




**Education
for
Justice**

**Justice and Peace
Calendar**

August 2015 – July 2016



Center of
Concern

**Sharing Your Voice
for Global Social Justice™**

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Education for Justice

Justice and Peace Calendar

August 2015 – July 2016

Print-ready resources are available at www.educationforjustice.org to assist you in observing and celebrating many of the dates listed below.

Consult the “Calendar Connections” button on the home page.

Can You Identify the Advocates for Justice on the Cover?

Throughout this year, EFJ invites you to explore the stories of these social justice heroes, as well as the dozens of other names included each month.

At the end of the year, will you be able to identify all of our heroes?

Top (left to right)

Malala Yousafzai
César Chávez
Yara Sallam
Langston Hughes

Left (top to bottom)

Kathy Kelly
Ken Saro-Wiwa
Mairead Maguire
John Sobrino, S.J.

Right (top to bottom)

Stephen Biko
Catherine Doherty
Van Jones
Charlene Teters

Bottom (left to right)

Sophie Scholl, The White Rose Movement
Edith Stein
John Dear
Sister Thea Bowman, F.S.P.A.

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AUGUST 2015

- 1-7 World Breastfeeding Week - <http://bit.ly/1jYMfgw>
- 4 The bodies of three civil rights workers: James E. Chaney (21), Andrew Goodman (22), and Michael Schwerner (24) were found in a dam; all three were shot by the Ku Klux Klan (1964)
- 6 70th Anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima (1945) - <http://bit.ly/1KNXzdi>
Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord - <http://bit.ly/1NIIH4H>
Anniversary of the death of Pope Paul VI (1897-1978)
- 8 Feast of St. Dominic, patron of astronomers
- 9 International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples
70th Anniversary of the bombing of Nagasaki (1945) - <http://bit.ly/1oqzx7G>
Feast of Edith Stein (St. Teresa Benedict of the Cross), patroness of Europe and martyrs
- 11 Feast of St. Clare of Assisi, patroness of sore eyes and television
- 12 International Youth Day
- 14 Feast of St. Maximilian Kolbe, priest, martyr, and patron of addicts and drug addiction
Birthday of Mitch Snyder (1943-1990), advocate for the homeless
- 15 Feast of the Assumption of Mary
Birthday of Óscar Romero (1917-1980) - <http://bit.ly/VTGDuU> and <http://bit.ly/1LxMVrf>
Birthday of Catherine Doherty, C.M. (1896 -1985), pioneer of social justice, prolific writer, renowned speaker, and foundress of the Madonna House Apostolate
- 18 Birthday of Winona LaDuke (1959), Native-American activist, environmentalist, economist, and writer, known for her work on tribal land claims and sustainable development
- 19 World Humanitarian Day
- 23 Feast of St. Rose of Lima, patroness of Latin America, the Philippines, and indigenous peoples of the Americas
International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition
- 24 Birthday of Howard Zinn (1922-2010), historian, social activist, and author of *A People's History of the United States: 1942 - Present* - <http://bit.ly/1MtbaqX>
- 26 Women's Equality Day (commemorates the 1920 passage of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, granting women the right to vote)
Birthday of Mother Teresa of Calcutta (1910-1997) - <http://bit.ly/1tvRtGI>
- 27 Feast of St. Monica, patroness of wives, victims of abuse, and alcoholics
- 28 Martin Luther King, Jr., delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, Washington, D.C. (1963) - <http://bit.ly/1mS5B97>
Anniversary of the death of Emmett Louis Till (1941-1955), an African-American boy murdered in Mississippi at the age of 14 after reportedly flirting with a white woman
- 29 Anniversary of Hurricane Katrina (2005)
International Day against Nuclear Tests



SEPTEMBER 2015

National Hispanic Heritage Month and Suicide Prevention Month

- 1 World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation - <http://bit.ly/1PgmzJh>
- 3 Feast of St. Gregory the Great, patron of teachers, students, and musicians
- 5 International Day of Charity
- 6 *The Medellín Conference Documents* (1968), second meeting of the Latin American Episcopal Conference - <http://bit.ly/1CZmsQj>
- 7 Labor Day - <http://bit.ly/1I0CUgh>
- 8 Feast of the Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Birthday of Kerry Kennedy (1959), human rights activist, president of the Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights, and founder of Speak Truth To Power, a global education initiative - <http://bit.ly/1JK5LKn>
- International Literacy Day
- 9 Civil Rights Act of 1957 enacted
Anniversary of the Attica Prison riot (ends September 13, 1971) - <http://nyti.ms/1E7nRDN>
- 10 World Suicide Prevention Day
Birthday of Jean Vanier (1928), Canadian Catholic philosopher, theologian, and teacher of the wisdom of tenderness, founder of L'Arche, a global network for people with and without intellectual disabilities who live together as peers
- 11 Anniversary of terrorist attacks on United States (2001)
- 12 Anniversary of the assassination of Stephen Bantu Biko (1946-1977), anti-apartheid activist in South Africa during the 1960s and 1970s
- 13 National Grandparents Day (U.S.) - <http://bit.ly/1Ij15Wf>
Rosh Hashanah begins at sunset Sunday, September 13 and ends at sunset Tuesday, September 15
- 14 *Laborem Exercens, On Human Work* (1981), Pope John Paul II - <http://bit.ly/1j1XiS2>
- 15 Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows
International Day of Democracy
Anniversary of the 16th Street Baptist Church bombing in Birmingham, Alabama (1963) which killed four young girls, marking a turning point in the United States 1960s Civil Rights Movement and contributing to support for passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
Birthday of Josefa (Gigi) Francisco (1954-2015), advocate for gender equality and women's rights who also served on the Development Alternatives for Women for a New Era (DAWN)
- 15-Oct. 15 National Hispanic Heritage Month - <http://bit.ly/1iVmzIV>
- 16 International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer
- 17 Constitution Day (U.S.) - <http://bit.ly/1OoF1hN>
- 18 World Water Monitoring Day - <http://bit.ly/1KmMblH>
- 18-20 Clean Up the World Weekend: "Our Place...Our Planet...Our Responsibility"



SEPTEMBER 2015 continued . . .

