**Safeguarding Sunday Prayers**

**Prayers for those suffering abuse**

Loving God,

whose Son was both victim and victor,

we cry to you for those who suffer abuse,

be with them in confusion and pain.

Heal the wounds of body and mind.

Break open the prisons of fear, self-doubt and despair.

Strengthen your beloved people to face the future with faith, hope and courage.

Reach out to them with your love,

that they may be made whole in body, mind and spirit,

through the healing touch of the suffering Christ. **Amen**

God, our redeemer and sustainer,

we pray for survivors of violence, abuse and neglect.

Give your power to the powerless,

your fullness to the empty of spirit.

Heal their wounds, free them from fear,

and restore them to true health.

Grant this through Jesus Christ,

the crucified and risen Saviour

who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, forever and ever. **Amen**.

**Prayers for those who abuse**

Judge of all the earth,

God of justice,

we bring before you all who abuse others.

Turn the hearts of the violent from the way of evil.

Fill them with a hatred of the damage they do,

and bring them to true repentance, justice

and amendment of their lives.

for Jesus Christ’s sake. **Amen**.

Prayers from the *Occasional Prayers* section of *A Prayer Book for Australia.*Broughton Books. 1992.

Father, thank you that as your church you entrust to us your work here on earth.

We pray that through your Spirit, you will empower us to do the right thing for the benefit of those suffering abuse and injustice

That we will not fear to be bringers of your justice. That we will be your voice for those whose voices are silenced.

That when your light shines into dark areas of abuse we will have courage as your representatives, to face our fears, and to show forth your heart of compassion and justice, and to speak your words of life and freedom into broken hearts.

Teach us as a Church to be your body fully knitted together and working in unity. To care for one another with extra care and dignity.

Enable us to be instruments of your love, that chains will be broken, and broken hearts restored.

That we will teach everyone how precious they are to you.

That they will know you are a God who sees and feels their pain.

We pray that through your Spirit and your church fully trusting in your Word, victims will become victors and their mess become a precious message to your love and restoration in their lives.

We ask this in your name and for your glory. **Amen**

A Prayer written by Cerys Morgan, a victim and survivor of church abuse. Thirtyone:eight resource.