

Dear God,
Please show us your face during this very troubling time.
Our hearts go out to all those who have suffered abuse
at the hands of those they trusted.
We your people feel anger, shock, and shame at the actions of those
designated to serve as our shepherds and leaders.

We struggle to understand how this happens,
and we lament the harm and injury to the young
who deserve our tender care.

We know that you, God, are our Light,
and we need your wisdom and guidance more than ever
as we commit to keep all persons safe, especially our young people,
and bring to justice those who have broken our trust.

We pray for healing for all who have been abused.

We pray also for the offenders
that they seek forgiveness and face justice with repentance.

We ask you to heal our Church during this dark time,
and help us to treat one another with respect and dignity.

As the Church, we know that Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

Let his spirit and message pervade all that we do.

We ask you this in his name.

Amen.