- 20 Birthday of Van Jones, civil rights activist, attorney, and co-founder of four not-for-profit organizations engaged in social and environmental justice
- 21 International Day of Peace - <http://bit.ly/1HXWdXA> and <http://smilebox.co/Xv8t1l>
Zero Emissions Day
Anniversary of the assassination of Chilean diplomat Orlando Letelier and his American colleague Ronni Karpen Moffitt in a car bomb on the streets of Washington D.C. (1976); the bombing was traced to the regime of General Augusto Pinochet
- 22 Yom Kippur begins at sunset Tuesday, September 22 and ends at sunset Wednesday, September 23
Birthday of Hans Scholl (1918-1943), founding member of the White Rose resistance movement in Nazi Germany
World Car Free Day - <http://bit.ly/1INDccU>
- 22-25 World Meeting of Families Congress, Philadelphia 2015 - <http://bit.ly/1gFmxyG>
- 22-27 Pope Francis' 2015 Visit to the United States - <http://bit.ly/1DI9Vlk>
- 23 First Day of Autumn (Autumnal Equinox)
- 25 NCEA Conference - Going to the Outskirts: A Call to Catholic Educators
<http://bit.ly/1OD0RP2>
- 26 World Environmental Health Day
Feast of Blessed Pope Paul VI who concluded the Second Vatican Council that brought sweeping reforms to the Catholic Church
- 27 Feast of St. Vincent de Paul, patron of charities, hospitals, prisoners, and volunteers
- 27-Oct. 4 Sukkot (Jewish Feast of Tabernacles) begins at sunset Sunday, September 27 and ends at sunset Sunday, October 4
- 28 Feast of St. Lorenzo Ruiz, first Filipino saint and patron of the Philippines
- 29 Birthday of Mother Catherine Elizabeth McAuley (1778), founded the Sisters of Mercy in 1831

OCTOBER 2015

- 1 International Day of Older Persons
Birthday of Jimmy Carter, former U.S. president (1924), co-founder of the Carter Center, peace negotiator, and a voice for peace on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict
Feast of St. Thérèse of Lisieux, patroness of foreign missions, florists, and illness
International Coffee Day (fair trade coffee) - <http://bit.ly/1TZ0Vvx>
- 2 Birthday of Mohandas Gandhi (1869-1948), spiritual and political leader, father of the Indian independence movement, and architect of a non-violent way of protesting against injustices - <http://bit.ly/1fpjIB1>
International Day of Nonviolence - <http://bit.ly/1OoHmJz>



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OCTOBER 2015 continued ...

- 4 Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, patron of animals, peace, and ecology
<http://bit.ly/1JK66MW>
World Animal Day: Celebrating our Relationship with the Animal Kingdom
- 5 World Teachers Day
Birthday of Catholic activist, Philip Berrigan (1923-2002)
Child Health Day
World Habitat Day
- 6 Feast of Blessed Marie Rose Durocher
- 7 Birthday of Archbishop Desmond Mpilo Tutu (1931), South African social rights advocate, awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his non-violent role in ending Apartheid
- 10 World Mental Health Day - <http://bit.ly/1JDeoSx>
World Homeless Day
International Day for the Abolition of the Death Penalty - <http://bit.ly/1CVmtVJ>
Birthday of Ken Saro-Wiwa (1941-1995), a Nigerian writer and environmental activist
- 11 Vatican II opens (1962)
International Day of the Girl Child
Birthday of Thích Nhất Hạnh (1926), Vietnamese Zen Buddhist monk, teacher, author, poet, and peace activist
Birthday of Eleanor Roosevelt (1884 -1962), diplomat and activist who worked tirelessly to draft the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which was adopted by the General Assembly December 10, 1948 - <http://bit.ly/1loFPTw>
Feast of St. Damien of Molokai, patron of those suffering with HIV and AIDS
- 12 Anniversary of the death of seventeen year-old Matthew Shephard, a homosexual man killed in 1998; a foundation promoting diversity and tolerance bear his name
National Farmer's Day - <http://bit.ly/1rzVrMR>
Columbus Day (Indigenous People's Day)
- 13-Nov. 12 Muharram begins at sunset Tuesday, October 13 and ends at sunset Thursday, November 12
- 13-14 Islamic New Year begins Tuesday, October 13 and ends Wednesday, October 14
- 14 International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction
- 15 International Day of Rural Women
Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day
World Mission Day: Pope Francis's Message - <http://bit.ly/1TWXg1n>
- 16 World Food Day - <http://bit.ly/1MOFr0m>



OCTOBER 2015 continued ...

- 17 International Day for the Eradication of Poverty - <http://bit.ly/1nRRYlq>
Black Poetry Day
The Struggle Against Poverty: A Sign of Hope in Our World (1996), Pastoral Letter by the Canadian Episcopal Commission for Social Affairs on the Elimination of Poverty
<http://bit.ly/1pDLfjt>
- 18 - 21 NCEA Conference: Catholic Leadership Summit - <http://bit.ly/1TXwF4f>
- 19 Anniversary of the assassination of Digna Ochoa (1954-2001), Mexican human rights lawyer, known for her work defending the poor and those working to protect the environment -
<http://bit.ly/1LFTmqR>
- 21 *The Common Good and the Catholic Church's Social Teaching* (1996), Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales
- 22 Feast of Pope St. John Paul II
- 24-30 Disarmament Week - <http://bit.ly/1DBP4Kp> and <http://bit.ly/1KqkmsP>
- 24 United Nations Day
- 27 Mix It Up at Lunch Day: Teaching Tolerance - <http://bit.ly/130HMV0>
Birthday of Majora Carter (1966), environmental equality advocate, founder of Sustainable South Bronx, an organization that promotes that one can create change in their own neighborhood through environmental revitalization
- 31 Halloween - <http://bit.ly/1MSmqtO>

