



July 30, 2025

Dear Pastors,

The Msgr. John Enzler and Catholics Charities encourage priests to speak about domestic violence in a homily in September or October and use materials provided in this packet to alert suffering families that help is available.

Catholic families deserve to be safe and loved at home. Yet 1 out of 4 women, 1 out of 7 men have experienced severe physical violence in an intimate relationship: being kicked, beaten, choked, burned, having a weapon used against them. (CDC 2017)

We are pleased to share with you the Catholic Charities domestic violence outreach packet for the Fall 2025.

- 1) Homily Tips for September-October.
- 2) Bulletin notices, Prayers of the Faithful, a Testimonial from a St. Rose of Lima parishioner (English and Spanish).
- 3) FAQ leaflet written by Fr. Rob Maro (English and Spanish).
- 4) Restroom poster (English and Spanish).
- 5) County resource sheets (English and Spanish).
- 6) The pastoral letter from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, "When I Call for Help."

Catholic Charities invites pastors to use the homily tips and resources included here to encourage parishioners to seek help if they or family members suffer abuse.

You are invited to send a copy of your homily to [Laura.YeomansDV@CC-DC.org](mailto:Laura.YeomansDV@CC-DC.org) for possible publication on the Catholic Charities and Catholic for Family Peace websites.

If you would like electronic copies of these documents, materials can be downloaded at <https://www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/program/family-peace/>

Or contact:

[Teresa.Villanueva@CC-DC.org](mailto:Teresa.Villanueva@CC-DC.org) or [Laura.YeomansDV@CC-DC.org](mailto:Laura.YeomansDV@CC-DC.org) (301) 247-7926.