

RENATE Online Prayer Service for 18th October

EU ANTI-TRAFFICKING DAY

RENATE

RELIGIOUS IN EUROPE NETWORKING
AGAINST TRAFFICKING AND EXPLOITATION

What Can I Do, Lord?

When the world feels broken.
When the suffering is beyond anything I can comprehend.
When I don’t know where to begin,
and a part of me would rather not know at all.
What can I do, Lord? What can I do?
When I walk past someone sleeping on the street.
When I see someone being humiliated
and say nothing.
When I know someone is lonely
and tell myself they will be fine.
What can I do, Lord? What can I do?
When I hear of people being trafficked,
of lives being bought and sold,
of people exploited so that others may profit.
When I think about the hands that made my clothes,
the lives behind the things I buy,
the suffering that allows my comfort.
What can I do, Lord?
What can I do?

When there is hatred, When there is injustice.
When people are treated as though their lives matter less.
When I feel the pull to look away, to protect my own peace, to tell myself it has nothing to do with me.
What can I do, Lord? What can I do?
Perhaps the question is not whether I can save the world.
Perhaps the question is whether I am willing to be changed by what I see. Can I look? Can I listen?
Can I allow another person’s suffering to interrupt my day, my comfort, my certainty?
Can I speak when it would be easier to stay quiet?
Can I give when I would rather keep?
Can I change my mind?
Can I stand beside someone when nobody else will?
What can I do, Lord? What can I do?

I can begin here.
With the person in front of me.
With the choice before me. With the truth I already know
but have not yet acted upon.
I cannot do everything. But I can do something.
I can choose to be present.
I can choose to participate in what is right.
I can choose to speak, to give, to serve, to stand beside.
I can choose to make my life an answer to the suffering I encounter.
So, Lord, I ask you:
What is mine to do?
Make the answer clear.
Give me the strength to receive it,
the wisdom to understand it,
and the courage to act upon it.
Let my faith become visible in the choices I make,
and let my life serve what is good, just, and compassionate.

Amen.

Written by a RENATE House of Prayer Task Group Member


Reflection & Music

Prayer for Wisdom and Guided Impact

While Jesus was in Bethany, reclining at the table in the home of a man known as Simon the Leper, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume… She broke the jar and poured perfume on his head… Some of those present were saying to one another, “Why this waste of perfume?” … “Leave her alone,” said Jesus. Why are you bothering her? She has done a beautiful thing to me… She did what she could…”

Mark 14:3-8

Shared Hope International
www.sharedhope.org

“He has shown you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.” Micah 6:8

Dear God, when I see blatant evil, I am tempted to rant and rave and want to destroy those who are hurting others.
Help me to understand that buyers and traffickers are broken people too, in need of your mercy. Help me to be patient as you extend mercy to them but also trust that you will judge rightly.
Help me not to be angry in my own pride, but to humbly trust you are working.

Shared Hope International
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A Prayer for Strength in the Fight Against Trafficking

Gracious and loving God, we lift up to You those who work against all forms of trafficking and exploitation. Strengthen their resolve as they work tirelessly to combat the horrors of these crimes. Empower them with wisdom, compassion, and perseverance, so they may continue to be a light in the darkness. Grant them protection from discouragement and frustration. May Your Spirit guide their every action, so their efforts may bear fruit, bringing justice and freedom to those enslaved by exploitation.

Amen.

RENATE House of Prayer
Task Group Member

O Lord, you said you came: “to set the captives free.”

In our world, young men and women who are trafficked, are modern day slaves. Help these young people not to lose hope. Give the grace for elected officials to grow in awareness of and to take active steps to eradicate this horror. Teach them not to prosecute the victims of trafficking but to bring to justice those who perpetrate this crime.

Lord, give the grace of conversion to those who mistreat unfortunates for their own personal gain. May demand decrease as people realize that prostitution is a crime against human dignity, forced upon these people, who are more victim than anything else.