NOVEMBER 2015 - Native American Heritage Month

- 1 All Saints Day - <http://bit.ly/1JEYRld>
Economic Justice for All (1986), Pastoral Letter on Social Teaching and the U.S. Economy by the U.S. Catholic Bishops - <http://bit.ly/SA42QD>
Brothers and Sisters to Us (1979), Pastoral Letter on Racism by the U.S. Catholic Bishops
<http://bit.ly/1vMdmim>
Daylight Saving Time ends
- 2 All Souls Day
- 3 Feast of St. Martin de Porres, patron of African Americans, race relations, and justice
Election Day - <http://bit.ly/1LFulNV>
- 6 International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of Environment in War and Armed Conflict
- 7-9 Ignatian Family Teach-In for Justice, Washington, D.C. - <http://bit.ly/1rUITxf>
- 8 Birthday of Dorothy Day (1897-1980) - <http://bit.ly/1srtZzo>
- 9 Birthday of Thomas Berry, C.P. (1914-2009)
- 10 World Science Day for Peace and Development



NOVEMBER 2015 continued . . .

- 11 Veterans Day - <http://bit.ly/1KubT7R>
Remembrance Day (Canada)
Diwali begins Wednesday, November 11 and ends Sunday, November 15
- 12 *For I Was Hungry and You Gave Me Food: Catholic Reflections on Food, Farmers, and Farmworkers* (2003), U.S. Catholic Bishops Document - <http://bit.ly/1buC2HJ>
Called to Global Solidarity: International Challenges for U.S. Parishes (1997), Pastoral Letter by the U.S. Catholic Bishops
Birthday of Chen Guangcheng (1971), Chinese human rights advocate, self-taught lawyer, imprisoned in 2006 for four years for angering Shandong officials for his efforts to help women subjected to sterilizations as part of China's one-child policy
- 13 Feast of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, patroness of immigrants and impossible causes
<http://bit.ly/1S8RufA>
A Place at the Table: A Catholic Recommitment to Overcome Poverty and to Respect the Dignity of God's Children (2002), Pastoral Letter by the U.S. Catholic Bishops - <http://bit.ly/1MpmVh9>
- 14 Anniversary of the death of Cardinal Joseph Bernardin (1928-1996), co-founder of Center of Concern
Birthday of Pedro Arrupe, S.J., (1907-1991), co-founder and first executive director of the Center of Concern
- 15 *Responsibility, Rehabilitation, and Restoration: A Catholic Perspective on Crime and Criminal Justice* (2000), Pastoral Letter by the U.S. Catholic Bishops - <http://bit.ly/19wi1s4>
America Recycles Day
- 16 Anniversary of the six martyrs and two friends in El Salvador (1989) - <http://bit.ly/1fu7O99>
International Day of Tolerance
- 18 *In All Things Charity: A Pastoral Challenge for the New Millennium* (1999), Pastoral Letter by the U.S. Catholic Bishops - <http://bit.ly/1OrZzG7>
- 19 World Toilet Day - <http://bit.ly/1wBYmp8>
- 20 Universal Children's Day - <http://smilebox.co/1xmnaA0> and <http://bit.ly/1CWStcd>
Birthday of Robert F. Kennedy (1925-1968)
- 20 – 22 School of the Americas Watch Annual Vigil, Fort Benning, GA - <http://bit.ly/1uWfFSH>
- 21 World Television Day
International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day - <http://bit.ly/1JIDJEM>
- 22 Feast of St. Cecilia, patroness of musicians
Assassination of President John F. Kennedy (1917-1963)
Feast of Christ the King
- 23 *Justicia in Mundo, Justice in the World* (1971), Synod of Bishops - <http://bit.ly/17Z1IK7>



NOVEMBER 2015 continued ...

- 24 Conference of Major Superiors of Women (now LCWR), founded in 1956
Evangelii Gaudium, The Joy of the Gospel (2013), Pope Francis - <http://bit.ly/1tmQF3S>
Birthday of Yara Sallam (1995), Egyptian human rights defender and transitional justice researcher with the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), serving two years for protesting against a 2013 draconian anti-protest law
- 25 International Day for Elimination of Violence against Women - <http://bit.ly/V2qqn4>
To the People of God Journeying in Central America (2002), Pastoral Letter of the Bishops of Central America
Anniversary of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief
- 26 Thanksgiving Day - <http://bit.ly/1DJlphj>
- 27 National Buy-Nothing Day (traditional start of Christmas shopping season)
- 29 First Sunday of Advent - <http://smilebox.co/13wMhXr>
International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People

DECEMBER 2015 - Universal Human Rights Month

- 1 World AIDS Day - <http://bit.ly/1OLS11M>
Rosa Parks refuses to give up her seat on a bus - <http://bit.ly/1E4pSfO>
Feast of Blessed Charles de Foucauld
- 2 International Day for the Abolition of Slavery - <http://bit.ly/1MrPESN>
Anniversary of the deaths of Maura Clarke, Ita Ford, Dorothy Kazel, and Jean Donovan in El Salvador (1980) - <http://bit.ly/1OsnKEe>
- 3 Feast of St. Francis Xavier, patron of foreign missions and Japan
International Day of Disabled Persons
- 5 International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development
- 6 Second Sunday of Advent
Feast of St. Nicholas, patron of travelers, children, and bakers
Anniversary of the death of Philip Berrigan (1923-2002), anti-Vietnam war protester and peace activist - <http://bit.ly/1us13qp>
Hanukkah begins at sunset Tuesday, December 6 and ends at sunset Wednesday, December 14
- 6 Birthday of Sister Elizabeth Johnson C.S.J. (1941), Christian feminist theologian known for her writings on the mystery of God, human suffering, ethics, and issues related to women
- 7 *Gaudium et Spes, Pastoral Constitution in the Modern World*, Second Vatican Council (1965) - <http://bit.ly/1lmUu1K>



DECEMBER 2015 continued ...

