

Prayer for World Day Against Trafficking in Human Persons

Symbol: to be placed in your prayer space – Light a candle, shine a light against Human Trafficking – as a sign of hope for those trafficked and enslaved.

Opening Prayer

We gather united with our world community, seeking justice for all human beings, especially those suffering from human trafficking. Because of the abuse, the fear, the threats, the hopelessness, they are "VOICE-LESS". We, as a human family must rally in response to their silent cry. Together let us stand in solidarity with millions worldwide who suffer in situations of bondage. In their memory let us have a minute of silence

SILENCE

Wisdom from the Prophet Micah 6:8

This is what the Lord requires, this is what is sought and longed for, only this – that you act justly, love tenderly, and walk humbly with your God.

Reflection - Can You See Me?

- 1 Can you see me in the things that you purchase? In a place where the prices there suit you so well? Can you imagine the place where I am working? No food and no breaks, in a sweat shop that's hell? Can you see me?
- 2 Can you see me in the shadows and darkness? Where my body is sold for minutes and hours? Can you imagine the suffering in the sex trade, Where dreams are stolen and so is my power? Can you see me?

Refrain

Look! Look, and don't turn away. I'm calling to you and just want to say: See all you can and tell others about me And help to bring freedom and justice for all. **Can you see me?**

Can you see me in the sweat and the struggle,
300 feet down, at the face of a mine?
My parents owe money, and this is their payment:
A slave for a son and I'm only nine.

Can you see me?

 Can you see me? I am here, all around you, I don't say a word in case I'm ill-treated.
A servant who should know where her place is, Twenty-four/seven to do what is ordered.
Can you see me?

Refrain

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Can you see me in the fields of the farmers? Who bribed us to be there, and won't set us free? Back breaking work, no matter the weather: Picking and packing your fruit and vegetables. Can you see me?

Can you see me, in the shed by the highway? Where people are harvested for body and parts? My brother lost eyes, and I gave a kidney. The dead are just dumped like trash from a cart. Can you see me?

Refrain

I'm all around you, hidden from vision Wondering if I will ever be free. Longing for life and for chains to be broken Longing for sunlight, for justice and peace. CAN YOU SEE ME? Margaret Scharf OP: copyright 2017 by kind permission: ACRATH acrath.org.au

Wisdom from our Founders St Louis Marie De Montfort and Blessed Marie Louise Trichet

For St Louis Marie, Evangelization and Pastoral Care were the same, among the villages and towns of Northwest France. For Marie Louise she lived from her center anchored in Wisdom to be in the world, at the heart of the social needs of the time. Their commitment like ours now is to be for Mission, Contemplation and Action. As Daughters of Wisdom, we continue to highlight areas of need in our world including Human Trafficking.

Closing Prayer

O God when we hear of children and adults, taken to unknown places for purposes of sexual exploitation, forced labor, and organ "harvesting", our hearts are saddened and our spirits angry that their dignity and rights are ignored through threats lies and force.

Give us Wisdom and courage to reach out and stand with those whose bodies, hearts, and spirits have been so wounded, so that together we may make real your promises to fill these, sisters and brothers with a love that is tender and good. Help us all to claim the freedom that is your gift to us and each other. We make this and all our prayers in your name. **AMEN**