



# Break the Silence Sunday

is celebrated on the Sunday which is closest to November 25th which is International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and the beginning of the:

## 16 Days of Activism

## Against Gender Based Violence

November 25—December 10

### Why those dates?

The 16 Days of Action run from 25th November, UN International Day of Elimination of Violence against Women, to 10th December, Human Rights Day. The campaign spans these 16 Days in order to highlight the link between violence against women and human rights. Today, women and girls are subjected to many forms of human rights violations solely on the basis of their gender.

The 16 Days period includes other significant dates like International Human Rights Defenders Day (29th November), World Aids Day (1st December) and the anniversary of the Montreal Massacre (6th December).

### What are the aims of the Campaign?

The 16 Days Campaign is an opportunity for individuals and groups around the world to call for the elimination of all forms of violence against women by:

- Increase women's safety
- Highlighting the nature and prevalence of violence against women
- Raising awareness of violence against women as a human rights issue
- Showing solidarity among women around the world
- Promoting women's leadership
- Lobbying government
- Strengthening local work to tackle violence against women



### Why does the Church participate?

- To break the silence within our church and our families about family violence
- To affirm as Christians that we are all equal – made in the image of God
- To affirm as Christians that violence has no place within our families, our Church, our schools, our communities
- To add our voices and prayers to those around the world seeking the elimination of gender based violence