- 7 *Dignitatis Humanae, Declaration on Religious Freedom*, Second Vatican Council (1965)
<http://bit.ly/1Htli9X>
Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day (1941)
Birthday of social justice scholar, Noam Chomsky (1928)
- 8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception
- 9 International Anti-Corruption Day
- 10 Anniversary of the death of Thomas Merton (1915-1968), Trappist monk and peace activist
Human Rights Day - <http://bit.ly/1MME3v6>
Birthday of Kathy Kelly (1952), peace activist and founding member of Voices for Creative Nonviolence
A Milestone for the Human Family (1998), Pastoral Letter of the Catholic Bishops of Australia to mark the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights - <http://bit.ly/1KufAyg>
- 11 International Mountain Day
- 12 Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe - <http://bit.ly/1gSAVUB>
The Hispanic Presence: Challenge and Commitment (1983), U.S. Catholic Bishops Document
- 13 Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday)
Feast of St. Lucy, patroness of blindness and eye disorders
- 14 Feast of St. John of the Cross, patron of contemplatives, mystics, and mystical theology
Anniversary of the shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School (2012)
- 15 Bill of Rights Day (U.S.) - <http://bit.ly/1gSBhdP>
- 16 -24 Las Posadas - <http://bit.ly/1HOWnm5>
- 17 Birthday of Pope Francis (1936)
- 18 International Migrants Day - <http://bit.ly/1MMEcyG>
Birthday of Stephen Biko (1946-1977), anti-apartheid activist in South Africa, founder of the Black Consciousness Movement
- 20 Fourth Sunday of Advent
International Human Solidarity Day - <http://bit.ly/1EaKhA4>
- 22 First Day of Winter (Winter Solstice)
Anniversary of the assassination of Chico Mendes (1944-1988), Brazilian rubber tapper, trade union leader, and environmentalist
- 24 Christmas Eve
- 25 Christmas - <http://bit.ly/1HBAlua> and <http://bit.ly/1gsYQJJ>
Deus Caritas Est, God is Love (2005), Pope Benedict XVI - <http://bit.ly/1Fa2Uam>
- 26-Jan. 1 Kwanzaa



DECEMBER 2015 continued ...

- 26 Feast of St. Stephen, first martyr, patron of stonemasons, deacons, horses, and headaches
Birthday of Baba Amte (1914-2008), Indian social activist best remembered for his work for rehabilitation and empowerment of poor people suffering from leprosy
- 27 Birthday of Jon Sobrino, S.J. (1938), theologian and writer, known for his contributions to liberation theology
Feast of the Holy Family
Feast of St. John, apostle and evangelist, patron of Asia Minor, theologians, and editors
- 28 Feast of the Holy Innocents
Liu Xiaobo (1955), Chinese literary critic, writer, professor, and human rights activist, best known for his participation in the Tiananmen Square protests and currently incarcerated as a political prisoner
- 29 Anniversary of the Wounded Knee Massacre on the Lakota Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, SD (1890)
Birthday of Sister Thea Bowman, F.S.P.A. (1990), helped organize the 1987 Black Catholic Congress and credited for incorporating African rituals and dances, and African-American folk songs into the Mass

JANUARY 2016 - National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month

- 1 New Year's Day - <http://bit.ly/1JIsV9G>
World Day of Peace (Catholic)
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God - <http://bit.ly/1eojaKX>
Emancipation Proclamation signed (1863)
- 4 Feast of St. Elizabeth Seton, first native-born American saint and patroness of Catholic school education in the United States
Myanmar (Burma) Independence Day
- 5 Feast of St. John Neumann, patron of Catholic education, sick children, and immigrants
National Bird Day
- 6 Epiphany (Día de los Reyes) - <http://bit.ly/1TZ5qpW>
Birthday of Jacobo Timerman (1923-1999), Argentine journalist and author imprisoned and tortured for reporting the atrocities of the regime's Dirty War. He is best known for his memoir, "*Prisoner Without a Name, Cell Without a Number*," published in 1981
- 7 Birthday of Sadako Sasaki (1943-1955), Japanese girl who was two years old when the atomic bomb detonated over Hiroshima on August 6, 1945, later developed leukemia, and folded 1,000 origami cranes for peace; she is a symbol of the innocent victims



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JANUARY 2016 continued ...

- 8 Birthday of A.J. Muste (1885-1967), American pacifist and civil rights leader
Anniversary of the Tucson shooting (2011), U.S. Representative Gabrielle Giffords and
eighteen others were shot during a constituent meeting held in a supermarket parking lot
- 9 Birthday of Rigoberta Menchú Tum (1959), Guatemalan indigenous human rights activist awarded
the Nobel Peace Prize in 1992
Birthday of Joan Chandos Báez (1941), American folk singer, songwriter, and activist whose
music often includes songs of protest and social justice
- 10 Baptism of the Lord
- 11 Anniversary of the start of the 1912 “Bread and Roses” labor strike in Lawrence, MA
Anniversary of detainment of first War on Terror prisoners at Guantánamo Bay,
Cuba (2002) - <http://bit.ly/1IJKcyn>
National Human Trafficking Awareness Day - <http://bit.ly/1eojt8t>
- 12 Anniversary of the earthquake in Haiti that killed over 200,000 and left 2.3 million
homeless (2010)
National Youth Day (India)
- 14 Birthday of Martin Niemöller (1892-1984), German anti-Nazi theologian and Lutheran
pastor, best known for his statement “First they came...” - <http://bit.ly/1pAoEo3>
Birthday of Horace Julian Bond, (1940-2015), social activist, politician, professor, writer, and
leader in the Civil Rights Movement
- 16 National Religious Freedom Day
Anniversary of death of Roberto de Nobili (1577-1656), Jesuit missionary and sannyasi
- 18 Martin Luther King Jr. Day - <http://bit.ly/1LCXjy5>
- 18-22 No Name-Calling Week
- 18-25 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
- 20 Birthday of Ernesto Cardenal (1925), liberation theologian, poet, and founder of the
primitivist art community in the Solentiname Islands
- 21 National Hug Day (U.S.)
- 22 *Strangers No Longer: Together on the Journey of Hope* (2003), joint statement concerning
migration from the Catholic Bishops of Mexico and the United States - <http://bit.ly/1CVwpyC>
March for Life
- 24 Feast of St. Francis de Sales, Doctor of the Church and patron of journalists and
writers Birthday of Henri J.M. Nouwen (1932-1996), Dutch-born Catholic priest,
author, spiritual thinker, and a synthesist who advanced the “theology of the
heart” - <http://bit.ly/1InjEgk>
- 25 Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul



JANUARY 2016 continued ...

