



April 2019 Safe Environment Week Guide



ARCHDIOCESE
of MILWAUKEE

Safe Environment Office
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April 5, 2019

Dear Safe Environment Coordinators and Bulletin Editors,

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. In addition to our efforts throughout the year, the Archdiocese of Milwaukee has always recognized the important month of April as Child Abuse Prevention Month. This year, we have also designated April 29th - May 5th, as Safe Environment Week. In doing so, we can assure that every parish and school, as well as the entire faith community focuses, at the same time, on the importance of keeping our children and youth safe.

This year's theme for Safe Environment week is: *"On this path we are not alone."* — Pope Francis

Please use the materials provided during Safe Environment Week to help raise awareness of how we as a Catholic community continue to work to maintain safe environments in our parishes and schools for our children to live, learn, and play. Each parish may use whatever combination of these resources that they feel best meets the needs of their community. There are some suggestions for activities and ways to pray, create awareness, and participate in the healing journey.

Thank you for the continued role you play in creating and maintaining safe environments for all of God's children.

Blessings,

Suzanne Nickolai
Safe Environment Program Manager
Archdiocese of Milwaukee

cc: Pastor / Administrator / Parish Director, Principal, DRE, YM

Important Update Regarding Parish Listening Sessions: We also recognize that many Catholics experience the profound wounds of the abuse crisis whether directly or indirectly. Many in our parishes and schools are hurting and angry. We understand that some parishes may be looking for a resource to help facilitate discussion and healing within their parishes. To that end, the Archdiocese of Milwaukee is making available for your use an excellent resource that you can use in your parish. The resource, *"The Wounded Body of Christ: A Parish Group Discussion Guide on Abuse in the Catholic Church,"* will be made available to all parishes at no charge. One copy of the resource will be sent to pastors, administrators, and parish directors in the near future for their review. If you want an advanced preview of this resource, go to <http://www.twentythirdpublications.com/woboofchnepa.html>. Additional information regarding how to order copies and small group facilitator training will be available in the coming months. For more information regarding this, call Rich Harter at 414-758-2215 or harterr@archmil.org.



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Please see that the attached Proclamation for Safe Environment Week is read at all Masses on the weekend of April 27th-April 28th. You can also find the link to the Proclamation at

<https://www.archmil.org/ArchMil/Resources/SAFE/2019SafeEnvironmentWeekProclamation.pdf> or
<https://www.archmil.org/ArchMil/Resources/SAFE/SPANISHProclamationforSafeEnvironmentWeek-2019.pdf>

Thank you for the continued role you play in creating and maintaining safe environments for all of God's children.

Blessings,

Suzanne Nickolai

Safe Environment Program Manager

cc: Safe Environment Coordinator, Principal, DRE, YM

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Archdiocese of Milwaukee Safeguarding All of God's Family Safe Environment Week - Proclamation

WHEREAS, Safe Environment Week is for every parish and school, as well as the entire faith community to focus, at the same time, on the importance of keeping our children and youth safe;

WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect are societal problems whose prevention depend on involvement among people throughout the faith community;

WHEREAS, our children are our most valuable resources and will shape the future of not only the Archdiocese of Milwaukee but also the entire Church;

WHEREAS, the theme for this years' Safe Environment Week will be "On this path we are not alone";

WHEREAS, acknowledging that as a Church we have much work to do to rebuild the trust that has been broken;

WHEREAS, we acknowledge that as bishops, clergy and church leaders we must work together as a community to increase awareness about child abuse and neglect and work to promote the social and emotional well-being of children, youth and families in a safe, healthy and nurturing environment;

THEREFORE, I, Archbishop Jerome E. ListECKi proclaim the week of April 29th – May 5th, 2019 as Safe Environment Week in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. I ask that all participate and acknowledge each other with the love and mercy of God the Father.

Most Reverend Jerome E. ListECKi
Archbishop of Milwaukee



Arquidiócesis de Milwaukee
Salvaguardando a toda la familia de Dios
Proclamación para la Semana de Ambiente Seguro

POR CUANTO, la Semana de Ambiente de Seguro es para todas las parroquias y escuelas, así como para la comunidad de fe, para enfocarnos en la importancia de proteger a nuestros niños y jóvenes seguros;

POR CUANTO, el abuso y abandono infantil son problemas sociales cuya prevención depende de la participación entre las personas a través de la comunidad de fe;

POR CUANTO, nuestros hijos son nuestros recursos más valiosos y construirán el futuro no sólo de la Arquidiócesis de Milwaukee, sino también de toda la Iglesia;

POR CUANTO, el tema de la Semana de Ambiente Seguro de este año es, *En este Camino No Estamos Solos*;

POR CUANTO, reconociendo que como Iglesia tenemos mucho trabajo por hacer para reconstruir la confianza que se ha roto;

POR CUANTO, reconocemos que como obispos, clérigos y líderes de la Iglesia tenemos que trabajar juntos como una comunidad para aumentar la conciencia sobre el abuso y abandono infantil y trabajar para promover el desarrollo social y el bienestar emocional de los niños, jóvenes y familias en un ambiente seguro, sano y enriquecedor;

POR LO TANTO, YO, Arzobispo Jerome E. ListECKi proclamo la semana del 29 de abril a 5 de mayo de 2019 como la Semana de Ambiente Seguro en la Arquidiócesis de Milwaukee. Pido que todos participen y se reconozcan los unos a otros con el mismo amor y misericordia de Dios Padre.

Reverendísimo Jerome E. ListECKi
Arzobispo de Milwaukee

Safe Environment Week Bulletin Announcement

Place this bulletin announcement in all church bulletins the weekend of April 27th & 28th.

Safe Environment Week April 29th-May 5th

The Archdiocese of Milwaukee recognizes April 29th –May 5th as Safe Environment Awareness Week. Each year in the month of April, which is recognized around the country as child abuse prevention month, we dedicate a week to elevating the general awareness of the Church's efforts to keep our children safe. We want people to know that we are committed to maintaining safe environments in our parishes and schools through adult child abuse prevention training, criminal background checks for all clergy, volunteers working with minors, and employees, safety training for children in each grade level, and mandatory reporting requirements.

Parish/School Safe Environment Week Checklist

- **Safe Environment Week Bulletin Announcement** in church bulletins the week of April 27th & 28th.
- Read the **Proclamation** at all Masses the weekend of April 27th & 28th.
- Throughout the month of April and for the week of April 29th-May 5th include **intercessions with a Safe Environment focus** involving a focus on prevention and healing
- Choose **at least one (1) Parish/School activity** to do at some point during Safe Environment Week
- Include **“Do You Know...”** in your parish bulletins and parent communications before, during, and after Safe Environment Week.
- Select **at least one (1) bulletin insert/parent handout** to put in the bulletin/send to parents during Safe Environment Week.

