



AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE
Council for Australian Catholic Women



15 November 2019

My Brother Bishops and Diocesan Administrators,

I wish to bring to your attention the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women which is marked on Monday, 25 November.

The attached media release may help with encouraging every diocese and every Catholic community to actively support the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.

The Council for Australian Catholic Women is urging all people of good will to support the 16 days of prayer and action, from November 25 to December 10, and to work towards lasting cultural change to address injustice, inequality, sexism and exploitation of women.

Pope Francis says that, "If violence has its source in the human heart, then it is fundamental that nonviolence be practised before all else within families ... I plead with equal urgency for an end to domestic violence and to the abuse of women and children."

Sample Prayers of Intercession are included with this letter with an additional prayer for use by parish groups.

I would be grateful if you would please circulate details of this event to the parishes and organisations in your Diocese.

If you require further information please contact Andrea Dean on director.opw@catholic.org.au.

With warm fraternal greetings,

Michael Morrissey
Bishop Delegate
Council for Australian Catholic Women

Inclusions: Prayers of Intercession, Media Release, Prayer for Groups



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Sample Prayers of Intercession on the theme of Elimination of Violence against Women

For women and girls who have experienced violent relationships, that they can find safety and healing from their trauma, and rebuild their lives. Lord Hear Us.

For the men and boys who behave violently towards women and girls that they will have a change of heart, repent in meaningful ways, and seek whatever help they need to lead changed lives. Lord Hear Us.