

## PRAYER FOR 2020 WORLD DAY AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS



### Our Theme:

May our prayer lead us to act against human trafficking

### SEE:

Does human trafficking still exist in the world? Does it occur in our country?

The International Labour Organization (ILO) estimates that there are more than 40 million people in our world today who are victims of human trafficking.

- Some are women and men trafficked into forced labour in factories, agricultural fields, hospitality and domestic servitude;
- Some are children trafficked to pick our coffee or to work in dangerous mines for minerals to make our mobile phones, other electronic goods and cosmetics;
- Some are young girls, boys and women trafficked into sexual exploitation in brothels, dance bars and the pornography industry.
- The current Covid-19 crisis is impacting on people most vulnerable to trafficking because they often live in poverty and lack suitable housing and healthcare.

**Forced labour and human trafficking happens in every country including Australia.**

**It is a billion dollar industry.**

**Yet behind all the statistics is a human person and their story.**

### JUDGE:

How might a good citizen, who is also a Christian, view issues of human trafficking?

**The United Nations** affirms that trafficking in persons is a serious crime and a grave violation of human rights, which threatens national security and undermines sustainable development and the rule of law.

No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and servitude shall be prohibited in all their forms.

Article 4 Universal Declaration of Human Rights

<https://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights>

**Pope Francis** says that human trafficking is without doubt, a crime against humanity for its violation of human dignity and freedom. Trafficking constitutes an unjustifiable violation of the freedom and dignity of the victims.. This is why it is considered a crime against humanity. Trafficking seriously damages humanity as a whole, tearing apart the human family and the Body of Christ.

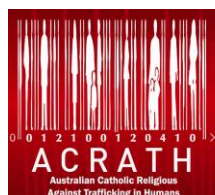
ACRATH's work is inspired by Jesus who said: "I have come that all may have life and have it to the full." John 10:10.

**Our vision is of a world free of human trafficking**

### Wisdom from the Prophet Micah 6:8

This is what the LORD requires, this is what is sought and longed for, only this – that you act justly, love tenderly and walk humbly with your God.

**In what ways do the views of these leaders who work to address present challenges speak to you on this 2020 World Day Against Trafficking in Persons?**



[www.acrath.org.au](http://www.acrath.org.au)

People are NOT for sale

## Our Theme:

May our prayer lead us to act against human trafficking

### ACT:

What will you do personally or with others to stop human trafficking?

#### Some specific actions to consider and discuss:

- Become an ethical consumer of coffee, chocolate, fashion and electronic goods etc;
- Ensure your school/workplace staff room and your own kitchen use only slavery free products;
- Talk with 4-5 friends or family members about the issue of human trafficking;
- Check out the following website to further educate yourself- <https://acrath.org.au/>;
- Arrange a display or forum to raise awareness of the extent of the crime of human trafficking in and beyond Australia;
- Put a notice in the school/parish bulletin about 2020 World Day Against Trafficking in Persons;
- Organize a fund-raising activity to support ACRATH's work against human trafficking;
- Organize a letter-writing campaign asking federal politicians to support groups such as ACRATH to work with victims of human trafficking in Australia.

#### Praying together for an end to human trafficking:

Loving God, it's hard to express what our minds can hardly comprehend or our hearts feel when we learn of people like us being trafficked because of human greed.

**Response: May our prayer and actions cast light on the crime of human trafficking and help bring it to an end.**

*It's difficult to hear of people being threatened, deceived and forced into sexual exploitation or forced labour. **Response***

We remember all who have been trafficked and robbed of their God-given dignity, that they will be strengthened by love and support that is tender and good. **Response**

*Give us faith and courage to stand in solidarity with all trafficked persons that together we will find the freedom that is your gift and thus create a safer world. **Response***

**Other prayers may be added at this time.....**

#### SONGS YOU MIGHT LIKE TO USE

<https://acrath.org.au/resources/videos/> Can You See Me?

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r\\_9DI5XQyKI&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r_9DI5XQyKI&feature=youtu.be)

**Let There Be Light** – Steph Macleod, Featuring Becky Dawson



#### A FINAL FREEDOM BLESSING FOR OUR COMMON LIFE:

God of today and tomorrow, may there be blessings of true justice for us and for all people who have been trafficked. **ALL: AMEN**

God of each one's story, may there be blessings of tender love for us and for all who have been trafficked into abuse and sufferings. **ALL: AMEN**

God we are so small, give us your Light and help us humbly remember that you love and cherish each person and that we are all your children. **ALL: AMEN**