Prayer for an End to Human Trafficking

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

Many are killed in unknown lands, and they leave a permanent vacuum in their families and communities. Others go so unnoticed that we don't realize that they too deserved to live a happy life.

We cry out against the evil practice of this modern slavery, and pray with Sts. John Eudes and Mary Euphrasia, that as we travel and meet trafficked persons we may have the courage to offer them life alternatives by accompanying them and challenging weak government structures that leave room for cartels to perpetrate these inhuman acts.

Jesus fought this battle, leaving us an example. The sisters before us fought too and handed their work over to us. As we take up the seat on the train of advocating for justice and human rights, it is important to continue this work, because when the time comes for us to step down and leave our seat empty for those who follow us and will continue to travel on the path, we ought to leave behind beautiful memories.

Dear Jesus, help us to live in the best way, to love and advocate for human justice on behalf of our suffering humanity under the hands of traffickers all over the world, and to offer the best of who we are to those who need our love lest they fall under the cruel hands of merciless persons.

Give us open hearts to collaborate and network with States, like-minded Organizations and Individuals to develop solid intervention measures towards ending trafficking of persons. 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 attain your promises to lift up these sisters and brothers and provide them with love that is tender and good.

As we struggle to protect and support the trafficked, may we invoke Mary the mother of our institute to sing with us this prayer:

May God show a strong arm to the arrogant of mind and heart.
May God throw down the traffickers from their thrones but lift up the lowly.
May God fill the hungry with good things and send the rich away empty.

For God has helped Israel to remember God’s mercy according to the promise to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever. (Adapted from Luke 1:51-55).

Free the captives out of this of slavery send the exploiters away empty –handed to be converted from this wickedness, and help us all to claim the freedom that is a gift to your children. Amen

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