Sample Safe Environment Week Parish/School Activities

- 1) **PRAY THE ROSARY FOR HEALING FROM ABUSE** Dedicate a rosary for healing done prior to a Mass or as part of a group rosary activity already scheduled.

English - <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/child-and-youth-protection/upload/Rosary-for-Healing.pdf>

Spanish - <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/child-and-youth-protection/resources/upload/Rosary-for-Healing-Spanish-2.pdf>

- 2) **PRAY A NOVENA FOR PROTECTION AND HEALING FROM ABUSE** Participate in a Novena for the Protection of Children and Healing from Abuse.

English - <http://www.usccb.org/about/communications/bishops-resources/upload/cyp-novena-bulletin-insert.pdf>

Spanish - <http://www.usccb.org/about/communications/bishops-resources/upload/cyp-novena-bulletin-insert-spanish.pdf>

Daily social media posts for each day of the novena are available at <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/child-and-youth-protection/child-abuse-prevention-month.cfm>

- 3) **HOLD A HEALING PRAYER SERVICE.** Schedule a Healing Prayer Service for your parish. A suggested format is available in the resources portion of this guide as well through the Safe Environment website at <https://www.archmil.org/offices/safeguarding/April2018.htm>.

- 4) **SAY THE PRAYER FOR HEALING.** Encourage using the Prayer for Healing during Safe Environment Week.

- a. The prayer is in the resources portion of this guide and can be found on the USCCB website <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/child-and-youth-protection/resources/upload/Bilingual-PC.pdf>.

- 5) **BLUE MONDAY APRIL 29TH** Participate in Blue Monday on April 29th (or designate another day to wear blue during Safe Environment Week for your parish/school)

- a. Encourage members of your parish/school to wear blue as a symbol of child abuse prevention.
 - i. Sample Bulletin Entry/School Announcement-
This year join us at (parish/school)_____ to mark our support for child abuse prevention by wearing the color blue on April 29th (or other date

designated by your parish/school). Wearing blue helps remind us and encourage others to prevent child abuse and support healthy children and families.

b. Share pictures of your community wearing blue to social media.

6) **PINWHEELS FOR PREVENTION** Have your students/children participate in Pinwheels for Prevention. Instructions & templates are in the Resources portion of this guide.

a. Sample Bulletin Entry/Parent Notification Email Entry –

Pinwheels for Prevention is a national symbol for Child Abuse Prevention. Each April, we see blue pinwheels pop up all over our country as we as a community recognize the right all children have to grow up in safe environments free from abuse. This year we have made blue pinwheels to raise awareness for how we as a Church work to prevent child abuse through our Safe Environment programs and to encourage everyone to work together to keep our homes, schools, parishes, and communities safe environments for our children!

Pinwheel Project

As Catholics, we have seen and experienced the pain and trauma that sexual abuse causes for victims, families, communities, schools, and parishes.

This year we are participating in the Child Abuse Prevention Project *Pinwheels for Prevention*. In 2008, Prevent Child Abuse America began using the pinwheel as symbol for child abuse prevention. We commonly see pinwheels decorate state capitol buildings, hospitals, social service organizations and non-profits to remind us of the childhood that all children deserve. We join the nation and our Church to make blue pinwheels to remind us of the importance of safeguarding those most vulnerable around us, and that all children deserve a childhood protected from abuse.

Every child in our parishes and schools deserves to be part of a Catholic community that will provide a safe, faith-filled and healthy environment where they will be protected and nurtured by the adults around them. As we observe Safe Environment Week during the Easter season in our parishes and schools, we are reminded of the Wounded Body of Christ that we are part of and that as we journey on the path towards healing that “On This Path We Are Not Alone.”

Templates & Directions can be found in Resources & Handouts of this guide or directly from Prevent Child Abuse America:

http://preventchildabuse.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/PinwheelColoringSheet_National.pdf

http://preventchildabuse.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/MakeYourPinwheel_National.pdf

Sample Intercessions for Safe Environment Week/Child Abuse Prevention Month

**** Please feel free to use any of these intercessions provided or to compose your own for use in your parish.****

For nations and government leaders that are entrusted with upholding the common good and enforcing justice for all; that they may act in ways that show their commitment to the protection of all, especially the unborn, children and vulnerable. We pray to the Lord...

For the bishops, church leaders and the faithful as they work to promote healing for the abused, hold those that commit abuse accountable and protect the most vulnerable in our communities. We pray to the Lord...

For all survivors of abuse and trauma to have the courage to tell their story and seek healing; that they may be consoled by the presence of Christ in their dark moments as they process their trauma. We pray to the Lord...

For those affected by abuse; that they may be supported and consoled on their journey to healing. We pray to the Lord...

For the parents, teachers, catechists, and all who work with children and young people; that they may be faithful in their responsibility to protect those entrusted to them by providing safe environment for our children to live, learn, and grow. We pray to the Lord...

For all those that journey with the victims and survivors of abuse: the counselors, law enforcement, therapists, family members and advocates; that the Holy Spirit may guide their words and actions in their healing ministry. We pray to the Lord...

For all Catholics that are scandalized and questioning their faith, that they may remain rooted in Christ and advocate for justice for the survivors of abuse, that we may find consolation through Mary, Mother of the Church as we work together to heal. We pray to the Lord...

Suggested Bulletin Inserts/Parent Handouts

The following links have pages that can be used as bulletin inserts on child abuse prevention during the month of April and Safe Environment Week.

USCCB Bulletin Inserts on Child Sexual Abuse

10 Tips for Protecting Children & Offering Outreach to Victims/Survivors

English - <http://www.usccb.org/about/communications/bishops-resources/upload/10-tips-bulletin-insert.pdf>

Spanish - <http://www.usccb.org/about/communications/bishops-resources/upload/10-tips-bulletin-insert-spanish.pdf>

Abuse Warning Signs

English - <http://www.usccb.org/about/communications/bishops-resources/upload/warning-signs-bulletin-insert.pdf>

Spanish - <http://www.usccb.org/about/communications/bishops-resources/upload/warning-signs-bulletin-insert-spanish.pdf>

Five Ways to Protect Your Children From Abuse-English & Spanish

English - <http://www.usccb.org/about/communications/bishops-resources/upload/cyp-five-ways-bulletin-insert-and-foldable-card.pdf>

Spanish - <http://www.usccb.org/about/communications/bishops-resources/upload/cyp-five-ways-bulletin-insert-and-foldable-card-spanish.pdf>

10 Tips for Protecting Children from Abuse and Offering Assistance to Victims/Survivors-English & Spanish

English - <http://www.usccb.org/about/communications/bishops-resources/upload/10-tips-bulletin-insert.pdf>

Spanish - <http://www.usccb.org/about/communications/bishops-resources/upload/10-tips-bulletin-insert-spanish.pdf>

“Safe Environment Program Did You Know...”

