

## **Rosa Parks Refusal to Give up Her Seat December 1, 1955**

December 1<sup>st</sup> is the 70th anniversary of Parks' courageous act of refusing to give up her seat on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama. Parks was arrested for refusing to surrender her seat to a white passenger on a segregated bus, defying unjust Jim Crow laws. That single act sparked the 381-day Montgomery Bus Boycott, a pivotal movement that helped dismantle segregation and marked a historic chapter in the African American fight for social justice.

Rosa Parks was more than one moment—she was a lifelong warrior for justice, a leader in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), and a champion for voting rights. As America nears its 250th birthday, we must honor not only our founding fathers but also the mothers of our democracy—women like Rosa Parks, who moved us toward a more perfect union.

A lifelong activist, Rosa Parks received our nation's highest honors, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom and the Congressional Gold Medal, and was the first woman to lie in honor in the U.S. Capitol. Her statue in Statuary Hall stands as a lasting tribute to her indelible mark on American history.

Source: A & E Television Network LLC 2025.



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