

Who we are

La Societe de Femme is a fraternal organization of women formed in 1963 for the sole purpose of supporting the programs and principles of the United States Veterans of the Forty and Eight Organization (La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux). It is a non-political and non-sectarian organization.

La Femmes is a nationwide organization with groups formed at the Local, State and National level. National Headquarters is located in Indianapolis, Indiana in offices adjacent to the Forty and Eight National Headquarters.

Membership in La Societe de Femme is restricted to women, eighteen (18) years of age and older. At the Local level, you must be invited or recommended by a current member and approved by the Local Membership. At the National Level, you may become a member with the endorsement of either a member of the La Femmes or a member of the Forty and Eight.

Contact Us

Cabane Nationale

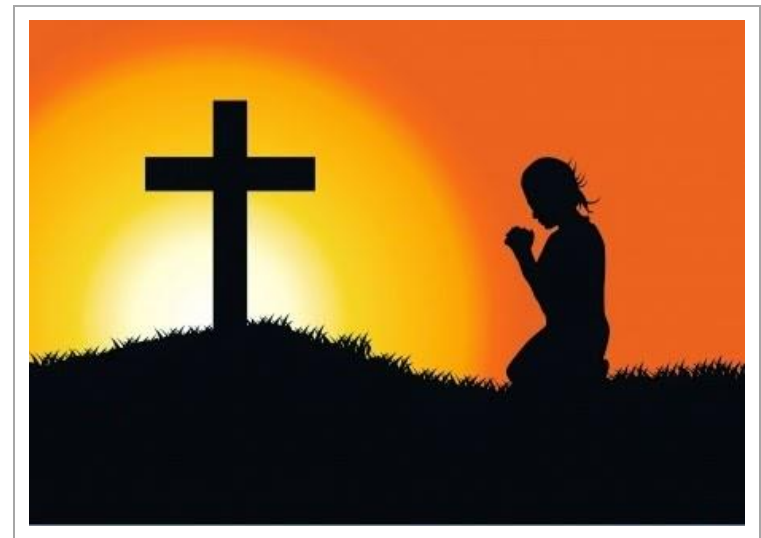
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Aumonier Book of Prayers and Benedictions



LA SOCIÉTÉ DE FEMME



La Societe de Femme

Indianapolis, IN 46205

Cabane Nationale



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Prayer for Peace and Comfort

Lord God, You promise the peace of a still lake, Even in the midst of a storm. You promise the peace of a slumbering child Even in the middle of tension and disagreement. You promise the peace of a poppy field Even in the place of heartbreak and devastation. Your promise is a peace that surpasses our human understanding. So I choose to rest by the still waters, to lie down and rest amongst the poppies. Your resurrection declared peace over trauma, power over death, and life everlasting. I trust in you. Amen.

Thanks for Family and Friends

Blessed are you, loving Father, for all your gifts to us. Blessed are you for giving us family and friends to be with us in times of joy and sorrow, to help us in days of need, and to rejoice with us in moments for celebration. Father, we praise you for your Son Jesus, who knew the happiness of family and friends, and in the love of your Holy Spirit. Blessed are you for ever and ever. Amen.

Thanksgiving Table Prayer

Lord God, our hearts are crowded with gratitude as we celebrate the feast of Thanksgiving. We have come to this our feasting table with great joy and eagerness, for we are truly grateful to You, our God, for all that we have been given. We pause now and, in silent prayer, to thank You for the great generosity of Your gifts. *(Pause for silent reflection.)* We also thank one another for gifts - especially for the gifts of love and affection that we have freely shared. We are thankful for all who are present at this our feast as well as for all those who have labored in love in order to bring this dinner to our table. May You, our God, bless this Thanksgiving feast and all of us who shall share it in Your holy name. Amen.

