

We ask your blessing upon pray for adoptive fathers, that they may always know their special role of being a true father, a revelation of God's love for their children.

We ask your blessing upon fathers who have lost children through stillbirth, crib death, accident and tragedy, that they may have your continuing strength and courage.

### ***Intercessory Prayer***

For our fathers, who have given us life and love, that we may show them respect and love, we pray to the Lord...

***All: Lord, hear our prayer.***

For fathers who have lost a child through death, that their faith may give them hope, and their family and friends support and console them, we pray to the Lord...

***All: Lord, hear our prayer.***

For men, though without children of their own, who like fathers have nurtured and cared for us, we pray to the Lord...

***All: Lord, hear our prayer.***

For fathers, who have been unable to be a source of strength, who have not responded to their children and have not sustained their families, we pray to the Lord...

***All: Lord, hear our prayer.***

God, in your wisdom and love you made all things. Bless these men, that they may be strengthened as Christian fathers. Let the example of their faith and love shine forth. Grant that we, their sons and daughters, may honour them always with a spirit of profound respect. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Let us now pray the words that Jesus taught us. Our Father...

### ***Go, knowing God***

Go, knowing God goes with you.

Go, knowing Jesus goes before you.

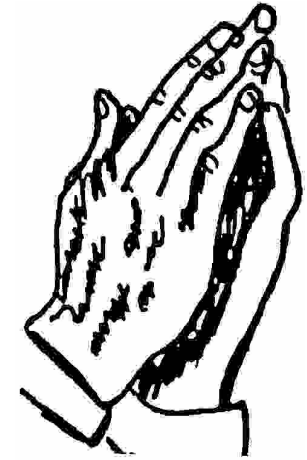
Go, knowing the Holy Spirit is within you.

Go, knowing that we, your brothers and sisters, walk beside you.



## A Father's Prayer

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***"By wisdom a house is built,  
and by understanding  
it is established."***

***—Proverbs 24:3***

## **A Father's Prayer**

Soon it will be Father's Day. Today we reflect on our earthly father and the love, however imperfect, that shines through to us. We also give thanks to our heavenly Father. When earthly fathers are at their best, they become mirrors of the love of the one whom Jesus called Abba, or Daddy.

### ***Opening Prayer***

Jesus,  
I need your special care.  
Like your earthly father, Joseph,  
I want to do God's will,  
even if I may not always understand.

Make me gentle and selfless  
in the care of my family and children;  
help me guide them in the toils and troubles,  
the happiness and wonders of this life.

Like my Father in heaven,  
make me strong in love and forgiveness  
for those you entrust to my care.

No one can do these things rightly, Lord,  
without your constant help and boundless  
mercy.  
Be with me always,  
and may I be wrapped in the love of my children  
always and in Your love forever.  
Amen.

<http://www.cptryon.org/prayer/special/father.html>  
Adapted

## ***Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 11:18-21***

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.  
You shall put these words of mine in your heart and soul, and you shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and fix them as an emblem on your forehead. Teach them to your children, talking about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, so that your days and the days of your children may be multiplied in the land that the LORD swore to your ancestors to give them, as long as the heavens are above the earth.

The Word of the Lord.  
**All: Thanks be to God.**



### ***Father's Day***

We walk not alone  
with our children.  
We walk with God,  
among the human family.  
And sometimes  
our children  
Lead us.

—St. Anthony Messenger

### ***Blessing of Fathers***

## ***and Grandfathers on Father's Day***

Father of Jesus, we give you thanks for the many gifts you have given us; the gift of life, the gift of those who love us.

We thank you today for the gift of our fathers and grandfathers.

We give thanks for our fathers and Grandfathers who have died and for the unique way they have revealed for us your love.

We ask that you Bless them and keep them in your care until the time comes for us to join them in your Kingdom.

We ask your Blessing upon the fathers and grandfathers who are unable to be with us here today.  
May they know how much we love and care for them.

We pray for fathers who have given their children up for adoption, loving their children so much that they have shared the gift of their child with those who could better care for them and their needs, and give them a secure home.

