



The Shield
August 2018 edition
Praying for the Canadian Military Community



Join us throughout the month of August as we pray
for the following individuals and issues.

Canada

“Almighty God, who has given us this good land for our heritage: We humbly beseech thee that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of thy favour and glad to do thy will. Bless our land with honourable industry, sound learning, and pure manners. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance, and from every evil way. Defend our liberties, and fashion into one united people the multitudes brought hither out of many kindreds and tongues. Endue with the spirit of wisdom those to whom in thy Name we entrust the authority of government, that there may be justice and peace at home, and that, through obedience to thy law, we may show forth thy praise among the nations of the earth. In the time of prosperity, fill our hearts with thankfulness, and in the day of trouble, suffer not our trust in thee to fail; all which we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen”. (taken from The Book of Common Prayer)

Leaders

Political 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 this month 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. This month we ask that you join us as we pray for all those involved in Search and Rescue Operation across Canada. The three Joint Rescue Coordination Centres tasked CAF assets 94 times to conduct SAR operations during the month of June.

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 an 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. This 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 Saviour Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen”* (modified prayer is taken from The Book of Common Prayer).

Military families

“I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living” Psalm 27:13

The military life can put a strain on families and often their sacrifice is forgotten. This month take some time to think of a family affected by military service and pray for them.

Consider praying: *“Dear Lord, Our hearts are filled with gratitude for the men and women who serve our country, and for the sacrifices, their families make so that we can all enjoy the blessing of freedom. Surround them with your mighty angels; protect them in your mercy; cover them with your grace. Guard their hearts while they are far from loved ones and bless them with moments to cherish when they are together. Hold these families close, Lord. May they look to You for the strength and peace that only You can give. In Jesus Name we pray, Amen.”* (anonymous)

The MCF

“Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth” 2 Timothy 2:15

Pray about ways you can build relationships within the MCF and the military community.

Consider praying: *“Heavenly Father, unite your military family in the Holy Spirit that we may serve you with all our hearts and work together with unselfish love. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. AMEN.”*

