



LCRL PRAYER PARTNERS

OCTOBER: MARRIAGE AND FAMILY

Family Traditions

Pumpkin spice, apple cider, caramel apples, sunny days, cool nights, colorful leaves, crisp mornings with frost on the pumpkins, Friday night football, Homecoming, apple picking, trips to the pumpkin patch, bonfires, canning, corn mazes, and festivals all make October a month for creating cherished family traditions.

The United States Senate unanimously passed Senate Resolution 160 on September 26, 2001, designating October as Family History Month. The resolution affirms: *"It is the family, striving for a future of opportunity and hope, that reflects our Nation's belief in community, stability, and love,"* and *"The family remains an institution of promise, reliance, and encouragement."*

It is fitting that the family unit—and its history—be recognized and celebrated as a nation. Stories of ancestors who overcame adversity, struggled for financial security, fought for our nation's freedom, and laid a foundation for future generations inspire us to take our place in building strong families: rooted in the past, shaped by the present, and looking toward the future.

Though each family's story is unique, there are enduring patterns woven throughout history. Every family begins with the union of a man and a woman who seek to raise children and create a better world for them. Every family has stories of perseverance, sacrifice, and growth. Families gather around meals, observe traditions, celebrate milestones, and pass down faith practices from generation to generation.

Let us pause to discover our family's roots and stories. Let us take time to create new traditions for future generations. Let us build strong marriages between one man and one woman, so that the family may flourish through the gift of children. And let us especially pause to teach our children and grandchildren the faith found in the Scriptures and shared through the pulpit.

The family has been the one constant throughout history that shapes vibrant, faithful, and productive communities.

Today, however, the family is being devalued. Our culture increasingly views marriage as optional, promotes the notion that children do not need both a mother and a father, and glamorizes broken homes. Schools and parents often find themselves in conflict over a child's education. Meanwhile, the rise of relativism and secularism challenges the authority of Scripture in defining family roles, gender, and purpose.

The Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty advocates for moms and dads entrusted with the God-given gift of children—children who learn their family's history and faith through the witness of their loved ones, supported by, not replaced by, schools or government.

Let Us Pray:

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. 1 Timothy 2:1-2 ESV

Most gracious God, we give thanks for the joy and blessings that You grant to husbands and wives through gift of marriage. Assist them always by Your grace that with true fidelity and steadfast love they may honor and keep their marriage vows and grow in love toward You and for each other; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Dear Heavenly Father, we pray for fathers and mothers, that they would be strengthened to raise their children in the faith; we pray for those who labor to protect and defend families that they would be a light in the darkness; we ask that You would strengthen congregations and their leaders as they proclaim Your words and works, that they would be protected, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Let Us Encourage:

PRINT – PERSONALIZE – Pray

The LCRL asks that you would commit to pray for the work of the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty as it advocates for the family.

Not only do we ask that you would pray, but that you would share this prayer request with your family, friends, neighbors, and congregation.

Please see:
www.LCRLFreedom.org
for more information about
the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty

Please feel free to cut it out and keep it in your Bible for handy reference.

The Lutheran Center for
Religious Liberty
Dr. Gregory Seltz,
Executive Director

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