

Self-Guided Memorial Prayer Walk May 28th or 29th, 2023



*My command is this:
Love each other as I have loved you.
Greater love has no one than this:
to lay down one's life for one's friends.
John 15:12-13*



Memorial Day Prayer Walk

(Choose a location where you can commune with God and humbly respond to His Spirit's leading)

*This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.
1 John 3:16*

Invitation to Reflection & Prayers

(at the Soldiers Memorial or another location of your choosing)

For the Fallen & the Families Who Remember

Almighty God, In whom we live, love, and have our being,
We take time today to uplift the heavy hearts
Of those for whom Memorial Day
Is more than a mere diversion,
But is, instead, a painful time of reflection

We remember with compassion
Your children who have lost their lives to war;
Incline us to honor their memory, dear Lord,
With a sincere pledge to seek peace

We pray for the safety of those entering military service,
And relief for the many returning from combat
With wounded bodies or minds
Sickened by the sight and sounds of war.

We ask you, O Great Comforter, to give strength to those who long
for your healing hand to mend what they cannot. Give them the
gentle assurance of your promise to all believers,
"Blessed are those who mourn: for they shall be comforted." Amen

For Our & Other Countries Leaders

Our Father and Our God, we praise You for Your goodness to our
nation, giving us blessings far beyond what we deserve. Yet we know
all is not right in our country. We deeply need a moral and spiritual
renewal to help us meet the many problems we face. Convict us of
sin. Help us to turn to You in repentance and faith.

Set our feet on the path of Your righteousness and peace. We pray
today for all nations and their leaders. Give them the wisdom to know
what is right, and the courage to do it. You have said, "Blessed is the
nation whose God is the Lord." Help all leaders everywhere to humble
themselves and acknowledge You alone as our Savior and Lord. This
we pray in Your holy name, Amen. (adapted from Billy Graham)

O God our heavenly Father,
whose love sets no boundaries
and whose strength is in service;
grant to the leaders of the nations
wisdom, courage and insight at this time of
darkness and fear.



Give to all who exercise authority
determination to defend the principles of freedom, love and tolerance,
strength to protect and safeguard the innocent
and clarity of vision to guide the world into the paths of justice and
peace.

This we ask through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

A prayer from the Book of Common Worship (1946), adapted

Eternal God... we rejoice in all who have lived and died faithfully.
We give you thanks for all blessed memories and all enduring hopes;
for the ties that bind us to the unseen world; for all the heroic dead
who encompass us like a cloud of witnesses.

We pray that we who have entered into the heritage of their heroism
self-sacrifice may so honor their memory and so preserve and further
their high purposes that the nation which they defended may stand in
all coming years for righteousness and peace; through Jesus Christ,
their Lord and ours. Amen.

Prayer Ideas:

Take some time to look through the names on the wall. Let God
direct your thoughts to pray for any that seem to linger there.

Humbly ask God to help you look for ways you can be more in tune
with those who need a tangible expression of His love. Is there a
letter, a note, a phone call, an email, a conversation you can give to
someone God draws to you mind?

Look around the memorial... look & listen to God's promptings. Ask
Him to quiet your heart to hear what He may want you to tell you.

Serenity Prayer

God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change;
courage to change the things I can;
and wisdom to know the difference.

Living one day at a time;

Enjoying one moment at a time;

Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace;

Taking, as He did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it;
Trusting that He will make all things right if I surrender to His Will;

That I may be reasonably happy in this life
and supremely happy with Him forever in the next. Amen.

*God is our hope and strength,
a very present help in trouble.*

*Therefore will we not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the hills be carried into the midst of the sea;*

*Though the waters thereof rage and swell,
and though the mountains shake at the tempest of the same.*

*There is a river, the streams whereof make glad the city of God,
the holy place of the tabernacle of the Most High. Psalms 46: 1-4*

O Christ Jesus,
when all is darkness
and we feel our weakness and helplessness,
give us the sense of Your presence,
Your love, and Your strength.
Help us to have perfect trust
in Your protecting love
and strengthening power,
so that nothing may frighten or worry us,
for, living close to You,
we shall see Your hand,
Your purpose, Your will through all things.

St. Ignatius of Loyola