

Respect Life Month

WORLD DAY AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY

“On 10 October 2021, the World Day will be dedicated to women who have received a death sentence, who have been executed, and to those who have had their death sentences commuted, exonerated or pardoned.”

–World Coalition Against the Death Penalty

The Cornell Center on the Death Penalty Worldwide estimates there are at least 800 women sentenced to death around the world. In 2020 the US was one of seven countries confirmed to have women under the sentence of death and one woman, despite her documented disabilities, was executed.

To strengthen the culture of life in our country and around the world pray this prayer for the abolition of the death penalty. The death penalty is not pro life and robs us of our humanity.

Jesus you were counted among thieves
and you were the victim of capital punishment.
Yet you came to set free those who are imprisoned.
Heal the souls of those who, in their pain, inflict suffering on others.
Help us to see ourselves in the face of the criminal.
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive the sins of those who have
trespassed against us.
Give us the power not to punish but to heal,
not to seek retribution but to work for restoration and the reign of
your peace.
Holy Spirit, of God, you strengthen us in the struggle for justice.
Help us to work tirelessly for the abolition of state sanctioned death
and to renew our society in its very heart so that violence will be no
more.

Amen.

- The Catholic Mobilizing Network Staff

The church teaches, in light of the gospel, that ‘the death penalty is inadmissible because it is an attack on the inviolability and dignity of the person’ and she works for its abolition worldwide.

–CC 2267