



Education for Justice: Justice and Peace Calendar *August 2011 – July 2012*

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.

AUGUST 2011

1	Ramadan (Muslim observance) begins at sundown and concludes August 29, 2011
6	Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord
6 and 9	Anniversaries of the Dropping of the Atomic Bombs
9	International Day of the World’s Indigenous Peoples Feast Day of Edith Stein (St. Teresa Benedict of the Cross)
10	Feast of St. Lawrence – martyr
11	Feast of St. Clare of Assisi
12	International Youth Day
15	Assumption of Mary
16-21	2011 World Youth Day – Madrid, Spain
19	World Humanitarian Day
23	International Day for the Remembrance of Slave Trade and Its Abolition
24	Feast of St. Bartholomew - apostle
26	Women's Equality Day (commemorates the 1920 passage of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, granting women the right to vote)
29	Anniversary of Hurricane Katrina (2005)
30	Eid al Fitr (Festival of Breaking of the Fast, Islam), begins at sundown on the 29 th

SEPTEMBER 2011

5	Labor Day
6	“The Medellín Conference Documents,” (Second Meeting of the Latin American Episcopal Conference, 1968)
8	Feast of the Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary International Literacy Day
11	Anniversary of the Terrorist Attacks of 2001
11	National Grandparent’s Day (U.S.)
14	Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross Laborem Exercens, 1981
15	Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows International Day of Democracy
15-Oct 15	National Hispanic Heritage Month
16	International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer
17	Constitution Day (U.S.)
21	International Day of Peace
23	First Day of Autumn



- 29 Rosh Hashana (Jewish), begins at sundown on the 28th
27 Feast Day of St. Vincent de Paul

OCTOBER 2011

- 1 International Day of Older Persons
2 Gandhi's birthday - International Day of Nonviolence
3 World Habitat Day (UN), 1st Mon. in October
4 Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi
5 International World Teacher's Day
8 Yom Kippur (Jewish), begins at sundown
10 Columbus Day
13-19 Sukkot (Jewish Feast of Tabernacles) – begins at sundown on the 12th
13 International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction (UN), 2nd Wed. in October
15 International Day of Rural Women
16 World Food Day
17 International Day for the Eradication of Poverty
“The Struggle Against Poverty: A Sign of Hope in Our World” (Pastoral Letter of the Canadian Episcopal Commission for Social Affairs, 1996)
18 Mix It Up at Lunch Day
21 “The Common Good and the Catholic Church's Social Teaching,” Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, 1996
24 United Nations Day
24-30 Disarmament Week
26 Diwali – the Hindu Festival of Lights
31 UNICEF Day
31 Halloween

NOVEMBER 2011

Native American Heritage Month

- 1 All Saints Day
2 All Souls Day
4-9 Hajj (Annual Pilgrimage to Mecca, Islamic)
6 International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of Environment in War and Armed Conflict
7 Eid-al-Adha (Festival of Sacrifice, Islamic), begins at sundown on the 6th
8 Election Day
11 Veterans Day
12 U.S. Bishops issue, “For I Was Hungry And You Gave Me Food,” reflections on food, farmers, and farmworkers, 2003
13 St. Francis Cabrini, Patron Saint of Immigrants
U.S. Bishops issue “A Place at the Table,” 2002
(<http://www.usccb.org/bishops/table.htm>)



NOVEMBER 2011 (cont'd)

- 15 U.S. Bishops issue "Responsibility, Rehabilitation, and Restoration: A Catholic Perspective on Crime and Criminal Justice," 2000
- 16 International Day of Tolerance
- 16 21st Anniversary of U.S. Bishops issuing "Economic Justice for All," 1986
- 19 U.S. Bishops issue "Health and Health Care," 1991
- 20 Universal Children's Day
- 20 Feast of Christ the King
- 21 World Television Day
- 24 Thanksgiving Day
- 25 International Day for Elimination of Violence against Women
"To the People of God Journeying in Central America" (Pastoral Letter of the Bishops of Central America, 2002)
Anniversary of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief
- 26 Islamic New Year - Muharram
- 27 **1st Sunday of Advent**
- 28 Justicia in Mundo, 1971
- 29 International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People

DECEMBER 2011

- 1 Charles de Foucauld (Beatified Nov. 13, 2005)
- 1 World AIDS Day
- 2 International Day for the Abolition of Slavery
- 2 Anniversary of the deaths of Maura Clarke, Ita Ford, Dorothy Kazel, and Jean Donovan in El Salvador
- 3 Feast of St. Francis Xavier
- 3 International Day of Disabled Persons
- 4 **2nd Sunday of Advent**
- 5 International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development (UN)
- 6 Feast of St. Nicholas
Gaudium et Spes
- 8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception
- 10 Thomas Merton (anniversary of death)
- 10 Human Rights Day
- 10 "To the Ends of the Earth," Pastoral Statement of the United States Bishops, 1986
"A Milestone for the Human Family," Pastoral Letter of the Catholic Bishops of Australia to Mark the 50th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1998)
- 11 **3rd Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday)**

DECEMBER 2011 (cont'd)

12	Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe U.S. Bishops issue "The Hispanic Presence: Challenge and Commitment," (1983)
13	Feast of St. Lucy
14	St. John of the Cross
15	Bill of Rights Day (U.S.)
18	International Migrants Day (UN)
20	International Human Solidarity Day (UN)
18	4th Sunday of Advent
21-28	Chanukah/Hanukkah (begins at sundown on the 20 th)
21	Feast of St. Peter Canisius First Day of Winter
25	Christmas
26	Feast of St. Stephen
26 – Jan. 1	Kwanzaa (in recognition of African heritage)
27	Feast of St. John, apostle
28	Feast of the Holy Innocents
30	Sollicitudo Rei Socialis
31	New Year's Eve

