



# 'Make your school slavery-free' Resource Launch

Thursday 13 February 2020, 10am  
Academy of Mary Immaculate





# St Josephine Bakhita

Pope Francis declared the feast of St Josephine Bakhita on February 8 to be a day of prayer, reflection and action against human trafficking.

Josephine Bakhita knew the sorrow of losing her family, freedom and dignity as a young girl when she was taken as a slave.

Born in 1869 in Sudan, Josephine was only 7 years old when 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 Sisters. She died in 1947 and was declared a saint in 2000.

The UN estimates that one in every three victims of trafficking is a child. Some are trapped in labour, picking coffee beans and others, many more, pick the cocoa beans that will be used in the chocolate we eat and drink.

# Liturgy

## ENTRANCE HYMN

Amazing Grace, Academy Choir

Amazing Grace! How sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found  
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas Grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And Grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that Grace appear  
The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares  
I have already come.

'Tis Grace hath brought me safe thus far  
And Grace will lead me home.

## ENTRANCE PROCESSION

### Fair Trade products

Coffee Beans – Student from St Pius X Primary School,  
West Heidelberg

Cocoa Beans – Aquinas College, Ringwood student

Tea Leaves – Academy student

## **WELCOME**

**Sr Mary Moloney rsm**

**Principal, Academy of Mary Immaculate, Fitzroy**

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

**Social Justice Leader**

**Presider – Archbishop Peter A Comensoli:** O God, who led Saint Josephine Bakhita from abject slavery to the dignity of being your daughter and a bride of Christ, grant, we pray, that by her example we may show constant love for the Lord Jesus crucified, remaining steadfast in charity and prompt to show compassion. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**All: Amen**

## **OPENING PRAYER**

**Presider:** Let us pray together:

**All:** Saint Josephine Bakhita, you were sold into slavery as a child and endured unspeakable hardship and suffering.

**Once liberated from your physical enslavement, you found true redemption in your encounter with Christ and his Church.**

**O Saint Josephine Bakhita, assist all those who are entrapped in slavery; Intercede on their behalf with the God of Mercy so that the chains of their captivity will be broken.**

**May God himself free all those who have been threatened, wounded or mistreated by the trade and trafficking of human beings.**

**Bring comfort to survivors of this slavery and teach them to look to Jesus as an example of hope and faith so that they may find healing from their wounds.**

**We ask you to pray for us and to intercede on behalf of us all: that we may not fall into indifference, that we may open our eyes and be able to see the misery and wounds of our many brothers and sisters deprived of their dignity and their freedom, and may we hear their cry for help.**

**Amen.**

## **READING – Sue Moran, Justice Leader, Academy**

### **A reading from the Gospel of Luke** (Luke 4: 16 – 22)

Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read, and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written:

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me,  
for he has anointed me. He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives  
and to the blind new sight, to set the downtrodden free,  
to proclaim the Lord's year of favour.

He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to speak to them, 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.' And he won the approval of all, and they were astonished by the gracious words that came from his lips.

The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Brief Reflection – Archbishop Peter**

# PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

**Presider:** As we honour the memory of St Josephine Bakhita, the patron saint of trafficked people, let us pray that God's freedom and justice will come for all.

## St Pius X student

1. We pray for Pope Francis who describes human trafficking as a scourge and whose strong leadership calls for an end to all forms of exploitation, human trafficking and modern slavery. God of Life, hear us.

**Response: God of life hear our prayer.**

2. We pray for education, religious and civic leaders, that they will speak out against human trafficking, and dedicate time, energy and resources to eradicating it. God of life hear us.

**Response: God of life hear our prayer.**

## Aquinas College student

3. We pray for children, men and women trapped in bonded labour in coffee fields, tea plantations, coca farms, market gardens, mines and factories; that they will be respected as human beings rather than reduced to commodities and tools of production. God of life, hear us.

**Response: God of life hear our prayer.**

4. We pray for an end to all discrimination, but especially discrimination against women and girls who are estimated

to make up 80% of trafficked victims, so that all may live with dignity and respect. God of life, hear us.  
**Response: God of life hear our prayer.**

### **Academy student**

5. We pray that students and teachers will be inspired to create a school environment where food, drinks, play equipment and uniforms are slavery-free and that workers' conditions and payment will reflect the dignity of their persons and their work. God of life, hear us.

**Response: God of life hear our prayer.**

6. We pray that those who enslave and traffic others; may be brought to true repentance and seek to repair the harm they have done. God of life, hear us.

**Response: God of life hear our prayer.**

**Presider:** We make these prayers through Christ Our Lord and the intercession of His true and faithful servant,  
St Josephine Bakhita.

**All: Amen**

### **FINAL BLESSING**

**3 Students collect and hold up the three baskets (tea, coffee and chocolate) and we have a brief blessing.**

**ALL move to the Library**

# **Make your school slavery-free' resource launch**

**Launch of 'Make Your School Slavery-free' resource kit for the  
Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne**

**Mark Clarke to introduce:**

**Sr Louise Cleary csb**

**Co-founder ACRATH (Australian Catholic Religious Against  
Trafficking in Humans)**

**Mark Clarke to introduce:**

**Archbishop Peter A Comensoli to officially launch the Resource  
Kit to schools in the Archdiocese of Melbourne.**

**Photographs and conclusion**



# VIC-TAS CATHOLIC MODERN SLAVERY TASKFORCE



The Victoria-Tasmania Catholic Modern Slavery Taskforce, gratefully thank the Principal, Sr Mary Moloney rsm, staff and students of the Academy of Mary Immaculate Fitzroy for their hospitality and use of facilities on this occasion. We give particular thanks to Ms Suzanne Moran and Mr Mark Hyland for their generous assistance.







# CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE



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