



Diocese of
San Jose

Days of Justice & Peace

January

Poverty Awareness Month

Sponsored by CCHD to bring attention to the crisis of poverty in the US.

<http://www.usccb.org/cchd/povertyusa/povamer.shtml>

1 World Day of Peace

Since 1968 the Pope has issued a peace message to the world on the first day of the year. Visit http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/messages/peace/index_en.htm for the statement.

11 National Human Trafficking Awareness Day

To build awareness of human trafficking in the US and abroad.

See: <http://www.usccb.org/mrs/trafficking/index.shtml> for information on the topic

22 Anniversary of Roe v. Wade (1973) - Day of Penance and Prayer

<http://www.usccb.org/prolife/fastpray.shtml> for resources and information.

27 International Holocaust Remembrance Day

Designated by UN as an annual day to honor victims of the Nazi era.

http://www.ushmm.org/museum/exhibit/focus/ihrd/comment_post.php

30 Anniversary of Death of Mahatma Gandhi (1948)

Other Dates:

- **National Migration Week – 1st Full Week in January**

Provides parishes with year-around educational material to educate Catholics about migration. Parish resources are available at <http://www.usccb.org/mrs/nmw.shtml>.

- **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service – 3rd Monday in January**

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service honors MLK by encouraging others to donate a day of service. <http://mlkday.gov/>

- **Annual Walk for Life West Coast – Saturday closest to January 22**

See <http://www.walkforlifewc.com> for more information.

February

11 World Day of the Sick

Annual observance on the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. See: http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/benedict_xvi/messages/sick/index_en.htm for Holy Father's annual message.

12 Commemoration of Sister Dorothy Stang

Churchwoman killed in Brazil for standing with and for poor farmers and land stewardship. (2005)

20 UN World Day of Social Justice

To promote poverty eradication, full employment, & social integration.

<http://www.un.org/en/events/socialjusticeday/>

Other Dates:

- **Juvenile Justice Week – Mid-February**

An interfaith movement to raise awareness of needs arising from the juvenile justice system through prayer, education, service, & action.

http://healingjusticecoalition.org/juvenile_justice_week.html#



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Lent

Operation Rice Bowl (ORB)

ORB is a Lenten program of prayer, fasting, learning, and giving sponsored by Catholic Relief Services. Order free materials from: Catholic Relief Services, <http://orb.crs.org> or call the Diocese.

March

21 International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

22 World Water Day

To focus on the importance of fresh water and advocate for sustainable management of freshwater resources.

<http://www.unwater.org/worldwaterday/index.html>

24 Anniversary of Death of Archbishop Óscar Romero (1980)

31 César Chávez Day (1927-1993)

For resources and information, visit: <http://www.chavezfoundation.org> and <http://www.ufw.org>.

Other Dates:

- **World Day of Prayer – 1st Friday in March**

A movement of Christian women to come together for a common day of prayer. See: <http://www.worlddayofprayer.net/>

- **Catholic Relief Services Collection – 4th Sunday of Lent**

Supports Catholic Relief Services and other agencies. Parishes receive materials, see also online at <http://www.usccb.org/crscollection>.

April

National Child Abuse Prevention Month

To raise awareness about child abuse & neglect and create strong communities to support children and families.

<http://www.childwelfare.gov/preventing/preventionmonth/>

22 Earth Day

See: www.dsj.org/green for a list of resources on the environment. See also: <http://www.earthday.net>.

Other Dates:

- **National Crime Victims' Rights Week – Varies in April**

Annual observance to promote victims' rights, honor crime victims, and those who advocate on their behalf.

See: <http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/ncvrvw/>

- **Catholic Home Missions Collection – Last Sunday in April**

This annual appeal assists mission dioceses and poor parishes within the United States. Parishes receive material. For resources online, see:

<http://www.usccb.org/hm>.

May

- **Holocaust Days of Remembrance – Varies In April-May According to the Hebrew Calendar**

Marks the anniversary of the Warsaw ghetto uprising <http://www.ushmm.org/remembrance/dor/>

- **World Fair Trade Day – 2nd Saturday in May**

Schedule a Work of Human Hands fair trade sale in your parish. Go to <http://www.crsfairtrade.org>.



