

PRAYER

PRAYING WITH DOROTHY, ITA, JEAN, AND MAURA

Light a candle in remembrance of Dorothy, Ita, Jean, and Maura. On the 2nd of December, for 40 minutes or 40 hours, keep the candle burning. Spend time conversing with our beloved sisters. Breathe prayers of solidarity to the people of El Salvador and those whose human rights continue to be violated as a result of past and present U.S. foreign policies.

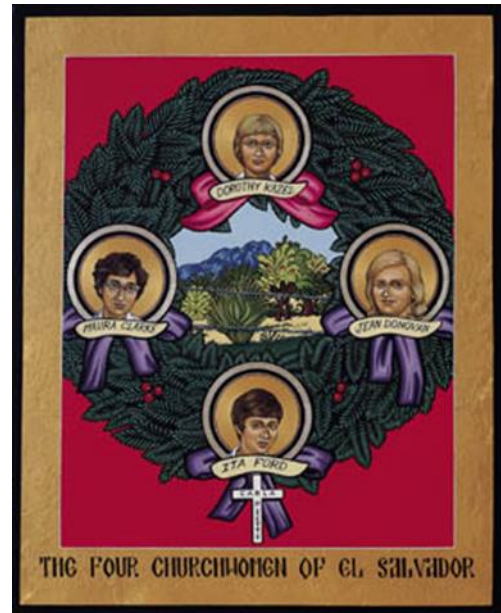
Prayer for the Four Church Women

May our remembrance of your deaths
Be a blessing on our work for nonviolence.
May our mourning and grief
Become a wellspring of desire for peace.

From the blood-stained earth
That marked your cruel deaths
May new seeds reach for the light.
From the examples of your good lives
May we be graced to continue the work.

You have passed the struggle on to us.
We celebrate you in each step forward,
Your hands in ours now,
Our hands reaching out toward the future,
All a part of the beloved community. Amen.

~ by Jane Deren, Ph.D., (11/14/2020)



Reflection Questions

- *Who were the poor of El Salvador in 1980? Who are the poor of El Salvador today? Who are the Dorothys, Jeans, Itas, and Mauras who minister and stand with the poor of today?*
- *How have past and present U.S. foreign policies contributed to massive human rights violations in Central America and other nations? What are the intended consequences of U.S. military interventions in countries like El Salvador?*
- *How do Dorothy, Ita, Jean, and Maura call us to act as God's agents of transformation in the world today?*
- *How might the violent deaths of the four U.S. churchwomen, Walter Wallace, Jr., George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and others like them, lead us toward collective conversion and Christian solidarity?*