- 26 Birthday of Bishop Thomas Gumbleton (1930), retired auxiliary bishop of the Detroit archdiocese, founding member of Pax Christi USA, and a leading voice for peace, justice, and civil rights - <http://bit.ly/1JN5JkO>
Australia Day
- 27 Auschwitz death camp in Poland liberated by Soviet troops (1945)
International Day of Commemoration in Memory of Victims of the Holocaust
Birthday of Mairead Maguire, Nobel Peace laureate, peace activist from Northern Ireland (1944)
Feast of St. Angela Merici, foundress of the Company of St. Ursula
- 28 Feast of St. Thomas Aquinas, patron of all universities and students
- 30 Martyrs Day (India)
- 31 World Day of Leprosy
Birthday of Sister Megan Rice, S.H.C.J. (1930), anti-nuclear activist, member of the Transform Now Plowshares group, known for breaking into the Y-12 National Security Complex in Oak Ridge, TN - <http://bit.ly/1KqkmsP>
- 31 - Feb. 6 National Catholic Schools Week 2016 – Theme: “Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service” - <http://bit.ly/1gTju66>
Inspire Your Heart With Art Day

FEBRUARY 2016 - African-American History Month

- 1 National Freedom Day (United States)
Four African American students from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical College begin a sit-in at a segregated Woolworth’s lunch counter. This peaceful action triggered similar nonviolent protests throughout the Deep South (1960)
Birthday of Representative Thomas Lantos (1928-2008), holocaust survivor and founder of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus in 1983 (renamed the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission)
Birthday of Langston Hughes (1902 -1967), American poet, social activist, novelist, and playwright, and one of the earliest innovators of the literary and musical art form called jazz
- 1-7 World Interfaith Harmony Week
- 2 Feast of the Presentation of the Lord
World Wetlands Day
- 3 Feast of St. Blaise, patron of throat illnesses
Birthday of Takashi Nagai, (1908-1951) survivor of the Nagasaki bombing and mystic
- 4 Birthday of Rosa Parks (1913-2005), African-American Civil Rights activist, known as “the first lady of civil rights” and “the mother of the freedom movement”
<http://bit.ly/1TZ78rk>



FEBRUARY 2016 Continued ...

- 4 Birthday of Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906-1945), German Lutheran pastor, theologian, spiritual writer, anti-Nazi dissident, and key member of the Confessing Church - <http://bit.ly/1mbp3Mv>
- 5 Anniversary of the death of Pedro Arrupe, Jesuit Superior General (1907-1991), co-founder and the first executive director of Center of Concern
Birthday of Trayvon Martin, shot by a neighborhood watch volunteer in Sanford, Florida
February 26, 2012
- 6 Feast of St. Paul Miki and Companions, martyrs of Japan
International Day of Zero Tolerance to Female Genital Mutilation
- 8 Feast of St. Josephine Bakhita, patroness of Sudan and of human trafficking
Chinese New Year
- 9 Mardi Gras
- 10 Ash Wednesday
- 11 Nelson Mandela released from prison (1990) - <http://bit.ly/1SGIPgs>
- 13 Anniversary of the assassination of Brother James (Santiago) Miller, F.S.C. (1944-1982), martyred in Guatemala for his work with young indigenous Mayans from rural areas
Economic Justice in South Africa (1999), Pastoral statement of the Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference
- 14 First Sunday of Lent
Valentine's Day - <http://bit.ly/1ICQ6gQ> and <http://bit.ly/1D73eFM>
- 15 Presidents' Day
- 17 Anniversary of the death of Janani Luwum (1922-1977), Anglican Archbishop of Uganda, and martyr
Random Acts of Kindness Day
- 20 World Day of Social Justice - <http://bit.ly/1W2R366>
- 21 Second Sunday of Lent
Birthday of Cardinal John Henry Newman (1801-1890), theologian known for his contributions to doctrine and church government for both the Church of England and the Catholic Church
- 22 Anniversary of the execution of Sophie and Hans Scholl (1943), martyrs of the White Rose nonviolent resistance group in Nazi Germany
- 25 Youth Day at the 2016 Los Angeles Religious Education Congress - <http://bit.ly/1gTA2eq>
- 26 International STAND UP to Bullying Day
Anniversary of the death of Trayvon Martin (1995-2012), 17-year-old African American teenager shot by neighborhood watch volunteer, in Sanford, Florida
- 26-28 Los Angeles Religious Education Congress: "Boundless Mercy"
<http://bit.ly/1gTAeu4>
- 28 Third Sunday of Lent



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MARCH 2016 - Women's History Month

