

**JOURNEYING  
WITH CHRIST  
IN HOPE AND TRUST**

# Ursuline Newsletter

4045 Indian Road, Toledo, OH • Vol. 48 No. 1 • January 2024

## *Leadership Corner by Sr. Joy*

As I celebrated the birth of Jesus at Christmas, I found myself being grateful for God's gift of his only Son to show his love for me. How affirming to know how deeply God loves me and each of us.

During Advent a commentary I prayed with stated: "Spiritual insight sees with the eyes of the heart. The glitter that decks the halls triggers our love for the beauty of the earth. Our family and friends gathered around the tree and at the table reflect the dignity of our common humanity made in the image of God. When love illuminates, beholding follows - and then Christmas wonder and gratitude linger all year long." By Father Richard M. Gula

Now that the Christmas holiday is past and we move into a new year there is much to ponder about what will be in 2024. How do we take the wonder of Christmas with us as we move into the New Year so that we can deal with the challenges to be faced: wars and conflicts, senseless violence; spoken words that bring threats and harm to others; our seeming inability to work together to resolve differences?

**GOD**  
*loves*  
**ME**

I have an affirmation I pray that says: "God loves me unconditionally, unreservedly, wholeheartedly, and enthusiastically and that's how I love myself." UNCONDITIONALLY, UNRESERVEDLY, WHOLEHEARTEDLY, AND

ENTHUSIASTICALLY! That's a lot of love! Can it be true? I believe it can because there is no other reason for God to give his son, Jesus, for our salvation. This affirmation helps me to remember God's love and care which is stronger and more faithful than I am.

One way to show God my love for him is by being positive about me. Loving me as God loves me! This isn't always a simple matter because, as a human being, I have weaknesses and faults which get in the way of my loving God. I falter and waver and need to find my way back to my focus on God's love for me. It is possible if I am willing to ask God's help along the way, each and every day.

In this New Year I will try daily to be faithful to loving myself as much as God loves me so that I may share His love with others and hopefully make their day just a bit better. I invite you to join me and together we will make our world a better place to be.



## **Feast of St. Angela**

**Sunday, January 28, 2024**

**11 a.m. Liturgy**

**followed by Dinner.**

**Ursuline Center**

**Sisters and Associates  
are invited.**

*Please RSVP to Val at  
vmyers@ursulinecenter.org or  
419-536-9587 by January 21.*



## Rest In Peace

**Mary Jane Devlin**, SUA '54 ~ September 10, 2021

**Michael Lora**, husband of Mary Patricia Hirons Lora, SUA '65; MMC '69 ~ November 15

**David Dibling**, father of Karen Dibling Taylor, SUA '93 ~ November 25

**Susan Cavalear**, mother of Linda Cavalear Rava, SUA '76 ~ November 25

**Lynda Blase Perlman**, SUA '65; mother of Kristyn Perlman Kaplan, SUA '91; Arika Perlman Sinnott, SUA '92 and sister of Kathy Blase Sattler, SUA '69 ~ November 26

**John Durback**, husband of Debby Sominski Durback SUA '71 ~ November 27

**Nancy Peters**, mother of Associate Kathy Sarver ~ November 30

**Arthur Blanchard**, M.D., father of Mary Jo Blanchard Milbank, SUA '64; Jane Blanchard Weirich, SUA '66; Connie Blanchard Sullivan, SUA '68; Barbara Blanchard Murtagh, SUA '70; Denise Blanchard Gardner, SUA '73; Jeanne Blanchard Hanlon, SUA '76 and Patricia Blanchard Martin, SUA '79 ~ December 4

**James Strasser**, husband of Patricia Boyer Strasser, SUA '63; father of Lori Strasser Marine, SUA '86; and Lisa Strasser Krebs, SUA '92 – December 14

**Rev. Martin Nassr**, Retired Priest of the Diocese of Toledo ~ December 14

**Odessa Rowan**, mother of Charelle Rowan, SUA '83 ~ December 16

**David Picott**, son of Rose Marie Zywocki Picott, SUA '57 ~ December 17

**Catherine Link Cappelletty**, SUA '59 ~ December 19

**Janice Ann Young**, twin sister of Sr. Janice Ann Brown, MMC '73 ~ December 19

**Mary Frances Nolan Russell**, former Ursuline and niece of Sr. Gertrude Marie Conroy ~ December 23

**Elizabeth "Betsy" Gallagher Fried**, SUA '64 ~ December 24

**Russel Shaffer**, father of Lisa Shaffer Mullen, SUA '89 and brother of Barb Shaffer Nichols, SUA '72 ~ December 25

**Richard Terry**, Sr. Donna Frey's niece's father-in-law ~ December 25

**James Troknya**, brother of Julia Troknya Mahoney, SUA '57; MMC '61; Mary Troknya Smith, SUA '67 and Patricia Troknya Wittenberg, SUA '71 ~ December 27

