

Prepared by the House of Sarah in collaboration with members of the Christian Network –*Talanoa*, working together to end Violence and Abuse Against Women and Children in our families, our churches and our communities.

Our many thanks to all those who contributed Prayers.

For further information, please call House of Sarah, Anglican Diocese of Polynesia. 3100665/8094261

DAILY PRAYERS



**FOR 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST
GENDER BASED VIOLENCE CAMPAIGN
NOVEMBER 25-DEC 10, 2015.**



Organised by the
**CHRISTIAN NETWORK-TALANOA, HOUSE OF SARAH,
ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF POLYNESIA.**



United Nations Entity for Gender Equality
and the Empowerment of Women

Wednesday, November 25

Titilia Vakadevarosa/Methodist Church

Lord God Almighty, thank you for the privilege of prayer. Help us to be joyful in our service. Anoint us with the oil of gladness. Teach us to be responsible Christians in our walk with you. Help us to be kind to ourselves and to love each other with the unconditional love of Jesus our Lord and God.

Help us to attend to the needs of those victimized by violence and those that suffer silently. Strengthen us with your Holy Spirit in our fight to overcome violence in our midst. Empower those individuals and organizations that are proactive in this course to bring about justice and peace in our homes, communities and nation.

We thank you for Jesus and his saving grace and Lord make us a blessing to someone today!
In Jesus Name we pray. *Amen.*

Thursday, November 26.

Miliana Fong/ChristianNetwork-Talanoa /House of Sarah

Merciful and everlasting God, we thank you for who we are. We thank you that we can call you Abba, Father. We thank you for your love for all people that has enabled you to die on the Cross for the salvation of the world. Help us heavenly Father to love one another, for love comes straight from God.

We pray for all those who are victims of violence in their homes. May they be granted the strength and the power to overcome fear and try to seek solutions. We pray for those women shut off from a full life by tradition and practice. For those seeking answers and meanings to their lives within their own cultures and religions.

We pray for all those who suffer through no fault of theirs. We pray that you will continue to give joyful expression to your creative love which breaks down barriers, and unites person to person, woman to man, and community to community.

This is our prayer and we ask this through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen*

Thursday, December 10.

Rev. Wesley Neal./Davuilevu Theological College Methodist Church

Let Your Light Shine

God of Light, in whom there is no darkness at all, Holy One, from whom no secret is hidden, seeing one, who Hagar named in her hour of desperation, Come quickly and see the hurt of your daughters who are abused.

Do not look past the black eyes and hidden bruises. Do not turn an unseeing eye to a young child's silent tears, or to the woman again in the hospital bed.

Do not remain silent at the graveside of she for whom the beating went too far.

But let your light shine into every dark corner of our homes and hearts, And let your light shine out of our hearts as a beacon on a hill. And above all, Lord, let your light shine so that those who stumble will not have to walk in darkness anymore. *Amen.*

**LET YOU LIGHT SHINE
INTO EVERY DARK
CORNER OF HOMES
AND HEARTS....**

Tuesday, December 8.

Tania Ab Kee / Anglican Church

O God of truth and justice,
 We humbly come before you the Prince of Peace
 Kindle our hearts O God to true love of peace, that in our homes
 we find peace, true peace from You
 And that this peace may flow through us and out to our
 communities
 In your mercy, hear our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord
Amen.

Wednesday, December 9.

Rev. Taimalelagi Tuatagaloa / Anglican Church, Samoa Archdeaconry

God of Restoration, we ask you to guard and guide our Youths as they struggle to find their way and your way in life amid all the pressures and messages sent out by the media peers.

These messages look down on women, music messages that inspire the love of money and no sexual boundaries.

Help parents to be more involved in, inspire them to do good, to respect and to honour others. Restore family structure to be a strong unit, a safety net, and a light to the path that leads to you and your ways God, in whose enduring love we trust, bind up the wounds of those betrayed by abuse at the hands of others.

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.*

Friday, November 27.

Mr. Geoffrey Miller / Salvation Army Church

Our Heavenly Father, Hallowed be Thy name. The King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Creator of Heaven and Earth. Thy Alpha and Omega, the beginning and life giver.

Sustainer and Governor of all things. Merciful, gracious loving God, we come before you with humbleness. Oh Lord, God of heaven, the great and awesome God keeps His covenant with those who love Him and obey His Commands. Have mercy on us for we have failed you in many ways. We confess that we have sinned against You. We seek your forgiveness and grace for our lives today and with the Responsibilities we have not fulfilled for our nation and people. Lord have mercy On us.

