

Together with them

July 30th – World Day against Trafficking in Persons

1. A moment to center ourselves in the presence of God

In this sacred space, we keep silence in our heart ... our mind ... our body ...

We ask our Loving God to allow us to stand next to the cross of his son, nailed, immobile, alone, abandoned by his friends, bleeding, with a deep pain in his soul ... and in silence we hear him say: "Father? why have you abandoned me?"

2. A time to look at reality

Human trafficking is the oldest crime and at the same time always changing. This system creates large profits for organized crime at the cost of thousands of innocent people.

1. Do you know how many people are disappeared in your city or country per year?
2. Do you know the name of organized groups that are involved in drug trafficking or human trafficking?
3. Do you know what your government is doing to end human trafficking?
4. Have you ever participated with mothers, friends, girlfriends, relatives in the search for their missing loved ones?

Psalm 40:2 - He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand.

Human trafficking is the tree that greed has cultivated for centuries. It is the tree that has grown and strengthened its roots feeding on the brutal desire of men and women whose desire to possess money at the cost of anything has dehumanized them.

Human trafficking is the fruit of corrupt, blind, indifferent, manipulated justice systems, bought by those in power, and controlled by **corrupt** leaders.

Human trafficking is the fruit of the indifference of a sleeping society that only looks at its own needs and whose insensitivity is a symptom of its dehumanization.

Human trafficking is the fruit of lies misleading its victim looking for a promising future or a better life. It is the fruit of false promises of love.

Human trafficking is, mainly, the product of the despair of many people who, faced with poverty, violence and the lack of opportunities, must abandon everything, risk everything, even their very existence, in the search for a dignified and full life that we all deserve.



3. A moment for Scripture Mt 7, 15-20

Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thorns, or figs from thistles? In the same way, every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus you will know them by their fruits.

Which 'fruits' does God require me to give because of my commitment to justice? How do I act in accordance with these 'fruits'?

Todas- Todos

Loving God, you are in the heaven of our deepest dreams and longings for a life, a heaven where we have what is necessary to live, where we can smile, love, be sisters and brothers, the heaven that we seek where there is no pain, no loneliness, where the justice becomes daily bread.

Forgive my offenses, my serious failures to commit to the search for the disappeared and trafficked, for not being present with those in need of encouragement and support, for not comforting the lonely and wiping the tears of mothers, fathers, brothers, grandparents, friends who cry for their loved ones who are still missing and fate still unknown.

Free me from the temptation of indifference, from the temptation of false commitment from a comfortable life that takes me away from my brothers and sisters, from their cries for help, from their looks that seek in silences that scream 'help me!' as they pass in front of me, hand in hand with their perpetrator.

And give me the blessed and sacred grace of knowing how to stand next to the cross, next to the loneliness of those who, far from their relatives, know themselves to be kidnapped, sold, raped. Yes, Shepherd God, from my poor prayer of solidarity I wish to be there on the cross of those who feel abandoned by you. That in the whisper of his desperate silence he listens to You, as a distant memory; Make her feel that from your humanity you are deeply incarnated in her heart, keeping silence, fragile, vulnerable, knowing that you are outraged, waiting next to her, next to him, to be rescued and to reach a happy reunion with the one who loves her- loves him.

And may your Spirit impel me to love more radically so that my love becomes a commitment to justice and affects the transformation of unjust structures.. Amén...



Hna. Ma Juana Urbina Guerrero (México).