

MEDITATION IN HONOR OF MOTHERS

According to Google, “The modern **Mother’s Day** was first celebrated in 1908, when Anna Jarvis held a memorial for her mother at St. Andrew’s Methodist Church in Grafton, West Virginia. In 1914, Woodrow Wilson signed a proclamation designating **Mother’s Day**, held on the second Sunday in May, as a national holiday to honor **mothers.**” We therefore take this opportunity to SALUTE all mothers, especially those of our Independent United Order of Mechanics, WH, family, in all Jurisdictions worldwide, and to wish you copious blessings form Above.

The poet Rudyard Kipling is quoted as saying, “God could not be everywhere, and therefore He made **mothers.**” While this cute quote is theologically incorrect, (God IS everywhere, all the time!), it does give a hint as to the ubiquitous and pervasive nature of motherhood: we wouldn’t be here without them!

Our mothers are, by God’s design, major influencers of who we are or may become, - biologically, socially and spiritually. From the moment of conception, we draw from this being, life-sustaining nutrients and nurturing. As we grow, she provides protection and personality development.

Author Steven Ray states, “The most important person on earth is a **mother.** Mothers are closer to God the Creator than any other creature; God joins forces with mothers in performing this act of co-creation... What on God’s good earth is more glorious than this: to be a **mother?**”

Scientists have determined that the genetic makeup of men and women differ in about 6,500 out of 20,000 genes. God has so masterfully crafted woman, giving her unparalleled physical, mental and emotional attributes, laying the groundwork for **motherhood.** The Psalmist proclaimed: “**Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward.**” –*Psalm 127:3.*

The worth of a God-fearing, faith-abiding, Spirit-filled **Mother** is incalculable. Whether a birth-mother, foster-mother, grand-mother, surrogate-mother, or any woman whose influence filled the **maternal** role, we know that God was present in it. The scope of their godly influence is generational: St. Paul reminds young Timothy, “*When I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your **grandmother** Lois and your **mother** Eunice, and I am persuaded in you also.*” -2 Timothy 1:5.

I praise God this day, as I remember the strong, praying, Spiritual-minded women, **mother and grandmother**, who from infancy showed me the Way. I glorify the Lord for my wife of almost 40 years, whose deep spiritual character is the heartbeat of our family. Indeed, as per Proverbs 31:28 “**Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her.**”

In making mention of “*her husband,*” the Psalmist introduces the concept of completion of the family unit. Men, women and children working together in harmony towards a common goal. This applies to the home as well as our Fraternal organizations. Instead of **competing** against each other, we **complement** each other, using our unique God-given gifts to build each other up.

PRAYER: We give thanks, O God, for the gift of motherhood and for those who have faithfully nurtured Your children from time immemorial. We hold sacred the memory of mothers who have gone on to Glory, and pray for those still striving to make this a better world. Grant us Thy Grace, O God, that we may work together, to the building of Your kingdom and to glorify Your Name, in Christ we pray. Amen.