

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER AND AWARENESS AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING

8 February – Feast Day of St. Josephine Bakhita

God of freedom,

We pray that all people can journey through life with dignity.

We pray especially for those who are forced to live in slavery and captivity,

People who are treated as objects,

People whose humanity is crushed day in and day out.

We remember St Josephine Bakhita who died on Feb 8, 1947.

She was stolen by people traders from her home in Darfur at the age of 8

And forced to live for years as a slave.

She said 'the Lord has loved me so much; we must love everyone.

We must be compassionate.'

Josephine's story draws our attention to the thousands, if not millions,

Who live as slaves in our time.

May our compassion lead us to action.

As Moses led slaves to freedom,

May we too listen, dream and act,

For an end to human trafficking

And for peace and justice

To reign on earth.

Amen.



Pope Francis has designated 8th February, the feast of St Josephine Bakhita, as the [International Day of Prayer and Awareness Against Human Trafficking](#) following a request from Talitha Kum, the worldwide Network of Consecrated Life Against Human Trafficking.

["Journeying in Dignity - Listen, Dream, Act"](#) is the theme of the 2024 International Day of Prayer and Awareness Against Human Trafficking.

[ACRATH](#) invites you to participate in this event to help end human trafficking and slavery.