For all who have died and those who mourn their loss:

Gordon Bickal, Carol Leick, Phyllis Roth, Jim Ryan, Anna Mae Adams, & Jean Smith. May they be welcomed into the loving embrace of God and may their families receive comfort and peace.

Intentions

After each petition respond:

"Lord, deliver us from all evil."

†For St. Raphael and St. Patrick parishioners - that God may be with them in times of trial and may they recognize him in the midst of darkness.

†For our Holy Father, Pope Francis, that he may continue to find the grace and courage to speak up for those victimized in our world.

†For the victims of slavery, human trafficking, especially sex-trafficking. May they find escape from the evil by which they are oppressed and may our nation and communities do everything in our power to combat this evil.

†For those who work with people in the shadows; the poor, the immigrant, the disenfranchised. May they and those they serve see Christ in one another.

†For all people of faith that they may approach each day with the knowledge that God is with them so that they may help to build up a more just and peaceful society around them.

To get involved in efforts to combat human trafficking go to:

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Website or donate to Catholic Bishops' aid:

National Catholic Fund for Migration and Refugee Services
MRS Resource Development--5th floor
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
3211 4th St. NE
Washington, DC 20017
Attn: Human Trafficking Efforts

To find out about local efforts to combat trafficking go to:

Set Free Dubuque's Facebook Page

https://www.facebook.com/setfreedubuque?ref=br_tf

If you are a victim or know of someone you suspect to be a victim of human trafficking call:

1-888-373-7888

Or email:
nhtrc@polarisproject.org

Text - HELP or INFO: to BeFree(233733)

Toll free/24 hours a day/ Confidential/Interpreters are available

Prayer Ministry

February 2015



St. Josephine Bakhita

(1868-1947)

Victim of Slavery

"All of us are called (by God) to be free, all are called to be sons and daughters, and each, according to his or her own responsibilities, is called to combat modern forms of enslavement. From every people, culture and religion, let us join our forces," Pope Francis

International Day of Prayer and Awareness against Human Trafficking

February 8th

"The Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace and the International Union of Superiors General has designated February 8 as an annual day of prayer and awareness against human trafficking. February 8 is the feast day of St. Josephine Bakhita, who was kidnapped as a child and sold into slavery in Sudan and Italy. Once Josephine was freed, she became a Canossian nun and dedicated her life to sharing her testament of deliverance from slavery and comforting the poor and suffering. She was declared a Saint in 2000."

All information is Copied from the USCCB web page

http://www.usccb.org/about/anti-trafficking-program/day-of-prayer.cfm

Human Trafficking: Key Statistics

Quick facts about human trafficking:

- Of the 20.9 million victims of trafficking and human slavery worldwide, 9.1 million victims (44 percent) have been trafficked internally or internationally.
- 11.8 million are subjected to forms of modern slavery in their place of origin or residence within their own national borders.
- Nearly 1.5 million victims are currently laboring in conditions of forced labor, sexual exploitation and servitude in the United States, Canada and developed countries of the EU
- 55 percent of forced labor victims are women and girls, as are 98 percent of sex trafficking victims.
- Children aged 17 years and below represent 26 percent of total victims, representing a total of 5.5 million child victims worldwide.

http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/human-trafficking/index.cfm

Prayer to St. Josephine Bakhita to end modern-day slavery

St. Josephine Bakhita,

you were sold into slavery as a child and endured untold hardship and suffering. Once liberated from your physical enslavement, you found true redemption in your encounter with Christ and his Church.

O St. Bakhita, assist all those who are trapped in a state of slavery; Intercede with God on their behalf so that they will be released from their chains of captivity. Those whom man enslaves, let God set free.

Provide comfort to survivors of slavery and let them look to you as an example of hope and faith.

Help all survivors find healing from their wounds. We ask for your prayers and intercessions for those enslaved among us.

Amen.