



February 8, 2021 ... International Day of Prayer and Awareness Against Human Trafficking

dimanche 7 février 2021, par [Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny](#)

... an economy without human trafficking is an economy that values and cares for the human being and nature, is inclusive and does not exploit the most vulnerable. ([IDPHT website](#))

8 February, VII World Day of Prayer against Trafficking

Pope Francis has implored us to “promote a new way of thinking about human beings, life, society and our relationship with nature”. (Laudato Si : On Care for Our Common Home, Pope Francis, #215, 2015.) If we accept this invitation and open ourselves to living more simply and compassionately, and to challenging our economic and political leaders, our economic models may finally begin to eliminate the differences between privilege and poverty. If we choose not to accept this invitation, the liberation of the oppressed that Jesus calls for in Luke’s Gospel will be difficult, if not impossible, to be realized. ([IDPHT website](#))

PDF :



2021 Prayer

More information :

[The International Day of Prayer and Awareness Against Human Trafficking](#)



Saint Josephine Bakhita Feast Day 8 February

Born c. 1869 in Olgossa, Darfur, Sudan



Died 8 February 1947, Italy

Year of beatification 1992 (17 May)

Year of canonisation 2000 (1 October)

St Josephine Bakhita, also known as 'Mother Moretta' (our Black Mother) bore 144 physical scars throughout her life which were received after she was kidnapped at the age of nine and sold into slavery.

Such was the trauma experienced that she forgot her birth name and her kidnappers gave her the name Bakhita meaning 'fortunate'. Flogging and maltreatment were part of her daily life. She experienced the moral and physical humiliations associated with slavery. It was only in 1882 that her suffering was alleviated after she was bought for the Italian Consul. This event was to transform her life. In this family and, subsequently in a second Italian home, she received from her masters, kindness, respect, peace and joy. Josephine came to discover love in a profound way even though at first she was unable to name its source. A change in her owner's circumstances meant that she was entrusted to the Canossian Sisters of the Institute of the Catechumens in Venice. It was there that Bakhita came to know about God whom, 'she had experienced in her heart without knowing who He was' since she was a child. She was received into the Catholic Church in 1890, joining the sisters and making final profession in 1896. The next fifty years of her life were spent witnessing to God's love through cooking, sewing, embroidery and attending to the door. When she was on door duty, she would gently lay her hands on the heads of the children who attended the nearby school and caress them. Her voice was pleasing to the little ones, comforting to the poor and suffering. She was a source of encouragement. Her constant smile won people's hearts, as did her humility and simplicity. As she grew older she experienced long, painful years of sickness, but she continued to persevere in hope, constantly choosing the good. When visited and asked how she was, she'd respond : 'As the Master desires'. During her last days she relived the painful days of her slavery and more than once begged : 'Please, loosen the chains... they are heavy !'. Surrounded by the sisters, she died on 8 February 1947. (from ['an economy without human trafficking'](#))

Sisters of St. Joseph of Cluny

[Slavery of our Time](#)



[Blessed Anne Marie javouhey : Route of the Abolition of Slavery](#)

