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| **Black History Month 2021** | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | |
| **Sunday** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Saturday** |
|  | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** |
| **Amanda Gorman** | **Wilton Daniel Gregory** | **Laverne Cox** | **Jacob Lawrence** | **Katherine Johnson** | **Bryan Massingale** |
| **7**  **Ida B. Wells** | **8**  **Louis Armstrong** | **9**  **Marie Van Brittan Brown** | **10**  **John Lewis** | **11**  **Wilma Rudolph** | **12**  **Thurgood Marshall** | **13**  **Marian Anderson** |
| **14** | **15** | **16** | **17** | **18** | **19** | **20** |
| **Colin Kaepernick** | **Bessie Coleman** | **Marsha P. Johnson** | **George Floyd** | **Shirley Chisholm** | **Alexander Miles** | **Henrietta Lacks** |
| **21**  **Chadwick Boseman** | **22**  **Audre Lorde** | **23**  **Spike Lee** | **24**  **Harriet Tubman** | **25**  **Alexa Canady** | **26**  **Patrisse Cullors** | **27**  **Alvin Ailey** |
| **28** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Martin de Porres Grey** |

*Created by Racial Justice Working Group under the Justice Committee, JPIC Sisters of St. Joseph Brentwood*

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| **Week 1** | | | | |
| Feb 1 | *Amanda Gorman*  *(1998- )* | Catholic/Poet/ Activist/ First National Youth Poet Laureate/ Youngest Poet to read at the Inauguration | *“...And yet, the dawn is ours before we knew it.*  *Somehow we do it.*  *Somehow we’ve weathered and witnessed*  *a nation that isn’t broken,*  *but simply unfinished.”* | Read the works of T [en Most](https://learnodo-newtonic.com/famous-black-poets)  [Famous Black Poets and Their](https://learnodo-newtonic.com/famous-black-poets)  [Best Known Poems](https://learnodo-newtonic.com/famous-black-poets) |
| Feb 2 | *Wilton Daniel Gregory*  *(1947- )* | Catholic Priest/First African American Cardinal in the United States/ Archbishop of Washington, DC | *“*[*Like any other spiritual transformation*](https://www.azquotes.com/quote/1608712)[*or renewal, conversion must begin with*](https://www.azquotes.com/quote/1608712)[*an honest and a sincere admission that*](https://www.azquotes.com/quote/1608712)[*we need God's trans-formative power in*](https://www.azquotes.com/quote/1608712)[*our lives to achieve any real change, no*](https://www.azquotes.com/quote/1608712)[*matter the perspective from which we*](https://www.azquotes.com/quote/1608712)[*might begin.*](https://www.azquotes.com/quote/1608712)*”* | Learn about [the connection](https://becomingbelovedcommunity.org/doctrine-of-discovery)  [between the Catholic Church’s](https://becomingbelovedcommunity.org/doctrine-of-discovery)  [Doctirne of Discovery and](https://becomingbelovedcommunity.org/doctrine-of-discovery)  [Slavery](https://becomingbelovedcommunity.org/doctrine-of-discovery) |
| Feb 3 | *Laverne Cox*  *(1972- )* | Actress/first openly transgender person to be nominated for a Primetime Emmy Award | *“When people have points of reference that are humanizing, that demystifies difference.”* | Learn about the work of N [ew](https://www.newwaysministry.org/issues/transgender/)  [Way’s Ministry and Outreach](https://www.newwaysministry.org/issues/transgender/)  [to Transgender Persons](https://www.newwaysministry.org/issues/transgender/) |
| Feb 4 | *Jacob Lawrence*  *(1917-2000)* | Painter/best known works, The Migration Series which depicts the migration of African-Americans from the rural south to the urban north. | “...[*We don't have a physica*l *slavery, but*](https://www.azquotes.com/quote/1089006)[*an economic slavery. If these people, who*](https://www.azquotes.com/quote/1089006)[*were so much worse off than the people*](https://www.azquotes.com/quote/1089006)[*today, could conquer their slavery, we*](https://www.azquotes.com/quote/1089006)[*can certainly do the same thing. I am*](https://www.azquotes.com/quote/1089006)  [*not a politician. I'm an artist, just trying*](https://www.azquotes.com/quote/1089006)[*to do my part to bring this thing about*.](https://www.azquotes.com/quote/1089006)” | Take a Virtual Tour of *Jacob Lawrence: The American Struggle* on display at the  [Peabody Essex Museum](https://www.pem.org/exhibitions/jacob-lawrence-the-american-struggle) |
| Feb 5 | *Katherine Johnson*  *(1918-2020)* | NASA  Mathematician/ provided calculations of orbital mechanics for first US space flights/Awarded Presidential Medal of Freedom | *“Everything is physics and math.”* | Watch or rewatch the movie,  [Hidden Figures](https://www.moviefone.com/movie/hidden-figures/20086193/where-to-watch/) |
| Feb 6 | *Bryan Massingale*  *(1957- )* | Catholic priest/author/ activist/ theologian | *“For the beneficiaries of white privilege lament involves the difficult task of acknowledging their individual and communal complicity in past and present racial injustices”* | Watch “ [The Magis and Justice”](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eyMYQFjzmZQ) |
| Feb 7 | *Ida B. Wells*  *(1862-1931)* | Journalist/ Anti-lynching  activist/Women’s Suffragist | “[*I am only a mouthpiece through*](https://www.azquotes.com/quote/651818)[*which to tell the story of lynching*](https://www.azquotes.com/quote/651818)[*and I have told it so often that I know*](https://www.azquotes.com/quote/651818)[*it by heart. I do not have to*](https://www.azquotes.com/quote/651818)[*embellish; it makes its own way.*](https://www.azquotes.com/quote/651818)*”* | [Read how lynching became a](https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/congress/congress-makes-lynching-federal-crime-65-years-after-emmett-till-n1143626)  [federal crime in 2020.](https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/congress/congress-makes-lynching-federal-crime-65-years-after-emmett-till-n1143626)  View [photos of real lynchings](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W1DB-bDXe6o) |