**Rev. Frederick Schill**, Senior Status Priest of the Diocese of Toledo ~ December 28

**Sr. Loretta Mitchell**, Ursuline Sister of Chatham, Ontario ~ December 30

**Gregory Berning**, brother of Audrey Berning-Matell, SUA '74; Helen Berning Davis, SUA '77; Diane Berning Haupricht, SUA '79; Juliette Berning Schaefer, SUA '81 and Louise Berning Maxwell, SUA '86 ~ December 30

**Bernard Marvin**, husband of Theresa Gonnella Marvin, SUA '58 ~ December 30

**Sr. Mary Kuhlman**, OSF/T ~ January 1

**Sr. Anne Cecile Muldoon**, Ursuline Sister of Cleveland ~ January 4

**Sr. Nancy Johnson**, OSF/S ~ January 4

**Mary Patricia Stiff Ludwikowski**, mother of Lesley Ludwikowski Ansama, SUA '98; Melissa Ludwikowski Kennedy, SUA '01 and sister of Catherine Stiff Bush, MMC '74 ~ January 6

June 2023 -  
June 2024:

## The Parish Year Eucharistic Revival



During the many months when I was laid up, from Christmas to June, there were many weeks when I could not go to Mass. I would look forward to Tuesdays and Fridays when our Eucharistic ministers would bring me Holy Communion. They would stay and pray quite a while with me.

These weekly visits were the “high lights” of my illness. Now I really delight in receiving the Holy Eucharist daily.

~ Sr. Margaret Anne Carstensen

## A Prayer for Human Trafficking Awareness Month

God of liberation, we pray for all your children who are enslaved by human trafficking.

Free them from their bondage, heal them of their wounds, protect them from further harm, turn the hearts of their oppressors, and sustain them with hope for a new beginning in safety and peace.

Amen.

from “Alliance to End Human Trafficking”



## Community Christmas Donations



The needs are many at this time of year. The Ursuline Convent has made the following donations to the following organizations:

- Water by Women - \$200
- Helping Hands of St. Louis - \$400
- Seagate Food Bank - \$200
- Labre – SUA - \$200
- Logistic Assistance for Migrant People (LAMP), Archbold, OH - \$500
- Mom’s House- \$500

## NEW NAMES

US Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking is now “Alliance to End Human Trafficking”

Water with Blessings is now “Water by Women”

## Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the February 2024 newsletter is Wednesday, January 24. Please send your stories to Michelle at [mscazero@ursulinecenter.org](mailto:mscazero@ursulinecenter.org).



## Pray with the Ursulines: Communication Tape

It is recorded Mondays, Wednesdays  
and Fridays.

Call 419-536-9375.





## Associate News by Debbie Bercher and Jess Gamby

Debbie and I would like to take a moment to share what being a part of the Associate leadership team means to us, and what we are seeking for 2024 to continue the Associate Program and ministry of the Ursuline Sisters.

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When I reflect on my own history with the Ursuline Sisters, a few events in my life immediately come to mind. And, yet, through all the good times and bad I felt the Ursuline presence and, especially, their continuous support. It's never easy to lose people you love but through two heartfelt losses in my life the Sisters, through their interactions with me, whether checking in with me and my loved ones, through care provided at the Ursuline Center, or through their prayers, showed the ministry of St. Angela at work in every encounter. In addition, I am blessed with a friendship and family presence of Sr. Margaret Anne who keeps my husband's memory alive for me through conversation and the love she shows for me.

My privilege to co-lead the Ursuline Associates for the last couple of years has been another blessing for me. When I first considered taking on this role I wasn't sure if I was cut out for it. But, once again, through the constant support of the Sisters and encouragement from other Associates, especially the support and encouragement from my co-leader, Jess, I feel blessed. To see the faces of the Sisters and Associates enjoying a planned luncheon, winning a raffle prize or just sitting at a table enjoying conversations at different events causes me to feel God's presence in it all and I am grateful. It has been an opportunity to live and minister as St. Angela asks us to in our everyday lives.

The 'Concluding Prayer' of the Prayer of Commitment comes to mind:

*Lord, let us see your gift of love in each of our Sisters and Associates, knowing that in their company our lives will be enriched now and forever. Amen.*

**- Debbie Bercher**

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I was asked to take on the co-leader role as the Ursuline Center was closing. I knew I wanted to stay connected

and felt honored that I was invited to take on this role, yet I had so many emotions. I knew it would not be without its challenges, but the pros definitely outweighed any fears or inhibitions I had about taking on this role. I also knew I would not be alone in this mission. I would have the Sisters, Ursuline Associates and Debbie Bercher by my side along the way for support.

I had so many questions. One question being, "How would we keep the Associate Program going without the Center?" I think we have proven the spirit of St. Angela and the bond of our Sisters and Associates was more than just the building that was keeping us connected. Together we have found ways to stay connected with one another through special masses, prayer, dinners, events, and activities. It is wonderful that we can still have gatherings there, but in the end, it was just a building. Though it held and still holds many memories for us, it is the relationship with one another that continues to grow and will forever be in our hearts. It has been a privilege and an honor to serve as co-leader with Debbie the past couple of years, but I feel in my heart it is time to pass that on to someone else. All of you have so many gifts and talents to share, and we know that this position will be handled with care by the next set of co-leaders.

**- Jess Gamby**

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It's a new year, and we are seeking new leadership for the Associates. Debbie and I have greatly enjoyed our time as co-leaders for the Associates, but we feel it is time to give others a chance in the role to bring new ideas and inspiration to the Associate Program. We have a great group of Associates and are thankful for everything everyone has done to carry on the ministry of the Sisters and the spirit of St. Angela. We thank you for your support during our time in the leadership roles. We would not have been able to do it without all of you. If you are interested and want to learn more about what the role entails, please contact Deb and Jess by either phone or email. We would be happy to answer any questions you may have. We look forward to hearing from you and bringing new leadership to the Associate Program.



## Associate Updates

**Christmas Luncheon** – This year's Christmas luncheon for Sisters and Associates was attended by a crowd of 40 people that included both Sisters and Associates. Olive Garden soups, salads and breadsticks were enjoyed by all. Delicious homemade desserts were provided by some of the Associates and were a great addition to our luncheon. Gift cards, seasonal throws and a lottery ticket tree were raffled off. Winners were smiling!

**Foundation Day** – Foundation Day was held on December 12. Attendees had time to reflect on 169 years of Ursuline ministry with vespers, a wonderful supper and, as always, great conversation.

**Feast of St. Angela** – The Feast of St. Angela will be celebrated on Sunday, January 28 with an 11 a.m. liturgy followed by a luncheon. Please call or email Val at 419-536-9587 or [ymyers@ursulinecenter.org](mailto:ymyers@ursulinecenter.org) by January 21 to RSVP. Hope you can join us for this celebration of St. Angela.

**Valentine's Day** – As in the past we plan to remember the Sisters in care facilities in some small way. If you would like to help with this please contact one of us to let us know you are interested in doing so. February will be here before we know it!

**Dinner Get Together** - We plan to gather for another dinner at Jing Chuan - date yet to be determined but most likely in March or April. Please watch the newsletter and Communication Tape for details.

**Afternoon Reflection** - Another afternoon of reflection is being planned for spring. Please watch the newsletter and Communication Tape for details on date and time.

**New Associates** - As mentioned last month we currently have one new Associate candidate beginning her mentoring. Do you know someone who has expressed an interest in the ministries of the Ursuline Sisters? Our new flyers are printed and ready to be distributed to someone you think may be interested in the Associate ministry. Please see Michelle for copies and feel free to share one. Also, please encourage them to check out our website, stay in touch with them and encourage them to join us. As our numbers grow so can our ministry as Associates.

**Newsletter Writers** – As always WE STILL NEED YOU!! Please consider helping us out with this. Your story can be as simple as a one or two line reflection on your personal experience with the Ursuline Sisters, your spiritual experience as an Ursuline Associate, or your personal reflection on St. Angela. We ask that articles are no longer than one page. Consider sharing your experiences with all of us.

We wish all of you a very blessed New Year!

