

Prayer to end the Trafficking of Human Beings

Lord of freedom and love,

We are saddened to know that more than one million people are trafficked into slavery each year.

The effects of contemporary slavery are felt in every country around the world. As your sons and daughters Father, we are tormented by this reality that will leave devastating repercussions for generations to come.

Our hearts grieve for what our minds can barely comprehend, particularly when we hear of women, men and children, who are deceived and transported to unknown places.

We recognise this sexual and economic exploitation occurs because of human greed and profit. We are sorrowful and our spirits angry, that human dignity is being degraded through deception and threats of force.

Help the violators to be transformed and enlightened to realise the scope of their unjust actions. Allow them to see the value and dignity of every person.

As people who serve the poor in a spirit of peace and justice we must protest this atrocity and work against the demeaning practice of human trafficking. Lord of life, strengthen those whose hearts have been broken and whose lives have been uprooted.

Give us the light, grace and courage to work with you so that we can all participate in the goodness of creation. Fill us with the wisdom and courage to stand in solidarity with the victims, so that we may all enjoy the freedoms and rights which have their source in our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son.

Amen

[From the Franciscan website: www.FranciscansInternational.org]