

Update from All Saints'

Email to the Parish from The Venerable Christopher Dunn

10 May 2020

I trust that all the mothers out there had a wonderful **Mother's Day**, and that those of us who have lost our actual mothers had an opportunity to reflect on their importance in our lives. I have to say that while I always think of my Mother on a day like this, I also think of all those people who were like mothers to me. When my parents travelled we always had a lovely couple come to stay at our house; they did not have their own children but they took on each of us like we were theirs.

So to all the mothers, mother-figures, potential mothers and those who just have wonderful mothering instincts -- thank you!

The first proclamation of a Mother's Day in the United States actually happened in 1870 and was originally a cry for peace. It followed the end of the Civil War and was a time to support mothers who had lost their sons in that war. Of course it was not until 1914 that the whole Mother's Day thing took off but it would be nice to think that we could hold on to the prayer for peace and concern for all those who have lost loved ones.

Families come in all types; however you define your family here is tonight's prayer:

"We give you thanks for the life that is found in our families, for the strength and love we give one another in this journey of life: for joy in times of celebration, for support in times of trouble, for forgiveness in times of failure. Bless our families, we pray. Make us strong in love, committed in affection, grateful for our differences, eager in seeking the good of others, generous in hospitality, daring in the quest for justice and peace. Bless us when we are together; bless us when we are apart. Make our families a sign of your kingdom, and an instrument of your grace. Amen"

Take care and stay well

Chris