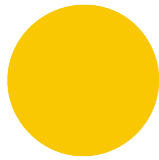


**From:** [The Clewer Initiative](#)  
**To:** [ctcinfohub@gmail.com](mailto:ctcinfohub@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** The launch of Journeys  
**Date:** 01 February 2023 15:11:22

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# THE CLEWER INITIATIVE

*Mobilising the Church to help end modern slavery.*

## **The launch of Journeys**

Today, The Clewer Initiative launches Journeys, our new resource. In this newsletter, we provide a sneak preview of the films and devotional as well as sharing news about what is happening around the world to mark St. Bakhita's Day.

***Please forward this newsletter to your friends and colleagues and encourage them to sign up to receive it regularly.***



**Use Journeys to learn more about modern slavery**

Every modern slavery journey is different.

Some people are targeted in their bedrooms in suburbia, others on a busy street in Vietnam or an internet cafe in Albania. Many British victims are

approached when they are already struggling with other vulnerabilities such as homelessness or school exclusion. Similarly, every volunteer and campaigner has a different journey. In *Journeys*, we tell these stories - the stories of victims and volunteers.

Our *Journeys* resource consists of five mini films and two written resources - a faith-based devotional for churches and individuals to use during Lent and a resource for schools, businesses, charities, statutory and community organisations to use at any time of the year.

The written resources will help you reflect on the films and include searching questions, case studies, background information and suggestions for action. The Lent resource also contains a short Bible study, the Gospel reading for the following Sunday and a prayer to draw our discussions together.



Please share the trailer for *Journeys* with your friends, family and on your social channels.

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*Journeys* consists of:

- Five mini-films (containing victim stories and interviews with frontline volunteers and experts)
- A Lent resource for churches and individuals
- A separate resource for schools, businesses, charities, statutory and community organisations

- 30 vivid drawings to inspire discussion
- Written contributions from the National Crime Agency, the Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority, the Bishop of London and the former Bishop of Derby, Alastair Redfern
- Interviews with representatives from Hestia, the Pan Lancashire Anti-Slavery Partnership; Southend Against Modern Slavery; the Federation of Protestant Churches in Italy, the Diocese of Gloucester and The Clewer Initiative
- Five testimonies of victims trapped in labour exploitation, county lines, financial exploitation and domestic servitude. Their stories are portrayed by actors.

WATCH THE FILMS AND MONOLOGUES

DOWNLOAD THE RESOURCE



## Compelling new artwork to help us journey together

Central to our new resource *Journeys* are the "Stations of the Cross." Each week, Bishop Alastair Redfern, Chair of The Clewer Initiative, poses searching questions to help participants reflect on Jesus' final day and notice the parallels with the journeys of many modern slavery victims.

To help steer our meditations, Bill Crooks, an artist and facilitator for The Clewer Initiative, has created 30 new images – 15 traditional stations of the cross and 15 contemporary interpretations.

By considering the two sets of images, side by side, we hope people will be able to see with fresh eyes the injustice, loneliness and cruelty of the journey victims often take.

SEE THE TRADITIONAL STATIONS OF THE CROSS

SEE THE CONTEMPORARY STATIONS

## Richard and Danny's story of Financial Exploitation



In *Journeys*, five actors and actresses bring to life the stories of five victims of modern slavery. In Week 3, we hear from Richard, a father of a modern slavery victim. His story is unusual because it involves financial exploitation, a form of modern slavery that is less well known.

We interviewed the police force involved in the case and they explained more: *"When we investigated the evidence, it became clear this local teenager had got sucked into an extremely, dark and complex serious crime organisation. Criminals are working across the world, luring teenagers and vulnerable adults into unseen crime and leaving them frightened and trapped."*

*"We are seeing a lot more cases of financial exploitation where people are tricked into going into debt and then held in bondage. Once gangs have a hold over individuals, they apply huge pressure, threats and blackmail and coerce them into online crime."*

To find out more about financial exploitation and Richard's journey, download week 3 of *Journeys*.

VIEW WEEK 3 OF JOURNEYS



# FEAST DAY OF SAINT JOSEPHINE BAKHITA

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8 FEBRUARY

## Travelling to Rome for St. Bakhita's Day

February 8<sup>th</sup> is the Feast of St. Josephine Bakhita, a Sudanese nun who was kidnapped and sold into slavery as a child. After years of enslavement, she was eventually granted freedom and became a member of the Canossian Sisters in Italy.

Today she is known as the patron saint of human trafficking and 8<sup>th</sup> February marks [The International Day of Prayer and Awareness Against Human Trafficking](#) when St Bakhita is remembered as a symbol of the Church's commitment against the issue.

The day provides an opportunity for churches and individuals to come together in solidarity and prayer for victims caught up in slavery across the world. It is

facilitated by Talitha Kum, an international network of sisters which operates in five continents to take action against the issue and care for those affected.

This year, on the 9<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the international day, 20 young representatives of organisations partnering with Talitha Kum will be travelling to Rome for a week of networking and training against human trafficking. The Clewer Initiative is excited to be sending a representative to take part in the week of events.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

## SIGN UP FOR MODERN SLAVERY TRAINING

### 1. Modern Slavery and Safeguarding Training for Social Action Projects

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/479950022437>

Monday 6th February 19:00-21:00

### 2. Breaking County Lines Train the Trainer

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/474699808907>

The course takes place over three sessions on:

Session 1: Wednesday 22nd February 14:30-16:30

Session 2: Wednesday 1st March 14:30-16:30

### 3. Understanding county lines for Grandparents, Parents and Guardians

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/491696777297>

Thursday 23rd February 10:30-11:30

### 4. Modern Slavery and Safeguarding Refugees Training

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/514770832417>

Wednesday 15th March 19:00-20:30

Thursday 23rd March 10:00-11:30

### 5. County Lines for Foster Parents

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/491703156377>

Friday 24th March 10:00-12:00

To find out more, visit <https://theclewerinitiative.org/training-and-events>

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## Follow us on social for more news from The Clewer Initiative!



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The Clewer Initiative enables Church of England dioceses and wider church networks to develop strategies for detecting modern slavery in their communities and help provide victim support and care. [Learn More](#)

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