

July Prayer Theme from the Social Concerns Prayer Team

Human Trafficking and Modern-Day Slavery



Human trafficking is bigger than many people realize. It includes forced marriage, forced criminal activity, forced labor, and sexual exploitation. In 2024 alone, the National Human Trafficking Hotline identified nearly 12,000 trafficking situations involving more than 21,000 potential victims in the United States. Worldwide, an estimated 50 million people are living in conditions of modern slavery. Children are among the most vulnerable victims, especially in cases of sexual exploitation.

For Catholics, human trafficking is a grave sin because every person is created in the image and likeness of God and possesses a dignity that can never be bought, sold, or exploited. Through force, fraud, coercion, and abuse, victims are stripped of their freedom and treated as commodities rather than beloved children of God.

The Catholic Church condemns all forms of human trafficking and modern slavery. As followers of Christ, we pray for victims and survivors, for the conversion of traffickers, and for an end to all forms of exploitation.

Let our prayers effect their rescue and be their hope.

Prayer for Victims of Human Trafficking and Slavery

Blessed Mother, your heart grieves for all those trapped in human trafficking and modern-day slavery.

Wrap them in your loving mantle, comfort them in their suffering, and guide them from fear and exploitation into freedom and safety.

Watch over your children whose dignity has been so cruelly violated. Intercede for their healing and protection, strengthen those who work to rescue and support them, and pray for the conversion of those who traffic and exploit others.

Our Lady, Mother of Compassion, be their refuge, their comfort, and their hope.

Amen

***"Learn to do good; seek justice, rescue the oppressed."
Isaiah 1:17***



A Call to Prayer: Join the Social Concerns Prayer Team

Do you carry in your heart a deep compassion for those who are suffering—physically, emotionally, spiritually, or financially? For those living in poverty, without shelter, or burdened by loneliness?

The **Mary Queen Social Concerns Ministry** walks alongside many who are hurting and broken. We now invite our parish community to become prayerful companions in this ministry by lifting up these beloved children of God to the Lord in prayer.

As a member of the Social Concerns Prayer Team, you will receive regular emails with specific names, intentions, monthly prayer themes, and Scripture passages to guide your intercession. There are no meetings—only a shared spiritual commitment to pray intentionally, from your own home and on your own schedule.

Let us unite in prayer, trusting that our Loving God hears the cries of the poor and works through the faithful prayers of His people. To join or learn more, please contact Chris at chrisaustgen@maryqueenchurch.org or 281-482-1391.