

Dear Members and Friends of the Old Scotch Church,

This Sunday we'll celebrate Father's Day. It will be a very difficult day for some and a pleasant day for others. Some of us will think about our fathers, good and bad, and remember them and the impact on our lives. Others will be in the moment, grilling, chowing down, laughing, and spending the day enjoying family. There will be special meals, favorite desserts, cards, presents, and lounging around. Whatever your day brings — whether you are being celebrated, planning the celebration, or spending a quiet day, know that we are connected through our faith and our humanity. Pause for a moment and drink in the beauty of this earth. Give thanks for a loving God who in infinite wisdom created us in His image. Personally, I'll be raising a root beer float, well maybe not exactly root beer, but a float, in honor of the men of the Old Scotch Church.

I hope you'll join with me in this prayer in honor of fathers.

Peace,

Chris Macfarlane, Parish Associate
The Old Scotch Church

A Father's Day Prayer - 2020

Heavenly Father, we have been blessed. Today, we offer this prayer to honor fathers ... the men in our lives who nurture, provide, teach, and provide strength; and, love us. Life, right now, is chaotic. It's not easy. We worry. We need you as our heavenly father and we need these men who are the fathers on earth. We humbly ask your blessing on those ...

... who worry during this pandemic about our children's, our grandchildren's, and our great-grandchildren's health and well-being.

... who worry during this pandemic about our father's, our grandfather's, and our great-grandfather's health and well-being.

... who grieve the loss of their father, especially those who've recently lost their father or the father of their children.

... who are separated from their children because of job or turmoil.

... whose skin is black, brown, white.

... whose job puts them in harm's way.

... who dash out the door when they know we're in trouble.

... who teach us life skills.

... who coach our youth sport teams.

... who swing us high, wrestle, lift and carry.

... who sit with us quietly, listen, and offer advice.

... who provide a role model.

Like the mothers we celebrated in May, we also bring before you those fathers who care for children connected by DNA or by choice. Love is a decision. You decided to love us. Fathers of all shapes, sizes, and colors have decided to love sons and daughters no matter the family of origin.

We are grateful for the fathers of young children, youth, teenagers, and adults. We are grateful for our grandfathers and our great grandfathers. We rejoice in watching our sons become fathers. And, like the many women who grace our lives, we are just as grateful for the uncles, older brothers, teachers, and father figures who walk alongside us — sometimes, briefly; other times, for a lifetime.

We give thanks for laughter, for tears, and for the love we receive, especially in these uncertain times. Remind us to give thanks each and every day for each and every blessing.

Amen.