



BLUE SUNDAY PRAYER

Praying For Abuse Victims & Those Who Work With Them

Copied and edited from 2018 version on CASA Website
Edited by Zane Hart, Mike Sloan, Cristy Horsley for 2019

- 1.) ***For the children and adults who have been abused:*** for the presence of caring, stable adults in their lives who will nurture and pour into them; for well-trained and knowledgeable professionals to be part of their care team and assist in their recovery; for resilience of spirit to open themselves up to new relationships and relational patterns; for bravery to disclose the abuse and work through the trauma; for continual strengthening, and for good and joyful things to fill their life.

- 2.) ***For child abuse investigators*** (Child Protective Services, Law Enforcement, and Independent Investigators): for discernment, wisdom, and decisiveness; for empathy and ability to connect compassionately with the victim; for protection of their well-being and spirit in light of troubling and dark things they hear and see every day; for restoration of spirit.

- 3.) ***For decision-makers and those providing follow-up care for children who have been abused*** (foster care workers, judges, Court Appointed Special Advocates, guardians ad litem, therapists, and foster parents): for wisdom, empathy and patience with the child who has been abused, as well as their family of origin; for attentiveness to detail and discernment in perceiving symptoms and patterns of the aftereffects of a child's abuse; for a creative and persevering spirit in innovating solutions for a child or family; for strong support networks to come around each of these individuals to provide guidance and restoration as they execute their role; for renewal of spirit and continuing passion for their work.

- 4.) ***For faith communities:*** for commitment to address and face the realities of abuse; for a community-wide vigilance in recognizing, preventing, and responding to abuse in healthy and appropriate ways; for places of prayer to be a place where victims are believed and cared for, not silenced and discredited; for places of worship to be the leading voice in our culture against abuse; for spiritual leaders to set aside agendas that place their reputation or their institution's reputation over and against justice and healing for victims of abuse; for community leaders to embrace and set up vibrant child safeguarding policies and regularly train people in how to live it out.