

Intercession

May all victims and survivors of human trafficking find freedom, refuge, and healing.

Prayers

Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be

Reflection

Those who are vulnerable are most at risk for being lured into situations where they are trafficked. Migrants and refugees often face increased risk factors like changes to language and culture, lack of support systems, and the burden of poverty. Young people on the margins, especially runaway and homeless youth, are targeted for sex trafficking and may subsequently be forced to have abortions. Easily tempted by the false promises of traffickers, victims often find themselves enslaved with no means of escape.

Christ came "to bring good news to the afflicted, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives" (Is 61:1, cf. Luke 4:18). May all who are trapped in situations of slavery be released from their chains of captivity and find freedom, refuge, safety, and healing in Christ and His Church.

Acts of Reparation (choose one)

Give up sleeping on your pillow tonight. Allow this small sacrifice to remind you of the sufferings endured by those in our world who are enslaved.

St. Josephine Bakhita, who was born in Sudan and sold into slavery, has become known as the patron saint of human trafficking victims. Pray for victims and survivors of human trafficking, asking the intercession of St. Josephine Bakhita.

Offer some other sacrifice, prayer, or act of penance that you feel called to do for today's intention.

Seek the intercession of Our Lady by praying a Rosary

One Step Further

Would you know how to identify a potential trafficking situation? Learn more about human trafficking and recognizing the red flags through the USCCB's Anti-Trafficking Program at www.usccb.org/stopslavery.

Almost half of the reported victims of human trafficking in the U.S. in 2016 were foreign nationals. Consider bringing the Amistad Movement to your parish to help raise awareness about human trafficking among immigrant populations.

www.usccb.org/about/anti-trafficking-program/amistad.cfm

If you suspect someone is a victim of human trafficking, call the National Human Trafficking Hotline (888-3737-888) for immediate assistance. They can communicate in over 200 languages and provide immediate information, assistance, and local referrals for potential human trafficking situations.