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| **Week 2** | | | | |
| February 8 | *Louis Armstrong*  *(1901-1971)* | Musician/Trumpeter/ Among most influential in Jazz/Nickname: *Satchmo/NYC Native* | *“Seems to me, it ain’t the world that's so bad but what we're doin' to it. And all I'm saying is, see, what a wonderful world it would be if only we'd give it a chance. Love baby, love. That's the secret.”* | Watch and Listen to Louis Armstrong in this [BBC Special](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BtqTiTXhdk0&feature=emb_logo) |
| February 9 | *Marie Van Brittan Brown*  *(1922-1999)* | Nurse/Inventor/invented closed circuit TV initially for home security/Jamaica, Queens native | *“Since 1993 property crime has fallen in the US by 69% thanks to the pioneering work of one woman: Marie Van Brittan Brown”*  [*UntoldEdu*](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q_E_rB01DUU&feature=emb_logo) | Read story with the New York Times,” *N* [*ew York Times*,](https://timesmachine.nytimes.com/timesmachine/1969/12/06/issue.html)  [December 6, 1969](https://timesmachine.nytimes.com/timesmachine/1969/12/06/issue.html) (“Audio-Viewer  Screens Calls)p.55 |
| February 10 | *John Lewis*  *(1940-2020)* | Politician/Civil Rights Activist | *“Get in good trouble, necessary trouble.”* | Take a Virtual Tour of the [National](https://nmaahc.si.edu/)  [Museum of African American](https://nmaahc.si.edu/)  [History](https://nmaahc.si.edu/) which John Lewis initiated in 1988. |
| February 11 | *Wilma Rudolph*  *(1940-1994)* | Polio survivor/ gold medal Olympian/ coach/ activist | *‘I have spent a lifetime trying to share what it has meant to be a woman first in the world of sports so that other young women have a chance to reach their dreams.”* | Write a letter to your representative to support equity in health care. |
| February 12 | *Thurgood Marshall*  *(1908-1993)* | Lawyer/activist/ argued *Brown v Board of Education/* first Black Supreme Court Justice | *“None of us got where we are solely by pulling ourselves up by our bootstraps… – a parent, a teacher, an Ivy League crony or a few nuns – bent down and helped us pick up our boots.”* | Read MLK's [“Letter from a](https://www.africa.upenn.edu/Articles_Gen/Letter_Birmingham.html)  [Birmingham Jail”](https://www.africa.upenn.edu/Articles_Gen/Letter_Birmingham.html). |
| February 13 | *Marian Anderson*  *(1897-1993)* | Opera contralto/ first Black person to perform a leading role at the Met/ diplomat/ activist | *“A singer starts by having his instrument as a gift from God... When you have been given something in a moment of grace, it is sacrilegious to be greedy.”* | Listen to/watch [Marian sing from](https://www.africa.upenn.edu/Articles_Gen/Letter_Birmingham.html)  [the Lincoln Memorial](https://www.africa.upenn.edu/Articles_Gen/Letter_Birmingham.html). |

