

VFW Meeting Prayers

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 children, families and staff of 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.)
16 These and all other necessary blessings we ask of Thee, Mighty Ruler of the Universe. **Amen.**

(All respond—Amen. Chaplain takes their regular station.)

NATIONAL HOME PRAYER

Chaplain: Almighty God, we ask for your divine blessing on the children, families and staff of our National Home for Children in Eaton Rapids, Michigan. May Your Spirit dwell with them forever, giving them health and guiding their lives. Help us to always be faithful to our fallen comrades by providing (shelter and guidance) support for their families. We ask in Your Holy Name. **Amen.**

(All respond—Amen. Chaplain takes their regular station.)

CLOSING PRAYER

Chaplain: Almighty God, the hour has come when we must part. We commit ourselves to Thy care. Thou, who art 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. Chaplain takes their regular station.)

Taken from the 2023 Ritual Manual