Christmas Day Table Prayer

Lord God of Life, together with the beautiful traditions of decorating the Christmas tree, of singing carols and giving gifts, this Christmas dinner is an important part of our celebration of the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Come, Lord our God, and surround our feast day table as we delight in this joyous season of Christmas. Gift us in this meal with the taste of happiness as we savor this coming together of family and friends. As sparkling stars and singing angels rejoiced at the birth of the Christ Child in Bethlehem, so may we take great joy in this our Christmas dinner-celebration. May You, our God, bless it and us in Your holy name. Amen.

Make Us Worthy, Lord

Make us worthy, Lord, to serve our fellow men throughout the world who live and die in poverty and hunger. Give them through our hands this day their daily bread, and by our understanding love, give peace and joy. -**Mother Teresa**

Prayer for a Sick Person

O Father of mercies and God of all comfort, our only help in time of need: We humbly beseech thee to behold, visit, and relieve thy sick servant (*Name*) for whom our prayers are desired. Look upon *them* with the eyes of thy mercy; comfort them with a sense of thy goodness; preserve them from the temptations of the enemy; and give them patience under *their* affliction. In thy good time, restore to health, and enable them to lead the residue of their life in thy fear and to thy glory; and grant that finally they may dwell with thee in life everlasting; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Prayer for healing the sick

Lord God, We dwell in your house, Drink in your presence And find peace and rest in your arms. We believe in your name, Ask for your healing And believe and trust in your love. We thank you for your sacrifice, Receive all you have for us, And pray and ask for restoration. We need your touch. We wait on you. You are our Saviour, our friend, and our hope. Amen.

Devine Blessing

God our Father, Commander of the Universe, Everlasting Prince of Peace, in all humility we invoke Thy blessing upon our efforts to exalt the name of these United States of America. Through our devotion and service, may we glorify the accomplishments of La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux and La Societe de Femmes; and thus justify our heritage as citizens in time of peace as well as war, all to Thy glory. Amen.

“The chair is empty – they are not here. They are POW’s and MIA’s. We must never forget that while we enjoy our daily pleasures, there are others who have endured, and may still be enduring, the agonies of pain, deprivation, and internment. Let us remember and never forget their sacrifice. May God forever watch over them and protect them and their families.

Closing Prayer (Ritual)

Almighty God, Ruler of Heaven and Earth, who dost ordain the powers that be, hear our prayer for our beloved nation. Thou hast permitted us to enjoy the blessings of freedom and liberty in spite of our failures, weaknesses, and sins. In thy wisdom and mercy, Thou has given us a homeland and throughout its history, loyal men and women have fought, suffered, and even died to preserve it. Humbly grateful for their sacrifices, we thank thee for all the blessings Thou has showered on us through them. Preserve this nation under the shadow of Thy wings. Grant that we may also be a blessing to it, pledging ourselves to its ideals and to serve La Societé des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux and La Societé de Femme in whatever way we can, as Thou dost will. Amen.

Alternate Closing Prayer (Ritual)

Our Heavenly Father, we ask thy blessing upon our great Republic. May America ever remain the home of the brave and the land of the free. May our watchword, "In God We Trust" ever live; and may the faith of our fathers guide, protect and sustain our people. Bless all our efforts for God and Country, and may we continue to be mutually helpful to each other. Hear our prayer, our Father, and keep and bless us. We ask this in Thy Name. **Amen.**

Opening Prayers

Almighty God, as we come together today, show us the wisdom to be gained thru thoughtful discussions and active listening. Give us the patience to hear many points of view and understand that growth is gained thru understanding. Let us treasure this time together as Sisters of a common cause, and though there are serious topics on our agenda let us enjoy moments of laughter and good will also. In your name we pray. Amen.

Dear Lord, as we come together for the purpose of gaining knowledge, allow us to share the fellowship of a common cause. Let all questions be answered and the knowledge gained be for the betterment of all Dames as we take it back to our Cabanes. In your name we pray. Amen.

Eternal God, by whose power we are created and by whose love we are redeemed; guide and strengthen us by your Spirit, that we may come together today and have a successful and purposeful meeting that will allow us to give in service to others in your name. Amen.