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| February 14 | *Colin Kaepernick*  *(1987- )* | Athlete/ activist/ philanthropist | *“People sometimes forget that love is at the root of our resistance.”* | Journal “Why kneeling is an act of love.” |

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| **Week 3** | | | | |
| February 15 | *Bessie Coleman*  *(1892-1926)* | First Black/ Native American US female pilot/first Black international pilot/activist | *“I refused to take no for an answer.”* | Journal “What could be the questions she asked for which the answer was no?” |
| February 16 | *Marsha P. Johnson*  *(1945-1992)* | Gay liberation activist/ self-identified drag queen/prominent figure in Stone Wall Uprising | *“I’ll always be known reaching out to young people who have no one to help them out, so I help them out with a place to stay or some food to eat or some change for their pocket.”* | Pray for those marginalized by racism- say their names. |
| February 17 | *George Floyd*  *(1973-2020)* | Son/ father/ truck driver/ security guard | Last recorded words*- “I can't breathe. I can‘t breathe…. Please. Please. Please.”* | Read the book: [*Between the*](https://www.amazon.com/Between-World-Me-Ta-Nehisi-Coates/dp/0451482212)  [*World and Me*](https://www.amazon.com/Between-World-Me-Ta-Nehisi-Coates/dp/0451482212)*-* Ta-Nehisi Coates letter to his son. |
| February 18 | *Shirley Chisholm*  *(1924-2005)* | NY state politician/ educator/ author/ first Black candidate for major party nomination for President | *”If they don’t give you a seat at the table, bring a folding chair.”* | Write supporting an action to address racism in housing, healthcare, or business.- [How](https://www.usa.gov/elected-officials)  [to Contact Your Elected](https://www.usa.gov/elected-officials)  [Officials](https://www.usa.gov/elected-officials)  . |
| February 19 | *Alexander Miles*  *(1838-1918)* | Laborer/ barber/ inventor of automatic elevator doors/ inducted into Inventors Hall of Fame 2007 | *“I think it is time that the nation should awaken to the fact that the negro is a citizen and not a pest,”* | Read [“The legacy of George](https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/06/the-legacy-of-george-floyd-here-s-how-business-can-address-inequality-and-promote-justice/)  [Floyd: Here’s how business can](https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/06/the-legacy-of-george-floyd-here-s-how-business-can-address-inequality-and-promote-justice/)  [address inequality and](https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/06/the-legacy-of-george-floyd-here-s-how-business-can-address-inequality-and-promote-justice/)  [promote justice”](https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/06/the-legacy-of-george-floyd-here-s-how-business-can-address-inequality-and-promote-justice/) |
| February 20 | *Henrietta Lacks*  *(1920-1951)* | Exploited for medical research/ “immortal cells” which have helped countless patients. | *“Who is this Henrietta Lacks?!”* | Watch or read  [“The Mother of Modern](https://www.technologynetworks.com/cell-science/articles/henrietta-lacks-the-mother-of-modern-medicine-303228)  [Medicine”](https://www.technologynetworks.com/cell-science/articles/henrietta-lacks-the-mother-of-modern-medicine-303228) |