The following information is to be used in parish bulletins or weekly parent school communications to raise awareness of the Safe Environment Program in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.

Did You Know...

Criminal Background Checks are conducted on every priest, deacon, parish director, employee, and volunteer working with minors in active ministry in parishes and schools in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.

Did You Know...

In 2018 in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, over **200 Safe Environment Education Sessions** were conducted, over **6,800 criminal background checks** were conducted on clergy, employees, and volunteers, and over **50,000 children were trained** in Safe Environment topics.

Did You Know...

All clergy, employees and volunteers are instructed to contact local law enforcement or Child Protective Services immediately if they are made aware of a child being sexually abused. All bishops, priests, deacons and lay parish/school staffs are required to follow the mandatory reporting laws of the State of Wisconsin.

Did You Know...

All seminarians in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee undergo criminal background checks, Safe Environment Education training in child abuse prevention, psychological evaluation, classes and workshops on human sexuality, and mandatory reporter training.

Did You Know...

The Archdiocese of Milwaukee has a Victim Assistance Coordinator that has specialized training in assisting victims of sexual abuse to navigate through the process of reporting abuse and receiving counselling services. The Victim Assistance Coordinator can be reached at (414) 758-2232.

Did You Know...

No priest with a substantiated allegation of sexual abuse of a minor can or will ever serve as a priest in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.

Did You Know...

In the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, a Diocesan Review Board reviews allegations against clergy involving abuse of a minor and helps hold our diocese accountable.

Resources & Handouts

Pinwheel Project Instructions

As Catholics, we have seen and experienced the pain and trauma that sexual abuse causes for victims, families, communities, schools, and parishes.

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Directions can be found through Prevent Child Abuse America:

http://preventchildabuse.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/PinwheelColoringSheet_National.pdf

http://preventchildabuse.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/MakeYourPinwheel_National.pdf

MAKING YOUR OWN PINWHEEL

Here's a craft project that will allow children a chance to participate in your community's **Pinwheels for Prevention** activities. This activity can be used in schools, daycare centers, after-school programs, church groups, etc.

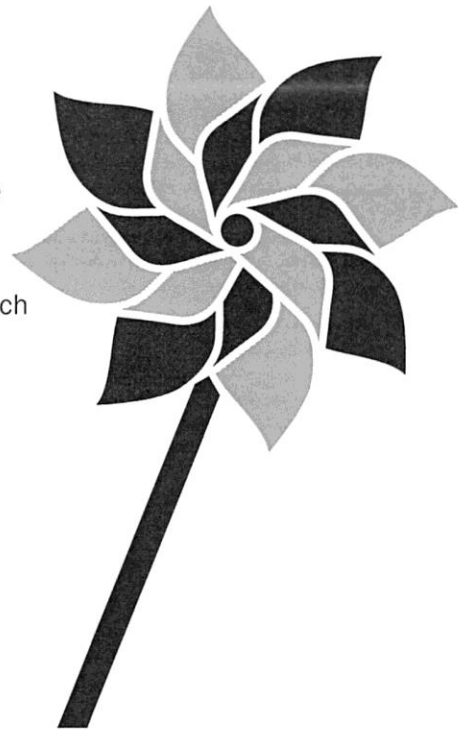
Materials

- a push pin
- a square piece of construction paper (about 8.5" x 8.5")
- a sharpened pencil with eraser
- scissors

