



Sisters of Divine Providence

*Litany of Prayer*

to

STOP

HUMAN

TRAFFICKING

Human Trafficking is the movement of people with the primary purpose of forced servitude or sexual slavery. There are an estimated 27 million people held in slavery. Trafficking in women is the second largest global organized crime.

It is easy to be overwhelmed by the issue of human trafficking and think we cannot make a difference. But do not forget that each of us has at our disposal the most powerful weapon of warfare—and that is prayer, for *“The fervent prayer of a righteous person is very powerful.”* [James 5:16]



## PRAYER FOR THE VICTIMS

*We pray for their strength and salvation ...*

Though I walk in the midst of dangers, you guard my life when my enemies rage. You stretch out your hand; your right hand saves me.

[*Psalm 138:7*]

He gives strength to the fainting; for the weak he makes vigor abound. [*Isaiah 40:29*]

For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save what was lost.

[*Luke 19:10*]

**Provident God, hear our prayers.**

*We pray for their protection, freedom, and justice ...*

Defend the lowly and fatherless; render justice to the afflicted and needy. Rescue the lowly and poor; deliver them from the hand of the wicked. [*Psalm 82:3–4*]

The Lord does righteous deeds, brings justice to all the oppressed.

[*Psalm 103:6*]

Who secures justice for the oppressed, gives food to the hungry.

The Lord sets prisoners free. [*Psalm 146:7*]

**Provident God, hear our prayers.**

*We pray for their hope and healing ...*

I waited, waited for the Lord, who bent down and heard my cry, drew me out of the pit of destruction, out of the mud of the swamp, set my feet upon rock, steadied my steps. [*Psalm 40:1–2*]

“For I will restore you to health; of your wounds I will heal you,” says the Lord. “The outcast they have called you, with no avenger.” [*Jeremiah 30:17*]

“There is hope for your future,” says the Lord; “your children shall return to their own borders.” [*Jeremiah 31:17*]

**Provident God, hear our prayers.**

## PRAYER FOR THE TRAFFICKERS

*We pray for their conviction, repentance, and salvation ...*

Let the scoundrels forsake their way, and the wicked their thoughts; let them turn to the Lord for mercy; to our God, who is generous in forgiving. [Isaiah 55:7]

For Christ, while we were still helpless, yet died at the appointed time for the ungodly. Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person, though perhaps for a good person one might even find courage to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. [Romans 5:6–8]

... correcting opponents with kindness; it may be that God will grant them repentance that leads to knowledge of the truth. [2 Timothy 2:25]

**Provident God, hear our prayers.**

*We pray for criminal networks to dismantle ...*

Oh, let the wickedness of the wicked come to an end, but establish the just; for the righteous God tests the hearts and minds. [Psalm 7:9]

The arms of the wicked will be broken; the Lord will sustain the just. [Psalm 37:17]

The wicked shall perish, and the enemies of the Lord, like the beauty of meadows, they vanish; like smoke they disappear. [Psalm 37:20]

**Provident God, hear our prayers.**

*We pray for the oppressors to be arrested and prosecuted ...*

Let the outcasts of Moab live with you, be their shelter from the destroyer. When the struggle is ended, the ruin complete, and they have done with trampling the land. [Isaiah 16:4]

Thus says the Lord, “Do what is right and just. Rescue the victim from the hand of his oppressor. Do not wrong or oppress the

resident alien, the orphan, or the widow, and do not shed innocent blood in this place.” [*Jeremiah 22:3*]

Hate evil and love good, and let justice prevail at the gate.  
[*Amos 5:15a*]

**Provident God, hear our prayers.**



you may be her only voice...

## PRAYER FOR GOVERNMENTS

*We pray for corruption to cease ...*

You shall not distort justice; you must be impartial. You shall not take a bribe; for a bribe blinds the eyes even of the wise and twists the words even of the just. [*Deuteronomy 16:19*]

Yes, I know how many are your crimes, how grievous your sins: oppressing the just, accepting bribes, repelling the needy at the gate! [*Amos 5:12*]

These then are the things you should do: Speak the truth to one another; let there be honesty and peace in the judgments at your gates. [*Zechariah 8:16*]

**Provident God, hear our prayers.**

*We pray for the implementation of just legislation ...*

By me kings reign, and lawgivers establish justice. [*Proverbs 8:15*]

By justice a king gives stability to the land. [*Proverbs 29:4a*]

On Mount Sinai you came down, you spoke with them from heaven; you gave them just ordinances, firm laws, good statutes, and commandments. [*Nehemiah 9:13*]

**Provident God, hear our prayers.**

*We pray for discernment in forming alliances ...*

I do as you requested. I give you a heart so wise and understanding that there has never been anyone like you up to now, and after you, there will come no one to equal you. [*1 Kings 3:12*]

My child, let not these slip out of your sight: keep advice and counsel in view. [*Proverbs 3:21*]

Two are better than one: they get a good wage for their labor. If the one falls, the other will lift up his companion. Woe to the solitary

man! For if he should fall, he has no one to lift him up. So also, if two sleep together, they keep each other warm. How can one alone keep warm? Where a lone man may be overcome, two together can resist. A three-ply cord is not easily broken. [*Ecclesiastes 4:9–12*]

**Provident God, hear our prayers.**

## **PRAYER AGAINST ROOT CAUSES**

*We pray against poverty ...*

He sins who despises the hungry; but happy is he who is kind to the poor! [*Proverbs 14:21*]

... Sharing your bread with the hungry, sheltering the oppressed and the homeless, clothing the naked when you see them, and not turning your back on your own. [*Isaiah 58:7*]

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring glad tidings to the lowly, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners. [*Isaiah 61:1*]

