

## JULY 30 IS WORLD DAY AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Theme: "Victims' Voices Lead the Way"

There are many ways that you can help fight the horrific global problem of human trafficking, a crime that exploits women, children and men for numerous purposes including forced labour and sex. The International Labour Organization estimates that 21 million people are victims of forced labour globally. An [estimated](#) 40.3 million people—primarily women and girls—are currently being trafficked and exploited for profit. As Pope Francis [urges](#), our aim should be "for every enslaved person to return to being a free agent of his or her own life and to take an active part in the construction of the common good." Learn more [here](#).

### WHAT CAN WE DO?

[Stay informed](#) and support organizations like [Talitha Kum](#), a worldwide network of consecrated religious committed against trafficking who have presented three "causes and vulnerabilities that contribute to human trafficking": **1)** unequal power structure in society, especially related to women, children, and indigenous; **2)** inadequate migration policies that leave people vulnerable in an increasingly interconnected world; **3)** an economic model that exploits human and environmental resources for the profit of the few in contrast with the exploitation of the many.

### SUGGESTED STEPS OF ACTION:

1) **PRAY** without ceasing; [click here](#) 2) **READ** "[Human Trafficking and COVID-19 in Marginalized Communities](#)" and [click here](#) for efforts being made to prevent human trafficking from worsening during the pandemic 3) **ADVOCATE** for [missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls](#).

4) **RESOURCES** "[Global Report on Trafficking in Persons](#)" "[Smuggling of Migrants](#)"

