

PRAY

FOR VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING



We pray for the victims of human trafficking and all those in any kind of slavery.

We pray for those rescued from slavery that they may heal from years of abuse.

We pray for retail managers that they may rid their supply-chains of enforced labour.

We pray for men and women who care for those who have been rescued from slavery.

We pray that the Church will rise up and lead the fight against modern slavery.

We pray that we may understand our complicity in buying the goods produced by this evil trade.

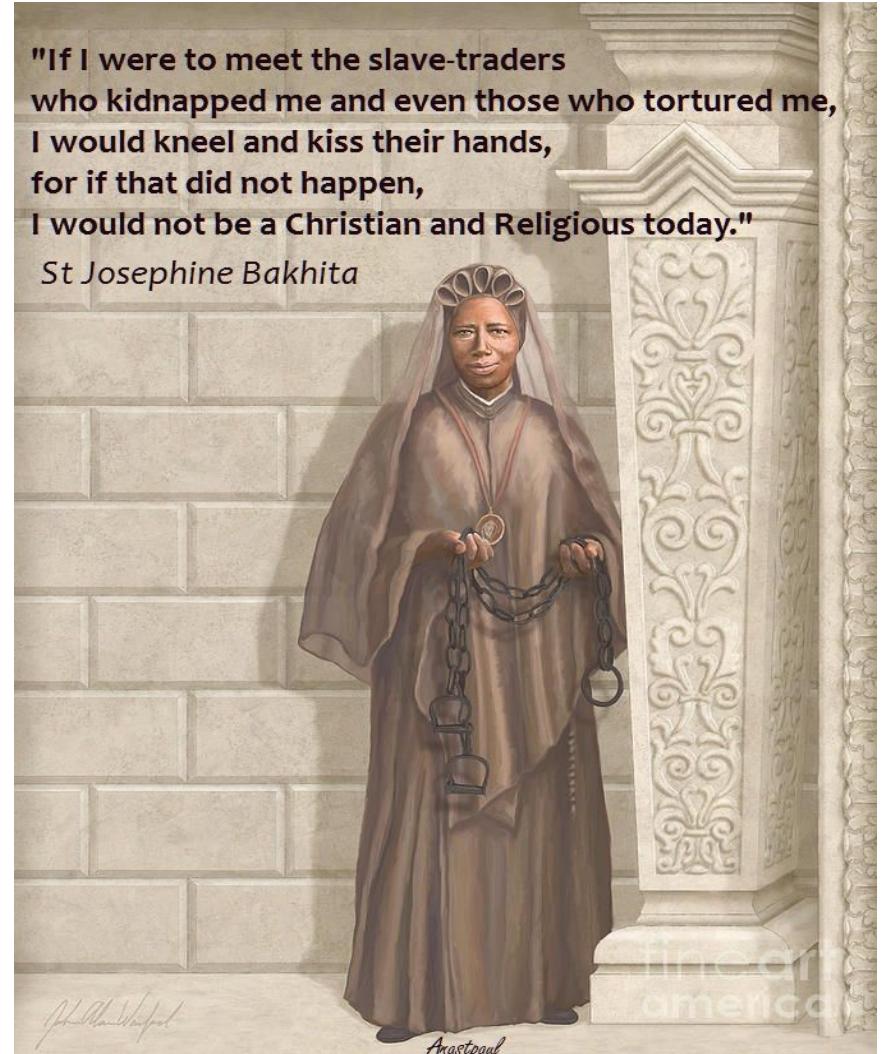
We pray that together we can bring an end to modern slavery.

ST MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION

ST JOSEPHINE BAKHITA

"If I were to meet the slave-traders who kidnapped me and even those who tortured me, I would kneel and kiss their hands, for if that did not happen, I would not be a Christian and Religious today."

St Josephine Bakhita



FEBRUARY 2018

ENTRANCE HYMN

Christ be beside me, Christ be before me,
Christ be behind me, King of my heart.
Christ be within me, Christ be below me.
Christ be above me, never to part.

Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand,
Christ all around me, shield in the strife.
Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting,
Christ in my rising, light of my life.

Christ be in all hearts thinking about me,
Christ be in all tongues telling of me.
Christ be the vision in eyes that see me,
in ears that hear me, Christ ever be.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading *A reading from the first Letter of St John (3:1-2)*

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are.

Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us.

My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed;
all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is. The word of the Lord.

Filled with my Spirit, how you will grow!
You are my branches; I am the tree.
If you are faithful, others will know
You are alive in me

Love one another – I have loved you,
and I have shown you how to be free;
serve one another, and when you do,
do it in love for me.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
Light of the world to see.

*Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our light!
Shine in your Church gathered today.*

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice.

Longing for food, many are hungry,
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed.

Longing for shelter, many are homeless,
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stones.

Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come.

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord.
And where there's doubt, true faith in you.

Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness only light,
And where there's sadness ever joy.

Oh, Master, grant that I may never seek
So much to be consoled as to console,
To be understood as to understand,
To be loved, as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving of ourselves that we receive,
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

HOLY COMMUNION

This is my body, broken for you,
Bringing you wholeness, making you free,
Take it and eat it, and when you do,
Do it in love for me.

This is my blood, poured out for you,
Bringing forgiveness; making you free.
Take it and drink it, and when you do,
Do it in love for me.

Back to my Father soon I shall go.
Do not forget me; then you will see
I am still with you, and you will know
You are alive in me.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

R/ The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. *R/*

He guides me along the right path;
He is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. *R/*

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. *R/*

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. *R/*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Come, you whom my Father has blessed, says the Lord;
Take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you
Since the foundation of the world.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL *A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew*

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

‘How happy are the poor in spirit;
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle:
they shall have the earth for their heritage.

Happy those who mourn:
they shall be comforted.

Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:
they shall be satisfied.

Happy the merciful:
they shall have mercy shown them.

Happy the pure in heart:
they shall see God.

Happy the peacemakers:
they shall be called sons of God.

Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

‘Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

HOMILY *Fr Peter*

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

Fr Peter

As Jesus healed those who were sick, calmed those who were anxious, and encouraged those who were fearful, let us seek the peace of mind and heart that only God can give.

For Pope Francis, that God may grant him wisdom as he calls all people to unite against the scourge of modern slavery.
Lord in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

For Church leaders across the world, that they continue to be at the forefront in the fight against modern slavery.
Lord in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

For all Catholics, that God inspires them to take action to support and care for survivors of modern slavery in their communities.
Lord in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

For those trapped in slavery, that their perpetrators be brought to justice and that their dignity as human beings is respected.
Lord in your mercy, Hear our prayer.

For survivors of modern slavery, that they might find the support and care they need to start a new life.
Lord in your mercy, Hear our prayer

Fr Peter

God our Father, hear the prayers that we make in a spirit of faith and trust; may we see realised those things that are dear to our heart, through Christ our Lord.