

When these boys grow up they will always look with gratitude on the city that has taken them in, when they were homeless and gave them an education to fight life's battle with... They will be boosters for Omaha and an asset to Omaha's welfare.

- Father 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 Four—March

Father Flanagan's prayer

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....

All this we ask, and beg of You, in Jesus Christ Our Lord. **Amen!**

Among the many groups who helped Father Flanagan was a group of women who formed The Mothers' Guild. (Father Flanagan writes about them in Father Flanagan's Boys' Home Journal, January 1921)

Their meetings at the Home on every Thursday afternoon prove to be of unusual interest, the ladies in question enjoying sewing for the boys to such a degree that their merry laughter echoes and re-echoes through the Home as they raffle off articles donated by some members, thus adding to their fund for helping our Home.

At one of their meetings they were greatly encouraged by the presence of the Most Rev. Archbishop J. J. Harty, whose appreciative terms of their noble endeavors will ever echo in the hearts and minds of the respective members of the club. They never cease to plan in what way to help Father Flanagan's Boys' Home and its numerous inhabitants... Rev. E. J. Flanagan, the Sisters and the boys join in a grateful chorus of thanks to the most sacrificing members of the Mothers' Guild...and the numerous contributors whose names are indelibly written in the Book of Life who will be rewarded in a God-like way for their acts of charity.

*My mouth shall proclaim your just deeds
I will speak of the mighty works of the Lord:
O God, I will tell of your singular justice.* Psalm 71.16

From Fr. Flanagan's writings

"Our Farm Home"

Father Flanagan's Boys' Home Journal, May 1920

After a long and dreary winter of a shut-in monotony as a protection against the cold, snows and rain, our boys are almost beside themselves with joy at the oncoming of the beautiful sun shining into our poor quarters to cheer us all with a new hope.

For some time now they have been enjoying the outdoor exercise, playing marbles, practicing on the small terrace for the ball team, and romping around on the young green grass. We find a decided change in their temperaments and whole make up since they have been allowed out of doors and their long pent-up energies, now set forth in all harmless and healthful outdoor sports make them much more subservient to our rules and discipline, and much more responsive to our appeals.

Our much discussed Farm Home is still not a reality and is the general topic of conversation among the bigger boys especially, who have had the privilege of visiting the Farm, and working there on Saturdays. They speak in glowing terms of the place to the others, and are constantly asking us, "When do we start the New Home, Father?" Little do they know of the difficulties and disappointments that are met with every day in connection with this matter. Little do they think of the necessary expense of building, and how difficult it is to interest men of wealth in this project. Money is the first essential and that we may build to care for our present needs, almost Two Hundred Thousand Dollars are needed. Fifty thousand have already been subscribed and our farm is now, thank God, and thanks to our benefactors, out of debt.

What of the future rests in the hands of an All-pitying God Who sees the many sacrifices that must necessarily be met with boldly before our final aim is accomplished. And when we answer those oft repeated questions of our poor boys concerning our New Home we have to tell them that they must pray more fervently and devoutly. All good things come from God and if men only realized this fact and that they are only trustees of earthly goods which must be divided among God's poor and

neglected ones in a prudent and constructive manner, then our boys would long ago have had a real Home and every homeless boy would find a refuge in that home to be given every chance to grow up a child of God and a useful citizen of the country.

That these boys must be given a chance to live, grow and expand, goes without mention. Every boy in this great country of ours has a natural right to this. Men of means and influence, men who are leaders in our communities of finances, business and commerce must recognize this fact and must get together to finance and encourage works of this kind.

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.