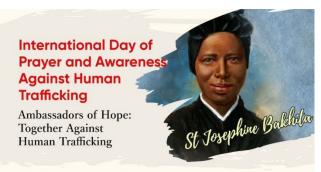


## 8 February Feast Day of Saint Bakhita and International Day of Prayer and Awareness against Human Trafficking.

There are two concrete ways you can join in this day of Prayer and Awareness:

 There is a community prayer that you can invite people to join in and pray. This can be done in your own time and adapted as needs be. Click this <u>link</u> to get this prayer (PDF). Click <u>LINK</u> for Kathy Sherman's song HOLD ON TO HOPE



Pope Francis has designated 8th February, the feast of St Josephine Bakhita, as the International Day of Prayer and Awareness Against Human Trafficking following a request from Talitha Kum, the worldwide Network of Consecrated Life Against Human Trafficking.

Born in 1869 in Sudan, Josephine knew the pain and sorrow of losing her freedom, when at 7 years of age she was taken by slave traders. She was bought and sold many times in the following decade. Taken to Italy by a family, who 'owned' her, she met the Canossian Daughters of Charity, became a Catholic and joined the Canossian congregation. She died in 1947 and was canonized in 2000.

2. There is a **live GLOBAL ONLINE** prayer on the eve of the feast – 7 FEBRUARY. You can log into this prayer which begins at 11.30am Rome time which is **8.30pm Friday 7 February**, **Brisbane time**. Click this LINK for other times.

The prayer begins with the Oceania Region of Talitha Kum and a 15-minute video from Oceania. Region members in Samoa, Aotearoa New Zealand and Australia will share the connection between climate change and the vulnerability of Pacific Island workers moving to NZ and Australia for work.

This is the LINK to enter the online prayer:

https://youtube.com/live/DyDGSRbqlYc?feature=share

## For more information visit:

- 1. The International Day of Prayer and Awareness site: https://preghieracontrotratta.org/
- 2. The ACRATH website which has all the links and more! <a href="https://acrath.org.au/take-action/world-day-of-prayer/">https://acrath.org.au/take-action/world-day-of-prayer/</a>