

*The Ayme*

**ISSUE 3**  
WEEK STARTING  
4 February 2019

*The Ayme* is a weekly resource sheet produced by Loreto Ministries for use in schools and associated ministries throughout Australia and South-East Asia. It is primarily a resource for staff who are then invited to adapt material for members of their community.



### **Special Edition**

**Preparation for International Day of Prayer and Reflection  
against Human Trafficking.  
8 February 2019**

*As we conclude Mary Ward Week 2019 we strive to deepen our commitment to her virtues of freedom, felicity, justice, sincerity and verity in our daily lives. It has been great to hear of schools commencing their year with input and reflection on sincerity, the Loreto Schools virtue for 2019. As we move into February we prepare for days of significance on national and global calendars such as the Anniversary of the Apology to the Stolen Generations and the Feast of St Josephine Bakhita, patron of victims of human trafficking. Marked on*

*February 8<sup>th</sup> this latter feast has been highlighted by our desk at the United Nations for special focus. The IBVM Network to Stop Human Trafficking encourages the whole Mary Ward Family to a Global Experience of Prayer and Action. Please start to consider ways that Human Trafficking is specifically addressed in our prayer and action on 8 February or as near to that day as possible. I look forward to highlighting our corporate commitment to this justice issue in our first edition of Loreto Networker for 2019.*

*Sr Wendy Hildebrand ibvm*

*February 1, 2019*



## CONTEXT

On 8 February we mark the World Day of Prayer and Action against Human Trafficking. This day was chosen by the Pope because it is the feast day of St Josephine Bakhita, patron saint of Sudan and victims of slavery. Josephine Bakhita was kidnapped as a child from Africa and sold into slavery in the Sudan and in Italy before being freed and becoming a Canossian Sister.

You are invited to join the Loreto network to mark this day with prayer, awareness-raising and action.

[Fantastic Context for St Josephine Bakhita Day](#)

We join with networks across our land in marking this significant day. This link is to CathNews' recent report on the call of Catholic Leaders to end slavery.

[Leaders Call for End to Slavery](#)

## **IBVM CORPORATE STANCE ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

*All members of the Loreto network: students, staff, board members, Sisters and Friends of Loreto are invited to re-commit to the stance on human trafficking framed at the General Congregation in Spain in 2014. Here is the text and a list of suggested responses:*

As members of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary, an international and multicultural congregation of women religious, we pledge to work for the eradication of all forms of human trafficking and its causes, particularly among women and children, wherever we live and minister.

The issue:

Human trafficking is a modern day form of slavery wounding women, men and children around the globe by recruiting, harbouring or transporting them by force, fraud or coercion. It is the second largest crime in the world generating billions of dollars for traffickers while victimizing millions of people some as young as four years of age. **An estimated 20.9 million women, men and children worldwide are victims of international traffickers. This number reflects those within our borders and across international borders.** Victims can be found in domestic servitude, commercial sex industry, hotel and restaurant services, sweatshops, construction, agriculture, mail order brides, child soldiers, panhandling, as well as, the harvesting of organs and illegal adoptions. This crime will continue to exist as long as the demand is high and financially profitable for the traffickers.

*Human trafficking exists in all the places where IBVM members, associates and co-workers live and minister. IBVM members are working with others in education, advocacy, prevention, prayer and other ways to address the issue of human trafficking. We add our voice and actions to those of many other religious congregations and civil society NGOs.*

