

NATIONAL HOME

UPON OUR NATIONAL HOMES.

Chaplain: Each evening the children of our comrades, at the VFW National Home, kneel at their bedsides in reverent prayer to Almighty God. Let us turn our thoughts toward Eaton Rapids, Michigan, and with bowed heads join them in their prayers. Repeat after me (all, in unison), "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the Kingdom of God." (Short pause.) May God bless our National home. Amen. (Commander raps gavel.)

16. (At a time other than the above specified evening hour the Chaplain may use the following prayer for the VFW National Home):

Chaplain: Almighty God, we ask Thy divine blessing on the widows and children in our National Home. May Thy divine spirit be with them forever, giving them health and guiding their lives. Trust us always, to honor our departed comrades. Amen.

FOOD

Bless, O Lord, this food for thy use, and make us ever mindful of the wants and needs of others. Amen

OR

Bless us, O Lord, for these, Thy gifts, which we are about to receive from Thy bounty. Help us to be mindful of all our blessings, and the needs of those who have less. Amen.

OPENING

PRAYER

Chaplain: Let us bow our heads. O, Sovereign Ruler of the Universe who art the Lord of Hosts and God of Peace, without Thee our efforts are vain.

Continue Thy blessings upon us and our families, we pray Thee, and guide us during our deliberations.

We beseech Thee, O God, to bless the dependents of our departed comrades, and to comfort all who gave their loved ones to our nation's cause.

Bless and strengthen the sick, the needy and the afflicted. Bless, we ask Thee, the widows and children in our National Home and help us to fulfill our duty toward them.

Continue Thy favor upon our order, and help us to practice the spirit of true comradeship, both in our councils and with the world at large. Enable us to better the community in which we live through our devotion to duty as citizens.

We now have a moment of silent prayer for our departed comrades and for those missing in action and those held as prisoners of war.

(Short pause.)

These and all other necessary blessings we ask of Thee, Mighty Ruler of the Universe. Amen.

CLOSING

PRAYER

Chaplain: Almighty God, the hour has come when we must part.

We commit ourselves to Thy care.

Thou, Whoart our strong tower of defense and our protection, grant that in life's battles we may be strong and brave, living such lives of stainless integrity as shall reflect honor upon our country and the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, and glorify Thy great and Holy Name.

May Thy good providence shield us from all harm, watch over those who even now guard the gates of freedom, and bring us together again in true comradeship and peace. Amen.

(All respond--Amen.)