



Reflection

In his recent Respect Life Month statement, Cardinal Dolan reflected, "God loves us, treats us with respect, and asks us to do the same with others. ...No one should ever be treated callously or carelessly—everyone should be cherished and protected!" Celebrated as Respect Life Month, October also shares the observance of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. As noted by the bishops, "violence against another person in any form fails to treat that person as someone worthy of love." Let's pray this month for all who are not treated according to their God-given dignity, especially those suffering abuse.

Acts of Reparation *(Praying for those who suffer)*

During the month of October, pray with others across the country each day at 3:00 pm for Family Peace. *(Or pray at another time that is convenient for you such as meal time or morning.)* Pray the Our Father, 3 Hail Marys, the Glory Be, and choose at least one of the prayers below.

✝ Prayer of Hope

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.

✝ Prayer to St. Rita, Patron of Abused Women

St. Rita, you understood the sorrows of the human heart. By the grace of God, you overcame domestic violence and lived in faith and hope. Through your intercession, may families overcome conflicts and tensions and build peace in their homes. Inspire us to reach out to those who suffer physical, verbal, and sexual abuse. Pray for us, that we may discover ways to help restore the spiritual well-being of our families, our friends and our community. With you, we believe that all things are possible for God. Amen.

✝ Prayer for Peace in Our Family

Lord Jesus, be with my family. Grant us Your peace and harmony, an end to conflict and division. Gift us with the compassion to better understand each other, the wisdom and love to assist each other, and the trust and patience to live peacefully together. Grant that, through the intercession of Your mother, Mary, and St. Joseph our family too may become a holy family, accepting each other, working together in unity, and selflessly dedicated to one another and to You. Amen.

✝ Pope Francis' Prayer to Mary, Undoer of Knots

Holy Mary, full of God's presence during the day of your life, you accepted with full humility the Father's will, and the devil was never capable of tying you up with his confusion. Once with your Son you interceded for our difficulties, and full of kindness and patience, you gave us example of how to untie the knots in our life. By remaining forever Our Mother, you put in order and make more clear the ties that link us to the Lord. Holy Mother, Mother of God and our Mother, to you who untie with a motherly heart the knots of our life, we pray to you to receive in your hands (the name of the person), and to free him/her of the knots and confusion with which our enemy attacks. Through your grace, your intercession and your example deliver us from all evil, Our Lady, and untie the knots that prevent us from being united with God, so that we, free from sin and error, may find Him in all things, may have our hearts placed in Him, and may serve Him always in our brothers and sisters. Amen.

✝ To Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Mother of Perpetual Help, today we face so many difficulties. Help us understand that our lives belong to others as much as they belong to us. May we be true witnesses to the world that love for one another really matters. Mother of Perpetual Help, you have been blessed and favored by God, you became not only the Mother of the Redeemer, but the Mother of the redeemed as well. Watch over us and take care of all your children, young and old alike. As you held the child Jesus in your loving arms, hold us in your loving arms today and always. Be a mother ready at every moment to help us. Intercede for us, dear Mother, in obtaining pardon for our sins, love for Jesus, final perseverance, and the grace always to call upon you, Mother of Perpetual Help. Amen.