

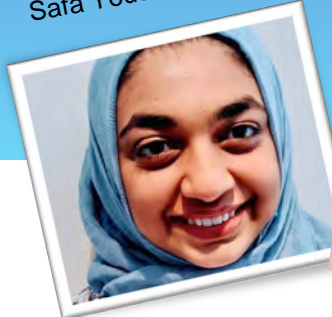


Pax Christi Scotland

Tom Halpin



Safa Yousaf



Mahrukh Shaukat



Bishop Victor Phalana



February 11, 2021 – Breaking the cycle of gender violence

Pope Francis's prayer intention for this month of February:

Violence Against Women

We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

Since the start of the pandemic in 2020, countries around the world have reported increases in gender violence. In some countries, helplines have reported an increase of up to 30 per cent in calls.

According to Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director of UN Women, 'Even before COVID-19 existed, domestic violence was already one of the greatest human rights violations. In the previous 12 months, 243 million women and girls (aged 15-49) across the world have been subjected to sexual or physical violence by an intimate partner. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, this number is likely to grow with multiple impacts on women's wellbeing, their sexual and reproductive health, their mental health, and their ability to participate and lead in the recovery of our societies and economy.'

Pax Christi Scotland, with Pax Christi International, believes that 'vicious cycles of violence and injustice can be broken'. This Zoom event aims to explore some of the ways to achieve that in the context of gender violence.

Our speakers:

✦ **Tom Halpin**, former Deputy Chief Constable, Lothian & Borders, former Chief Executive at Sacro, now board member of the Scottish Police Authority & Council Member of the think tank Scottish Association for Studying Offending.

✦ **Safa Yousaf**, Project Coordinator for Ending Violence Against Women and Girls Programme and Helpline Project; and **Mahrukh Shaukat**, Campaign and Development officer, both at **Amina**, the Muslim Women's Resource Centre in Glasgow.

✦ **Bishop Victor Phalana**, Bishop of Klerksdorp, in the Prefecture Apostolic of Western Transvaal, South Africa, who has worked extensively to address gender violence.

You are invited to our Zoom conversation on

February 11, 2021, 6pm-7pm

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZEsdUGgrjosHtONYKkBq2ySa5UpAs3EsuEJ>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.