

# Reflection & Prayer

January 11th – February 8th, 2016

SISTERS  
OF ST. JOSEPH  
OF ORANGE+

St. Josephine Bakhita was born in southern Sudan in 1869. As a young girl, she was kidnapped and sold into slavery. She was treated brutally by her captors as she was sold and resold. She did not remember her name; Bakhita, which means “fortunate one,” was the name given to her by her kidnappers.

## Daily Prayer to End Human Trafficking

### Prayer to Saint Josephine Bakhita

God of goodness and mercy, rewarder of the humble, you blessed St. Josephine Bakhita of Sudan with charity and patience. May her prayers help us, and her example inspire us to carry our cross and to love you always. *(Say appropriate daily prayer)*

Pour upon us the spirit of wisdom and love with which you filled St. Josephine Bakhita, by serving you as she did, may we please you by our faith and our actions. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, Forever and ever. Amen.



<p><b>11</b> <b>National Human Trafficking Awareness Day</b> We pray for children who are deceived and transported to unknown places.</p>	<p><b>12</b> We pray for men who in search for work were betrayed, forgotten and feel ashamed to tell someone.</p>	<p><b>13</b> We pray for all the women, men and children around the world who were forced into slavery.</p>	<p><b>14</b> We pray for the men who value women and girls.</p>
<p><b>15</b> We pray for the young girl who was lured into leaving her home today.</p>	<p><b>16</b> We pray for the children enslaved in the garment industries around the world.</p>	<p><b>17</b> We pray for the survivors who are trying hard to start a new life.</p>	<p><b>18</b> We pray for the young Asian women enslaved at the local nail salon that someone you know frequently visits.</p>
<p><b>20</b> We pray for runaway teenager who is unaware that she has just been befriended by a pimp.</p>	<p><b>21</b> We pray for restaurant workers who we overlook as victims of forced labor.</p>	<p><b>22</b> We pray for the school age children who are bullied and are afraid to tell.</p>	<p><b>23</b> We pray for women who are abused by their partners and cannot get away.</p>
<p><b>25</b> We pray for the victims' hope and strength to live one more day.</p>	<p><b>26</b> We pray for those who are working hard to abolish human trafficking.</p>	<p><b>27</b> We pray for men who teach boys to respect women and girls.</p>	<p><b>28</b> We pray for the parents who cry for their missing child.</p>
<p><b>30</b> We pray for the girls forced into domestic servitude.</p>	<p><b>31</b> We pray for those who rescue victims of trafficking.</p>	<p><b>1</b> We pray for men and women enslaved in factories, fields and mines.</p>	<p><b>2</b> We pray for women and girls enslaved in sex trafficking at truck stops.</p>
<p><b>4</b> We pray for those who are rescued, but remain traumatized.</p>	<p><b>5</b> We pray for the immigrants who were captured by the traffickers at the U.S. Border.</p>	<p><b>6</b> We pray for the children exploited through pornography.</p>	<p><b>7</b> We pray for the women and children who will be sold today, Super Bowl Sunday.</p>
		<p><b>8</b> <b>Feast of St. Josephine Bakhita</b> We pray for the transformation of the hearts of traffickers.</p>	

# The Truth About Human Trafficking

## THE FACTS

- Traffickers sell women and children online **every day**.
- Sex and labor trafficking exists within diverse venues in our society including truck stops, strip clubs, fake massage parlors, **restaurants**, agriculture, online escort services, residential brothels, **city streets**, motels and **hotels**.
- The International Labor Organization (ILO) estimates there are **14.2 million people trapped in forced labor** in industries such as agriculture, construction, domestic work and manufacturing.
- Enslaved domestic workers can be found in **any neighborhood**. A neighbor/friend may be the only option he or she has to escape.

## HOW DOES HUMAN TRAFFICKING HAPPEN?

The Polaris Project tells us

- **Broken Trust:** Thirteen year-old Natalia was told by her parents she was moving to the U.S. She would be staying with family friends who would provide her with an education. In reality, they forced her into domestic servitude. Her parents had no idea.
- **Love Lost:** By the time she was 13, Denise had spent most of her life in and out of foster homes. She was desperate for the love and support of a parental figure. She found it in an older boyfriend in her neighborhood in Southern California. That boyfriend eventually convinced Denise to sell herself through prostitution. She was arrested multiple times, convicted, and sent to juvenile hall. Never once was she identified as a victim of human trafficking. Today, Denise struggles to find work because of her arrest record.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Share what you know about human trafficking with someone else.
- Find out what your church is doing to promote awareness.
- Ask your parish or school to host a speaker
- Visit Polaris website to recognize the signs of a trafficked victim and sign up to get alerts/updates: <https://polarisproject.org/recognize-signs>
- Learn the number to request help or report suspected human trafficking.

**Report a tip**

**888-3737-888**

**National Human  
Trafficking Hotline**