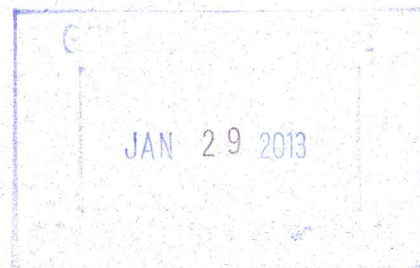




January 2013



Our Mission:

The National Day of Prayer Task Force exists to mobilize prayer in America and to encourage personal repentance and righteousness in the culture.

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Honorary Chairman

Pastor Greg Laurie

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Representative Chris Smith
Dr. Charles Stanley
Mr. Gil Stricklin
Mrs. Joni Eareckson Tada

The Honorable Deval Patrick
Office of the Governor Rm. 280
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Governor Patrick,

Warm greetings from the National Day of Prayer (NDP) Task Force! Every year since Congress established an annual day of prayer in 1952, millions of Americans from coast to coast have gathered in churches, synagogues, schools, parks, and other venues to intercede on behalf of our country. Given the extent our culture has deviated from the moral underpinnings upon which our nation was founded, it behooves us to honor the precedent set forth by our forefathers.

The words of Thomas Jefferson, uttered over 200 years ago, echo our concerns for today. Bemoaning the state of an infant republic he said, "I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just: that His justice cannot sleep forever." Today, we may face different trials, but we are not far removed from the desperation of Jefferson's sentiments. How good it is to know, then, that our distress is tempered by our confidence in the mercy of the living God and in His promise to hear the petitions of His children. In that spirit, we have chosen **PRAY FOR AMERICA** as our theme for 2013, based on Matthew 12:21 which says, "*In His Name the Nations Will Put Their Hope.*"

In keeping with tradition, we ask that you lend your support in the form of a public proclamation declaring May 2, 2013 as a National Day of Prayer. For more than 50 years, this nationwide observance has been endorsed each May by the President of the United States and last year, every governor in the nation, as well as those in our U.S. territories, participated. As you may know, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit, based in Chicago, ruled 3-0 on April 14, 2011 that the Freedom From Religion Foundation (FFRF) and its plaintiffs did not have standing to continue their challenge of the constitutionality of the National Day of Prayer. Therefore, you have full legal right to recognize this vital observance. Given the importance of this event, will you consider joining with us in this endeavor?

Kindly send a copy of your official pronouncement to us here at NDP headquarters before **April 1**, either electronically to lisa.crump@NationalDayofPrayer.org, or by regular mail to: National Day of Prayer Task Force, 3710 Sinton Road, Suite 220, Colorado Springs, CO, 80907. Also, please provide a second copy for our Massachusetts State Coordinator, Edson who will be in touch with you shortly. All 50 state and U.S. territory proclamations will be bound and presented to President Obama. If any questions should arise, we invite you to contact John Bornschein, our Vice Chairman, directly at 719.559.9575, or via e-mail at: john.bornschein@NationalDayofPrayer.org.

We appreciate your time and consideration, Governor Patrick and look forward to hearing from you. God bless you and your staff as you continue to faithfully serve the people of Massachusetts!

Sincerely,

Mrs. James C. Dobson (Shirley)
Chairman
National Day of Prayer (NDP) Task Force