

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 find peace in justice.  
We ask this through Christ, our Lord.  
Amen.

*Source: USCCB*

## A PRAYER FOR OUR CHURCH

Heavenly Father,  
In every age, you have been our refuge.  
Yet again and still, we stand before you  
asking for your protection on your holy Church.

For the victims of abuse and their families,  
pour out your healing and your peace.

For the Bishops of this country,  
continue to inspire their decisions,  
and guide them with your Spirit.

For the thousands of good and faithful priests,  
who have followed your call to serve you and your people in holiness,  
sustain them by your grace.

For the faithful who are angry, confused, and searching for answers,  
embrace them with your love,  
restore their trust,  
console them with your clear Gospel message,  
and renew them with your sacraments.

We place our Church in your hands,  
for without you we can do nothing.  
May Jesus, our High Priest and true compass,  
continue to lead her in every thought and action –  
to be an instrument of justice,  
a source of consolation,  
a sacrament of unity,  
and a manifestation of your faithful covenant.

Grant this through that same Jesus Christ, our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

*By Rita Thiron, Director of Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions*

SIMPLY PRAYER (I): for the victims and survivors of sexual abuse

Father

since your mercy has been revealed  
in the tenderness of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who said to his disciples:  
"Suffer the little children to come unto me",  
we pray that your Church may be a secure home  
where all children and vulnerable adults are brought closer to your Beloved Son.

May all those who have been abused  
physically, emotionally and sexually by your ministers,  
be respected and accompanied by  
tangible gestures of justice and reparation so that  
they may feel healed with the balm of your compassion.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord  
Amen

*Source: Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors*

SIMPLY PRAYER (II): for the victims and survivors of sexual abuse

Heavenly Father,  
who loves and cares for all of your children,  
especially the smallest and most vulnerable,  
we entrust to you the lives of the many children and vulnerable adults, who have been sexually abused,  
and whose trust and innocence have been destroyed.  
Help us to hear their cries of pain and to take responsibility for so many broken lives.

We pray that within their communities and families  
they may find understanding and support  
so that with the help of your grace their wounds may be healed,  
and they may again know peace.

Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who shared our weakness in all things but sin,  
and lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit forever and ever.  
Amen.

*Source: Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors*