Chapter Commitment Monthly Focus

In the Spirit of our Foundress Nano Nagle, Presentation Sisters and Associates commit ourselves to address the needs of women and children, especially as they are impacted by economic, environmental and racial inequity.

Prayer

Praying for Victims of Human Trafficking

Human trafficking is an open wound on the body of contemporary society; a scourge upon the body of Christ. Human trafficking is a crime against humanity. We must unite our efforts to free victims and stop the crime that has become even more aggressive, that threatens not just individuals, but the foundational values of society, international security and laws, the economy, families and communities.

~Pope Francis

During this month of January let each of us pray for the emotional, physical and spiritual healing of victims, and make a personal commitment to work against human trafficking.

Oh God, we didn’t see them. But you did. The hundreds and thousands of human beings trafficked each year to join the millions who are trapped in modern-day slavery. Under terrible conditions, they work in factories, plow fields, harvest crops, work quarries, fill brothels, clean homes and haul water. Many are children with tiny fingers for weaving rugs and small shoulders for bearing rifles. Their labor is forced, their bodies beaten, their faces hidden from those who don’t really want to see them. But you see them all, God of the poor. You hear their cry and you answer by opening our eyes, and breaking our hearts and loosening our tongues to insist: No mas. No more... Amen.

(Prayer from CRS Catholic Relief Services)
Learn More About Human Trafficking

Human trafficking is the recruitment and transport of a child or adult for the purposes of sexual exploitation or forced labor. Sadly, there are more people enslaved today than at the height of the trans-Atlantic slave trade. The enslavement of God’s children breaks his heart. Learn more about human trafficking and join in prayer for an end to the injustice of human trafficking and modern-day slavery.

Extreme poverty is at the root of the vast majority of trafficking around the world. The World Bank estimates that as many as 163 million more people have fallen into poverty in 2021 because of pandemic-related job losses and deprivation. Poor families are vulnerable to the tactics of traffickers, who lure their victims with the promise of well-paying jobs in other cities or countries. Once isolated from their families, victims work for little or no pay and are brutalized if they try to resist. One of the best ways to prevent human trafficking is to help families become self-sufficient.

Become more informed through watching three short videos

What is Human Trafficking
Tools That Teach: What is Human Trafficking?
Human Trafficking Survivors Share Their Stories - Bing video

Take Action Against Human Trafficking

Forced labor is the type of enslavement used to produce many products in our global supply chains. The fishing, textile, construction, mineral and agriculture industries rely upon forced laborers.

Action:
1. Buy fair trade products: coffee, tea, cocoa, sugar, spices, honey, bananas
   Buying Fair Trade Products and Why (myethicalchoice.com)
2. Write to our associate Erin Regan who is working with this youth coalition against sex exploitation and human trafficking. World Without Exploitation | Youth
3. Donate to Lifeway Network Safe Housing program Safe Housing Program - LifeWay Network
   Life Way Network Inc., P.O. Box 8654, Tarrytown, NY 10591