
- MAY 13** **Feasts of Our Lady of Fatima and Blessed Julian of Norwich** We pray for a nuclear-weapon free world.
- MAY 14** **Feast of the Ascension**  
**A racist kills 10 and wounds 3 in Buffalo supermarket attack (2022)** We pray for the end of racism and violence in our communities.  
We pray for Raymond Johnson in Oklahoma and Edward Busby in Texas, scheduled for execution, for the victims, and for their families.
- MAY 15** **Feast of St Isidore & his wife, St. Maria de la Cabeza, patron of farmers**  
**International Day of Families (UN)**  
**Endangered Species Day (UN)** We pray for families and for a good harvest and care for endangered species.
- MAY 16** **Armed Forces Day (USA)**  
**International Day of Living in Peace (UN)** We pray for world peace and for the safety and wellbeing of armed forces and their families.
- MAY 17** **International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia (UN)**  
**World Communications Day (UN)** We pray for timely and accurate worldwide communications and truthful information.
- MAY 18** **Feast of St. Pope John I** We pray for healing in the Church.
- MAY 19** We pray for an increase of women in leadership roles in the Church and Society.
- MAY 20** **Birth of Blessed Franz Jagerstatter (1907-1943), martyr and conscientious objector**  
We pray for Larry McGill, scheduled for execution in Arizona, for the victims, and for their families.  
**World Bee Day (UN)** Thank you, God, for bees!
- MAY 21** **Jewish Feast of Shavuot begins** We pray for peace in Israel and Palestine.  
We pray for Tony Curry, scheduled for execution in Tennessee, for the victims, and for their families.
- MAY 22** **Feast of St. Rita of Cascia, patron of desperate situations**  
**International Day for Biological Diversity (UN)**  
**Day of Prayer for & Remembrance of Mariners & those at Sea (UN/USCCB)**
- MAY 23** **International Day to End Obstetric Fistulas (UN)**  
**World Turtle Day (UN)** We pray for pregnant women and in gratitude for turtles.
- MAY 24** **Feast of Pentecost** We pray for the Spirit's guidance on us and the Church.  
**World Day of Prayer for the underground Church in China (VA)**  
**Shooting in Uvalde, Texas, where 19 children and 2 teachers were killed in 2022**

- MAY 25** **Memorial Day (USA)** We pray for those who have died serving their country and that we would cease demanding that others to do the same.  
**International Missing Children Day (UN)**  
**Feast of Mary, Mother of the Church**  
**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.
- MAY 26** **Feast of St. Philip Neri** We pray for the Oratorians and for the youth of the world.
- MAY 27** **Feast of St. Augustine of Canterbury**  
**Rachel Carson, environmentalist, born in 1907** We pray for environmentalists.
- MAY 28** We pray with gratitude for the contributions to the USA of Asian- and Pacific-Americans.
- MAY 29** **Feast of St. Pope Paul VI**  
**International Day of UN Peacekeepers (UN)** We pray for the safety of peacekeepers.  
**John Fitzgerald Kennedy born in 1917**
- MAY 30** **Feast of St. Joan of Arc** We pray for women in leadership roles in Church and religious communities.
- MAY 31** **Feast of Holy Trinity**  
**Julian Pentecost** We pray for peace.  
**Tulsa Race Massacre in 1921**