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- **Get on the Bus – Coincides with Mother’s Day, 2nd Sunday in May**

Brings children and their guardians/carekeepers from throughout California to visit their mothers in prison. See: <http://www.getonthebus.us>

- **Catholic Charities Collection – Varies in May**

June

*Torture Awareness Month
Established by religious & human rights organizations to provide great visibility and coordinated action.*

http://www.nrcat.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=298&Itemid=219

5 World Environment Day

A day designated by the UN to stimulate awareness of environmental issues and encourage political action. See: <http://www.unep.org/wed>.

17 World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought

<http://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/un/world-day-to-combat-desertification>

20 World Refugee Day

Established by the UN to raise awareness of the situation of refugees throughout the world. See: <http://www.un.org/en/events/refugeeday/>

26 UN International Day in Support of Victims of Torture

Dedicated to remembering and supporting the many victims and survivors of torture in the world. <http://www.un.org/events/torture/>

Other Dates:

- **Get on the Bus – Coincides with Father’s Day, 3rd Sunday in June**

Brings children and their guardians/carekeepers from throughout California to visit their fathers in prison. See: <http://www.getonthebus.us>

August

6 Anniversary of Dropping of Atomic Bomb on Hiroshima (1945)

9 Anniversary of Dropping of Atomic Bomb on Nagasaki (1945)

Summer

*Mission Co-Op Program
Missionaries from across the world visit parishes*

September

11 Anniversary of 9/11

21 International Day of Peace

Established by UN to coincide with the opening of the General Assembly. <http://internationaldayofpeace.org/>

Other Dates:

- **Labor Day in the Pulpit – Weekend Before Labor Day**

On the Sunday before Labor Day, speakers are available from the Interfaith Council of Religion, Race, and Economic & Social Justice to speak at parishes about the dignity of work and rights of workers. Information: <http://www.dsj.org/ministries/social-ministries/economic-justice/labor-in-the-pulpit>



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- **Labor Day – 1st Monday in September**

For resources on economic justice and workers' rights, see website for Interfaith Worker Justice. <http://www.iwj.org>. For the US Bishops' annual Labor Day Statement: <http://www.usccb.org/sdwp/national/labor.shtml>.

October

- **Respect Life Sunday – 1st Sunday in October**

For online resources, see USCCB ProLife Activities <http://www.usccb.org/prolife/programs/rfp/index.shtml>

- **National Week of Prayer for Mental Illness Recovery & Understanding – First Full Week in October**

See National Alliance on Mental Illness, <http://www.nami.org>

- **World Mission Sunday – Next to last Sunday in October**

An annual collection to support the Church's missionary activity throughout the world. For information, see <http://www.onefamilyinmission.org/society-propfaith/world-mission-sunday.html>

November

Watch for Information on Faith Formation Conference!

- **16 Anniversary of Deaths of Six Jesuits & Two Women in El Salvador (1989)**

- **25 International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women**

- **29 International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People**

Other Dates:

- **CCHD Annual Collection – Sunday Before Thanksgiving**

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) is the Catholic Bishops' Anti-Poverty Campaign. For more information see: <http://www.usccb.org/cchd>.

- **International Restorative Justice Week – Varies During November**

Celebrated by various organizations to pray, raise awareness and act on behalf of restorative justice. See: <http://www.rjweek.com/>

December

- **1 World AIDS Awareness Day**

A day when individuals and organizations from around the world come together to bring attention to the global AIDS epidemic. For resources, see: <http://www.crs.org/worldaidsday>

- **2 Anniversary of Death of Four Churchwomen in El Salvador (1980)**

- **10 International Human Rights Day**

The date was chosen to honor the United Nations General Assembly's adoption and proclamation, on 10 December 1948, of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR). For information on the 60 year anniversary of the day and resources, see: <http://www.un.org/events/humanrights/2007/>

- **18 International Migrants Day**