Dear God, As we come together today, we give you thanks for the good gifts you give us. We ask for your guidance in our lives, And we pray that your love would live amongst us. Amen

Dear Lord, let us have an open mind, open heart and a willingness to express our ideas for the good of the growth of this organization. In your name we pray. Amen

Benedictions & Closing Prayers – Continued

Almighty God, help us to remember that freedom does not automatically perpetuate itself, that we have to work at it, nurture it, protect it, and pray for it. Let us be ever mindful that freedom needs our attention and our cooperation. Be with us now as we go about our daily lives and let us never forget to reflect your loving kindness on all those with whom we meet. Amen.

May our days be filled with laughter and love, May our lives overflow with fulfillment and satisfaction, And may God give us a song for our hearts, peace for our souls, And many years of good health to our lives. Amen.

Dear Lord, as we depart and go our separate ways, show us the way to arrive at our destinations safely, show us the wisdom to know that all opinions shared today are a means for growth of self and organization. Show us that there is room in our hearts to allow more into our inner circle. In your name we prayer for peace throughout our world so that our service members can return home safely. Amen

Dear Lord, let us rejoice in the renewed friendships shared today, the renewed purpose of our mission to service of Veterans, Community and Nation. Let us share this feeling of renewal with those who could not attend and watch our purpose grow. In your name we pray. Amen.

Dear Lord, we thank you for this time that we have shared today. We have rejoiced in a shared purpose and the coming together of friends from all corners of our Nation. We remember today those who could not be with us and those who are now in your loving care. We take a moment as our hearts ache for their loss but then rejoice to know that they are at eternal peace in your loving arms. We pledge ourselves to the purpose of serving our Veterans, community and Nation until it is our time to feel your loving arms. In your name we pray. Amen.

Let our purpose show in all we do, Let the fun we have encourage others to join us. Let the Lords peace be with you all. Amen.

Benedictions & Closing Prayers – Continued

Father, thank you for all the marvelous things you have done today. Thank you for your love that you have revealed to us, and for the love that we share together as your body. We pray for all the words you have sown into people's hearts today. Watch over them, protect them. May they take root and produce wonderful things, Things of beauty and great blessings to many. And as we leave this place now, thank you that you walk with us. May we be alert to your promptings And live in your endless love. For yours is the kingdom, the power and glory in this age and forevermore. Amen.

As this evening comes to a close, we reflect on all that we have shared this day. We go our separate ways with fond memories and inspiration that will help us find our way. We say a prayer that all will travel and return home safe. We remember our countrymen who are not safe within our borders, and our homeless and under privileged, asking God to watch over them and give them peace. Amen.

The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make His face to shine upon us, and be gracious unto us. The Lord lift up His countenance upon us, and give us peace, this day and forever more. Amen.

May the Lord our God bless us all present here, to memorialize those who lived and died to preserve liberty and freedom in our nation and in the world. And may the Lord our God remember all those whose sacrifice gave this nation its greatness, progress, and riches. May our memory of those who served in the armed forces, be an honorable one, full of thanksgiving to the Lord; and remember with much love and mercy those who died in the service of our Country, whether on the air, or on the land or in the sea. Be with us all and provide us with traveling mercy as we return to our homes. Amen.

God grant to the living, grace; to the departed, rest; to the Nation, peace and concord; to us all Your servants the promise of everlasting life, light to guide us on our way, courage to support us, and Your blessing to unite us in service to You our God and this our Country.
Amen

Opening Prayers – Continued

Lord, As we meet today, Guide our hearts with love, Guide our minds with truth, Guide our actions with faith, Guide our souls with hope. We trust in You. Amen.

Lord, May your goodness and love be present amongst us today. Come bless our gathering with unity, hope and vision. Lord, we pray for unity. Build in us all a deep respect for one another so that our tasks may be done. Lord, we pray for hope. Come stir your hope within our hearts and renew our faith in our mission. Lord, we pray for vision. May your vision fill our lives as we seek to reveal your love in our work. We ask all this in the glorious name of Jesus. Amen.