Your sacred word says He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with our God. Lord make us be your instrument of peace in a world so torn with the violence and selfish will." As for me, I would seek God, and to God would I commit my cause, who does great things and unsearchable marvelous things without number he gives rain on the earth and sends waters on the fields he sets on high those who are lowly, and those who mourn are lifted to safety. He frustrates the devices of the crafty, so that their hands achieve no success. He catches the wise in their own craftiness and the schemes of the wily are brought to a quick end. They meet with darkness in the daytime and grope at noonday as in the night. But he saves the needy from the sword of their mouth and from the hand of the mighty. So the poor have hope, and injustice shuts her mouth.

Lord give us the courage to be your hands and mouth piece for the least and violated. Lord may your spirit move our hearts for justice and your wisdom move our minds to establish Your truth within our homes, institutions and nation.

We pray for safety of our homes, that our families will live and grow in love and care, we pray for safety in our streets and communities, so that we will all live in peace and harmony. We pray for justice and righteousness in our nation, that we will show the way of life to those that suffer around our world.

Lord may your ways and will be ours today and the years to

come. *Amen.*

Saturday, November 28

Lay Minister Susan Croker/ Anglican Church

Abba – Father, you are my refuge, my keeper. You will sustain me and see me through all life’s difficulties. Thank you for your tender mercies and your loving kindness. They have always been with me. I know you will keep me in Your loving Hand, as the apple of your eye.

Keep me O Lord from the hands of the wicked, and preserve me from violent people . Let me not be put to shame for in You I put my trust.

Thank you for giving me peace, Lord, even during difficult circumstances, for the joy of the Lord is my strength. Thank you for Your promise that I will be like a tree that is planted by the rivers of water and brings forth its fruit in the right season. I believe Your Word, which tells me that my leaf will not wither and whatever I do shall prosper. It is my desire, Lord to be a fruitful believer all the time.

Help me, Father, never to walk in the council of the ungodly and never to stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of the scornful. Thank you for the wisdom you have imparted to me. I will walk in your wisdom and Your favor always.

I thank you Abba Father that you have heard and answered my prayer. In Jesus’ Name I pray . *Amen*

ABBA -FATHER, YOU ARE MY REFUGE, MY KEEPER. YOU WILL SUSTAIN ME.....

Sunday, December 6

Titilia Vakadenavosa/ Methodist Church.

Almighty God, we hallow your Name. Day by day O Lord, we pray that truth and justice might win the day. Yet too often, we see the evil in this world continue to crush the spirits of people who seek a peaceful life and sincere relation with the divine. Often we seem at the edge of despair. Yet, in your manifold grace and mercy, show us that in Jesus, God can conquer evil, and hope can thwart despair. Help us to consider the plight of the poor, the needy, the sufferers and victims of violence among us.

May we feel your holy presence in our midst as we respond to your grace through our prayers and actions so our lives may have both meaning and value. Make us the people you created us to be and assist us to become what our families and communities need to reveal abundant life.

Help us to use our days and hours faithfully as stewards of grace, mercy and peace. In Jesus mighty Name we pray. *Amen*

Monday, December 7.

Miliana Fong / Christian Network- Talanoa

Lord you are the God of the oppressed and outraged. We pray that you will help us to stand up to the power and authority of those who seek to restrict our freedom. Fill us with the Spirit of wisdom and help us to see the world through your eyes of compassion and justice. May we reflect your love in how we live in community with others.

May the work of our partner churches inspire us in our Ministry so that we can work together to eradicate gender based violence in our society

In Jesus Wonderful name we pray. *Amen.*

Friday, December 4

Mrs. Lima Tuisovaqa / Methodist Church

Praying with women

God our Creator, you make all people in your image. We give thanks for the growing contribution of women in church and society; for the insights and changes they bring; for their love and creativity, courage and strength: *(In silence name individual and groups.....)*

Use them to transform your world.

Christ our Companion, you walk with us wherever the road leads. Hear our prayers for women who are ignored, ridiculed, silenced, mutilated and killed:

(In silence name individuals and groups....)

Give them the knowledge of your unfailing love.