JANUARY 2012

- **UN: International Year of Cooperatives**
- **Poverty in America Awareness Month (CCHD)**

1	New Year's Day
1	Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
1	World Day for Peace - Vatican
1	Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
6	Epiphany
7	Baptism of the Lord
9-14	National Migration Week (USCCB)
16	Religious Freedom Day
16	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
22	"Strangers No Longer: Together on the Journey of Hope," (A Pastoral Letter on Migration from the Catholic Bishops of Mexico and the United States, 2003)
22-23	National Prayer Vigil for Life
23	Chinese New Year (Confucian/Daoist/Budhist) (Year of the Dragon)
25	World Day of Leprosy
27	Auschwitz death camp in Poland, liberation by Soviet troops, 1945 International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust (UN)
28	The Puebla Conference Document (Third Meeting of the Latin American Episcopal Conference, 1979)
29-Feb 5	Catholic Schools Week (U.S.)



FEBRUARY 2012

- **African American History Month**

- 4 World Cancer Day
- 6-10 World Interfaith Harmony Week
- 11 World Day of the Sick – Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes
- 13 “Economic Justice in South Africa” (A Pastoral Statement of the Southern African Catholic Bishops’ Conference, 1999)
- 14 Valentine’s Day
- 20 Presidents Day
- 20 World Day of Social Justice
- 21 Mardi Gras (Fat Tuesday)
- 22 **Ash Wednesday 2012**
- 26 **1st Sunday of Lent**

MARCH 2012

- **Women’s History Month**

- 1 International Day for the Abolition of the Death Penalty
- 4 **2nd Sunday of Lent**
- 5 International Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (1970)
- 8 United Nations Day for Women’s Rights and International Peace (International Women’s Day)
- 11 **3rd Sunday of Lent**
- 17 St. Patrick’s Day
- 18 **4th Sunday of Lent**
- 19 Start of the War in Iraq (2003)
- 19 Feast of St. Joseph
- 21-28 Week of Solidarity with the Peoples Struggling against Racism and Racial Discrimination (UN)
- 21 International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
- 22 World Water Day
- 24 Oscar Romero’s assassination, 1980
- 24 Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 25 **5th Sunday in Lent**
- 26 Populorum Progressio (written in 1967)
International Day for the Commemoration of the Anniversary of the Abolition of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade (UN)



APRIL 2012

1	Palm Sunday
4	International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action (UN)
5	Holy Thursday
6	Good Friday
7	World Health Day
7	Holy Saturday
7-14	Passover (Jewish)
8	Easter Sunday
11	Pacem in Terris
15	Income Tax Day in the USA
15	Divine Mercy Sunday
22	Earth Day
24	Death of Cesar Chavez
27	Murder of Bishop Juan Gerardi Conedera, Human Rights Martyr “Evangelization in Modern Day Asia,” First Plenary Assembly of the Federation of Asian Bishops’ Conferences, 1974 National Conference of the Bishops of Brazil issued “Ethical and Gospel Imperatives for Overcoming Dire Poverty and Hunger,” April 2002
30	Arbor Day

MAY 2012

•	Asian Heritage Month
1	St. Joseph the Worker
1	Centesimus Annus
3	World Press Freedom Day
3	“The Challenge of Peace” – U.S. Bishops (1983)
3	National Day of Prayer USA (1st Thursday in May)
5	US Bishops issue "Challenge of Peace," 1983
5	Cinco de Mayo
8	World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day World Communications Day Octogesima Adveniens, 1971
10	Vesak (Buddhist – the commemoration of Buddha’s birth, death and enlightenment)
13	Mother’s Day
15	International Conscientious Objectors’ Day
15	International Day of Families Rerum Novarum Quadragesimo Anno Mater et Magistra
17	Ascension (moved to May 20 in most dioceses) World Telecommunication Day



MAY 2012 (cont'd)

- 20 Franz Jägerstätter
- 21 World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development (UN)
- 22 International Day for Biological Diversity
Africa Day
- 25-June I Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories
- 27 **Pentecost**
- 28 Memorial Day
- 29 International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers

JUNE 2012

- **June is Torture Awareness Month**

- 3 Trinity Sunday
- 4 International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression (UN)
- 4 Anniversary of Tiananmen Square Massacre, 1989
- 5 World Environment Day
- 7 Feast of Corpus Christi
- 12 World Day Against Child Labor
- 17 World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought (UN)
- 19 The US Bishops issue "Sharing Catholic Social Teaching," 1998
- 19 Juneteenth, commemoration of end of slavery in U.S.
- 17 Father's Day
- 20 World Refugee Day
- 26 International Day in Support of Victims of Torture
- 26 International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking

JULY 2012

- 4 Independence Day (U.S.)
- 11 Anniversary of Srebrenica Slaughter in Bosnia (2012 is the 17th anniversary)
- 11 World Population Day
- 14 Feast Day of Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha
- 18 Birth of Nelson Mandela – New UN International Celebration
- 20 Ramadan begins
- 22 Feast of Mary of Magdala– Apostle to the Apostles
- 23 Feast of St. Bridget of Sweden
- 31 Feast Day of St. Ignatius of Loyola