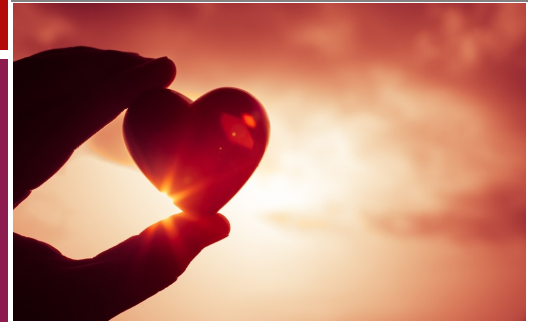


Mother's Day Milestone Moment



HAPPY
Mother's
Day



"A mother holds her child's hand for a short time, but their heart forever."

— Unknown

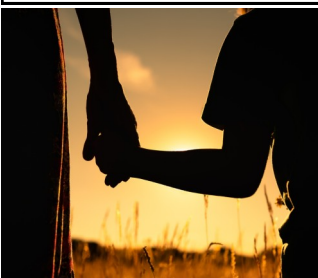
Significance of this Moment

The modern U.S. holiday of Mother's Day was first celebrated in 1908, when Anna Jarvis held a memorial for her mother at St. Andrew's Methodist Church in Grafton, West Virginia. In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson signed a proclamation designating Mother's Day, held on the second Sunday in May, as a national holiday to honor mothers.

In the 1940's, the tradition of giving red carnation flowers to mothers on Mother's Day began. Later, this practice was expanded to include placing white carnations on deceased mother's gravesites.

This *Mother's Day Milestone Moment* gives an opportunity for families and friends to honor and recognize mothers and those who have mothered them in their lives. It is a moment to cherish the significance and value of what mothers provide to their children and set aside time to share stories, kindness, and appreciation for their love. Mothers hold a significant role in shaping our lives. The bond between a mother and children spans a lifetime.

Consider giving a gift like flowers, a card, or other memento related to this moment as a way for those participating to remember this time together.



The importance of observing Milestone Moments, whether happy or sad:

- Sharing highs and lows and having conversations in a caring, trusting setting leads to building strong and lasting relationships.
- Faith is passed on more effectively through our actions and role modeling than through our lectures and teaching. Faith is caught more than it is taught!
- If we want faith-filled children and youth, we need adults who practice the faith with them.
- Prayers and blessings are rituals grounded in the tradition of passing on the faith.

Mother's Day Conversation Guide



Talk and Listen

- What is your high and/or low for this week?
- How would you describe your mother in one word or phrase? Explain.
- In what ways are you like your mother? In what ways, different?
- What is the happiest memory or story you can tell about your mother?

Read the Bible

Read the following:

She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue. Proverbs 31:25-26 (NIV)

- What words of wisdom come to mind when you think of your mother?
- What is something your mother has taught you that has been helpful for you?

Pray and Bless

Pray: Loving God, as a mother gives life and nourishment to her children, so you give life and care for all of us. Bless all mothers, as we celebrate this day in their honor. Guide and protect them, encourage them, and bless them throughout their lives. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Place a hand on the those being honored on this day and say this blessing: May God bless and strengthen you in your faith and may God's love shine forth through your actions and words to others today and always.

Love Your Neighbor

This special day to honor our mothers provides an opportunity to reconnect, celebrate, and bring joy to our mothers and others who have been like a mother to us. Think especially of those women who may be feeling lonely or are homebound. How can you bring joy to their day?

***Faith is formed by the power of the Holy Spirit
through personal, trusted relationships.***