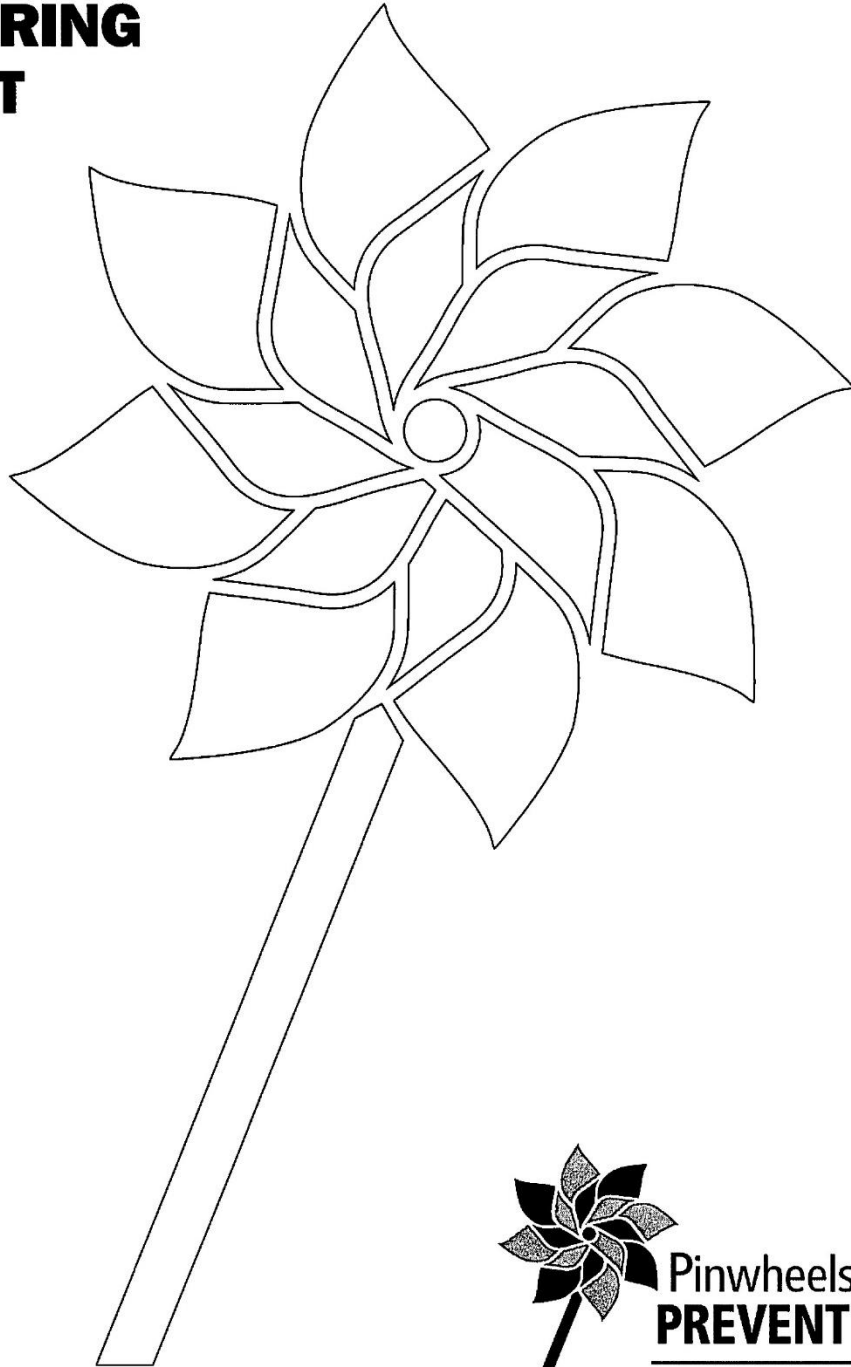
Procedure

1. Lay the square paper flat on a table and draw a line diagonally from each corner to the opposite corner.
2. Mark the center of the square where the two lines cross and punch a small hole through it with the pencil tip.
3. Next, cut along each line stopping about an inch from the hole in the center of the square.
4. Take the pin and punch a hole in the top left corner of each of the four flaps. (No two holes should be next to each other.)
5. Pick-up a flap at a punched corner and carefully curve it over toward the center hole, securing it with the pin.
6. Repeat this for the other flaps.
7. When all four flaps are held by the pin, carefully lift the paper without letting the flaps unfurl.
8. Lay the pencil flat on a table and carefully push the point of the push pin into the side of the eraser.
9. Now your pinwheel is complete and ready to go. Pick-up the pinwheel near the pencil point and let it catch the wind.

preventchildabuse.org



PINWHEEL COLORING SHEET



preventchildabuse.org



Suggestions for Possible Classroom Adaptions for Middle School Incorporating Math, Science, Language Arts & Art into the Pinwheel Project

Science/Engineering

Wind Energy

PBS Learning Media Wisconsin Lesson Plan: Grades 3-5 *Windmills: Putting Wind Energy to Work*
https://wpt.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/phy03.sci.engin.design.lp_windmill/windmills-putting-wind-energy-to-work/#.XHVxg7pKjcs

Art

Design

Incredible Art Department Melissa Speelman Lesson Plan: Middle School *Pinwheel Modern Art Styles*
<https://www.incredibleart.org/files/Melissa-pin.htm>

Math

Area & Perimeter

Math Counts Lesson Plan: Middle School *Pinwheel Power Meeting*
<https://www.mathcounts.org/sites/default/files/u49/Pinwheel.Power.2010-11.pdf>

Language Arts

Have children write a prayer in the form of a poem on what it means to grow up feeling safe and loved on their pinwheel before cutting it out.

Healthy Families Handouts

These handouts can be used in conjunction with the Pinwheels for Prevention activity or as a stand-alone activity for students to do in class or with their family. They are found on the following pages or using the link below.

https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/bd1b59_ded851806a8b462fb9a7c148ac88c051.pdf

https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/bd1b59_62344d1197d04641acf371026c6afab7.pdf

<https://www.bluesunday.org/happy-families>

Happy Families

Write a story or draw a picture of your family doing something from the happy families list.



Show respect even
when they disagree

Take turns talking
and listening

Share the chores

Play together

Give hugs everyday

Learn to apologize
and to forgive

Do things together

Protect each other

Adapted from Strong Happy Families - The Family Strengths Research Project

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month



Celebrate your happy family!

Happy Families:

1. Show respect even when they disagree

There is a right way and a wrong way to settle a fight. Hitting each other is always wrong. Using hurtful words is always wrong. You don't have to agree about everything.

2. Take turns talking and listening

It is fun to know what everyone is thinking. Don't interrupt or make fun of others when they say something you don't agree with.

3. Share the chores

Instead of dreading chores make a game of it. See who can finish first or whose room is cleanest. Cleaning time can double as music time. Turn up the music or better yet sing! Do a little everyday then your room won't be so hard to clean. Ask your parents what you can do to help instead of waiting to be asked. This makes parents very happy. Warning: It might even make them faint!

4. Play together

Parents stay very busy. Playing together doesn't have to mean a video or board game. You can make a game out of anything. How about playing I Spy, Tic Tac Toe, or telling stories or jokes.

5. Give hugs everyday

Don't just get hugs be a hugger!

6. Learn to apologize and to forgive

Everyone makes mistakes sometimes. The first person to apologize always feels better about themselves. Practice saying, "I'm really sad and I'm really sorry for what I've done." It makes it easier to say when you really mean it.

Forgiving means you choose to overlook and forget when someone hurts you. When someone says

they are sorry believe them. Their actions will show if they were being honest.

If someone physically hurts you, tell an adult even if they ask for your forgiveness.

7. Do things together

Being together is important. You don't always have to do things that cost money. Go for walks. Read together or read to a younger brother or sister. Cook together. Visit parks, nature refuges, libraries, museum, church, or extended family. Looking at old family photos is always fun.



8. Protect each other

Parents protect you by taking you to the doctor and dentist. Knowing where you are at all times is a parent's job. When you are playing outside check in with your parents.

Parents aren't always going to be around so remember when you are alone never talk to strangers and never tell a stranger on the phone that you are home alone.

If you go online tell your parents if someone asks you for your name or where you live. Not everyone online is who they say they are. Protect yourself and your family by not telling about yourself or your family to anyone online.



April is Child Abuse Prevention Month
Celebrate your happy family!

Watch for These Warning Signs of Abuse in Minors

No longer wants to see a **particular person** they had been close to

Declining **academic** performance

Tries to hide use of **technology**

No longer interested in **activities** they used to enjoy

Changes in **personality**

Demonstrates **aggressive behavior** or constantly angry

Tries to get minors **alone**



Commits physical and emotional **boundary violations**

Withdraws from family or friends

Keeps **secrets** with minors

Allows or encourages minors to **break laws** or rules

Gives lavish **gifts** to minors

Is overly interested in **spending time** with minors

Has **inappropriate** or suggestive conversations with minors

Does not believe the **rules** apply to them (or, does not follow rules or protocols)

Takes **photos** without approval, or asks minors to send them photos

... and These Warning Signs of Perpetrators

Mantengase Atento a estas Señales de Advertencia de Abuso en Menores de Edad

No quieren ver a **la persona** que antes sido cercanos a ellos

La disminución del rendimiento **académico**

Intenta ocultar el uso de la **tecnología**

Ya no les interesan las **actividades** que antes disfrutaba

Cambios en la **personalidad**

Demuestra **comportamiento agresivo** o constantemente enojado

Intenta de conseguir menores de edad **solos**



Comete **violaciones** físicos y emocionales

Se retira de familia o amigos

Guarda **secretos** con menores de edad

Los dan **regalos** lujosos a menores de edad

Permita o anima a menores de edad que **rompan la leyes** o reglas

Tiene conversaciones **inapropiadas** o sugestivas con menores de edad

Están muy interesado en **pasar tiempo** con menores de edad

No creen que las **reglas** apliquen a ellos (o, no siguen reglas o protocolos)

Toma **fotos** sin aprobación, o pide a los menores de edad que les envíen fotos

...y Estas son Señales de Advertencia de los Perpetradores



5 FIVE WAYS

to protect your children from sexual abuse

Parents play the primary role in educating their children about sexual abuse. Here are 5 tips for teaching safety to the little ones God has entrusted to you.

