

International day of prayer and reflection against human trafficking



suggestion for a global ICDS initiative

Morning or Evening Prayer

Introduction:

O God, come to our aid.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.

Amen. Alleluia.

Hymn

The day is filled with splendor When God brings light from light, and all renewed creation rejoices in his sight.

The Father gives his children the wonder of the world in which his power and glory like banners are unfurled.

With every living creature, awaking with the day, we turn to God our Father, lift up our hearts and pray:

O Father, Son and Spirit, your grace and mercy send, that we may live to praise you today and to the end.

God our father, you hear the cries of your suffering people. Open our eyes to see the immensity of your love for us and the wonder of what you have done for us. Give us the courage to be your hands and heart for those who are enslaved. Give us the wisdom to speak out for justice and righteousness. May your will be done in us today and always.

Amen.

Reading

- words of Pope Francis at Judges' summit on human trafficking and organized crime March 2016

"We must generate a crosscutting wave of "good vibes" to embrace the whole of society from top to bottom and vice versa, from the periphery to the center and back, from leaders to communities, and from villages and public opinion to the key players in society. As the religious, social and civic leaders have realized, achieving this requires that judges too become fully aware of this challenge, feeling the importance of their responsibility towards society, sharing their experiences and best practices and acting together to break down barriers and open new paths of justice to promote human dignity, freedom, responsibility, happiness and, ultimately, peace."

Take a moment of silence and reflection

God of freedom, beauty and truth we believe that your deepest desire, your most powerful energy, is that all creation might know abundant life.

We raise our voices in anguished prayer for our sisters and brothers, women and girls, men and boys, who are modern day slaves;
They are your beloved daughters and sons, exploited sexually or forced to work because of human violence and greed.

Fill us with your holy anger and your sacred passion that those who are trafficked might know healing and justice; that traffickers will come to repentance and conversion; that all of us might live in such a way that others are not made to pay the price for our comfort and convenience.

Hasten the coming of the day when all people and our precious Earth itself will be treated, not as a commodity, but as radiant images of your freedom, beauty and truth. Amen. May it be so.

Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth, Convent Station, N.J.

Prayer to end Human Trafficking

O Lord, you said you came: "to set the captives free." In our world young men and women who are trafficked are modern day slaves.

Help these young people to not lose hope.

Give the grace for elected officials to grow in awareness of and to take active steps to eradicate this horror.

Teach them not to prosecute the victims of trafficking but to bring to justice those who perpetrate this crime.

Lord, give the grace of conversion to those who mistreat unfortunates for their own personal gain.

May demand decrease as people realize that prostitution is a crime against human dignity, forced upon these people, who are more victim than anything else.

May the awareness of this horrendous crime spread throughout the world

May many join the efforts to stop trafficking and help the victims begin anew, filled with hope.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, our Divine Savior. Amen

Sr. Veronica Piccone, MSC

