



The Shield
January 2020 edition
Praying for the Canadian Military Community



Join us throughout the month of January
As we reflect upon and pray for the following

CANADA

We are blessed to live in Canada. We have shortfalls, problems, and misunderstandings as people, but generally, we are loving people. We are loving, broken people who need God. As we count our blessings heading into the New Year, be obedient to God and pray for our leaders, even the ones who didn't receive your vote. God allows them to rule over us as, so we honour God by honouring them with our prayers. We don't have to agree with our politicians, but we must bring them before God.

Considering using this prayer for Canada:

“Father keep our leaders from adopting humanistic laws, which are so contrary to Your truth. Guard their consciences from being seared by so much that is flooding the corridors of world power today and give each one wisdom, insight and integrity in the decisions they have to reach - and may we live peaceably in this land as we wait for any day the return of the Lord Jesus Christ to take His church to be with Him into heaven, in His name we pray, Amen” (from Knowing Jesus)

LEADERS

“Therefore, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear and celebrate his rule with trembling” Psalm 2:10-11

Take some time to identify your local political leaders (Provincial and Municipal) and pray for them by name.

Consider praying:

“Almighty God our heavenly Father, send down upon those who hold office in this Province/city/town) of _____ the spirit of wisdom, charity, and justice; that with steadfast purpose they may faithfully serve in their offices to promote the well-being of all people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (taken from The Book of Common Prayer)

OPERATIONS

“But as for you, be strong and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded.” 2 Chronicles 15:7

There are several ongoing operations involving Canadian Military personnel, each important and each with risks. Will you visit DND's operations website and each week, adopt an operation and pray for the troops serving on that operation.

Operations: <http://www.forces.gc.ca/en/operations/current-list.page>

Consider praying:

“Loving Father, we thank You for those who represent You in the flesh as they save others who might otherwise perish. These rescue workers do not simply do their work out of duty, but they do it as a conscious effort to reach one in peril as though he or she was their brother or sister, mother or dad, son or daughter. You come to us through their love, care, and sacrificial effort in saving us from otherwise certain death. Heal their sorrowful memories of those rescue attempts that did not fare well and strengthen them in body and spirit. They serve as examples to us who are in the rescue mission of saving the lost from the eternal consequences of a life lived apart from You. Keep us diligent and faithful, never giving up or giving in to discouragements that come our way or from those who choose not to heed our spiritual counsel. We pray this through Jesus our Lord. Amen.” (Taken from Daily Encouragement web site)

CHAPLAINS

“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.” John 14:27

The military recruitment site states, “Chaplains are responsible for fostering the religious and pastoral care of the Canadian Armed Forces” There role is both difficult and challenging as they not only battle our culture but the spiritual forces seeking to take them down.

Consider praying:

“O heavenly Father, Shepherd of your people, we give you thanks for our Chaplains who are faithful in the care and nurture of Your flock. We pray that, following their example and the teaching of their holy life, our military may, by your grace grow, into the stature of the fullness of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen (modified prayer is taken from The Book of Common Prayer).

MILITARY FAMILIES

God created humanity to live in a harmonious relationship and modelled this behaviour in Father, Son, and Holy Spirit bond. Unfortunately, we are not always good at showing love for those we said we’d love forever. Stressful situations often exasperated by military life can damage the family unity. We desire that our military families come to know the peace Jesus offers so that when they are faced with life’s challenges and difficulties, they can recognize the true enemy is not each other, but the evil one who wants nothing better to destroy relationships. We can pray they find Jesus and build a relationship with Him which leads to a stronger family.

Consider praying:

“Lord Jesus, be with our military families. Open their eyes to you and place a desire in them to know you. Grant them your peace and harmony to end any conflict and division. Bless them with compassion to better understand each other, and the wisdom to assist each other. Help them trust you so they can learn to live with trust and patience for each other. Amen.”

THE MCF

The Military Christian Fellowship of Canada exists because God had ordained it. He put the mission in the minds and hearts of men and women many years ago and has passed this desire onto a new generation so that we would take His word to the military community. The MCF functions because God allows it, and so we must ensure that we constantly seek His will over ours. In 2020 pray God continues to grant our leaders, especially our President Col (Retd) Gerry Potter, the wisdom and stamina to remain strong.

Consider praying:

“Lord, you have called us to bring the good news to our brothers and sisters in the military community, and we seek to do your will. Thank you for allowing your own experiences and affiliation with the military to open doors for us. Help us push through those doors, in partners with others around the world, to share your truth and love with those who do not know you as saviour. Nudge the hearts of those brothers and sisters who have yet to talk with you about their involvement in the MCF and if it is your will, draw them to the fellowship to partner with those already working on the mission. It is in the power and authority of your name Jesus that we offer this prayer. Amen.

