

Remember in Prayer This Week

- **The native people of North America** – more than 900 unmarked graves of native children have been found at government & church run boarding schools in Canada. Investigators expect to find hundreds more. There are also an undetermined number of graves at U.S. boarding schools. An effort to investigate the U.S. schools is underway.

During the 19th century through the 1970s thousands of native children in the U.S. & Canada were forced from their homes into church or government run boarding schools in an attempt to strip them of their culture, language, & family ties as a way to assimilate them into the white culture. These children were frequently abused, sexually assaulted, starved & otherwise mistreated at the schools where the goal was to “kill the Indian in them”. Many children were taken to the schools & their families never heard what happened to them. The right to return to their homes & families was denied many native children, even in death.

In recent weeks, a group of Native American youth has been instrumental in arranging for the remains of 10 of the 189 children, known to be buried at the Carlisle Indian School in Pennsylvania (the first of these forced boarding schools in the U.S.), to be returned to their families this summer. All Native Americans have been touched by this tragedy. One young person involved in the Carlisle repatriation project pointed out, most children have playgrounds at their schools. Native children had graveyards. . . Pray for all those who must live with the pain of this tragedy, as well as those who are called to address the issues of responsibility & reconciliation involved.

- **Victims of gun violence** –In 72 hours (July 10 & July 13), 102 people died & 345 people were injured in 360 gun incidents in the U.S. There were also 7 mass shootings in which 3 people died & 31 people were injured.
- **Places were anger & frustration** push people to violence or destruction.
- **The people of Afghanistan** – as they face an uncertain future.
- **The people of Cuba** where dissatisfaction with living conditions there has brought people out into the streets to protest their government. Such actions are not legal in Cuba.
- **The people of Haiti.** They are dealing with the assassination of their president as well as years of poverty & government corruption.



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