

Social Justice: June

Dates Worthy of Note:

- 4 International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression
- 12 World Day against Child Labor
- 20 World Refugee Day
- 26 International Day in Support of Victims of Torture



Monthly Focus: Victims of Torture



Suggested Actions:

Brush up on the Church's teaching about torture at <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/torture/index.cfm>. Read Bishop Richard Pates' March 2014 letter on behalf of the USCCB Committee on International Justice and Peace to Members of the Senate Committee on Intelligence, or read his June 2013 letter to Secretary of Defense Hagel concerning detainees at Guantanamo Bay. Share with others the information you've learned.

When children are bullied, they feel as isolated and hopeless as victims of torture. What plan does your school or parish have on a local level to help children experiencing this form of "emotional torture"? Go to www.stopbullying.gov for resources and to support this effort.

Learn about and engage with the effort to put an end to human trafficking in this country, as well as, around this world. Go to www.notforsalecampaign.org to get connected.



Possible Prayer Response:

- Set aside twenty minutes someday this month for reflection and prayer. Be in touch with where you are intolerant. Invite God's Spirit to heal you.
- Each week this month make a point of praying specifically for victims of abuse and torture.
- Pray the *Memorare* or pray before the image of Our Mother of Perpetual Help for those who are hopeless or are being held against their will.