

New Prayers for 2023

Pray for Domestic Violence around the World

God of the universe, all people are made in your image. You love them and you know each one by name. God, please bring your boundless resources to help women and children around the world who are experiencing violence of any kind. We pray for governments around the world to rule wisely and to make and enforce laws to protect women and children from violence. Please provide support agencies with the resources they need to provide for the rights of victims.

And please change the culture that permits, ignores, downplays or excuses violence against women and children throughout the world. Please give your grace, comfort and healing to all those who suffer.

Amen.

https://www.commongrace.org.au/domestic_violence_pray

Pray for Domestic Violence in Australia

Loving Father, we thank you that you bring light to the darkness of this world. We pray that you would bring understanding, knowledge, and acceptance of the truth and expose what lurks in the dark and bring it into the light.

We cry out to you. We cry out that these statistics might change. We cry out to you that the women and children who are victims of violence would cease to be so. We pray that violence in all its forms would cease.

We pray that you would give us courage to face this epidemic with all that we have. To make changes to education, implement early intervention, and resource front-line responders. We ask that the government will start to recognise this tragedy for what it is. Most importantly, we ask that your people would be the hands, feet, and voices for change.

Amen.

https://www.commongrace.org.au/domestic_violence_pray

Pray for Recognition

Psalm 56:1-3, 8 (NRSV)

"Be gracious to me, O God, for people trample on me;
all day long foes oppress me; my enemies trample on me all day long, for many fight
against me.

O Most High, when I am afraid, I put my trust in you...



You have kept count of my tossings; put my tears in your bottle. Are they not in your record?"

Lord, give us eyes to see and ears to hear the many different ways in which domestic and family violence is carried out against all sorts of people, in all sorts of ways, in our communities. Thank you that you see and you hear everything that happens in this world.

Give us understanding and keep us vigilant to recognise those who need assistance, knowing that violence does not always involve physical scarring and bruising. Give counsellors and pastoral care workers understanding and wisdom as they offer support in these painful circumstances.

Amen.

https://www.commongrace.org.au/domestic_violence_pray

Pray for the lives taken

God, we grieve for those who have had their lives taken by the violent. We grieve for what was taken from them, and for what the world is losing in their deaths.

We especially pray for their families and friends. God, we know you are near to the broken-hearted, and you save the crushed in spirit. May friends and family of these victims know your nearness and your salvation and find comfort and hope in you.

God of justice, we ask that you will bring justice to victims and perpetrators, to those who have lost and those who have taken. We trust in your perfect justice.

Amen.

https://www.commongrace.org.au/domestic_violence_pray

Pray for men who support women

Lord, today we thank you for the men and boys who are already drivers of cultural change needed to prevent domestic and family violence in our communities. We ask that you continue to give these peacemakers wisdom, humility and understanding in their roles as leaders, supporters, counsellors and advocates.

We ask, Lord, that you would continue to raise up more men and boys to take a stand against aggressive and disrespectful attitudes and behaviours. We pray that championing the safety of women and children, and embodying gentle, respectful relationships will become a priority for all men, everywhere.

Amen.

https://www.commongrace.org.au/domestic_violence_pray



Pray for men who use violence

God, we give you thanks that nothing is impossible with you, and that you open the door for repentance and forgiveness in the costly loving death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus.

Today, we lift to you, all those who want to change. We pray for men who have learned to use violence to exert power and control over their partners and children, and who are attempting to change themselves and transform their relationships through men's behaviour change programs. May your Spirit work within them to bring repentance and healing and a deep and genuine change in the way they treat others.

May they yield to your justice, placing themselves in positions where they can encounter sources of support and accountability as a means of practically working out this repentance and change. We pray for the counsellors and programs which seek to help those men - for strength, wisdom and more resourcing for this important work.

Amen.

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Pray for the church – the future

Thank you, God, that you are able to do powerful things in and through our churches.

Thank you that you have made us see domestic and family violence more clearly for the sin it is against you and the people you love.

We praise you that you have the power to change each of us – from the inside out. Make us more aware and enable us to act on our awareness. Give us vision to see hope and more loving ways forward. Please work in each of us so that we can help our churches be places of care, safety, justice and truth for everyone.

Amen.

https://www.commongrace.org.au/domestic_violence_pray

God of endless love, ever caring, ever strong, always present, always just:
You gave your only Son to save us by the blood of his cross.

Gentle Jesus, shepherd of peace, join to your own suffering
the pain of all who have been hurt in body, mind, and spirit
by those who betrayed the trust placed in them.

Hear the cries of our brothers and sisters who have been gravely harmed,
and the cries of those who love them.



Soothe their restless hearts with hope, steady their shaken spirits with faith.
Grant them justice for their cause, enlightened by your truth.

Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts, heal your people's wounds and
transform brokenness into wholeness.

Grant us the courage and wisdom, humility and grace, to act with justice.

Breathe wisdom into our prayers and labours.

Grant that all harmed by abuse may find peace in justice.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

<https://www.usccb.org/prayers/prayer-healing-victims-abuse>

Gracious God, whose Son wept over the city of Jerusalem,
fill our hearts with compassion for those women and children who suffer violence
and exploitation at the hands of the wicked. Guide us in vigilance so that we may
recognize those who need our assistance. Direct our hearts that we might untie the
burdens placed upon them and bring them to freedom and safety. We ask this
through the intercession of your Son, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

<https://www.chausa.org/prayers/cha-prayer-library/prayer/a-prayer-for-persons-suffering-from-domestic-violence-and-human-trafficking>

God of peace, there are many places and many people who do not experience your
peace.

