

# 16 Days of Prayer and Activism against Gender Based Violence

25<sup>th</sup> November -10<sup>th</sup> December 2017

## Day 1

As we start this period of 16 days invest in a candle. Light it at the same time everyday for 1 hour.

When you extinguish the flame let it ignite within you the opportunity to contribute, to take action and play your part in standing up against violence against women and girls.

Reading:

Psalm: 123, 124 & 125

The security of God's people

**Lord Grant us the opportunity to lift before you all woman and children. Help us to protect each other and to become strong. May we know that we can reach out to you and that we can know and feel your security.**

**We lift up to you Lord God, all woman and children at St Anne's Home.**

**Bless them and give them renewed strength.**

**Amen**

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26<sup>th</sup> November, 2017

## Day 2

Give me the strength O Lord to embark upon this journey of prevention and elimination of violence. Bless us with a toolkit to strengthen the role of the church as we look at prevention and response

Reading

Psalm: 149

A hymn of Praise

**Most High God, majestic and mighty,  
our beginning and our end  
rule in our hearts and guide us to be faithful,  
worshipping the one  
who comes as Saviour and Sovereign  
and who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever**

**We lift up to you today all the children at Leliebloem Home.**

**Bless them and give them renewed strength**

**Amen**

**27<sup>th</sup> November, 2017**

**Day 3**

Gender based violence knows no religion, age, nationality, culture, or socio-economic class. Lord open our eyes and hearts to this reality. Create within our structures that will stimulate discussion, provoke thought, workshops to educate us and raise awareness around this human rights violation on earth.

Psalm: 129,130 & 131

A Prayer for Help

**Father I reach out to you and call for help. Despite my situation Lord I know that I can trust you. Your love for me is constant and you are willing to save me.**

**Today Lord we lift up St Georges Home for girls.**

**Bless them and give them renewed strength  
Amen**

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**28<sup>th</sup> November, 2017**

**Day 4**

As South Africans adopting the campaign in 1998 as an intervention strategy towards creating a society free of violence. We ask you Lord to journey along side us. Help us to encourage society to acknowledge that violence against women and children is not a government or criminal justice system problem, and that failure to view it as such results in all efforts failing to eradicate this scourge in our communities.

Psalm: 135

A Hymn of Praise – Praise the Lord

**Lord the solution lies with all of us continue to strengthen us so that we can use our resources to strive towards creating a society free of violence.**

**Today we lift up St Michaels Home.**

**Bless them Lord and give them renewed strength  
Amen**

**29<sup>th</sup> November, 2017**

**Day 5**

We are mindful of the different forms of violence

- ✚ Physical violence
- ✚ Emotional violence
- ✚ Violence of poverty, starvation, humiliation and degradation, especially against women and children.

Lord strengthen us to take action to support the 16 days of activism by wearing a white ribbon as a symbol of peace and the commitment of the wearer to never commit or condone violence against women and children.

Psalm: 137 & 138

A Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Give us courage,  
Let us draw close to you  
Continue to hold us in the palms of your hand.  
Fill us with renewed strength and energy.**

**Today we lift up Fikelela Child and Youth Care Centre.**

**Bless every child, every carer, the Management and Board of Fikelela  
Amen**

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**30<sup>th</sup> November, 2017**

**Day 6**

Today allow yourself to step out and volunteer your time at a shelter, a children's home, a hospital or the local police station. Start a prayer circle to encourage silent female victims to talk about abuse and ensure that they get help.

Psalm: 34

In Praise of God's Goodness

**I prayed to the Lord and he answered me, he freed me from all my fears.  
Touch us Lord so that we can become strong  
As I read psalm 34 renew my heart in you  
Your promise to me my God is that you are near to those who are discouraged; he saves those who have lost all hope.**

**Thank you Lord for your Love**

**Today we lift up our government facilities who deal with women and children**

**Bless all who care for your people merciful Father  
Amen**

**1<sup>st</sup> December, 2017**

**WORLD  
AIDS DAY**

Day 7

The Lord is loving and merciful, slow to anger and full of constant love. He is good to everyone and has compassion on all he made. 35 years of celebrating World AIDS Day. Teach us O Lord your compassion. Reignite in us as a nation the sense of urgency to tackle this pandemic. Renew in us O Lord the right energy to deal with prevention strategies. Pour out your Holy Spirit as we embrace your love and care for orphaned and vulnerable children. Make us mindful of the needs of others

Readings:

-  Isaiah 53 1-13
-  1 Corinthians 13
-  Mark 1:40-45

Psalm: 145

A Hymn of Praise

**Loving God, you showed yourself to all who are without help,  
And make your home with the poor and weak of this world;  
Warm our hearts with the fire of your Spirit,  
That we may accept the challenge of HIV&AIDS  
Strengthen those who care for the sick  
Enlighten those doing social and medical research  
Protect the healthy, calm the frightened and encourage those in pain  
Comfort the dying, console the bereaved, and give to those who have died eternal life.  
We offer this prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who suffered and died that we might have eternal life.**

**We bring before you All organizations, Government departments, businesses who engages and facilitates awareness, love, care and support to all who are infected and affected.**

**Today we pray especially for Fikelela Aids Project, for the work that they do within our Diocese. Father we pray for your blessing upon their financial well-being to enable them to continue this important ministry.**

**Amen**