



NATIONAL
DAY OF
PRAYER

YEAR

TOWN

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER YEAR TOWN

*THE BOLD PRINT IS THE WORK OF THE PEOPLE.
THE REGULAR PRINT IS THE WORK OF THE SELECTED LEADERS.*

NATIONAL DAYS OF PRAYER ARE NOTHING NEW IN THE UNITED STATES. THE FIRST CALL TO PRAYER CAME IN 1775 WHEN THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS ASKED THE COLONIES TO PRAY FOR WISDOM IN FORMING THE NATION. IN 1952 PRESIDENT TRUMAN SIGNED A JOINT RESOLUTION BY CONGRESS DECLARING AN ANNUAL NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER. THEN IN 1988 THE TRUMAN LAW WAS AMENDED AND SIGNED BY PRESIDENT REAGAN PERMANENTLY ESTABLISHING THE FIRST THURSDAY OF MAY AS THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER.

OUR COUNTRY HAS BEEN UNITING IN PRAYER ON THAT DAY EVER SINCE. NOW WITH THE NATION'S CONCERNS ABOUT THE WARS IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND WITH THE ECONOMY THE PRESIDENT OUR LEADERS AND EVERY MAN AND WOMAN IN UNIFORM NEED GOD'S GUIDANCE MORE THAN EVER.

TODAY WE PARTNER THROUGHOUT THE DAY WITH PEOPLE OF FAITH ACROSS THE NATION IN A GREAT CONTINUOUS PRAYER MEETING FOR OUR PRESIDENT LEADERS AND TROOPS.

UNIFIED PRAYER IS POWERFUL. IN THE BIBLE IT SAYS "*FOR WHERE TWO OR THREE COME TOGETHER IN MY NAME THERE AM I IN THE MIDST OF THEM.*" MATTHEW 18:20

"THE FIRST THING I WANT YOU TO DO IS PRAY. PRAY EVERY WAY THAT YOU KNOW HOW FOR EVERYONE THAT YOU KNOW. PRAY

And from the First Letter to Timothy 2:1-4

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings should be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us ask for forgiveness, and the strength to amend our ways.

L: God of Grace, we ask forgiveness for avoiding the searchlight of Your desire for us and running away from Your love:

All: Forgive us;

L: For preferring the safe, familiar and certain to the risky, unknown and mysterious:

A: Forgive us;

L: For failing to believe in the vulnerability of power and the power of the vulnerable:

A: Forgive us;

L: For taking no delight in variety and insisting on sameness and conformity:

A: Forgive us;

L: For fearing those different from ourselves, and projecting onto them what we cannot accept within our own depths:

A: Forgive us;

L: For assuming we are superior to the rest of creation, for abusing, despoiling and failing to celebrate our relationship with the earth and the inter-connectedness of life:

A: Forgive us;

L: Set us free, we pray, to be whole human beings and to live our lives graciously and without fear.

A: God makes peace within us; we claim this healing, in faith and hope.

PRAYERS FOR GOVERNMENT LEADERS

O God, Our Supreme Governor, bless the leaders of our land, that we may be a people at peace among ourselves and a blessing to other nations of the earth.

To the President, Barack Obama, Vice President; Joseph Biden, and the Cabinet: Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton; Secretary of the Treasury, Timothy Geithner; Secretary of Defense, Leon Panetta; Attorney General, Eric Holder; Secretary of the Interior, Ken Salazar; Secretary of Agriculture, Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Commerce, John Bryson; Secretary of Labor, Hilda Solis; Secretary of Health and Human Services, Kathleen Sebelius; Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, Shaun Donovan; Secretary of Transportation, Ray LaHood; Secretary of Energy, Steven Chu; Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan; Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Eric Shinseki; Secretary of Homeland Security, Janet Napolitano

To the Governor of our state, Christopher Christie

To the Executive of our County, Name

To all in administrative authority, grant wisdom and grace in the exercise of their duties.

To United States Senators and Representatives: US Representative Bill Pascrell, U.S Senator Frank Lautenberg, U.S Senator Robert Menendez, State Senator Ronald Rice

To District NUMBER Legislators Names

To the Mayor of our community,

To the Commissioners (or other officials)

To those who make the laws in our nation, state, and town, give courage, wisdom and foresight to provide for the needs of all our people, and to fulfill our obligations in the community of nations.

To Judges and officers of our Courts: Supreme Court Justices: Chief Justice John Roberts, Jr., Samuel Alito, Stephen Breyer, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Elena Kagan, Anthony Kennedy, Antonin Scalia, Sonia Sotomayor, Clarence Thomas

Supreme Court of New Jersey: Chief Justice Stuart Rabner, Barry T. Albin; Helen E. Hoens; Jaynee LaVecchia. Virginia Long; Anne M. Patterson; Dorothea O'C. Wefing
Township Judge Name

Give understanding and integrity, that human rights may be safeguarded and justice served.

And finally, teach all people to rely on Your strength and to accept their responsibilities to their fellow citizens, that they may elect trustworthy leaders and make wise decisions for the well-being of our society;

We also offer up a special prayer for our troops.

Almighty God we commend to Your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with Your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which confront them; and grant them a sense of Your abiding presence wherever they may be. Amen

PRAYERS FOR PEACE

Let us pray for world peace.

A: Lord, keep all nations under Your care.

Let us pray for the leaders of governments and those whose words and actions will influence the situation in the world, that they may not tolerate injustice, seek refuge in violence, or make ill-considered decisions about the futures of other

people.

A: Lord, keep all nations under Your care.

Let us also pray for all who live in the shadow of world events, for those who are seldom noticed: the hungry, the poor, the broken, and the unloved.

A: Lord, keep all nations under Your care.

We beseech You, O God, to help us be good stewards of your wondrous creation.

A: Lord, keep all nations under Your care.

May we help create peace wherever people live.

A: Lord, keep all nations under Your care.

Give us the wisdom to see where we can make a difference in the security and defense debate that goes on around us, and grant us the courage to form our conscience in the image of God.

A: Lord, keep all nations under Your care.

We ask that You guard and guide our President and all who serve the people of these United States. May uncompromising integrity mark their lives. May the blend of integrity and humility heal our land. We also ask that You unite us as truly "one nation, under God." In God's name we pray.

A: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve God and one another.

NAME thanks you for your presence and participation in this National Day of Prayer. We encourage you to keep these leaders of our community, our state and our nation in your prayers not only today, but every day.

Please credit the *Nutley Clergy Association* when using this material.

