

## Prayer for the European Day against Trafficking 18<sup>th</sup> of October 2009

Eternal God,  
we know you have a special love  
for the poor and the little ones  
and defend those  
whose rights are trampled up on.

Today we focus  
on people treated unjustly,  
sold like common merchandise,  
youngsters, children even,  
whose lives are valued  
at less than thirty silver coins.

Merciful and caring God,  
we believe you will not forget them.  
Their names stand written  
on the palm of your hand.

Make us realise that we, too,  
have a task in this world  
where markets decide,  
not only the price of coffee  
but also that of people.

Give us the courage to speak out  
against injustice and abuse,  
to stand with your smallest people  
and denounce all injustice.

God, we ask you,  
give all those who fight  
against trafficking  
understanding and determination;  
give victims strength  
and confidence in you.

Help us also, merciful God,  
to pray for those,  
that from idleness and coldness  
bring the evil of trafficking  
into our world.  
May they come to realise their wrongdoing.

We ask you this  
in the name of Jesus,  
your son and our brother.  
Amen.

October 18<sup>th</sup> 2009

