



CHAPLAIN / MEMORIAL

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As members we open our meetings with our Preamble and the words “For God and Country”. Remember God is always with us.

The Chaplain should attend all meetings and be prepared with an opening and closing prayer at each meeting. It is also helpful to have a grace prayer available in case food will be served. Prayers may come from any source: Reflections in the quarterly Auxiliary magazine, from our national website <https://www.legion-aux.org>, self written prayers or those found anywhere else. An important reminder for all chaplains is that the American Legion Auxiliary does not promote one religion. Our American Legion members, the veterans who have served and protected our country, come from a variety of religious backgrounds. Be aware of your unit membership or the group you will be offering prayers to when selecting your prayers.

Some ideas that chaplains might consider:

- Report the names of members who are ill or have entered alternative care facilities (nursing homes, assisted living, etc.) to your members and send them cards signed by your members at a meeting;
- When a member dies, send a sympathy card and/or memorial to the next of kin. If the family requests, visit the funeral home and have members present a Memorial Service for the deceased member or serve as honorary pallbearers at their funeral;
- Drape your Unit’s charter at a Unit meeting and invite the family members to attend for the draping. (This sometimes works as a great membership tool for longtime members who always paid their children and grandchildren’s dues. They realize how important their family member was to the Auxiliary and want to continue to pay their own dues!)
- Recognize Gold Star Families whenever you can;
- Keep in contact with members and veterans in nursing homes or those who live alone

Your Unit and/or individual members might consider making memorial donations to honor the service of deceased members. Memorials can be made to any of the programs that are found on our donation form. There is a special form to use when sending in a memorial. It has a space to indicate who the donation is in memory of and information on notifying next of kin. This is a great way to honor our deceased while maintaining some very special programs.

This year I am asking members and units to help create a prayer resource for all of our members. Everyone is encouraged to send me prayers, inspirational poems, etc. Each month, I will print as many as I can on this Chaplain's page. Prayers can be sent to marsha.bible@gmail.com or mail them to me at the address above.

TODAY

Outside my window, a new day I see
And only I can determine what kind of day it will be.

It can be busy and sunny, laughing and gay,
Or boring and cold, unhappy and grey.

My own state of mind is the determining key,
For I am the only person I let myself be.

I can be thoughtful and do all I can to help,
Or be selfish and think just of myself.

I can enjoy what I do and make it seem fun,
Or gripe and complain and make it hard on someone.

I can be patient with those who may not understand,
Or belittle and hurt them as much as I can.

But I have faith in myself, and believe what I say,
And personally intend to make the best of each day.

Author unknown
submitted by Vivian Miller
(Vivian was Robin Dorf's aunt)
75th Anniversary Book of Prayers



PRAYER FOR PATRIOT'S DAY – September 11th

O God, on the anniversary of September 11th, we call on your spirit to empower us to shape a world marked by ways of life that lead to justice and peace.

We are still aware of the fear and violence that has permeated our world since September 11, 2001.

As we pray in remembrance of that tragic day, help us to be people of nonviolence and hope.

Form us into a people determined to heal wounds rather than inflict them.

We ask this in your name. Amen