1

Keep it practical. Teach your children the differences between safe touches and unsafe touches.

2

Tell your children that saying “no” is okay. Empower your children to say “no” if anyone makes them feel uncomfortable or touches them inappropriately.

3

Give your children a way to alert you. Tell your children they can use an excuse or share a special “code-word” with you to alert you about an unsafe person or situation.

4

Tell your children to report an unsafe touch.

Let your children know they should tell you if they feel uncomfortable or unsafe around any adult or peer. You can also identify other adults they can tell about unsafe touches.

5

Tell your children you trust them. If your child makes a report to you, believe him or her. Tell them it is not their fault and that you love them. Immediately bring the allegation to the attention of public authorities.



Promise to Protect

Pledge to Heal

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CINCO MANERAS

de proteger a tus hijos sobre el abuso sexual

Los padres desempeñan el papel principal en educar a sus hijos sobre el abuso sexual. Aquí hay cinco consejos para enseñar seguridad a los pequeños que Dios te ha confiado.

1

Manténgalo práctico. Enseña a tus hijos las diferencias entre los toques apropiados y los toques inapropiados.

2

Dígale a tus hijos que está bien de decir “no”. Autoriza a tus hijos que digan “no” si alguien los hace sentir incómodos o los toca de manera inapropiada.

3

Dale a tus hijos una manera de alertarte. Dígales a tus hijos que pueden usar una excusa o compartir una “palabra clave” especial con usted para alertarlo sobre una persona o situación insegura.

4

Dígales a tus hijos que denuncien un contacto inapropiado. Dígales a tus hijos que deben decirte si se sienten incómodos o inseguros con cualquier adulto o compañero. También puedes identificar a otros adultos a los que ellos pueden hablar sobre los toques inapropiados.

5

Dile a tus hijos que confías en ellos. Si tu hijo te haga un informe, créanlos. Diles que no es su culpa y que los amas. Inmediatamente llama la atención sobre las denuncias a las autoridades.



Promesa de Proteger

Compromiso de Sanar

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Every April, Catholic parishes and schools across the United States participate in National Child Abuse Prevention Month. While dioceses work year-round to prevent abuse, during this month a special emphasis is placed on the importance of learning how to protect the vulnerable from this evil.

Together, for the next nine days, let's pray that the vulnerable are protected from abuse, and that survivors of abuse may be accompanied on their paths to healing.

Novena

for Protection and Healing from Abuse

Intercessions

Day 1: May the most vulnerable be protected from all types of abuse and exploitation.

Day 2: May those who have been sexually abused receive comfort and healing.

Day 3: May those who work with children and young people be vigilant in protecting them from harm.

Day 4: May those who provide help for the abused act with wisdom and compassion in their healing ministries.

Day 5: May all families strive to provide safe and nurturing environments for children and young people.

Day 6: May all those who have committed abuse acknowledge the harm they have done, repent, and accept justice that ultimately comes from God.

Day 7: May those who have been abused receive the courage to tell their story, and may they be believed and supported.

Day 8: May Church leaders, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, promote justice and healing for survivors of abuse.

Day 9: May our Holy Father, Pope Francis, fulfill his role as good shepherd and protect the most vulnerable in his flock.

Prayers

Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, Glory Be, Prayer for Healing

Prayer for Healing

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 our cries as we agonize
over the harm done to our brothers and sisters.
Breathe wisdom into our prayers,
soothe restless hearts with hope,
steady shaken spirits with faith:
Show us the way to justice and wholeness,
enlightened by truth and enfolded in your mercy.
Holy Spirit, comforter of hearts,
heal your people's wounds
and transform our brokenness.
Grant us courage and wisdom, humility and grace,
so that we may act with justice
and find peace in you.
We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.



Cada Abril, las parroquias y escuelas católicas en los Estados Unidos participan en el mes Nacional de Prevención del Abuso de Menores. Mientras que las diócesis trabajan todo el año para prevenir el abuso, durante este mes se pone un enfoque especial en la importancia de aprender cómo proteger a los vulnerables de el abuso sexual. Juntos, durante los próximos nueve días, oramos para que las personas vulnerables estén protegidas del abuso y para que los sobrevivientes del abuso puedan ser acompañados en su camino hacia la sanación.

Novena

para la protección y la sanación del abuso

Intercesiones

- Día 1:** Que los más vulnerables estén protegidos contra todo tipo de abuso y explotación.
- Día 2:** Que aquellos que han sido abusados sexualmente reciban consuelo y sanación.
- Día 3:** Que los que trabajan con niños y jóvenes estén atentos para protegerlos de cualquier daño.
- Día 4:** Que aquellos que proveen ayuda para los que hayan sido abusado actúen con sabiduría y compasión en sus ministerios de sanación.
- Día 5:** Que todas las familias se esfuercen por proveer ambientes seguros y amistosos para niños y jóvenes.

Día 6: Que todos los que han cometido abusos reconozcan el daño que han hecho, se arrepientan y acepten la justicia que finalmente viene de Dios.

Día 7: Que aquellos que han sido maltratados reciban el esfuerzo de contar su historia y que se les puedan creer y apoyar.

Día 8: Que los líderes de la Iglesia, con la guía del Espíritu Santo, promuevan la justicia y la sanación de los sobrevivientes de abusos.

Día 9: Que nuestro Santo Padre, el Papa Francisco, cumpla su papel de buen pastor y que proteja a los más vulnerables en su rebaño.

Oraciones

Padre Nuestro, Tres Ave María's, Gloria, Oración para la Sanación

Oración para la Sanación

Dios del amor infinito,
Siempre presente, siempre justo;
Tú nos cuidas y nos proteges
Y nos diste a tu único Hijo
Para salvarnos con su sangre en la cruz.

Jesús manso, pastor de la paz,
Dígnate unir a tu propio sufrimiento
El dolor de todos los que han sido heridos
De cuerpo, mente y espíritu
Por parte de aquellos que traicionaron la
confianza puesta en ellos.

Escucha el clamor de nuestros hermanos y
hermanas
Que han sido lastimados gravemente,
Así como el clamor de aquellos que los aman.

Dales la esperanza que mitigue
el desosiego de sus corazones,
Dales la fe que calme sus
espíritus perturbados.
Concédeles justicia para su causa,
Ilumínelos con tu verdad.

Espíritu Santo, consolador de corazones,
Cura las heridas de tus hijos e hijas
Y devuelve la integridad a lo que ha sido
quebrantado.
Concédenos el valor y la sabiduría,
La humildad y la gracia, para actuar con justicia.
Sopla tu sabiduría en nuestras oraciones y empeños.
Que todos los que han sido heridos por el abuso
encuentren paz y justicia.
Te lo pedimos por Cristo, nuestro Señor. Amén.