- 1 Self-injury Awareness Day
- 3 Birthday of Thunder Rolling Down the Mountain, a.k.a. Chief Joseph (1840-1904); when the United States attempted to force the Nez Percé to move to a reservation, he tried to lead his people to Canada, in what is considered one of the great retreats in military history
- 5 International Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (1970)
- 6 Fourth Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday)
Anniversary of the death of Martin Niemöller (1892-1984), German anti-Nazi theologian and Lutheran pastor known for "First they came..." statement about standing up to Nazi oppression - <http://bit.ly/1MdmdVf>
- 7 Feasts of Saints Perpetua and Felicity, patronesses of expectant mothers and mothers
- 8 International Women's Day
- 10 Anniversary of the death of Harriet Tubman (1820-1913), abolitionist and humanitarian during the American Civil War
- 12 Anniversary of the murder of Rutilio Grande, S.J. (1928-1977), martyr of El Salvador
- 13 Fifth Sunday of Lent (Passion Sunday)
Daylight Saving Time begins
- 14 Birthday of Albert Einstein (1879-1955), German theoretical physicist, pacifist, and anti-nuclear advocate
- 15 International Day Against Police Brutality - <http://bit.ly/110CupY> and <http://smilebox.co/YM6tTo>
World Consumer Rights Day
- 16 Anniversary of death of Rachel Corrie (1979-2003), American activist for Palestinian human rights, crushed by an Israel Defense Forces bulldozer in Rafah, the Gaza Strip
- 17 Feast of St. Patrick, patron of Ireland and engineers
- 18 National Day of Action against Bullying and Violence - <http://bit.ly/1gE6sSy>
- 19 Feast of St. Joseph - <http://bit.ly/1OsoBVD>
- 20 Palm Sunday
Start of the war in Iraq (2003)
International Day of Happiness
- 21 International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
International Day of Forests
World Poetry Day - <http://bit.ly/1LJYHNR>
- 21-27 Week of Solidarity with the Peoples Struggling against Racism and Racial Discrimination - <http://bit.ly/TlBkaw>
- 22 World Water Day - <http://bit.ly/1DJkJP1>



MARCH 2016 continued ...

- 24 Holy Thursday
Anniversary of the assassination of Óscar Romero, archbishop of San Salvador (1917-1980) <http://bit.ly/19MZY8c>
World Tuberculosis Day
International Day for the Right to the Truth Concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims
- 25 Good Friday - <http://bit.ly/1GVbxre>
International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade
- 26 Easter Vigil
Populorum Progressio, The Development of Peoples (1967) - <http://bit.ly/1uU6pcz>
- 27 Easter Sunday - <http://bit.ly/1JlvMQ2>
- 31 Birthday of César Chávez (1927-1993), Mexican-American farm worker, labor leader and civil rights activist, who, with Dolores Huerta, co-founded the National Farm Workers Association, which later became the United Farm Workers - <http://bit.ly/1rKA5ZT>

APRIL 2016 - National Child Abuse Prevention Month

- 2 Anniversary of the death of Saint Pope John Paul II (1920-2005) - <http://bit.ly/1T5AXEs>
Birthday of Cardinal Joseph Bernardin (1928-1996), co-founder of Center of Concern
A Good Friday Appeal to End the Death Penalty (1999), statement by the U.S. Catholic Bishops <http://bit.ly/1HZCCGv>
- 4 Feast of the Annunciation - (Celebrated on this day because the feast day falls on Good Friday)
International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action
Anniversary of the assassination of Martin Luther King (1929-1968)
- 7 World Health Day
Day of Remembrance for the Victims of the Rwandan Genocide
- 9 Anniversary of the death of Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906-1945), German Lutheran theologian, and anti-Nazi dissident - <http://bit.ly/1pYEx9t>
- 10 Birthday of Dolores Huerta (1930), labor leader and civil rights activist, who, with César Chávez, co-founded the National Farmworkers Association, which later became the United Farm Workers - <http://bit.ly/1IsBMY4>
- 11 *Pacem in Terris, Peace on Earth* (1963), Pope John XXIII - <http://bit.ly/1MqmPWI>
- 12 International Day for Street Children



Center of
Concern

APRIL 2016 continued . . .

- 13 Birthday of Amy Goodman (1957), host and executive producer of *Democracy Now!*, a national, daily, independent, award-winning news program airing on over 1,300 public television and radio stations worldwide
- 15 Day of Silence, annual day of action to protest bullying and harassment of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people - <http://bit.ly/1CVQLb4>
Income Tax Day in the United States
- 15-18 Ecumenical Advocacy Days: "For Global Peace with Justice," Washington, DC
<http://bit.ly/1CVWZSC>
- 16 Anniversary of the Virginia Tech shootings (2008)
Martin Luther King, Jr. writes "Letter from a Birmingham Jail" (1963)
- 19 Anniversary of the Oklahoma City Bombing (1995)
- 20 Anniversary of the shooting at Columbine High School (1999)
- 22 Earth Day - <http://bit.ly/1JICVji>
- 22 -30 Passover begins at sundown Friday, April 22 and ends at sundown Saturday, April 30
<http://bit.ly/115mV0d>
- 23 Anniversary of the death of César Chávez (1927-1993), Mexican-American labor leader and civil rights activist, who, with Dolores Huerta, co-founded the National Farm Workers that later became the United Farm Workers - <http://bit.ly/UwJ5Xu>
- 25 Birthday of Charlene Teters (1952), Native American artist, educator, lecturer, and known for her activism against racism in sports and media on behalf of native peoples
- 26 Birthday of Sister Joan Chittister, O.S.B. (1936), best-selling author and renowned international lecturer on social justice, women's issues, and spirituality in the church and society
Anniversary of the assassination of Bishop Juan José Gerardi (1922-1998), human rights defender, assassinated two days after announcing the release of the report on victims of the Guatemalan Civil War, *Guatemala: Nunca Más!* - <http://bit.ly/1nS2g5c>
- 27 *Evangelization in Modern Day Asia* (1974), first plenary assembly of the Federation of Asian Bishops' Conferences
Ethical and Gospel Imperatives for Overcoming Dire Poverty and Hunger (2002), National Conference of the Bishops of Brazil
Birthday of Coretta Scott King (1927-2006)
- 29 International Day of Dance
Feast of St. Catherine of Siena, patroness of illness, nurses, and fire prevention
World Day of Remembrance for all Victims of Chemical Warfare
Race riots erupt in south-central Los Angeles after a jury acquits four white police officers for the videotaped beating of African American Rodney King
- 30 International Jazz Day



MAY 2016 - Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month and Bike Month