Debbie and Jess

[ursulineassociates@ursulinecenter.org](mailto:ursulineassociates@ursulinecenter.org)

*St. Angela, you gave yourself to God and to others in unselfish love. Help us to so live our lives that we may be living signs of God's love.*

(from "Invocations To St. Angela," The Song of Our Heart)



**CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON  
2023**

# LCWR Participates in

## IV Latin American and Caribbean Congress of Religious Life

by Sue Ernster, FSPA

During the Thanksgiving holiday, I had the privilege and opportunity to travel to Bogota, Colombia to participate in the 2023 Confederation of Latin American and Caribbean Religious (CLAR) congress with Kathy Brazda, CSJ; Veronica Ramirez, OP; and Carol Zinn, SSJ. This experience of encuentro was one of the best I've had.

With limited Spanish, I was nervous about communication; however, translators were available for major presentations. Besides the spoken word, we communicated through hugs, smiles, and other efforts of engagement. Appreciation was expressed when participants attempted to speak the others' language.

Together at the congress, we experienced an aspect of the global church – one of unity and joy. Participants were invited throughout to be artisans of care and to commit to six others Cs of care: creation, compassion, community, contemplation, communication, and celebration.

The support of one another in religious life while attempting to “live the mission which has a church” was especially evident in the work of immigration as

well in our common concerns about vocations, member care, and governance. The unity I experienced was a sign of hope -- a sign of what God is calling us to do together as religious. The witness and desire for more collaboration and support enlivened me with a spirit of hope.

by Verónica Esparza Ramírez, OP

What a joy to be among those chosen to participate in the IV CLAR Congress “Religious Life Artisan of Care” that took place in Bogotá, Colombia on November 24-26, 2023!

Amid hugs, greetings, smiles, songs, and flags of the countries, the great celebration of Encounter began. My heart was filled with joy to see a church in its Latin American people alive and inclusive.

Breaking bread not only in the Eucharist but at various times: venturing forth toward the stranger, sharing realities, dreams and challenges, prayer, reflection and deepening the commitment to walk together with the God of History. Such were expressions of communion and synodality.

This experience was a call to inclusion and to rediscover the face of Jesus in the marginalized brother and sister. It was an invitation to open my heart to the voices that challenge me every day to be a true artisan of Care in all its dimensions, recognizing God as the Great Caregiver.

I feel grateful because despite the great global challenges, the Holy Spirit continues to blow, calling us to Hope. THE TIME IS NOW!



*Elizabeth Ann Guerrero, executive director of ALHMA (2nd); Carol Zinn, SSJ (3rd); Kathy Brazda, CSJ (4th); Sue Ernster, FSPA (5th); Verónica Esparza Ramírez, OP (6th)*



*From the LCWR Executive Director*

## Blessed Advent, Happy Hanukkah, Joyful Christmas, Meaningful Kwanzaa, Happy New Year

by Carol Zinn, SSJ — LCWR Executive Director

**M**indful of the myriad realities within, around, and beyond us, and attentive to the rhythm of Advent longing, Hanukkah remembering, Christmas yearning, Kwanzaa celebrating, and New Year hoping, I found myself faced with a question as I sat to write these words of reflection: What to say? In a world mired in war and suffering? In a church struggling to walk a synodal path? In a country steeped in polarization on multiple levels? In neighborhoods plagued by gun violence? In religious institutes engaged in unprecedented challenges? And in our interior selves, desiring to be faithful and hopeful, even now - especially now.

Each Advent I reread the 1980 book, *Kneeling in Bethlehem*, by Ann Weems which takes me on a journey from Advent to Christmas to the New Year. In her prose and poetry, I continue to find an articulation of deep faith and enlivened hope. I offer two excerpts from her book in hopes that you find balm for your spirit and myrrh for your soul. The hopes, dreams, principles, and values found deep in the human heart seem to echo in the author's words.

I also offer a musical "[World Blessing](#)" produced during the COVID pandemic which is perhaps even more relevant for December 2023.



### Christmas Comes

Christmas comes every time we see God in other persons.

The human and the holy meet in Bethlehem or on a street corner or in a parking lot, for Christmas comes like a golden storm on its way to Jerusalem--- determinedly, inevitably.

Even now it comes

In the face of hatred and warring—  
No atrocity too terrible to stop it,  
No Herod strong enough,  
No hurt deep enough,

No curse shocking enough,  
No disaster shattering enough.

For someone on Earth will see the star,  
someone will hear the angel's voices,  
someone will run to Bethlehem,  
someone will know peace and goodwill:  
the Christ will be born!

### It Is Not Over

It is not over, this birthing.  
There are always newer skies into which God can throw stars.

When we can begin to think  
that we can predict the Advent of God,  
that we can box the Christ in a stable in Bethlehem,  
that's just the time that God will be born in a place we can't imagine and won't believe.

