

## STANDARD 3



### Partnering with families, carers and communities

Families, carers and communities are informed and involved in promoting child safeguarding

#### **3.5.1 Appropriate to the context or setting, the entity actively promotes and/or participates in civic engagement activities and/or campaigns which promote whole of community awareness of children's rights and child abuse prevention.**

*Sample wording for prayers that promote whole of community awareness of children's rights and child abuse prevention.*

##### **See me, hear me**

Gracious God provide us with a listening heart that we see and hear the voice of each of our children.

We ask you God to strengthen and guide all in our Catholic communities. Grant us the ability and time to listen carefully when children come to us seeking help.

May our institutions and families respect, listen and do what is required to help all children feel safe.

Help us to recognise the hurt felt by those wounded initially by abuse, then again through the failure to be heard. We stand in constant need of your healing and help.

Let your grace and love fall gently upon our children giving them the inner strength, peace, and resilience to seek out assistance when required.

We ask you God to provide each of us with the wisdom to involve children in making institutions and communities safer.

Amen

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##### **Stronger communities, safer children**

Gracious God you said let the children come to me.

The hurt felt by those wounded by abuse weighs heavily upon us. Often trust has been eroded when institutions failed to appropriately respond to their needs. Lord, we as your Church stand in need of your healing and help.

We ask you God to strengthen and guide all in our Catholic communities. Grant us wisdom in our time to make decisions that protect children and the vulnerable.

May our families and communities, through love, generosity, commitment and patience build stronger communities safe for children.

Let your grace and love fall gently upon our children giving them the inner strength, peace and resilience they will need for their life's journey.

We ask you God to help our Catholic communities to be resolute in building a community where our children both flourish and are safe.

Amen

## **Prayers of the Faithful - Child Protection Sunday (10 September 2017)**

*Gracious God listen to our children and communities today as we pray:*

1. We pray for our Church leaders, especially Pope Francis, Bishop ..... and Leaders of Religious Congregations and all entrusted with the care of the Church. May they listen to the voice of children and promote the safety of minors and vulnerable adults.  
  
Let us pray to the Lord. **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**
  
  2. We pray for justice and healing for the victims of child sexual abuse by clergy, religious and lay workers.  
  
Let us pray to the Lord **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**
  
  3. We pray for the grace of renewal for all those people whose Christian faith and hope have been bruised by the scandals of abuse against our children, now and in the past.  
  
Let us pray to the Lord **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**
  
  4. We pray for all who work to make our churches, schools, communities and families havens of safety and respect for the young and the vulnerable.  
  
Let us pray to the Lord **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**
  
  5. We pray for parents, carers, teachers and pastoral workers, and all those entrusted with the safety of young people. May they have a watchful eye and a listening ear in order to protect.  
  
Let us pray to the Lord **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**
  
  6. We pray for our community, that we have the courage and compassion to stand up for victims, the humility to understand the wrongs of the past, the patience to stop and listen to children and the vulnerable, and a greatness of heart that continues to grow.  
  
Let us pray to the Lord **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**
  
  7. We pray for all our children. May families, institutions and society work to ensure the happiness of every child and create an environment of safety and protection where children may flourish.  
  
Let us pray to the Lord **R. Lord, hear our prayer.**
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## **Prayers of the Faithful - Child Protection Sunday (13 September 2015)**

1. For the Church leaders, especially Pope Francis, Bishop ..... and Leaders of Religious Congregations and all entrusted with the care of the Church, that they will continue to promote the safety of minors and vulnerable adults as a priority.  
  
Let us pray to the Lord
  
2. That true and lasting peace, reconciliation and harmony will come to all whose lives have been traumatised through abuse.  
  
Let us pray to the Lord



3. For those affected by abuse in anyway, that they may have the courage to tell their story and to reach for healing.

Let us pray to the Lord

4. For Parents, mentors, teachers, coaches and all who work with children and young people, that they may look after them with the watchful eye of the shepherd.

Let us pray to the Lord

5. For the strength to stand up for victims, the humility to understand the wrongs of the past, the patience to stop and listen to children and the vulnerable and the greatness of heart that continues to grow out of this process.

Let us pray to the Lord

6. For the Children in our parishes, may we all work together to ensure the happiness and confidence of every child and create an environment of safety and protection where children may flourish.

Let us pray to the Lord

7. That we as members of the body of Christ are all able to protect the dignity of all human life.

Let us pray to the Lord.

Adapted from resources sourced from *National Committee for Professional Standards*