Ten Tips for Protecting Children and Offering Outreach to Victims/Survivors

1 Sexual abuse is about the victim.

Many people are affected by abuse but the individual most impacted is the victim who has suffered a violation of trust that can affect his or her entire life.

2 The residual effects of having been abused can last a lifetime.

The sense of violation goes deep into a person's psyche and feelings of anger, shame, hurt and betrayal can build long after the abuse has taken place. Those who have been abused can heal, but it often takes time, therapy, and the support of loved ones.

3 No one has the right to have access to children.

No one, no matter who they are, has an automatic right to be around children or young people who are in the care of the Church without proper screening and without following the rules.

4 Common sense is not all that common.

Dioceses, schools, parishes, and especially families, must educate themselves and others on how to protect children.

5 Child sexual abuse can be prevented.

It is critical to build safety barriers around children and young people to keep them from harm—such as protective guardians, codes of conduct, background evaluations, policies and procedures, and safety training programs.

6 Feeling heard leads toward healing.

Relief from hurt and anger often comes when one feels heard, when one's pain

and concerns are taken seriously, and a victim/survivor's suffering, pain, and anger are acknowledged.

7 You cannot always predict who will be an abuser.

Experience shows that most abuse is committed by someone who has gained the trust of a victim/survivor and his/her family.

8 There are behavioral warning signs of child abusers.

Some abusers isolate a potential victim by giving him or her undue attention or lavish gifts, others allow young people to participate in activities which their parents or guardians would not approve, such as watching pornography, drinking alcohol, using drugs, and excessive touching, such as wrestling and tickling.

9 People can be taught to identify grooming behavior.

Grooming behaviors are the actions which abusers take to project the image that they are kind, generous, caring people, while their intent is to lure a minor into an inappropriate relationship. Offenders can be patient and may groom their victim, his or her family, or community for years.

10 Background checks are important.

Background checks in churches, schools and other organizations keep predators away from children both because they scare off some predators and because they uncover past actions which should ban an adult from working or volunteering with children.



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Diez Consejos para Proteger a los Niños y Ofrecer Asistencia a las Víctimas / Sobrevivientes

1 El abuso sexual es sobre la víctima.

Muchas personas son afectadas por el abuso, pero el individuo mas afectado es la víctima que ha sufrido una violación de confianza que puede afectar toda su vida.

2 Los efectos de haber sido abusado pueden durar toda la vida.

El sentido de violación entra muy profundo en la mentalidad de una persona y los sentimientos de enojo, vergüenza, dolor y traición pueden acumularse mucho después de que el abuso haya ocurrido. Los que han sufrido abusos pueden ser curados, pero aún tomará tiempo, terapia y el apoyo de sus seres queridos.

3 Nadie tiene derecho a tener acceso a niños.

Nadie, sin importar quiénes son, tiene el derecho automático de estar alrededor de niños o jóvenes que están bajo el cuidado de la Iglesia sin una evaluación adecuada y sin seguir las reglas.

4 El sentido común no es tan común.

Las diócesis, las escuelas, las parroquias, y especialmente las familias, deben educarse ellos mismos y a otras personas sobre cómo proteger a los niños.

5 El abuso sexual infantil puede ser prevenido.

Es fundamental construir barreras de seguridad alrededor de los niños y los jóvenes para protegerlos del peligro. Es importante tener tutores para proteger a menores, al igual el uso de códigos de conducta, las evaluaciones de antecedentes, las pólizas y los procedimientos, y los programas de entrenamiento sobre la seguridad.

6 Sentir que le están escuchando conduce a la curación.

El alivio del dolor y el enojo llega cuando se sienten escuchados, cuando el dolor y

las preocupaciones se toman en serio, y el sufrimiento, el dolor, y el enojo de una víctima / sobreviviente son reconocidos.

7 No siempre se puede predecir quién será un abusador.

La experiencia demuestra que la mayoría de los abusos son cometidos por alguien que se ha ganado la confianza de una víctima / sobreviviente y su familia.

8 Hay señales de advertencia de comportamiento en abusadores de niños.

Algunos abusadores aíslan a una víctima potencial prestándole mucha atención o regalos lujosos, otros permiten que los jóvenes participen en actividades que sus padres o tutores no aprobarían, como ver pornografía, beber alcohol, usar drogas, y tocar en exceso, como actividades físicas y cosquillas.

9 A las personas se les puede enseñar a identificar el comportamiento de aseó.

Los comportamientos de aseó son acciones que los abusadores toman para proyectar un imagen que son amables, generosos, gente cariñosa, mientras que su intención es atraer a un menor de edad en un relación inapropiado. Los ofensores pueden ser pacientes, y usar estas acciones con la víctima, sus familias, o comunidad durante años.

10 Las verificaciones de antecedentes son importantes.

La verificación de antecedentes en iglesias, escuelas y otras organizaciones mantiene a los depredadores alejados de los niños, por que los asustan y porque tambien descubren acciones pasadas que deberían prohibir que un adulto de trabajar o ser voluntario con niños.



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A PRAYER FOR HEALING

VICTIMS OF ABUSE

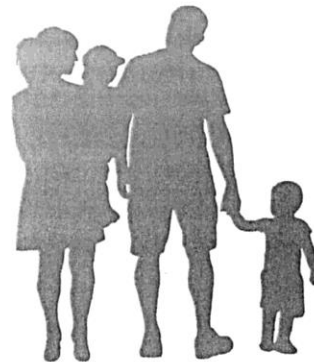
God of endless love,
ever caring, ever strong,
always present, always just:
You gave your only Son
to save us by his blood on the cross.



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 labors.
Grant that all harmed by abuse may find peace in justice.
We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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UNA ORACIÓN DE SANACIÓN

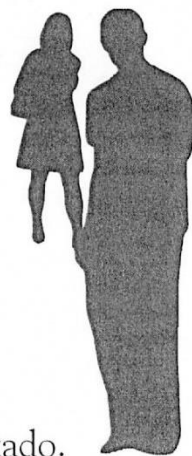
VÍCTIMAS DE ABUSO

Dios del amor infinito,
Siempre presente, siempre justo;
Tú nos cuidas y nos proteges
Y nos diste a tu único Hijo
Para salvarnos con su sangre en la cruz.



Jesús manso, pastor de la paz,
Dígnate unir a tu propio sufrimiento
El dolor de todos los que han sido heridos
De cuerpo, mente y espíritu
Por parte de aquellos que traicionaron la confianza puesta en ellos.

