



Intercessions

We remember today, loving God, those who are victims of slavery and all those who work to restore their dignity and we pray:

“As brothers and sisters, therefore, all people are in relation with others, from whom they differ, but with whom they share the same origin, nature and dignity.”

~ *We pray that the dignity of all humanity may be respected.*

“Slavery is rooted in a notion of the human person which allows him or her to be treated as an object... Whether by coercion or deception, or by physical or psychological duress, human persons created in the image and likeness of God are deprived of their freedom, sold and reduced to being the property of others. They are treated as means to an end.”

~ *We pray that the dignity of all humanity may be respected.*

For “the many men and women labourers, including minors, subjugated in different sectors, whether formally or informally, in domestic or agricultural workplaces, or in the manufacturing or mining industry; whether in countries where labour regulations fail to comply with international norms and minimum standards, or, equally illegally, in countries which lack legal protection for workers’ rights.”

~ *We pray that the dignity of all humanity may be respected.*

For “persons forced into prostitution, many of whom are minors, as well as male and female sex slaves. I think of women forced into marriage, those sold

for arranged marriages and those bequeathed to relatives of their deceased husbands, without any right to give or withhold their consent.”

~ *We pray that the dignity of all humanity may be respected.*

For “all those persons, minors and adults alike, who are made objects of trafficking for the sale of organs, for recruitment as soldiers, for begging, for illegal activities such as the production and sale of narcotics, or for disguised forms of cross-border adoption.”

~ *We pray that the dignity of all humanity may be respected.*

A Prayer for the End of Human Trafficking

As shared by the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth, Convent Station, N.J.

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