**Provident God, hear our prayers.**

*We pray against greed ...*

Over my people they have cast lots; they gave a boy for a harlot, and sold a girl for the wine they drank. Moreover, what are you to me, Tyre and Sidon, and all the regions of Philistia? Would you take vengeance upon me by some action? But if you do take action against me, swiftly, speedily, I will return your deed upon your own head. You took my silver and my gold, and brought my precious treasures into your temples! You sold the people of Judah and Jerusalem to the Greeks, removing them far from their own country! [*Joel 4:3–6*]

Then he said to the crowd, “Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one’s life does not consist of possessions.” [*Luke 12:15*]



For the love of money is the root of all evils, and some people in their desire for it have strayed from the faith and have pierced themselves with many pains. [*1 Timothy 6:10*]

**Provident God, hear our prayers.**

*We pray against prejudice ...*

God created man in his image; in the divine image he created him; male and female he created them. [*Genesis 1:27*]

Daughters of kings are your lovely wives; a princess arrayed in Ophir's gold comes to stand at your right hand. [*Psalms 45:9*]

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free person, there is not male and female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. [*Galatians 3:28*]

**Provident God, hear our prayers.**

## PRAYER FOR INCREASED GLOBAL AWARENESS

*We pray that the reality of trafficking is unveiled ...*

For there is nothing hidden except to be made visible; nothing is secret except to come to light. [*Mark 4:22*]

“There is nothing concealed that will not be revealed, nor secret that will not be known” [*Luke 12:2*]

... but everything exposed by the light becomes visible.  
[*Ephesians 5:13*]

**Provident God, hear our prayers.**

*We pray for strategies to raise awareness ...*

Make known to me your ways, Lord; teach me your paths.  
[*Psalms 25:4*]

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, on your own intelligence rely not; in all your ways be mindful of him, and he will make straight your paths. [*Proverbs 3:5–6*]

As high as the heavens are above the earth, so high are my ways above your ways and my thoughts above your thoughts.  
[*Isaiah 55:9*]

**Provident God, hear our prayers.**

*We pray for people to be stirred to action ...*

This, rather, is the fasting that I wish: releasing those bound unjustly, untying the thongs of the yoke; setting free the oppressed, breaking every yoke; sharing your bread with the hungry, sheltering the oppressed and the homeless; clothing the naked when you see them, and not turning your back on your own.

[*Isaiah 58:6–7*]

Be doers of the word and not hearers only, deluding yourselves.

[*James 1:22*]

If a brother or sister has nothing to wear and has no food for the day, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well,” but you do not give them the necessities of the body, what good is it? So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead. [*James 2:15–17*]

**Provident God, hear our prayers.**

## PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH

*We pray for the Church to prevail ...*

Rise up in splendor! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples; but upon you the Lord shines, and over you appears his glory. [*Isaiah 60:1–2*]

You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned? It is no longer good for anything but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. [*Matthew 5:13–14*]

And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. [*Matthew 16:18*]

**Provident God, hear our prayers.**



*We pray for advocates and laborers to emerge ...*

Who will rise up for me against the wicked? Who will stand up for me against evildoers? [*Psalm 94:16*]

Open your mouth in behalf of the dumb, and for the rights of the destitute; open your mouth, decree what is just, defend the needy and the poor! [*Proverbs 31:8–9*]

Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few; so ask the master of the harvest to send out laborers for his harvest.” [*Matthew 9:37–38*]

**Provident God, hear our prayers.**

*We pray for the Church to unite against injustice ...*

How good it is, how pleasant, where the people dwell as one! Like

precious ointment on the head, running down upon the beard, upon the beard of Aaron, upon the collar of his robe. Like dew of Hermon coming down upon the mountains of Zion, there the Lord has lavished blessings, life for evermore! [*Psalm 133*]

I in them, and you in me; that they may be brought to perfection as one that the world may know that you sent me, and that you loved them even as you loved me. [*John 17:23*]

May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to think in harmony with one another, in keeping with Christ Jesus, that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. [*Romans 15:5–6*]

**Provident God, hear our prayers.**

## PRAYER FOR THOSE WORKING AGAINST TRAFFICKING

*We pray for Divine favor ...*

For you, Lord, bless the just; you surround them with favor like a shield. [*Psalm 5:12*]

May the favor of the Lord our God be ours. Prosper the work of our hands! Prosper the work of our hands! [*Psalm 90:17*]

And Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and favor before God and man. [*Luke 2:52*]

**Provident God, hear our prayers.**

*We pray for Divine wisdom ...*

The beginning of wisdom is: get wisdom; at the cost of all you have, get understanding. [*Proverbs 4:7*]

How much better to acquire wisdom than gold! To acquire understanding is more desirable than silver. [*Proverbs 16:16*]

But if any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and he will be given it. [*James 1:5*]

**Provident God, hear our prayers.**

*We pray for Divine provision ...*

The Lord will open up for you his rich treasure house of the heavens, to give your land rain in due season, blessing all your undertakings, so that you will lend to many nations and borrow from none. [*Deuteronomy 28:12*]

You gave food to those who fear you, mindful of your covenant forever. [*Psalms 111:5*]

Moreover, God is able to make every grace abundant for you, so that in all things, always having all you need, you may have an abundance for every good work. [*2 Corinthians 9:8*]

**Provident God, hear our prayers.**





*Marie de la Roche Province*

MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Congregation of Divine Providence, impelled by the Spirit of Jesus, commit ourselves to co-create a world of compassion, justice and peace. Guided by the legacy of Wilhelm Emmanuel von Ketteler and Marie de la Roche, we nurture in ourselves and in others a trust and confidence in God's faithful presence. We further commit ourselves to making God's providence more visible in our world.



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