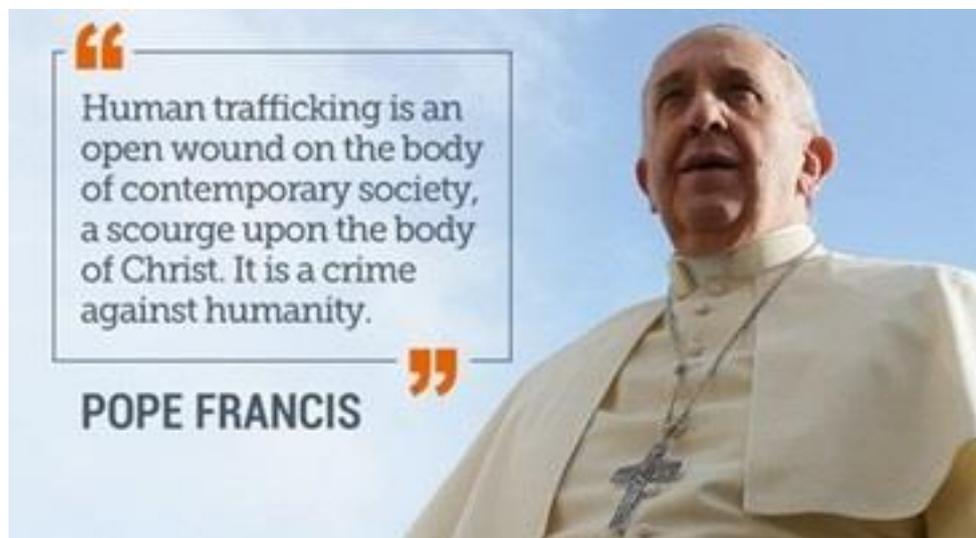
Some Suggested Responses

- praying for victims and survivors of human trafficking as well as the perpetrators
- becoming better educated about the issues related to human trafficking and by raising awareness with others – among members, associates and in our ministries
- educating first responders to victims e.g. emergency room employees, social workers, police, etc.
- collaborating with organisations who work with victims/survivors of human trafficking by networking, advocating for them, providing human services and giving financial support and housing when possible.
- supporting legislation in one's country regarding human trafficking.

- engaging in advocacy efforts related to human trafficking e.g. writing letters and/or phone calls to legislators, vigils, use of media, meeting with political leaders
- advocating to get human trafficking education into the curriculum in schools, including education on the different aspects of human trafficking, especially in schools
- examining our purchase practices – use of slave free products
- learning about our financial investments and the stance of the managers and companies as regards human trafficking
- keeping a record of our Province efforts on human trafficking and sharing them and those of the representative at the United Nations with Institute members and others every six months for the purpose of our own country and region
- working toward systemic change, especially in the area of prevention.

GC 2014, Loyola Spain

## POPE FRANCIS



Our faith requires us to intervene, to take steps in favour of those who are currently exploited and to prevent others from entering slavery or being trafficked:

*We ought to recognize that we are facing a global phenomenon which exceeds the competence of any one community or country. In order to eliminate it, we need a mobilization comparable in size to that of the phenomenon itself. For this reason I urgently appeal to all men and women of good will ... not to become accomplices to this evil, not to turn away from the sufferings of our brothers and sisters, our fellow human beings, who are deprived of their freedom and dignity.*

*The globalization of indifference, which today burdens the lives of so many of our brothers and sisters, requires all of us to forge a new worldwide solidarity and fraternity capable of giving them new hope and helping them to advance with courage amid the problems of our time and the new horizons which they disclose and which God places in our hands.*

*Pope Francis, World Peace Day Message 2015*

### **IBVM AT THE UNITED NATIONS**

Check out Website, Facebook and Twitter presence of our Mary Ward network at the United Nations. Terrific up-to-date resources on a variety of justice issues, including human trafficking:

Website: [ibvmunngo.org](http://ibvmunngo.org)

FB: Loreto Ibvm Ngo

Twitter: [#ibvmun](https://twitter.com/ibvmun)

### **LORETO AUSTRALIA AND SOUTH EAST ASIA**

The Australian Province supports the work of ACRATH with financial and human resources. Here is their one-stop-shop of amazing resources to mark February 8<sup>th</sup>. We are so grateful to the ACRATH team for their fidelity to this justice issue. Please consider subscribing to their Newsletter, use their resources in the classroom and justice groups:

[ACRATH Resources for February 8](#)

### **MARY WARD PEOPLE AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

Meet English IBVM Sister, Imelda Poole [ibvm](#), who was awarded an MBE last year for her work against the trafficking in humans. Here are a few video resources outlining Imelda's commitment on both spiritual and ministerial levels:

[50 minute Talk in 2018](#)

[14 minutes talk at UN in 2016](#)

[10 minutes interview in 2018](#)