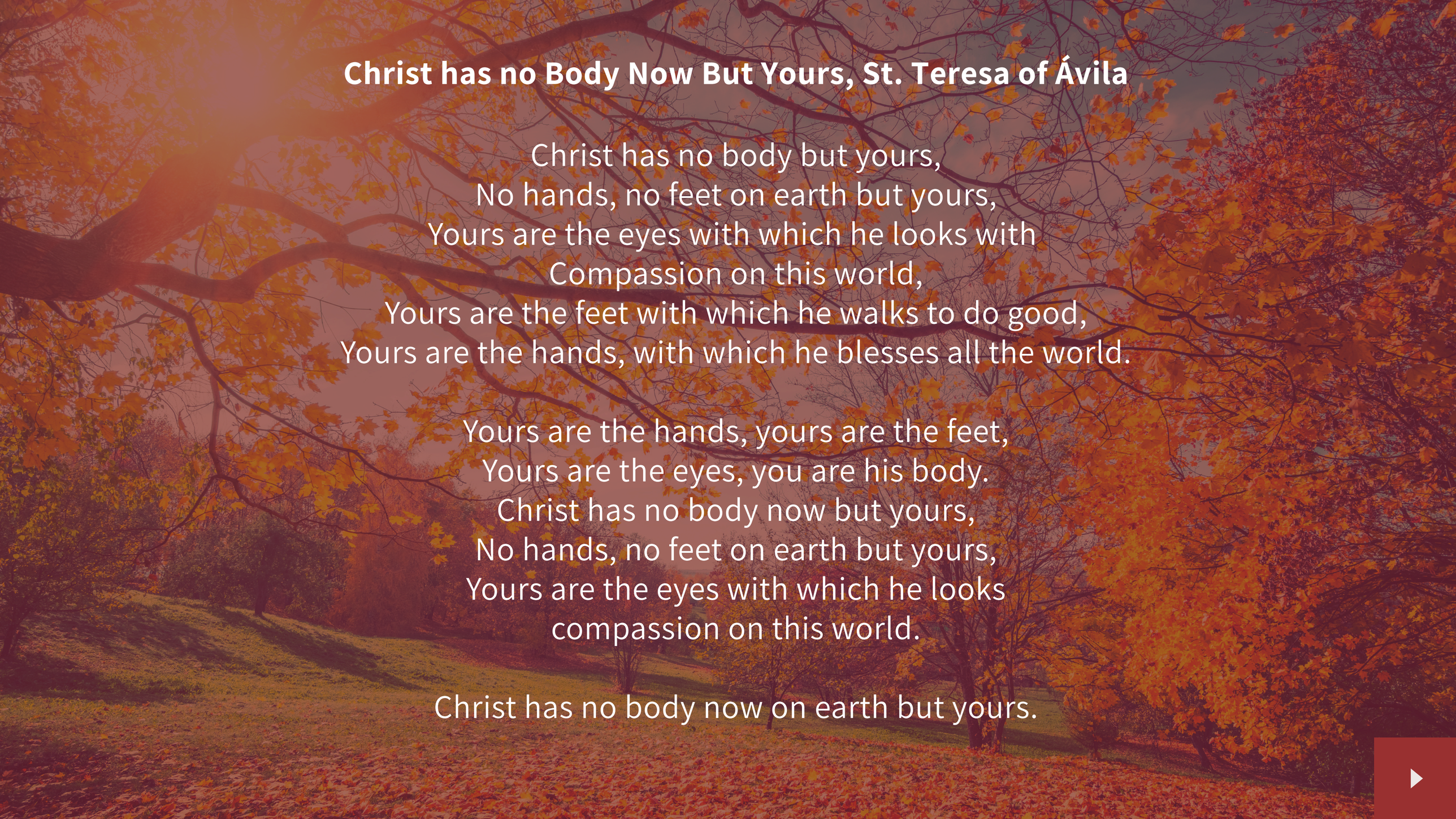
May the awareness of this horrendous crime spread throughout the world and may many join the efforts to stop trafficking and help the victims begin anew, filled with hope. We ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

~ Sr. Veronica Piccone, MSC


Reflection & Music

Prayer of Angelika, program participant of the Anonymous Ways Foundation Recovery Program, Budapest.

Dear God,
I do have a place in this life.
My heart is aching, I have nothing. My heart is filled with pain.
I implore you, dear God, pay attention to me,
I’m still your child.Love me, enter my life.
I open up to You, but just for You!
Please, heal me, God!
That I could be with You till the end of my life!



Christ has no Body Now But Yours, St. Teresa of Ávila

Christ has no body but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks with
Compassion on this world,
Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good,
Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.

Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,
Yours are the eyes, you are his body.
Christ has no body now but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks
compassion on this world.

Christ has no body now on earth but yours.



Thank you for joining!

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