

The Bishop is asking for a week of prayer September 22-29, 2007.

The intercession of St. Maria Goretti is particularly sought for healing of victims of abuse. Bishop Corrada has approved these two prayers and encourages the work of the Maria Goretti Network, which has a Chapter at St. Mary's parish in Longview. The third Saturday of each

month at 7 PM, MGN has an anonymous meeting of anyone who has been abused or is a supporter of someone abused. Check out www.mgoretti.org or contact Miguel@mgoretti.org



St. Maria Goretti, Patroness of Abused Children

Maria Goretti is the patroness for abused children. She died as a result of her abuse. She is a role model in her willingness to forgive her abuser. She found peace in the love of Jesus Christ. Many victims of abuse have difficulty finding such peace. Particularly for those who were abused by people in the church or by close family members, it is often very hard to be open to the healing love of Jesus Christ. Victims need help in their journey toward healing. Besides the immediate victim, there are often parents or loved ones who suffer along with the victim. The Maria Goretti Network offers support through prayer, and through peer outreach.

Survivors Prayer

Dear God, we ask you to help us find healing and peace in our life.

Grant us hope in these times of trial.

May Maria Goretti who was strengthened by Your Grace join with us in prayer for healing of all victims of abuse, particularly those abused as children or young adults.

Fill us with your Love so that as Maria prayed for her attacker,

we too might have the courage to pray for the true conversion of our abusers:

that they might seek Your Mercy through prayer and penance.

Loving God, pour into our hearts and lives your healing Spirit,

that the sacredness of every human person might be respected and protected as the precious image of God.

Help us to live in the peace which Maria Goretti had found in Christ and in the love of his mother Mary.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Maria Goretti Network: www.mgoretti.org

Prayer for those suffering from abuse

Dear God, we ask you to help all those who suffer from abuse.

Help them find healing and peace in their life.

May Maria Goretti who was strengthened by Your Grace

join with us in prayer for healing of all victims of abuse, particularly those abused as children or young adults.

Grant us your Love that we might reach out to them in Your Name with hope in times of trial.

As Maria prayed for her attacker, grant us the grace to pray for the true conversion of all involved with the abuse: that they might seek Your Mercy through prayer and penance.

Loving God, pour into our hearts and lives your healing Spirit,

that the sacredness of every human person might be respected and protected as the precious image of God.

Help us to live in the peace which Maria Goretti had found in Christ and in the love of his mother Mary. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.