

Love and understanding are necessary to produce a socialized individual, by appealing to the boy's sense of importance, by cooperating with the boy, and by inviting his reciprocal cooperation and respect. The first step in helping a boy to find his place as a member of the group is to show him you are on his side.

- *Father Flanagan, January 24, 1947*



**FOR INFORMATION OR TO REPORT FAVORS GRANTED
CONTACT:**

Father Flanagan League
14057 Flanagan Blvd.
Boys Town, NE 68010

www.fatherflanagan.org

DONATIONS

**We are a federally recognized
501c3 nonprofit charitable organization
For religious purposes.
Donations may be made out
to FFLSD and sent
to the address above.**

Photos, prayers, writings of Father Flanagan
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Father Steven E. Boes, Executive Director



Father Edward J. Flanagan
Founder of Boys Town, Nebraska

Father Flanagan League:
Society of Devotion

Prayer Leaflet

Year Four—November

Father Flanagan's prayer

Continue to bless, Dear Lord, this Home, that Boys Town may continue to carry on its sacred mission of bringing hope and love to the neglected and unloved little ones of the nation.

Elevate the spirit that made Boys Town possible during the past years. Strengthen that spirit that ...we may be able with your grace to overcome the hardships and discouragements that always accompany this work.

Make us more worthy and more responsive to Your grace, that the work we do here in Your name and under the special patronage of Your Immaculate Mother, may be more and more acceptable to You—the God of Heaven and Earth--and pleasing to Your Immaculate Mother—Our Patroness and Protectress. All this we ask through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

*Protect them that you may be the joy
Of those who love your name.
For you, Lord, bless the just;
You surround them with favor like shield.*

Psalm 5.12a-13

From Fr. Flanagan's writings

Father Flanagan's letter to Mr. Al H. Kerbel in Chadron, Nebraska, May 18, 1945

Dear Mr. Kerbel:

Your letter received with reference to the spinal operation I had at Mayo's. I wish to advise that it was a very successful one, and I certainly would suggest that your brother go to the Mayo Clinic at once if he is having any difficulty whatsoever.

For many years I suffered intense pain in my right hip and leg, down to the ankle. This pain became more intense as I worked harder and rested less. I went to our specialists here in Omaha and they could not find anything wrong with me. I thought, of course, it was some passing thing that would disappear in time, but the longer it went on the more intense the pain became. Finally, at the suggestion of my doctor, I went to the Mayo Clinic, and in 24 hours they knew what was wrong with me.

Then they performed this operation, which is called a disc operation, which disc grew in on a vertebra over a period of possibly ten years. I remember very well when I received the accident which cause the displaced vertebra—it was when I was playing handball, and it was the last time I played. This disc in the meantime had grown in the end of the displaced vertebra, pressing down on the sciatic nerve, leading down into the hip and right leg, and this caused the intense pain.

In ten days after the operation I was able to be up and around and return home. I certainly would recommend that your brother go to the Mayo Clinic at once to be properly taken care of. Doctor Love is the one who performed the operation.

In the event your brother does go to Mayo's, I wish you would let me know sometime how he gets along. With every good wish, I remain,

Sincerely,
Rt. Rev. Msgr. E.J. Flanagan

The following letter is from Father Flanagan to Tommie Murphy of Omaha, Nebraska, on September 12, 1945.

My dear Tommie:

I have your letter and also had a nice letter from your father, and I want you to know that it was a real pleasure to have you and your father out to visit on the weekend of Labor Day.

I want you, Tommie, to come again as I feel that the atmosphere of Boys Town will help you and with God's special grace will cure you. I have great faith in the power of prayer and the great grace of Holy Mass and Holy Communion, and if we have that intense faith in Almighty God, Who is the Great Healer of all ills, there is no reason why you should not be completely cured. Yes, even miraculously so, for are not miracles being performed every day through the Grace and Love of God.

I wish you would make Novenas constantly to Our Mother of Perpetual Help...Why not storm her in Heaven with your appeals and the appeals of your friends—and I shall be among those.

Yours most sincerely,
Rt. Rev. Msgr. E. J. Flanagan

FATHER FLANAGAN PRAYER

God of mercy, love and compassion, we are grateful that You gave Father Edward Joseph Flanagan special graces to love, protect and guide neglected, vulnerable and oppressed youth. Thank you that the work he began with the foundation of Boys Town, has continued to spread throughout the world. We pray that you inspire many to adopt his caring, loving ways as mentor and protector of youth.

Loving Father, we bring our own needs to you now, asking that through the intercession of Father Flanagan, in accordance with your Holy Will, you grant us these special favors: _____.

Thank You for Your Faithfulness and Providence, and for hearing these petitions which we ask in the Name of Your Son, Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**