Spirit of truth, inflame us with your passion for justice to challenge and confront sexism, that we may support our sisters who are victims of domestic violence wherever they struggle; and that we might dare to be ourselves, reflecting your glory, now and forever.

Amen.

From Called to Prayer, compiled by Maureen Edwards, British Methodist Church 2001.

Saturday, December 5

Rev. Waga Fong / Anglican Church

Eternal God, Compassionate and Merciful, we your unworthy servants give you our humble thanks for all your goodness and loving kindness to us, and all those who have suffered from some form of violence or abuse in our communities. We pray that you will help and guide those who work hard towards the elimination of violence against women and children in Fiji and the Pacific.

It is our prayer that you will make us instruments of your peace and love. In Jesus Wonderful name we pray. *Amen.*

Sunday, November 29

Rev. Akuila Yabaki / Methodist Church.

WOMAN'S CREED

I believe in God, who created woman and man, in God's own image, who created the world and gave both sexes care of the earth.

I believe in Jesus, child of God, chosen of God, born of the woman Mary who listened to women and liked them, Who stayed in their homes, who discussed the kingdom with them, who was followed and financed by women disciples.

I believe in Jesus, who discussed theology with a woman at a well, and first confided in her his messiahship, who motivated her to go and tell her great news to the city.

I believe in Jesus who received anointing from a woman at Simon's house, who rebuked the men guests who scorned her.

I believe in Jesus who said this woman must be remembered for what she did, minister for Jesus.

I believe in Jesus who healed a woman on the Sabbath and made her straight because she was a human being.

I believe in Jesus who thought of pregnancy and birth with reverence, not a punishment- but as a wrenching event, a metaphor for transformation- born again –anguish into joy.

I believe in Jesus who spoke of himself as a mother hen who would gather her chicks under her wing.

I believe in Jesus who appeared first to Mary Magdalene who sent her with the burning message GO AND TELL.

I believe in the wholeness of the Saviour in whom there is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male and female, for we are all one in salvation.

I believe in the Holy Spirit as she moves over the waters of creation and over the earth.

I believe in the Holy Spirit the woman Spirit of God, who like a hen created us and gave us birth and covers us with her wings.

(Rachel C. Warlberg, from No Longer Strangers) from In Unexpected Places by Tony Jasper & Myra Blyth 1988

Monday, November 30

Jaimala Goundar/ Anglican Church

Dear Lord, our Almighty Father always loving and kind. You came into this world for those who are weak, lonely, suffering from sickness, and those crying out for justice in this life. Through your Son our Savior Jesus Christ you gave your life that we might change our ways and receive Salvation.

At this moment, we pray for those women and children who are going through Domestic Violence or any kind of abuse and are not able to share it with anyone, that they may be able to reach out and break the silence and seek justice.

Pray for those men and women who are working in places like in the House of Sarah, World Council of Churches, Welfare Department, and other Centres where these people could get help and support. We pray that more and more awareness programmes are set up so that such issues can be brought to justice and the perpetrators get punished.

We ask all these in Jesus' name. *Amen.*

Tuesday, December 1

Miliana Fong / Christian Network-Talanoa/House of Sarah

Heavenly Father, we pray for all those who have experienced humiliation through sexual violence and powerlessness in the face of threat. We give you thanks for revealing yourself in community, and for bringing healing through the work of justice and mercy. Thank you for inspiring us with courage to change.

Lord help us to become good listeners so that we may be able to know when to speak out and when to be silent. We pray that you will also help us to become part of the solution rather than be part of the problem. All these we give you Thanks. *Amen.*

Wednesday, December 2

Titilia Vakademavosa/ Methodist Church

Almighty God our heavenly Father, God of all justice and love and mercy. We thank you for the gift of life, and for the love and care you provide for every human being. We thank you that in the midst of all our trials you are ever aware of our situation. Help us to be mindful of those who suffer and victimized around us. May we humble ourselves to feel and experience with them, sharing hope and love to bring about healing and peace.

Please instill in us the urgency to be mindful of others and be agents of love always.

In the Name of Jesus our Lord and Saviour we pray. *Amen.*

Thursday, December 3

May Koi / Anglican Church

God our refuge and strength,
Give us strength to be instruments of peace
We pray for those who seek your peace in their homes,
communities and the world.

That they may find true peace that comes from you.

Renew us and those around us that we may serve you with love and may your Name be glorified.

In Jesus' name we pray. *Amen*