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| February 21 | *Chadwick Boseman*  *(1976-2020)* | Award winning actor/ playwright/ played Jackie Robinson, James Brown, Thurgood Marshall, Black Panther | *“The struggles along the way are only meant to shape you for your purpose.”* | Watch *M* [*arshall*](https://www.amazon.com/Prime-Video/b?ie=UTF8&node=2676882011) or [*42*](https://www.amazon.com/Prime-Video/b?ie=UTF8&node=2676882011) or pray for his young family. |

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| **Week 4** | | | | |
| February 22 | *Audre Lorde*  *(1934-1992)* | NYC public school librarian/ feminist writer/ civil rights activist | *“Life is short and we must do what has to be done in the now.”* | Read [*Sister Outsiders*](https://www.amazon.com/Sister-Outsider-Speeches-Crossing-Feminist/dp/1580911862) or  [*A Burst of Light*](https://www.amazon.com/Burst-Light-Other-Essays/dp/0486818993) |
| February 23 | *Spike Lee*  *(1957- )* | Actor/film director/ screenwriter/ professor | *“And this city (NYC) is so vibrant; the energy is just phenomenal.”* | Watch any one of his  movies, TV shows, e.g. [*Do*](https://www.amazon.com/Prime-Video/b?ie=UTF8&node=2676882011)  [*the Right Thing*](https://www.amazon.com/Prime-Video/b?ie=UTF8&node=2676882011) |
| February 24 | *Harriet Tubman*  *(1822-1913)* | Abolitionist/political activist/ part of the “Underground Railroad” | *“I never ran my train off the track, and never lost a passenger.”* | Watch *H* [*arriet*](https://www.amazon.com/Prime-Video/b?ie=UTF8&node=2676882011), on YouTube, Amazon, Hulu |
| February 25 | *Alexa Canady*  *(1950- )* | First African American woman neurosurgeon/ “retired” to be chief of pediatric neurosurgery/ Sacred Heart, Pensacola | *“If you want to be something, you have to perceive that something is possible.”* | Watch [CNBC “Black](https://www.cnbc.com/2020/06/19/black-doctors-prescription-for-changing-racial-inequity-in-health-care.html)  [doctors push for](https://www.cnbc.com/2020/06/19/black-doctors-prescription-for-changing-racial-inequity-in-health-care.html)  [anti-bias training in](https://www.cnbc.com/2020/06/19/black-doctors-prescription-for-changing-racial-inequity-in-health-care.html)  [medicine”](https://www.cnbc.com/2020/06/19/black-doctors-prescription-for-changing-racial-inequity-in-health-care.html) or read |
| February 26 | *Patrice Cullors*  *(1983- )* | American artist/ activist/ co-founder of Black Lives Matter | *“Invest in a culture of dignity and care for Black people.”* | Explore [Patrice’s website](https://patrissecullors.com/) and pick an action.  Pray for racial justice. |
| February 27 | *Alvin Ailey*  *(1931-1989)* | Dancer, choreographer, director, founder of the American Dance Theatre, activist. | *“Color is not important. What is important is the quality of our work.”* | Watch *R* [*evelations*](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kDXerubF4I4)on YouTube |

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| February 28 | *Martin de Porres*  *Grey*  *(1942?- )* | First Black woman in the Sisters of Mercy; foundress of Nat. Black Sisters Conference, 1968; left religious life in 1974. | *“I never allowed myself to actually experience the pain of it.”* | Check out the work of Shannen Dee Williams. [“Black Nuns and](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M0lNDXjq_F8) [‘Subversive Habits’”](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M0lNDXjq_F8) Pray for religious life. |