

Parenthood is a privilege. That privilege carries with it certain definite responsibilities. The home is a natural and divinely-appointed unit of society. It is the duty of fathers and mothers in the home to train their children by precept and example for good citizenship and service to God. - Fr. Flanagan



**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
Used with permission of Boys Town Hall of History
Father Steven E. Boes, Executive Director



Father Edward J. Flanagan
Founder of Boys Town, Nebraska

*Father Flanagan League:
Society of Devotion*

Prayer Leaflet

Year Six—January

Father Flanagan's Prayer for Parents

O God, Creator and Redeemer of all the faithful, look down with gracious eye on us fathers and mothers of this world. Teach us, Dear Lord, to know and understand the high position which we as parents hold in Your divine plan of creation – the guardianship of Your Precious Little ones.

Give us, Dear Lord, the strength and patience to teach by example and precept our precious children and lead them along the paths of virtues, onward and upward towards You, their loving and All Gracious God.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ, Our Lord.

Amen.

*Blessed is he
who comes in the name
of the Lord;
The Lord God shines upon us.
Psalm 117:26-27*

From Fr. Flanagan's writings

TOMORROW'S CITIZENS— APRIL 1, 1946

What is wrong with our boys and girls? This is a question many parents are asking, not because they want to be critical, but because they are bewildered and in need of help.

These youngsters of theirs, they say, are different from the young people they knew when they were teen-agers. They have different interests, older ideas.

What these fathers and mothers seem to forget is that the world in which their children live is a different world from that in which they spent their childhood.

When I was a boy, my mother used a flatiron instead of an electric iron. The only dish washer she had was a pair of busy hands...We never knew anything about indirect lighting. We used a kerosene lamp which invariably had a wick that smoked. Water for the bath had to be pumped from the well outdoors and then carried into the house to be heated in the reservoir in the kitchen stove.

The radio had not been discovered. The movies were unheard of...the automobile had not made its appearance...We need to keep these things in mind when we try to understand the modern teenager. Our growing boys and girls today are just as fine and just as wholesome as those of fifty years ago. They may dress differently. They may have different interests. They may be more sophisticated. But there is no essential difference, there is only a different behavior pattern conditioned by a new environment.

Why, then, is there such a furor about juvenile crime? The answer, at least in part, is that a lot of well-meaning people do not understand the modern boy and girl...Again, a good many people are sincerely alarmed because they lack perspective; they are so pre-occupied with the mistakes of the few that they fail to make considerations for the ninety and nine who never get into difficulty..

But there is another reason, a reason I like to think is the real reason why people are concerned about our unfortunate youths, and this is that spirit of love and devotion which permits no one to

remain complacent as long as a single boy or girl is in need of help or sympathetic understanding. Jesus put childhood on its highest plane when He said that of such is the kingdom of heaven.

Children are not born to be bad. They come unspoiled from the hand of God. It is our duty, as parents and members of society, to protect them from bad influences in the world where they grow to young womanhood and young manhood. We must not allow environmental influences to remove the look of Hope which God has put in their eyes, nor the spark of enthusiasm which He has put in their hearts.

Parenthood is a privilege. That privilege carries with it certain definite responsibilities. The home is a natural and divinely-appointed unit of society. It is the duty of fathers and mothers in the home to train their children by precept and example for good citizenship and service to God.

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.**