Those who wait for God  
watch with their hearts and not their eyes,  
listening  
always listening  
for angel words.

*continued on next page*

# CALENDAR

(ALL DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

## January 2024

- 11 "Wear Blue Day" for Human Trafficking Awareness
- 11 The Chosen clip, 3:30 p.m., Ursuline Convent Offices
- 15 Martin Luther King Day - Convent Offices closed
- 24 Council Meeting
- 28 Feast of St. Angela - 11 a.m. Liturgy followed by Luncheon, Ursuline Center

## February 2024

- 14 Ash Wednesday
- 19 President's Day - Convent Offices closed
- 21 Council Meeting
- 22 Community Input/Update, 12:30 - 2:30 p.m., Sisters Only

## March 2024

- 20 Council Meeting
- 28 - April 1 Easter Break - Convent Offices closed
- 31 Easter

## April 2024

- 8 Day of Eclipse - Convent Offices closed
- 22 Council Meeting
- 23 Community Input/Update, 12:30 - 2:30 p.m., Sisters Only
- 24-25 LCWR Region 6 - Cincinnati
- 29 - May 1 NAULC - St. Louis
- 30 Feast of Marie of the Incarnation

## May 2024

- 27 Memorial Day - Convent Offices closed

## Message from the LCWR Executive Director

*(continued from page 7)*

May the fruit of Hanukkah find you watching for the miraculous light of faith. May the remaining days of Advent find you waiting for Emmanuel. May the great feast of Christmas find you welcoming the One Who Dwells with Us, now and always. May the celebration of Kwanzaa find you embodying the principles of *Umoja, Kujihagulia, Ujima, Ujamaa, Nia, Kuuma* and *Imani*. And may the 2024 New Year find you witnessing ways in which the Word-Made-Flesh is born again and again in you, through you, and because of you.

*From Kneeling in Bethlehem: Poetry for Advent and Christmas.*  
© 1993 Ann Barr Weems. Used with permission.

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

## January

- 1 Chris Soto
- 4 Bill Moore
- 5 Eric Baho
- 6 Eileen Simon
- 7 Sr. Mary Kay Garvin
- 14 Sr. Margaret Manion
- 27 Berta Folmar
- 31 Bonnie Tolles

## February

- 7 Sandy Gelinas
- 8 Louis Torda
- 9 Beulah Horn
- 14 Sr. Joy Gray
- 18 Rebecca Alexander
- 19 Fran Benlein
- 26 Sr. Maria Goretti VanAusdale



## FEAST DAY



## January

- 27 Sr. Angela Gaietto
- 31 Sr. Sandy Sherman

## February

- 7 Sr. Coletta McAllister
- 15 Sr. Claudia Holtz

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4045 Indian Road, Toledo, OH 43606

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Check out the  
Ursuline Sisters of Toledo  
Facebook page!





**January is National Human Trafficking Prevention Month.** Every year since 2010, the President has dedicated the month to raise awareness about human trafficking and to educate the public about how to identify and prevent this heinous crime.

Human trafficking, also known as trafficking of persons, includes both forced labor and sex trafficking. It not only represents a threat to international peace and security but also undermines the rule of law, robs millions of their dignity and freedom, enriches transnational criminals and terrorists, and threatens public safety and national security everywhere. There are estimated to be more than 27.6 million people – adults and children – subjected to human trafficking around the world, including the United States. (source: United States Government)

**National Human Trafficking Awareness Day is recognized each year on January 11.** In recognition of this important day, Ursuline Sisters and Associates are encouraged to take part in the national **#Wear Blue Day** campaign, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The Ursuline Community has taken a stance against human trafficking and is participating in this national campaign to show our support of this initiative. **Sisters and Associates can show their support by wearing blue clothing or accessories on Thursday, January 11.**

### Signs of Human Trafficking:

- The person may avoid eye contact and interaction with others.
- The person may show signs of malnourishment, poor hygiene, fatigue, sleep deprivation, untreated illness, injuries, and/or unusual behavior.
- The person may have no control over or possession of money or identification.
- The person may show signs of physical abuse, restraint, and/or confinement.
- The person may exhibit evidence of verbal threats, psychological control, emotional abuse, and/or being threatened in a demeaning way.
- The person may lack freedom of movement and are constantly monitored. He or she are often unable to speak for themselves.