Escucha el clamor de nuestros hermanos y hermanas
Que han sido lastimados gravemente,
Así como el clamor de aquellos que los aman.
Dales la esperanza que mitigue el desosiego de
sus corazones,
Dales la fe que calme sus espíritus perturbados.
Concédeles justicia para su causa,
Ilumínalos con tu verdad.



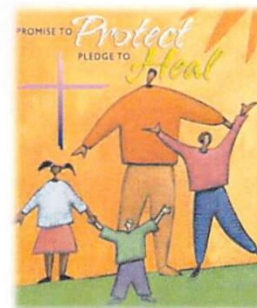
Espíritu Santo, consolador de corazones,
Cura las heridas de tus hijos e hijas
Y devuelve la integridad a lo que ha sido quebrantado.
Concédenos el valor y la sabiduría,
La humildad y la gracia, para actuar con justicia.
Sopla tu sabiduría en nuestras oraciones y empeños.
Que todos los que han sido heridos por el abuso
encuentren paz y justicia.
Te lo pedimos por Cristo, nuestro Señor. Amén.

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Servicio de la Palabra Para Sanación

(Ejemplo)

Canto Inicial: ¡Aquí estoy, Señor!



Oración Inicial:

Sacerdote/diácono: La gracia y la paz de Cristo este con todos ustedes. **R.** Y con tu espíritu.

Laico: Que Dios, al que unánimes alabamos, nos conceda, por su Espíritu, estar de acuerdo entre nosotros.

R. Amén.

Oh Dios, nadie está lejos de ti. Nos reunimos en la alegría, conscientes de las cargas que llevamos, las heridas y los dolores que tenemos. Nos reunimos con alegría, sin olvidar el amor de Dios. Nos reunimos en la oración, por cada uno y por todos aquellos que nos ayudan en este viaje.

Oh Dios, nadie está lejos de ti y recurrimos a tu poder llamándote en el nombre del Padre, y del Hijo y del Espíritu Santo.

Primera Lectura:

Isaías 59:6b-8, 15-18 *El Señor está consternado por el mal y la injusticia.*

Sus obras son obras inicuas
y acciones violentas hay en sus manos.
Sus pies corren al mal
y se apresuran a verter sangre inocente.
Sus proyectos son proyectos inicuos,
destrucción y quebranto en sus caminos.
Camino de paz no conocen,
y derecho no hay en sus pasos.
Tuercen sus caminos para provecho propio,
ninguno de los que por ellos pasan conoce la paz.

La verdad se echa en falta

y el que se aparta del mal es despojado.
Lo vio Yahvé y pareció mal a sus ojos
que no hubiera derecho.
Vio que no había nadie
y se maravilló de que no hubiera intercesor.

Entonces le salvó su brazo
y su justicia le sostuvo.
Se puso la justicia como coraza
y el casco de salvación en su cabeza.

Se puso como túnica vestidos de venganza

y se vistió el cielo como un manto.
Según los merecimientos así pagará:
ira para sus opresores y represalia para sus enemigos.
Daré a las islas su merecido.

Salmo Responsorial:

Salmo 142 **R:** Oh Señor, Tú eres mi refugio

A gritos imploro a Yahvé,
a Yahvé suplico a gritos.
Derramo ante él mi lamento,
ante él expongo mi angustia,
cuando mi aliento se apaga;
mas tú conoces mi sendero.

R: Oh Señor, Tú eres mi refugio

En el camino por donde voy
me han escondido una trampa.

Mira a la derecha, y ve,
no hay nadie que me conozca.
No hay refugio para mí,
nadie que de mí se cuide.

R: Oh Señor, Tú eres mi refugio

Por eso, a ti clamo, Yahvé;
te digo: ¡Tú eres mi refugio,
mi porción en la tierra de los vivos!
Presta atención a mi clamor,
pues estoy del todo abatido.

R: Oh Señor, Tú eres mi refugio

¡Librame de mis perseguidores,
pues son más fuertes que yo!

¡Saca mi vida de la cárcel
para dar gracias a tu nombre!
Y me harán corro los justos
por tus favores conmigo.

Otras lecturas sugeridas:

Job 3, 1-26 – *Maldito el día que nací.*

Lamentaciones 3, 1-24 – *Yo soy quien conoce la aflicción.*

Lamentaciones 3, 49-59 – *Cuando yo callé, tú viniste en mi ayuda.*

Miqueas 4, 1-4 – *Cada persona deberá sentarse sin molestias.*

Lectura del Evangelio:

No tengan miedo a los que matan el cuerpo.

Lectura del santo Evangelio según san Mateo 10, 28-33

En aquel tiempo, Jesús dijo a sus apóstoles: No tengan miedo a los que matan el cuerpo, pero no pueden matar el alma. Teman, más bien, a quien puede arrojar al lugar de castigo el alma y el cuerpo.

¿No es verdad que se venden dos pajarillos por una moneda? Sin embargo, ni uno solo de ellos cae por tierra si no lo permite el Padre. En cuanto a ustedes, hasta los cabellos de su cabeza están contados. Por lo tanto, no tengan miedo, porque ustedes valen mucho más que todos los pájaros del mundo.

A quien me reconozca delante de los hombres, yo también lo reconoceré ante mi Padre, que está en los cielos; pero al que me niegue delante de los hombres, yo también lo negaré ante mi Padre, que está en los cielos”.

Palabra del Señor.

Otras lecturas sugeridas:

Mateo 5, 1-10 – *Las Bienaventuranzas.*

Mateo 5, 43-48 – *Ama a tus enemigos, reza por aquellos que te persiguen.*

Luke 10:25-37 – *El buen Samaritano*

Ideas para la Homilía:

Dios está con nosotros, él no nos abandonará Hechos 2, 24-28

Dios es Amor, Dios no es odio. (Dios está allí para ayudarnos a no detenernos)

Fe y Esperanza (1 Pedro 1, 3-9)

Oración de los Fieles:

Por los líderes comunitarios y políticos para que sean modelos de justicia y de vida recta. **R: Cristo, escúchanos.**

Por los sacerdotes para que reflejen realmente la bondad y el amor de Cristo. **R: Cristo, escúchanos.**

Para que las familias puedan alimentar y cuidar a sus hijos. **R: Cristo, escúchanos.**

Para que los maestros respeten y susciten la bondad y la integridad de los niños. **R: Cristo, escúchanos.**

Por todos los adultos para que enriquezcan la vida de los niños. **R: Cristo, escúchanos.**

Por todos aquellos que apoyan y contribuyen a nuestro ministerio. **R: Cristo, escúchanos.**

Por todas las necesidades del mundo. **R: Cristo, escúchanos.**

Letanía para la Sanación:

(Durante las Letanía las velas pueden ser encendidas)

Nuestra respuesta será: **R: ¡Salva, sana y protégelos, oh Señor!**

Por los niños heridos y acongojados: **R: ¡Salva, sana y protégelos, oh Señor!**

Por los niños confundidos o solos: **R: ¡Salva, sana y protégelos, oh Señor!**

Por los niños temerosos y abandonados: **R: ¡Salva, sana y protégelos, oh Señor!**

