

Prayers for Summer



Mark Hakomaki

All of us have so much to be thankful for each day.
When we awake to a new day, when a friend is in touch with us,
for the food we eat, for the water that flows into our homes, for flowers,
birds, trees, our health, for doctors close by who care for us:
the list can go on and on.

Thanking God should be part of our daily lives.
It is also good to tell God about worries and concerns: about jobs,
relationships, family, health, whatever comes to mind.
Sharing those thoughts with God
will often help to lessen the burdens we carry.
Take time -- lots of it -- each day to talk to God in prayer.
If you spend time with family members or friends, engage them in prayer
with you, and listen to how they share their joys/concerns/thanks with God.

Summer Prayer



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Creator of all, thank You for summer!
Thank You for the warmth of the sun
and the increased daylight.
Thank You for the beauty I see all
around me and for the opportunity to
be outside and enjoy Your creation.
Thank You for the increased time I
have to be with my friends and family,
and for the more casual pace of the summer season.

Draw me closer to You this summer.
Teach me how I can pray no matter
where I am or what I am doing.
Warm my soul with the awareness of
Your presence, and light my path with
Your Word and Counsel.
As I enjoy Your creation, create in me
a pure heart and a hunger and a thirst for You.

Amen.

Prayer for the Summer Solstice

Jesus, thank you for Summer.
Thank you for light and warmth.
Thank you for the sun.
Thank you for the gifts of nature
and for the annual cycles and seasons.
Today, give us that grace again,
to see you as the Creator,
the One who lifts us up to be with you
forever, even now. Amen.

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A Summer Blessing



May you walk with God
this summer
in whatever you do
wherever you go.

Walking with God means...
walking with honesty
and with courage.
Walking with love
and respect
and concern for the feelings of others.



May you talk to God
this summer
on every day
and in every situation.

Talking with God means...
praying words of praise
for the beauty of creation.
Saying prayers of thanks
for friends and good times.



Asking God's help
in all your decisions.
Expressing sorrow
when you have failed.
May you talk with God
every day. Amen.

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The Warmth of Summer Sun

Under the warmth
of the summer sun
the world awakes and blossoms
into every imaginable color.
You created a garden for us to enjoy
and within it planted
the most magical of flower and trees.
You needed no horticultural training
to plan your color scheme,
no gardening expert
to recommend variety or design.
Your garden is perfect
its colors harmonious
its scale immense
spoilt only by the clumsiness of those who tend it.

Creator God
who breathed this world into being
who is discernible within
the harmony of nature,
the perfection of a butterfly's wing,
the grandeur of a mountain range,
and the soaring eagle and humming bird,
thank you for this world
which you have created.
Thank you for summer sun
which reminds us
that your creative breath
is still alive and active.
Thank you for the warmth of your love
sustaining this world:
your garden

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Prayers for Summer Break

Lord,
What about you and me?
I don't want to
forget you just because
I'm off my normal school-year routine.
Keep close to me, Lord,
and remind me that my relationship
with you should never take a break.

Father,
This summer will be
full of new experiences
for me and my friends:
new jobs, exciting mission trips,
and vacations to places
we've never been before.
Grow us, stretch us
through whatever we do,
and through wherever we go,
so that we'll end the summer
just a little more like you.

Dear God,
School's out!
I can't believe it!
One more year down and
I'm so ready for a break.
If I had to take one more test,
if I had to eat one more whatever-that-is
from the school cafeteria,
I know I'd scream
real loud.

Thank you for
getting me through another year.
Thank you for times to stay up late—
and for times to sleep in!
Thank you for a chance
to just take it easy for a while,
and to get some much-needed rest.
Thank you for summer vacation!

Dear God,
I like everything about summer except
my parents.
It's not that I don't love them.
I really do.
It's just that they always
have something for me to do.
Mom says,
"Clean the bathroom ... get the groceries."
Dad says, "Don't let your mind rot,
read a book!"
Give me patience with them.
(And give them patience with me!)
And remind me that
I'll still get to do a lot of things
I want to do—
even with all the stuff they toss my way.



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Long warm days...
The pace of life slows...
A time for picnics and rest in the shade...

Lord,
help me to rest awhile
in the cooling shade of your presence.
Slow down my restless heart
and fill me with gentle compassion
for all your people.
Amen.

Summer Prayer for Children

Note: In June, the world observes several days that remind us of children who need our solidarity through prayer and advocacy in the days and months ahead:

- ✓ June 4th is International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression (UN)
- ✓ June 12th is World Day Against Child Labor
- ✓ June 20th World Refugee Day
- ✓ June 26th International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking



We are grateful for the summer months ahead,
And grateful for the summer joys
and the laughter of the children
in our families, our schools and our parishes.
Bless our children during these next months;
may they grow in grace through play and picnics,
camps and friendships, family visits and vacations.

We pray too for children in our global community,
Especially for children being scarred by the violence of conflict,
The horror of war, of life on the run,
And the violence of child labor.
For them, the summer holds no promise nor relief.

Bless our children during the months ahead,
all our children: in Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan, the Middle East,
in Darfur, and in every place where the sounds of guns and bombs
continue to be heard and continue to silence the sounds
of children's laughter and childhood dreams.
Bless our children in every country where children labor through long days
and never know the peace of economic security or freedom.

God of Grace,
May these children know comfort and healing, through Your compassion
And through our efforts to bring peace and justice
To the global village we all call home.
Amen.

--by Jane Deren

www.educationforjustice.org

Summer Prayers

Shine on Me

As the sun rises, Lord,
Let your light shine on me.
Destroy the darkness about me,
Scatter the darkness before me,
Disperse the darkness behind me,
Dispel the darkness within me.
Let your light shine on me.

As the sun rises, Lord,
Let your light shine on me.
The warmth of your Presence,
The brightness of your love,
The radiance of your joy,
The shining of your hope.
Let your light shine on me.

As the sun rises, Lord,
Let your light shine on me.
Your light to guide,
Your light to lead,
Your light to direct,
Your light to brighten.
Let your light shine on me.

(From *Power Lines: Celtic Prayers About Work* by faDavid Adam)

Friendship

Beauty of friendship grow between us
Friendship
without guile
without malice
without striving.

Goodness of friendship grow between us
Friendship
with light
with wings
with soul sharing.



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Be in the eye of each friend
of my journey
to bless and teach each one.

The eye of the Creator be upon us
The eye of Christ be upon us
The eye of the Spirit be upon us
The eye of the Friendly Three
Be upon us forever.

Creation

Holy God, maker of the skies above,
lowly Christ, born amidst the growing earth,
spirit of Life, wind over the flowing waters,
in earth, sea and sky, you are there.
O hidden mystery, sun behind all suns,
soul behind all souls, in everything we touch,
in everyone we meet, your presence is round us,
and we give you thanks.

When we have not touched, but trampled you in creation,
when we have not met but missed you in one another,
forgive us, and hear now our plea for mercy.

The creator of the world watches over us
in our waking and our sleeping;
Christ teaches us how to die out of love;
the Spirit of the world dwells within us
to guide us and keep us safe;
the God of love and mercy grant us the
grace of pardon, wholeness and peace,
through Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Quiet Friendship

Gentle God, reveal to us the beauty of sensitive friendship.
Help us to create such stillness in our inner being
that we become aware of your gracious movements
in the souls of others. Amen. (Ray Simpson, Celtic Prayers)



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