



'How terrible must it be to be afraid when you hear a key in the door. How demoralising must it be to live your life in the home you have created against the dark background of control and belittlement. Yet, this is the reality in many homes across Ireland today as 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men live the terror of walking a journey with abuse.'

The Most Reverend John McDowell, Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland,

Violence against women has long been recognised by the World Health Organisation as a global pandemic. As members of the Anglican Communion, we commit to the fourth mark of mission 'to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation'.

In order to attain this, we are driven by Christ's example. Christ didn't just respond to the immediate needs; he constantly challenged the culture around him which facilitated the injustice in the first instance.

'Equipping The Church To Take Action and End Domestic Abuse' is a practical, insightful, informative and explorative programme created by Mothers' Union, Bishops' Appeal and Tearfund Ireland. Accompanying the 5 part programme is an Irish edition of the Restored manual, ***'A Guide for Churches to Address Domestic Abuse'***.

This programme is a real opportunity to make a difference. The church is at the grassroots in every community and ideally placed to speak up about violence against women, to stand against domestic abuse and walk alongside survivors.

Let's stand up and be counted. Let's encourage our communities to work together to make a difference.

For further information contact allireland.mothersunion@gmail.com

COMING SOON – A Survivors' Group is aiming to be up and running by mid April – watch this space for further updates.

