

# A Litany of Hope



**Catholics For  
Family Peace**  
Education and Research Initiative

God of Compassion, whenever two or three are gathered in your name you are in their midst.

Loving God, you have called us each by name and invited us to respond as a community of faith with hope, help and healing to those whose lives have been wounded by betrayal, abuse and violence. Heal them and make them whole, that they may once more receive and give love with confidence in their dignity as your sons and daughters. In Jesus name. Amen.

As people of faith we believe in the kingdom of God, therefore, today, we respond with a litany of hope.

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

God of Peace, restrain the hands and convert the hearts of those who seek to do violence. Bring to repentance the perpetrators of domestic violence, and minister with persistent grace to all those harmed by abuse, that they may be signs of your healing power and hope for the world.

God of Mercy, 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 weight of fear and violence in their own homes. We ask you to surround them with your loving care, shelter them and protect them so they may experience healing in body, mind and spirit.

Gentle God, 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 through their frustrations and to find hope without resorting to destructive impulses.

Suffering God, stand always with those hurt by violence and abuse. We pray that as a church you help us to hear the voices of those who cry in silence. Give voice to all who cry out, give courage to all who speak out; and give power to all who intervene, replacing abuse with loving justice.

God of strength, give us courage to participate with you in restoring this broken world to wholeness. May we be instruments of your peace and light amidst the darkness so all may share in the hope of your kingdom.

We ask all this through God our Creator, Jesus our Redeemer and the Holy Spirit who sustains and comforts us. Amen.

- Sr. Ruth Harkins, IHM, Associate Campus Minister for Graduate and Professional Students, Office of Campus Ministry, CUA
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