- 1 Feast of St. Joseph the Worker - <http://bit.ly/1h0rVwv>
Centesimus Annus, The Hundredth Year (1991), Pope John Paul II - <http://bit.ly/1BgALf1>
Birthday of Teilhard de Chardin, S.J. (1881-1955)
Catholic Worker Movement began with the release of the first issue of the *Catholic Worker* (1933)
International Workers' Day - <http://bit.ly/1ObPpbw> and <http://bit.ly/1IkBvQS>
- 3 World Press Freedom Day
The Challenge of Peace (1983), Pastoral Letter on War and Peace by the U.S. Catholic Bishops
<http://bit.ly/1s1ZNtm>
National Garden Meditation Day
- 4 Anniversary of the Kent State massacre (1970)
Anniversary of the founding of Center of Concern (1971)
Freedom Riders, composed of seven African Americans and six white activists leave Washington, DC for the segregated Deep South (1961)
National Bike to School Day
- 4-5 Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom HaShoah), begins Wednesday evening, May 4 and ends at sunset Thursday, May 5 - <http://bit.ly/1DELzTC>
- 5 Feast of the Ascension of Christ
Cinco de Mayo - <http://bit.ly/1D1fz0U>
National Day of Prayer in United States
- 6 Birthday of Naomi Klein - social activist, syndicated columnist, and author of *This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs The Climate* - <http://bit.ly/1ExR7zG>
- 7 Join Hands Day - <http://bit.ly/1P1uie4>
- 8 Mother's Day - <http://bit.ly/1KqUuQc>
Time of Remembrance and Reconciliation for Those Who Lost Their Lives during WWII
World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day
- 9 Birthday of Daniel Berrigan (1921), anti-Vietnam war protester and peace activist
<http://bit.ly/1euBYrW>
Birthday of Peter Maurin (1877-1949), co-founder of Catholic Worker movement
Birthday of Sophie Scholl (1921-1943), German student and Christian anti-Nazi political activist, member of the White Rose non-violent resistance group in Nazi Germany
- 11 Anniversary of the death of Bob Marley (1945-1981), Jamaican musician and anti-war activist
<http://bit.ly/1DET0u2>
- 14 *Octogesima Adveniens, A Call to Action* (1971), Pope Paul VI - <http://bit.ly/1wj8SzT>
World Migratory Bird Day
- 15 Pentecost - <http://bit.ly/1Inw2vH>



MAY 2016 continued ...

- 15 International Conscientious Objectors' Day - <http://bit.ly/1gaquvq>
International Day of Families - <http://bit.ly/1S0BMmN>
Birthday of Digna Ochoa (1954-2001), Mexican human rights lawyer, known for defending the poor and the environment - <http://bit.ly/1LFTmqR>
Rerum Novarum, On the Condition of Labor (1891), Pope Leo XIII - <http://bit.ly/1mbvq2w>
Quadragesimo Anno, After Forty Years (1931), Pope Pius XI - <http://bit.ly/1IJQle6>
Mater et Magistra, Christianity and Social Justice (1961), Pope John XXIII - <http://bit.ly/1ixIM9I>
Feast of St. Dymphna, patroness of mental illness and victims of incest - <http://bit.ly/1ICgbQ8>
- 16-20 Bike to Work Week
- 17 World Information Society Day
- 18 Birthday of Bertrand Russell (1872-1970), British philosopher, historian, mathematician, and activist against nuclear weaponry
- 19 Birthday of Malcolm X (assassinated on February 21, 1965)
- 20 Bike to Work Day
Birthday of Franz Jägerstätter (1907-1943), martyr and conscientious objector
<http://bit.ly/1q0Sn9U>
Feast of St. Bernardine of Siena, patron of gambling, compulsive behavior, and public relations
Vesak Day (Commemoration of Buddha's birth, death and enlightenment)
- 21 World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development
- 22 International Day for Biological Diversity
Trinity Sunday
- 24 *Laudato Si': On Care for our Common Home* (2015), Pope Francis - <http://bit.ly/1Gi1BTu>
and <http://bit.ly/1gUVPSP>
Anniversary of the shooting at the Jewish Museum of Belgium in Brussels, Belgium (2014)
- 25 Africa Day
International Missing Children's Day - <http://bit.ly/1luwpHZ>
- 25-31 Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories
- 29 Feast of Corpus Christi (Falls on Thursday, May 26 but celebrated the following Sunday, May 29)
International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers
Birthday of John F. Kennedy (1917-1963)
- 30 Feast of St. Joan of Arc, patroness of soldiers and military members
Memorial Day (U.S.) - <http://bit.ly/1pAHpdn>
- 31 Feast of the Visitation - <http://bit.ly/1mqj6qu>
World No Tobacco Day



JUNE 2016 - Torture and LGBTQ Awareness Month

- 1 Global Day of Parents - <http://bit.ly/1JEe2ep>
Stand for Children Day - <http://bit.ly/1MvSGpE>
- 3 Feast of St. Charles Lwanga and Companions
Feast of the Sacred Heart
- 4 International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression
Anniversary of Tiananmen Square Massacre (1989)
Immaculate Heart of Mary
- 5 World Environment Day - <http://bit.ly/1D08Rlx>
- 6 Anniversary of the Assassination of Robert F. Kennedy (1925-1968)
Birthday of Marian Wright Edelman (1939), activist for the rights of children, leading voice for disadvantaged children and families, and founder of the Children's Defense Fund
- 6 – July 5 Ramadan begins at sundown Monday, June 6, and ends at sundown on Sunday, July 5
- 8 World Oceans Day - <http://bit.ly/1KeSh6p>
Birthday of Gustavo Gutierrez, O.P. (1928) - <http://bit.ly/1HQ5JOz>
- 10 Pope John Paul II canonizes Lebanon's first female saint, Saint Rafqa (2001)
Equal Pay Act of 1963 aimed at abolishing wage disparity based on sex signed into law by President John F. Kennedy as part of his New Frontier Program (1963)
- 12 World Day Against Child Labor - <http://bit.ly/1VFwmNc>
Birthday of Anne Frank (1929-1945), witness of the Holocaust, who died at Bergen-Belsen concentration camp - <http://bit.ly/1Mtilzl>
Anniversary of the assassination of Medgar Evers (1925-1963), civil rights worker shot and killed in his driveway in Jackson, MS
In *Loving v. Virginia*, the Supreme Court rules that prohibiting interracial marriage is unconstitutional (1967)
- 14 Flag Day (U.S.)
Day of Memory for Repressed People (Armenia)
- 15 World Elder Abuse Awareness Day
Global Climate Change: A Plea for Dialogue, Prudence and the Common Good (2001), Pastoral Statement by the U.S. Catholic Bishops - <http://bit.ly/1LS26KN>
- 16 A non-violent march by 15,000 students in Soweto, South Africa turns into days of rioting when police open fire on the crowd (1976)
At age 14, George Junius Stinney, Jr. becomes the youngest person executed in the United States in the 20th century (1944)
- 17 World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought
Anniversary of the mass shooting at Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church (2015)



JUNE 2016 continued ...

- 17 South African Parliament repeals the Population Registration Act which required racial classification of all South Africans at birth (1991)
- 19 Father's Day - <http://bit.ly/1eooVZ8>
Sharing Catholic Social Teaching: Challenges and Directions (1998), Reflections by the U.S. Catholic Bishops - <http://bit.ly/1I0xjGC>
Juneteenth, commemoration of end of slavery in United States (1865)
Birthday of Aung San Suu Kyi (1945), Burmese human rights activist, humanitarian, and Nobel Peace Laureate
WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange requests asylum in London's Ecuadorian Embassy for fear of extradition to the US after publication of classified documents including footage of civilian killings by the US army (2012)
- 20 World Refugee Day - <http://bit.ly/1JEX1ka> and <http://bit.ly/1TZcwuL>
First Day of Summer (Summer Solstice)
- 21 Music Day - <http://bit.ly/1LPiB87>
A boat carrying more than 200 refugees capsizes in the Indian Ocean between the Indonesian island of Java and Christmas Island, killing 17 and leaving 70 missing (2012)
- 22 *Respecting the Rights of Workers* (2009), Pastoral Statement by the U.S. Catholic Bishops
<http://bit.ly/1CW8GOF>
- 23 International Day of Public Service - <http://bit.ly/1DERCYf>
International Widows Day - <http://bit.ly/1TZbfv>
- 24 Capital punishment is declared unconstitutional in New York (2004)
Feast Day of John the Baptist
- 26 International Day in Support of Torture Victims and Survivors - <http://bit.ly/1LK2xXp>
International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking - <http://bit.ly/1Kfc7Tf>
The U.S. Supreme Court ruling in *Obergefell v. Hodges* declares that same-sex couples have a constitutional right to marriage under the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution (2015)
- 27 Birthday of Helen Keller (1880-196), political activist, journalist, co-founder of the ACLU, and the first deaf and blind person to earn a bachelor degree
- 29 *Caritas in Veritate, Charity in Truth* (2009), Pope Benedict XVI - <http://bit.ly/1nvsWZp>
The U.S. Supreme Court rules that President George W. Bush's plan to try Guantánamo Bay detainees in military tribunals violates U.S. and international law (2006)
Birthday of Samantha Reed Smith (1972-1985), known as "America's Youngest Ambassador," died at age 13 in a plane crash



JULY 2016

- 1 Feast of Junipero Serra, patron of vocations
- 2 Civil Rights Act signed by President Lyndon B. Johnson (1964)
International Day of Cooperatives
- 3 Feast of St. Thomas the Apostle, patron of architects, construction workers, and cooks
- 4 Independence Day (U.S.)
Birthday of Brian Willson (1941), American veteran, peace activist - <http://bit.ly/1KvX8m7>
- 5 Eid al-Fitr (Festival of Breaking of the Fast, Islam/U.S. date)
Birthday of Rutilio Grande García, S.J., (1928) assassinated in El Salvador March 12, 1977
- 7 Birthday of Sister Dorothy Stang (1931-2005)
Birthday of Cardinal Theodore Edgar McCarrick (1930)
- 11 World Population Day
Feast of St. Benedict, patron of farmers, farming, agricultural workers, and school children
Anniversary of Srebrenica genocide in Bosnia (1995)
- 12 Birthday of Malala Yousafzai (1997), Pakistani activist for female education and the youngest-ever
Nobel Prize Laureate
- 14 Feast of St. Kateri Tekakwitha, patroness of loss of parents, ecology, and the environment
<http://bit.ly/1nuIFZP>
- 15 World Youth Skills Day
- 18 Birthday of Nelson Mandela (1918-2013) - <http://bit.ly/1qrXOht>
Birthday of "Peace Pilgrim" Mildred Norman Ryder (1908-1981), who walked the roads
of the United States promoting peace - <http://bit.ly/1MsHUAz>
- 20 Anniversary of the shooting in an Aurora, CO movie theater, 12 civilians were killed and 70
were wounded (2012)
- 22 Feast of St. Mary of Magdelene, apostle to the apostles, patroness of penitents and pharmacists
- 23 Feast of St. Bridget of Sweden, patroness of Europe, Sweden, and widows
- 25 Feast of St. Christopher, patron of travelers, drivers, pilots, and athletes
Birthday of Emmett Till (1941-1955)
- 25-31 World Youth Day - <http://bit.ly/1gh4TBw>
- 26 Feasts of Saints Joachim and Anne, parents of Mary, patrons of grandparents
- 28 World Hepatitis Day
- 29 Feast of St. Martha, patroness of housekeepers, waiters, and waitresses
Lumen Fidei, The Light of Faith (2013), Pope Francis - <http://bit.ly/1DsSt3Y>
- 30 International Day of Friendship
National Whistleblower Appreciation Day - <http://bit.ly/1VFxhx9>
World Day Against Trafficking in Persons - <http://bit.ly/1luyCmO>
- 31 Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola, patron of Jesuits, soldiers, retreats, educators and
Spiritual Exercises - <http://bit.ly/1FcjiTD>