Meal Prayers

Bless us, Oh Lord, and these thy gifts, which we are about to receive, from thy bounty, through Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

Loving Father, we thank you for bringing us together for this meal: may we continue to live in your friendship and in harmony with one another. Bless this food, a sign of your loving care for us, and bless us in our daily lives. Bless our Service members throughout the world, and all those who seek to do your will today. Father of mercy, all praise be to you through Jesus Christ our Savior, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Our Dear Heavenly Father, we thank Thee for this food. Feed our souls on the bread of life and help us to do our part in kind words and loving deeds. Let us remember those who cannot be with us today and keep them safe. We ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

Lord, May this food restore our strength, giving new energy to tired limbs, new thoughts to weary minds. May this drink restore our souls, giving new vision to dry spirits, new warmth to cold hearts. And once refreshed, may we give new pleasure to You, who gives us all. Amen.

An Invocation

Loving God, bless all those gathered here today as we come together in friendship and fellowship. Thank you for the blessings of our individual and collective God-given gifts. Place in our hearts the desire to make a difference to our families, to our community, to our country, and to the many cultures and peoples worldwide. Give us balance in times of distraction and uncertainty. Help us move towards our goals with determination and always with an abundant sense of humor. Thank you for food in a world where many know only hunger; For our faith in a world where many know fear; For friends in a world where many know only loneliness. Please bless this food we are about to share, those who prepared it, those who serve it, and those who have worked to make today the special occasion that it is. For all of this we give you thanks. Amen. **-Izola White**

Banquet Prayers

Heavenly Father, bless the people of this community, and help us to work together to make it a better home for all. Bless this meal we share together, and fill us with the strength to live in harmony. Amen.

May we be strong in virtue, firm in time of trouble, and always ready to help others in time of need. May we be blessed by God as we share this food, and as we work and live together for the good of all. Amen.

Father of mercy, we praise you and give you glory for the wonderful gifts you have given us: for life and health, for faith and love, and for this meal we are about to share together. Father, we thank you through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Father, we are thankful for the fellowship that we have shared today, the common goals of service that we continue to live in our daily lives. We remember those who are in harm's way or serving away from home and cannot be with us now. We thank you for the food that we are about to receive and pray that the day will come when no one will know hunger. In your name we pray, Amen.

Come Lord Jesus, be our guest, May this food by thee be blest, May our souls by thee be fed, Ever on the living Bread. Amen

Lord Jesus, our brother, be with us today. Bless our happy gathering, and bless this meal that we share. Protect us all, remember those far from home and help us to grow in your love. Lord Jesus, we praise your holy name for ever. Amen.

Benedictions & Closing Prayers

O God of people and nations, we pause at the close of this meeting to acknowledge again Your sovereignty over our lives and our Country. We remember before You our service members and friends now departed this life. We honor them for their loyalty to God and Country, for their good deeds, and for their friendship. May they rest in peace and may the good works You have begun in them be brought to perfection, that our Nation may be strong and our people secure and happy. Give to us safe journey to our homes. Amen.

Let us go forth into the world in peace and dedicated to Your service, O Lord. Let us hold fast to that which is good, render to no person evil for evil, strengthen the faint-hearted, support the weak, help the needy and the afflicted, and honor all people. Let us love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of His Spirit. And may God's blessing be upon us and remain with us always. Amen.

May the strength of God sustain us; may the power of God preserve us; may the hands of God protect us; may the way of God direct us; may the love of God go with us this day (night) and forever. Amen.

Let us depart in peace, and in love and charity with our neighbors. May we be joined together in the common goal of service to our God and our Country. Let us drive safely and carefully to our homes, and may God's blessing be with us all. Amen.

Dear God, Thank you for the privilege of being able to share in this time together. Time to connect with Heaven, and your promises. Time to rest and join together with brothers and sisters. Time to reflect, and breathe in the wonder of your love, the majesty of your Kingdom and the excitement of journeying with you. Come watch over us all as we continue to follow you. Amen.