Por los niños golpeados: **R: ¡Salva, sana y protégelos, oh Señor!**

Por los niños que duermen con miedo: **R: ¡Salva, sana y protégelos, oh Señor!**

Por los niños que tienen miedo de volver a casa: **R: ¡Salva, sana y protégelos, oh Señor!**

Por los niños que tienen miedo de sus agresores: **R: ¡Salva, sana y protégelos, oh Señor!**

Por los niños ultrajados y por los niños que han ultrajado a otros: **R: ¡Salva, sana y protégelos, oh Señor!**

Por los niños cuya inocencia ha sido robada: **R: ¡Salva, sana y protégelos, oh Señor!**

Por aquellos que no pueden confiar: **R: ¡Salva, sana y protégelos, oh Señor!**

Por aquellos que no pueden amar: **R: ¡Salva, sana y protégelos, oh Señor!**

Por aquellos cuyos corazones están llenos de miedo **R: ¡Salva, sana y protégelos, oh Señor!**

Después de las intercesiones y las letanías el ministro, con estas o palabras similares, invita a todos los presentes a cantar o a decir el Padre Nuestro

El Señor cura nuestras heridas y nos fortalece en nuestras debilidades; oremos como Cristo nos ha enseñado:

Todos: Padre Nuestro...

Bendición y Despedida:

Señor, Dios,
tu propio Hijo fue entregado en manos de los pecadores,
sin embargo, él rezó por sus perseguidores y venció el odio con su Sangre en la cruz.

Alivia el sufrimiento de los aquí presentes (o nombre);
concédeles (a él / a ella) la paz de la mente
y una fe renovada en su protección y cuidado.
Protégenos a todos de la violencia de otros,

manténnos seguros de las armas del odio,

y restaura en nosotros la tranquilidad y la paz.

Te lo pedimos a través de Cristo nuestro Señor

Que Dios nos bendiga con su misericordia, nos Fortalezca con su amor y nos permita caminar en la caridad y en la paz. **R. Amén.**

Canto: No tengas Miedo o Hazme un Instrumento de tu Paz



Sample Prayer Service for Healing

Opening Song: Here I am, Lord

Opening Prayer:

May the grace and peace of Christ be with you. **R.** And with your spirit.

No one is far from you, O God. We come together in joy – mindful of the burdens we carry, the hurts and sorrows we have. We come together in gladness – never forgetting God’s love. We come together with praise – for each other and those who assist us on this journey. No one is far from you O God and we call upon your power in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 142 **R:** You, O Lord are my refuge

With full voice I cry to the LORD; with full voice I beseech the LORD.

Before God I pour out my complaint, lay bare my distress.

My spirit is faint within me, but you know my path.

R: You, O Lord are my refuge

Along the way I walk they have hidden a trap for me.

I look to my right hand, but no friend is there.

There is no escape for me; no one cares for me.

R: You, O Lord are my refuge

I cry out to you, LORD, I say, You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living.

Listen to my cry for help, for I am brought very low.

Rescue me from my pursuers, for they are too strong for me. **R:** You, O Lord are my refuge

Lead me out of my prison, that I may give thanks to your name.

Then the just shall gather around me because you have been good to me.

R: You, O Lord are my refuge

Other suggested readings:

Isaiah 59:6b-8, 15-18 - *The Lord is appalled by evil and injustice.*

Job 3:1-26 - *Lamentation of Job.*

Lamentations 3:1-24 - *I am one who knows affliction.*

Lamentations 3:49-59 - *When I called, you came to my aid.*

Micah 4:1-4 - *Every person shall sit undisturbed.*

The Gospel reading:

Matthew: 10:28-33 - *Do Not Fear*

And do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna. Are not two sparrows sold for a small coin? Yet not one of them falls to the ground without your Father's knowledge. Even all the hairs of your head are counted. So do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father. But whoever denies me before others, I will deny before my heavenly Father.

Other suggested readings

Matthew 5:1-10 - *The beatitudes.*

Matthew 5:43-48 - *Love your enemies, pray for those who persecute you.*

Luke 10:25-37 - *The good Samaritan*

Homily helps:

God is with us, he will not abandon us Act 2:24-28

God is Love, God is not hate. (God is there to help us not stop us)

Faith and Hope (1 Peter 1:3-9)

Intercessions:

Response: Christ graciously hear us.

For community and political leaders to model justice and right living; Christ hear us. **R. Christ graciously hear us.**

For priests to truly mirror Christ's goodness and love; Christ hear us. **R. Christ graciously hear us.**

For families to nourish and foster their children; Christ hear us. **R. Christ graciously hear us.**

For teachers to respect and call forth the goodness and wholeness in children; Christ hear us. **R.**

For all adults to enrich the lives of children; Christ hear us. **R. Christ graciously hear us.**

For all who support and contribute to our ministry; Christ hear us. **R. Christ graciously hear us.**

For all the needs of the world; Christ hear us. **R. Christ graciously hear us.**

Litany for Healing:

(During the Litany candles can be lit)

Our response will be Save, heal and protect them, O Lord!

For children wounded and tearful; **save, heal and protect them, O Lord!**

For children confused or alone; **save, heal and protect them, O Lord!**

For children afraid or abandoned; **save, heal and protect them, O Lord!**

For children beaten; **save, heal and protect them, O Lord!**

For children who sleep in fear; **save, heal and protect them, O Lord!**

For children afraid to go home; **save, heal and protect them, O Lord!**

For children afraid of their abusers; **save, heal and protect them, O Lord!**
For children assaulted and for children who assault; **save, heal and protect them, O Lord!**
For children whose innocence has been stolen; **save, heal and protect them, O Lord!**
For those who cannot trust; **save, heal and protect them, O Lord!**
For those who cannot love; **save, heal and protect them, O Lord!**
For those whose hearts are filled with fear; **save, heal and protect them, O Lord!**

After the intercessions and litany the minister, in the following or similar words, invites all present to sing or say the Lord's Prayer.

The Lord heals our wounds and strengthens us in our weakness; let us pray as Christ has taught us:

All: Our Father...

Blessing and Dismissal:

Lord God,
your own Son was delivered into the hands of the wicked,
yet he prayed for his persecutors and overcame hatred with his Blood on the cross.
Relieve the suffering of those present today (or name);
grant them (him/her) peace of mind
and a renewed faith in your protection and care.
Protect us all from the violence of others,
keep us safe from the weapons of hate,
and restore to us tranquility and peace.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

May God bless us with his mercy, strengthen us with his love, and enable us to walk in charity and peace. R. Amen.

Song: Be not Afraid, or Prayer of St. Francis