

# October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Faith communities can play a significant role in providing support for victims of domestic violence and in holding abusers accountable. During Domestic Violence Awareness Month, we invite faith communities to integrate prayers for domestic violence victims into their services and to send a powerful message that domestic violence will not be tolerated.



## Sample Prayer

Almighty God, we pray for all victims and survivors of abuse. We ask you to surround them with your care, protect them, and permit them to enjoy health and healing, wholeness and strength, calmness and love. May they feel your loving presence. Domestic violence is about control and power, but you oh God are about deliverance, freedom and peace. 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.

Contact DVCC for more information or to invite a DVCC speaker to your services!

Email: [arodwelllawton@dvccct.org](mailto:arodwelllawton@dvccct.org)

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## Sample Prayers

God of Mystery and Majesty, we pray for those who suffer, and those who inflict suffering and injustice, based on abusive interpretations of Scripture, religious traditions, and language about what is sacred and sanctified. O God, help us to be strong stewards of all you have entrusted to us. Give us the courage and your strength to stand against abuse of any kind inflicted upon your precious people. We pray for our children who may be living in homes where domestic violence occurs. We ask you to bless and protect them. We pray for children who have lost a parent due to domestic violence. Help them to recognize you, O God, as their strong and gentle parent.

Merciful God, we pray for all victims of domestic violence who despite suffering from violence, continue to care for family and to offer support to others. We pray for those who suffer in silence, who are afraid to utter a word, afraid of being misunderstood or misjudged. We pray that as a church you help us to hear the voices of those who cry in silence. Help us to be compassionate and not to judge. Help us to be a responsive community of faith in denouncing domestic violence when we see it.

God of justice, help us to hold perpetrators accountable for their actions and to show them a better way to live. God of true power, be with all our systems of justice. Be with all the judges and lawmakers so that all who enter their courts will be dealt with in a fair and just manner. Let these systems, set up to enforce justice, work for the good of your people.



**Domestic Violence Crisis Center (DVCC)** is here to support individuals on their journey to safety. DVCC advocates for individuals who are experiencing abuse in personal relationships. Our multiple services and professional staff help those experiencing any level of domestic violence and assist them in building a safer environment for the well-being of themselves and their families.

**Hotline:** (888) 774-2900 (call/text)

**Business Line:** (203) 588-9100

**[www.dvccct.org](http://www.dvccct.org)**

*Source: PRAYERS FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH 2011-  
Contributed by the MNYS Domestic Violence Awareness Task Force*

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