

## National Day of Prayer

George Washington, our first president, in an official proclamation called for a day of prayer from the people of this nation. During Abraham Lincoln's presidency he proclaimed a "day of fast and prayer" for the unity of our United States. Again, in 1952 President Harry Truman named a national day of prayer for our country which is celebrated every year in the month of May.

If you choose to join with citizens of our country of all faiths in prayer I would encourage you to stop at noon and pray with your school community the following two prayers.

Let us pray for God's blessing on our country.

Father of all nations and ages,  
We recall the day when our country  
Claimed its place among the family of nations.  
For what we have achieved we give you thanks;  
For the work that still remains we ask your help.  
Grant that under your providence  
Our country may share your blessings  
With all the peoples of the earth.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
AMEN.

Let us pray for our troops in Iraq and in the entire world,  
Let us pray for peace:

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:  
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
Where there is injury, pardon;  
Where there is doubt, faith;  
Where there is despair, hope;  
Where there is darkness, light;  
And where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that I might not so much seek to be consoled as to console;  
To be understood as to understand,  
To be loved as to love;  
For it is in giving that we receive,  
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
And it is dying that we are born to eternal life. AMEN.