

Helping Through Prayer

The fight against human trafficking must first be combatted with prayer, as this work is not merely a physical battle, but primarily a spiritual battle of good versus evil. Please keep Children of the Immaculate Heart and all anti-trafficking groups in your prayers, that they may be able to successfully help those they encounter. Below is a prayer to St. Josephine Bakhita (1867-1947), who was enslaved as a child and after her emancipation entered the Sisters of Charity.



St. Josephine Bakhita, you were sold into slavery as a child and endured untold hardship and suffering. Once liberated from your physical enslavement, you found true redemption in your encounter with Christ and his Church. O St. Bakhita, assist all those who are trapped in a state of slavery; Intercede with God on their behalf so that they will be released from their chains of captivity. Those whom man enslaves, let God set free. Provide comfort to survivors of slavery and let them look to you as an example of hope and faith. Help all survivors find healing from their wounds.

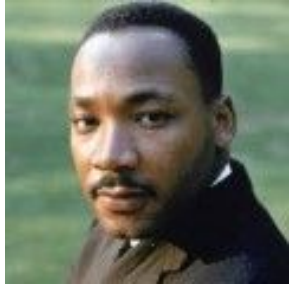
We ask for your prayers and intercessions for those enslaved among us. Amen.



“It is not possible to remain indifferent before the knowledge that human beings are bought and sold like goods! I think of the adoption of children for the extraction of their organs, of women deceived and obliged to prostitute themselves, of workers exploited and denied rights or a voice, and so on. And this is human trafficking. It is precisely on this level that we need to make a good examination of conscience: how many times have we permitted a human being to be seen as an object, to be put on show in order to sell a product or to satisfy an immoral desire? The human person ought never to be sold or bought as if he or she were a commodity. Whoever uses human persons in this way and exploits them, even if indirectly, becomes an accomplice of injustice.”— **Pope Francis, Message on the occasion of the annual Lenten “Fraternity Campaign” in Brazil with the theme of “Fraternity and human trafficking,” March 5, 2014**



“Prayer is not asking. Prayer is putting oneself in the hands of God, at His disposition, and listening to His voice in the depth of our hearts.”—**Mother Teresa**



“Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.” –**Martin Luther King, Jr.**