[2018 Interview](#)

## ACTION

Make ethical decisions when purchasing:

[Tuna](#)

[Chocolate](#)

[Clothes](#)

[Ethical Purchase Guide](#)

[Baptist Ethical Purchase Guide](#)

## CATHOLIC ORGANISATIONS AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING

**ACRATH** Australian Catholic Religious Against Human Trafficking  
[www.acrath.org.au](http://www.acrath.org.au)

**RENATE** **Religious in Europe Networking Against Trafficking and Exploitation**  
<http://renate-europe.net>

*“Working tirelessly to rehabilitate victims, free the world of sexual and labour exploitation, slavery and forced organ harvesting.”*

It was established by a group of religious representing several different congregations working against human trafficking in Europe. Renate network with Talitha Kum which is the International network of sisters working against trafficking in person. Renate also collaborates with many other networks within and outside Europe. *Networking is the strength of RENATE.* **RENATE has extended her network to 31 countries in Europe with 139 anti-trafficking networks. Loreto Sister, Imelda Poole ibvm is the co-ordinator of this brilliant organisation.**

**TALITHA KUM** [www.talithakum.info](http://www.talithakum.info)

Talitha Kum is an international network of Consecrated Life against trafficking in persons. Working as a network facilitates collaboration and the interchange of information between consecrated men and women in 76 countries.

Talita Kum was founded in 2009. It arose from the shared desire to coordinate and strengthen the already existing activities against trafficking undertaken by consecrated persons in the five continents.

Talita Kum is a network of networks, organized in many different ways, each promoting initiatives against trafficking in persons in their particular contexts and cultures.

It is a project of the International Union of Superiors General (UISG), in collaboration with the Union of Superiors General (USG).

### FEAST OF ST JOSEPHINE BAKHITA PRAYERS



[Prayer Resources on Trafficking](#)

**Prayer from Archdiocese of Sydney**

We pray for the victims of human trafficking that they may be brought to freedom and rebuild their lives after the traumatic experiences they have suffered.

We pray that St Josephine Bakhita, sold into slavery as a child, intercedes with God for those trapped in a state of slavery, so that they will be released from the shackles of captivity.

We pray for all those who are dedicated to eradicating modern slavery and human trafficking that they will have the courage and strength to reach out and overcome all challenges.

We pray that by our actions as consumers we always reject as gravely wrong any goods or services tainted with slavery.

We pray for our governments that their laws will protect victims of human trafficking and reject goods and services from sources associated with slavery and forced labour.

We pray that the Church will continue to defend and free victims of human trafficking and be a source of love, hope and faith to bring the vulnerable and enslaved to find healing for their wounds.

St Josephine Bakhita, pray for us.

**Prayer for Primary School Audience**

God of justice,  
you want all people to live in freedom.

With all friends of Mary Ward we mark this day to learn about slavery in our world.

Stay close to all men, women and children who are forced to work and live in terrible conditions and against their will.

Help all leaders to work for a world where people support each other and love each other.

May we use our minds and hearts to learn more about St Josephine Bakhita and follow her call to help all people live with dignity, happiness and hope.

We make this and all our prayers in Your Most Holy Name, Amen.

## SIMPLE ACTIONS FOR SCHOOLS

- \*Post relevant material on Facebook and Twitter related to your school's actions on February 8 – or re-post relevant material from another FB post or Twitter feed. *Loreto Australia and South East Asia* will have a relevant post.
- \*Leave facts and discussion starters on tables in the staff dining room – [Graphics, visuals and stats about trafficking](#)
- \*Subscribe to ACRATH
- \*Purchase an ACRATH Calendar
- \*Research the Modern Slavery legislation introduced into Federal Parliament last year, especially the implications for school trips overseas
- \*Investigate supply chains of your school/community/workplace
- \*Ensure that social justice student and staff leaders are familiar with the IBVM stance on human trafficking and the work of ACRATH
- \*Ensure that the topic of human trafficking/modern slavery has a place in the formal curriculum in an integrated manner
- \*Promote a slave-free Easter at your school and among your families
- \*Celebrate ethical shopping – profile goods in internal communication forums