### What To Do If You Suspect Human Trafficking

- Do not at any time attempt to confront a suspected trafficker directly or alert a victim to your suspicions.
- Call 911 for emergency situations – threats of violence, physical assault, emergency medical needs, etc.
- Call 1-866-DHS-2-ICE (1-866-347-2423) to report suspicious criminal activity to federal law enforcement. Highly trained specialists take reports from both the public and law enforcement agencies.
- If you are a victim and need help or if you want to find support for a victim, contact the National Human Trafficking Hotline. Call 1-888-373-7888 or text HELP or INFO to BeFree (233733).  
(source: dhs.gov/bluecampaign)

# Reflection & Prayer to End Human Trafficking

January 11 – February 8, 2024



St. Josephine Bakhita was born in southern Sudan in 1869. As a young girl, she was kidnapped and sold into slavery. She was treated brutally by her captors as she was sold and resold. She did not remember her name; Bakhita, which means “fortunate one,” was the name given to her by her kidnappers.

## Daily Prayer

God of hope and peace, touch our hearts and energize our ongoing efforts in abolishing human trafficking, a heinous crime against humanity, so that every victim is freed and every survivor’s life renewed. You blessed St. Josephine Bakhita of Sudan with compassion for others. May her prayers comfort and strengthen the women, men, and children who are in search of freedom.

(Say appropriate daily prayer below)

We ask for transformation of heart for those who inflict pain, anguish and grief on our vulnerable sisters and brothers. Give us generosity to stand in solidarity with others so that together we heal the hearts and lives of all Your people. *Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. Amen.*



<b>Jan. 11</b> Nat'l Human Trafficking Awareness Day We pray for the women, men, and children displaced by war, who have lost their families and suffer from unspeakable violence.		<b>12</b> We pray for prisoners in the U.S. who are forced to work with minimal or no pay at all and cannot seek workers' rights.	<b>13</b> We pray for women/girls who are victims of any domestic violence: physical, psychological, sexual, emotional, + more.	<b>14</b> We pray for the children and forced laborers working in cobalt mines and are exposed to toxic air.
<b>15</b> We pray that we become more compassionate and generous to people who have been sexually exploited.	<b>16</b> We pray for incarcerated firefighters who fight wildfires in many states throughout the U.S. sometimes for zero pay.	<b>17</b> We pray for victims who are immigrants, lack legal documentation, and often are threatened with deportation.	<b>18</b> We pray for children engaged in the dangerous work of crushing and grinding soil and panning gold with bare hands.	<b>19</b> We pray for traffickers and violence perpetrators, who groom, coerce, and shame their victims, for a chance of heart.
<b>20</b> We pray for victims of labor trafficking who are forced to sleep in their place of work and are not paid.	<b>21</b> We pray for the mother who is threatened with separation from her children if she does not comply with demands.	<b>22</b> We pray for the millions of people worldwide who lack social support and are at greater risk of being trafficked.	<b>23</b> We pray for the young victims lured into romantic relationships only to be exploited through forced prostitution.	<b>24</b> We pray for all the vulnerable children who are taken from their families and forced to be child soldiers.
<b>25</b> We pray for the young girls who are intimidated, humiliated, manipulated, isolated, and terrorized by their boyfriends.	<b>26</b> We pray we hold corporations accountable for buying minerals from mining companies using forced child labor.	<b>27</b> We pray for all those who work endlessly to end human trafficking in our neighborhoods and worldwide	<b>28</b> We pray to make prison labor voluntary and eliminate policies that punish prisoners unable or unwilling to work.	<b>29</b> We pray for the hundreds of thousands of miners injured every year who are forced to labor in the extractive industry.
<b>30</b> We pray for strength, hope, and resilience for vulnerable survivors worldwide.	<b>31</b> We pray that children feel confident telling someone about the bullying and psychological violence against them.	<b>Feb. 1</b> We pray for the safety of migrants facing traffickers as they travel across countries seeking safety	<b>2</b> We pray that vulnerable people become aware and are not deceived and trafficked at large sporting events.	<b>3</b> We pray for pregnant women who are struggling to survive and protect their unborn in war-devastated countries.
<b>4</b> We pray for men who have been exploited and abused and are ashamed to report it.	<b>5</b> We pray survivors have access to shelter or transitional housing where they feel safe and can start their healing process.	<b>6</b> We pray for the more than 15,000 miners who are killed every year in the mining industry in Africa, South America, and China.	<b>7</b> We pray for farmworkers who put food at our tables and are often victims of enslaved labor practices.	<b>8</b> <b>Feast of St. Josephine Bakhita</b> We pray for the freedom of all who are enslaved around the world. May they find support and hope.