

PRAYER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS DAY 2018

Praise to You, faithful God of life and freedom.
Giving thanks, we celebrate your deep desire for
equality and dignity amid diversity.

Guide us to hear -- as one --
cries of those made poor
and cries of Earth.

Together with peoples of every place and nation,
we honour the 70th anniversary of the
Universal Declaration of Human Rights --
protecting individuals,
upholding the common good . . .
unfolding still in modern history.

We offer thanks, too, for the church's
human rights tradition, evolving through centuries;
expressed anew by Pope St. John XXIII;
animated by many giving their lives for
your unquenchable justice.

Lamenting violence, indifference and greed,
we pray for and advocate with
those whose rights are ignored, violated, denied . . .
those displaced, abused, trafficked . . .

the United Nations; non-governmental organizations
and all committed in peace to human rights
within the fullness of your vast creation.

Send us your energizing Spirit
to speak truth and be light in darkness.

With trust and hope, we pray in the name of Jesus
who stood with those oppressed,
bringing Good News in his time, for all ages. Amen.

(Roma De Robertis, SCIC ~ 2018)