



Walking Together in Hope: A Prayer Against Human Trafficking

Introduction

Leader: This year's theme for the World Day of Prayer and Reflection against Human Trafficking is: Ambassadors of Hope, together against human trafficking. Let us begin our journey with courage, with hearts open to hope.

In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

First Part: Listening to the Word

Reader: From the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah (29:11-14)

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for peace and not for disaster, to give you a future full of hope. You will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart; I will let myself be found by you."

Moment of silence

Second Part: Testimonies of Hope

Leader: Let us now listen to a testimony of hope.

Reader: Leyla shares: "I am a mother of three children. Life seems perfect now, but it wasn't always like this. I left with the promise of better education, but I was deceived. After a long journey of recovery, I was able to rebuild my life. Now I am a healthcare worker and help other women who are victims of trafficking. I survived, and now I assist and defend my sisters."

Lighting of a candle

Prayers of Intercession

Leader: Let us pray together, saying: "Hear us, Lord of hope"

1. For all victims of human trafficking, that they may find the strength to break free and begin anew. Let us pray.

R: Hear us, Lord of hope

2. For those working to combat human trafficking, that they may never tire in their pursuit of justice. Let us pray.

R: Hear us, Lord of hope

3. For Christian communities, that they may be places of welcome and support. Let us pray.

R: Hear us, Lord of hope

Final Prayer

Our Father...

O God our Father, who in your mercy guided Saint Josephine Bakhita from slavery to freedom, grant that we too may walk with hope alongside those who suffer. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

May the Lord bless us, free us from all forms of slavery, and guide us to the fullness of life.

Saint Daniel Comboni, Saint Bakhita, pray for us.

Mary, faithful woman, accompany us on our journey. Amen.