Right now, there are many, many women and children who live under the dark
weight of the fear of violence right in their own homes.

We pray for your protection, and for wisdom for friends and officials to help bring
that protection to them.

We pray for the many men who themselves feel powerless and confused about their
relationships.

We ask that you would help them find healthy ways to work out their frustrations
and to find hope without resorting to destructive impulses.

God, work in our country to stem this epidemic. We ask for your perfect peace,

Amen.

<https://www.beliefnet.com/>



Gracious God, You created us in Your image and breathed life into us, a life You want us to live abundantly. We ask You to free those living with abuse physically, mentally or spiritually, from their oppression, so that they may walk in peace and enjoy a life full of Your blessings. In Jesus' name.

Amen.

<https://www.beliefnet.com/>

O Lord, help us to be strong stewards of all You have entrusted to us. Give us the courage and Your strength to stand against violence inflicted upon Your precious people. In Jesus' name.

Amen.

<https://www.beliefnet.com/>

Almighty God, we pray for all victims of abuse. We ask you to surround them with Your care and protect them by Your loving might and permit them to enjoy health and healing, wholeness and strength, calmness and peace and love. Most of all, we pray that they feel Your presence and be confident in You. In Jesus' name.

Amen.

<https://www.beliefnet.com/>

Teaching God, we pray that You open our ears, our eyes, and our hearts to be more aware, outreaching, and supportive to people in abusive situations, so that they won't feel alone and know that someone cares. Let us love them as You have loved us. In Jesus' name. Amen.

<https://www.beliefnet.com/>

Merciful God, we give you thanks for your gift of strength and life and especially for the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ, through whom we have health and salvation. Help us by Your Holy Spirit to witness your power in our lives and to know your eternal love. In Jesus' name. Amen.

<https://www.beliefnet.com/>



Compassionate God, protect the innocent children who suffer or witness violence and abuse at the hands of the ones they love. Bring them to a safe place where they can begin to heal. Restore their minds to trust and their hearts to love and their spirits to be free. Surround them with your angels. In Jesus' name.

Amen.

<https://www.beliefnet.com/>

Loving God, we gather here today to remember those who are affected by violence and abuse and for whom we are concerned. We come with our requests to you and ask that you hear our prayer. Alone we can do nothing. With your guidance and blessing we can move mountains. Open us to the problems both in our neighbourhoods and in the neighbourhoods of others.

Ever-living and loving God, you provoke us to the challenge of our time. Keep us constantly aware to the concerns of violence. Inspire each of us to know the urgency of your call to address the many needs that surround us. Give us the fortitude to respond to the tasks before us according to Your will. Be with us today, loving God, comfort us but not protect us from the work that needs to be done.

Let us leave this gathering more concerned about issues of violence and abuse that surround us. We ask You for the strength to share our convictions, the compassion for the abused, the wisdom to plant seeds that encourage people to think and ponder these serious issues. Watch over with care, those who are violated and those who strive to do your work in your name.

Amen.

Terry Morneau

Gracious God, you created us in your image and breathed life into us. A life you want us to live abundantly. We ask you to free those living with abuse physically, mentally or spiritually, from their oppression, so that they may walk in peace and enjoy a life full of your blessings. In Jesus' name.

Amen.

<https://www.mnys.org/our-work/domestic-violence-awareness-task-force/>



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Amen.

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Almighty God & Everlasting Lord,

You are the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort. We pray for those who have been abused within our churches and the wider communities across our nation. Have compassion upon all who have suffered the injustice, humiliation, and pain of abuse – sexual, physical, emotional, spiritual and all other forms of sinful conduct. In the midst of their distressing circumstances, give them courage to speak. May your perfect love drive out fear and anxiety. In your mercy, create opportunities for these women and children to share their pain, reveal their struggles and expose the hurtful actions of others.

Give grace, sensitivity, and wisdom to all who will minister to the victims and survivors of abuse. Strengthen those who have been abused and their carers with the certainty of your love for them. In all things, we ask that your name be glorified and that we – your people – do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly before you. We humbly plead these things in the name of our Saviour, Jesus Christ, who died and rose and now sits at your right hand in glory.

Amen.

<https://matthiasmedia.com/>

God our redeemer and sustainer, we pray for the survivors of violence and abuse. Be with them in confusion and pain. Give your power to the powerless, your fullness to the empty of spirit. Heal their wounds, free them from fear and restore them to true health. Strengthen them to face the future with faith in you. We ask this through Jesus your Son, who was himself a victim of abuse and yet in his resurrection, triumphed over the oppression.

God of justice, judge of all the earth, we bring before you those who abuse and mistreat others. Turn the hearts of the exploiters from the way of evil. Open their eyes to the truth of their conduct and fill them with hatred for the damage they do. And so, by your Spirit bring them to true repentance and amendment of their lives.



And now, may your Spirit draw us together, both in our church family, and in the community. May we face our mistakes with complete honesty. But preserve us from unhelpful speculation and gossip. Help us reach out, care for the hurting, and support each other. Strengthen us with the gospel of your grace, for Jesus' Christ's sake.

Amen.

<https://matthiasmedia.com/>

Dear Lord, we pray for the women who are isolated, may then know you are with them. We pray for the women who are hurt, may the feel your healing touch. We pray for the women who do not know which way to turn, may the Holy Spirit guide them. Amen