

...life is but a day...even the longest one is but the flicker of a ray of sunlight in the shadow, and then is gone forever!...we are created for God... the most successful life is only a failure if it does not bring us closer to the Creator. *Fr. Flanagan*



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GRANTED
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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.**

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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 Three —January

From Father Flanagan's prayer for peace

O Infinite God of Mercy and Love for Men, we beg you for pity and compassion on the world that has wandered away from your Holy Gospel of Peace and Love. You have created man with a soul like unto Thee, precious in your sight, a soul that is immortal and eternal. The purpose of Your Creation is love... love for You Our God, and love for our fellow man because of You—for in loving man for Your sake we recognize in him this precious soul.

...Bring about, Dear Lord, a spiritual union of all the nations of the world built on the understanding that we are all Your children and You are our Heavenly and Eternal Father. Teach us all the great dignity of our state in life as children of You, brothers of Your Divine Son, Jesus Christ, nurtured and strengthened by Your Holy Spirit...

With humble and contrite hearts...we beg of You, Our Lord and Master, to put an end to all ruthless slaughter, and with the dawn of Peace may a new hope come to the world, a hope based on faith in You, our God, faith and hope that will bring forth a burning fire of love upon the earth that will illuminate the path of man's weary pilgrimage on earth toward his Heavenly throne. All this we ask, and beg of You, in Jesus Christ Our Lord.

Amen!

"..heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven. "You are my beloved Son: with you I am well pleased."

Luke 3. 22

From Fr. Flanagan's writings

(Father Flanagan's Page, Father Flanagan's Boys' Home Journal, February, 1937, page 2):

A troubled, anxious world is turning again to the home for a solution to the grave problems that have arisen both with growing boys and girls, and with restless, seeking men and women. Weary of their restlessness, they are turning back to the peaceful shelter of home and fireside.

Leaders have started a movement to interest people again in the home—to build once more the faith, confidence and peace of real home life...Fathers and mothers not finding the happiness they expected to find in outside amusements are beginning to seek it in their own homes.

Their action will interest their children in finding their recreation under the parental roof. The tendency on the part of young and old to seek companionship and entertainment away from home and the family circle has lessened the parental authority, and has broken down the bonds of love and sacrifice on which true and constructive lives are built.

What is more beautiful than the self-sacrifice of father and mother for their children and their home? How many parents there are who give their lives unselfishly for the education, training and well-being of their children—parents who would sacrifice every material convenience in order that their children might be properly cared for. If they are wise parents, they will cultivate this spirit in their children, and save them from the unhappiness and sorrow of a selfish life.

This is the real sacrifice that ennobles humanity and gives it a sanctity and purpose above all earthly possessions. But how rare it is in many families today.

...The spirit of sacrifice and charity is needed in the world of today as a victor over the spirit of greed and selfishness which is so rampant. Benevolent charity which bridges the gap between the rich and the poor—between the humble and the great, smoothes the pathway of life for all of us. Men without love for one another

are like beasts who are always looking for the chance to surprise and devour each other.

Hence, dear Friends, in choosing your way of life, in building your home life, keep steadily in mind that self-sacrifice, and love of God and your fellow man are the essentials of every good life.

Make your home a place your children will want to come to and remain. Make it a haven that will hold them against the outside temptations. Make it your kingdom for your family in which love, happiness and peace dwell. Such a home is beloved of God and the cornerstone of the nation. Children from such homes will be a blessing to their parents, to their country and will live useful lives dedicated to the cause of God and man.

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.