



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
HOLY GHOST COUNCIL #4977



## ST. THERESA & ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA

### “NOVENA FOR LIFE”

Sat, Jan 18<sup>th</sup> to Sun, Jan 26<sup>th</sup>

### Day 6 of 9: Thursday, January 23, 2020

#### Step 1. REFLECTION:

Those who are vulnerable are most at risk for being lured into situations where they are trafficked. Migrants and refugees often face increased risk factors like changes to language and culture, lack of support systems and the burden of poverty. Young people on the margins, especially runaway and homeless youth, are targeted for sex trafficking and may subsequently be forced to have abortions. Easily tempted by the false promises of traffickers, victims often find themselves enslaved with no means of escape.

Christ came “to bring good news to the afflicted, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives” (Is 61:1, cf. Luke 4:18). May all who are trapped in situations of slavery be released from their chains of captivity and find freedom, refuge, safety, and healing in Christ and His Church.

#### Step 2. ACTS OF REPARATION (choose one):

- Give up sleeping on your pillow tonight. Allow this small sacrifice to remind you of the sufferings endured by those in our world who are enslaved.
- St. Josephine Bakhita, who was born in Sudan and sold into slavery, has become known as the patron saint of human trafficking victims. [Pray](#) for victims and survivors of human trafficking, asking the intercession of St. Josephine Bakhita.
- Offer some other sacrifice, prayer or act of penance that you feel called to do for today’s intention.

**One Step Further:** Would you know how to identify a potential trafficking situation? Learn more about human trafficking and recognizing the red flags through the USCCB’s Anti-Trafficking Program at [www.usccb.org/stopslavery](http://www.usccb.org/stopslavery).

Almost half of the reported victims of human trafficking in the U.S. in 2016 were foreign nationals. Consider bringing the Amistad Movement to your parish to help raise awareness about human trafficking among immigrant populations. [www.usccb.org/about/anti-trafficking-program/amistad.cfm](http://www.usccb.org/about/anti-trafficking-program/amistad.cfm)



#### PRAYER FOR LIFE

O Mary, bright dawn of the new world, Mother of the living, to you do we entrust the cause of life: Look down, O Mother, upon the vast numbers of babies not allowed to be born, of the poor whose lives are made difficult, of men and women who are victims of brutal violence, of the elderly and the sick killed by indifference or out of misguided mercy. Grant that all who believe in your Son may proclaim the Gospel of life with honesty and love to the people of our time. Obtain for them the grace to accept that Gospel as a gift ever new, the joy of celebrating it with gratitude throughout their lives and the courage to bear witness to it resolutely, in order to build, together with all people of good will, the civilization of truth and love, to the praise and glory of God, the Creator and lover of life. Amen.

Pope John Paul II  
*Evangelium Vitae*, 1995

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*If you suspect someone is a victim of human trafficking, call the National Human Trafficking Hotline (888-3737-888) for immediate assistance.*

### **Step 3. DAILY “PRAYER FOR LIFE”**