

Mother of the Year: A Reflection



This is for all the mothers who didn't win a Mother of the Year award this year...

This is for all the mothers who have sat up all night with sick toddlers in their arms saying, "It's OK, honey, Mommy's here."

This is for all the mothers of Kosovo who fled in the night and can't find their children.

This is for the mothers who gave birth to babies they'll never see. And the mothers who took those babies and made them homes.

For all the mothers who run carpools and make cookies and sew Halloween costumes.

And all the mothers who don't.

What makes a good mother anyway?
Is it patience? Compassion? Is it your appearance?

The ability to nurse a baby, fry a chicken and sew a button on a shirt all at the same time? Or is it heart?

Is it the ache you feel when you watch your son disappear down the street, walking to school alone for the very first time?

I think so.

For all the mothers who make mental notes of their children every time they hear a siren sound or a tire squeal or a bump in the night.

This is for all the mothers whose heads turn automatically when a little voice calls "Mom?" in a crowd, even though they know their own offspring are at home.

This is for mothers who put pinwheels and Teddy bears on their children's graves.

This is for mothers whose sons and daughters have gone astray, who can't find the words to reach them.

This is for young mothers stumbling through diaper changes and sleep deprivation.

And mature mothers learning to let go.

For working mothers and stay-at-home mothers.
Single mothers and married mothers.

Mothers with money, mothers without.

This is for you all.

-Cindy Lange Kubrick
(Adapted)

Closing Prayer: Go, Knowing God

Go, knowing God is with you.
Go, knowing Jesus lives in your heart.
Go, knowing the Holy Spirit shines love on you.
Go, knowing that, we, your brothers and sisters walk with you always.

-Source Unknown

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A PRAYER SERVICE IN HONOUR OF MOTHERS



INTRODUCTION: A MOTHER

Soon it will be Mother's Day. Today we honour our earthly mothers. We give thanks to God for those mothers who give us love here on earth.

Opening Prayer

Loving God,
I need your help today.
I want to care for those You have sent into my life,
To help them develop special gifts You have given them.
But I also want to free them to follow their own paths
And to bring their loving wisdom
To the world.

Help me to embrace them without clutching,
To support them without suffocating,
To correct them without crushing.

And help me
To live joyfully and playfully,
Myself,
So that they can see Your life in me
And find their way to You.
Amen

www.cptryon.org/prayer/special/mother.html

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 13: 4-7; 13

Let us listen to the words from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

Love never fails...now, these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.

The Word of the Lord.



All: Thanks be to God.

Petitions

For our mothers, who have given birth to us, may we show them respect and love, we pray to the Lord...

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

For mothers who have lost a child through death, may their hearts have hope, and may they feel support around them...we pray to the Lord...

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

For women, who may not have children of their own, who have nurtured and supported us as their own, we pray to the Lord...

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

For mothers, who have not been able to be a source of love and guidance for their children, we pray to the Lord...

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Loving God,
Be an example of faith, hope and charity for all mothers. May your Son bring joy to these mothers as He did to you. Grant this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

