# Holy and Faithful: Uncovering Saints who Sought and Served Christ in Different Ways

**Feb. 28** - Anna Julia Haywood Cooper - teacher, writer, activist. Born in NC. Died 1964. Dr. Anna Julia Cooper (1859-1964) (U.S. National Park Service) (nps.gov)

Rt. Rev. Henry Beard Delany - educator, bishop. Lived in NC. Died 1928.

<u>Delany, Henry Beard | NCpedia</u>

March 7 - Rev. Pauli Murray

<u>The Many Lives of Pauli Murray | The New Yorker</u> Saints still impact our lives- on <u>quarters</u>

Jonathan Myrick Daniels - seminarian and martyr. Born in NH. Died 1965. About Jonathan Daniels - Jonathan Daniels (jonathandanielscenter.org)

#### March 14 - Manteo and Virginia Dare

Enmegahbowh - priest and missionary. Born in Canada. Died 1902.

<u>Enmegahbowh, (The One who Stands before his People), Rev. John Johnson | In honor of the people</u>

**March 21** - William DuBose- the times we get the wrong saints. Should we remove a saint we once loved? Should he stand in the same holy circles as someone like Howard Thurman?

https://www.episcopalnewsservice.org/2021/05/03/commission-urges-removal-of-sew anee-theologian-from-calendar-of-saints-over-white-supremacist-writings/

March 28 - Jesus Christ

## **Guiding Questions**

What is a saint?
What is the difference between Episcopal and Catholic saints?
How can an examination of saints' lives shape our own faith?
Why did they make these choices that led them to become a saint?
What is the difference between being a good person and being a saint?
What about saints on the same day? What if your day is taken?
Who did we miss? Who should we talk about next year?
Why do we name things after saints?

#### **Additional Resources**

Holy Women, Holy Men Celebrating the Saints Facilitator's Guide Holy Troublemakers and Unconventional Saints The Encyclopedia of Saints

#### This note about why people are significant:

"What we celebrate in the lives of the saints is the presence of Christ expressing itself in and through particular lives lived in the midst of specific historical circumstances. In the saints we are not dealing with absolutes of perfection but human lives, in all their diversity, open to the movement of the Holy Spirit. Many a holy life, when carefully examined, will reveal flaws or the bias of a particular moment in history or ecclesial perspective. It should encourage us to realize that the saints, like us, are first and foremost redeemed sinners in whom the risen Christ's words to St. Paul come to fulfillment, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." "Lesser Feasts and Fasts 2022, pg vii

# Saints week 1

# **Guiding Questions:**

- What choices are people making that leads them to become a saint?
- How can an examination of a saint's life shape our faith?
- What are some tangible ways you are reaching out to minorities in your neighborhood?

# **Opening prayer:**

O God, you have brought us near to an innumerable company of angels, and to the spirits of just PEOPLE made perfect: Grant us during our earthly pilgrimage to abide in their fellowship, and in our heavenly country to become partakers of their joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.

## **Closing prayer:**

Collect for Anna Julia: Almighty God, who inspired your servant Anna Julia Haywood Cooper with the love of learning and the skill of teaching: Enlighten us more and more through the discipline of learning, and deepen our commitment to the education of all your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

- What choices are people making that leads them to become a saint?
- How can an examination of a saint's life shape our faith?
- What are some tangible ways you are reaching out to minorities in your neighborhood?

### **Opening prayer:**

Almighty God, whose prophets taught us righteousness in the care of your poor: By the guidance of your Holy Spirit, grant that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly in your sight; through Jesus Christ, our Judge and Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the same Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

#### **Closing Prayers:**

O God of justice and compassion, you put down the proud and the mighty from their place, and lift up the poor and afflicted: We give you thanks for your faithful witness Jonathan Myrick Daniels, who, in the midst of injustice and violence, risked and gave his life for another; and we pray that we, following his example, may make no peace with oppression; through Jesus Christ the just one: who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Liberating God, we thank you for the steadfast courage of your servant Pauli Murray, who fought long and well: Unshackle us from bonds of prejudice and fear so that we show forth your reconciling love and true freedom, which you revealed through your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

- Why do we name things after saints?
- Why are some saints on the same day? What do we do with that?
- What's your favorite hymn or song about saints?

#### **Opening prayer:**

God of grace and glory, you create and sustain the universe in majesty and beauty: We thank you for all in whom you have planted the desire to know your creation and to explore your work and wisdom. Lead us, like them, to understand better the wonder and mystery of creation; through Christ your eternal Word, through whom all things were made. *Amen*.

#### **Closing prayer**

O God, you have created every human being in your image, and each one is precious in your sight: Grant that, in remembering the baptisms of Manteo and Virginia Dare, we may grow in honoring your gift of diversity in human life; become stronger in living out our baptismal vow to respect the dignity of every human being; and bring into the fellowship of the risen Christ those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

- What is the difference between being a saint and being a good person?
- What makes a saint?
- Do we get it wrong?

## **Opening prayer:**

Almighty God, you have surrounded us with a great cloud of witnesses: Grant that we, encouraged by the good example of your servants (Anna, Henry, Pauli, Jonathan, Enmeghbowh, Manteo & Virginia Dare), may persevere in running the race that is set before us, until at last we may with him attain to your eternal joy; through Jesus Christ, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

### **Closing Prayer:**

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son came not to be served but to serve: Bless all who, following in his steps, give themselves to the service of others; that with wisdom, patience, and courage, they may minister in his Name to the suffering, Jothe friendless, and the needy; for the love of him who laid down his life for us, your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen*.

• What is your favorite story of Jesus' ministry?

Pick two of the following stories. How do you see Jesus' ministry in this story?

Mark 2:1-12 Mark 9:38-41 Luke 18:15-17

Matthew 14:22-33

#### **Opening Prayer:**

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.

#### **Closing Prayer:**

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers, which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen*.