

# NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER IN GEORGIA

- WHEREAS: Since our Nation's founding, Americans have turned to prayer for inspiration, strength and guidance and sought to do justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with God. Prayer was so important to our forefathers that they declared freedom of religion as one of our fledgling nation's greatest needs; and
- WHEREAS: A National Day of Prayer was first established by the Continental Congress in 1775, and the United States Congress in 1952 approved a Joint Resolution setting aside a day each year to recognize the tradition of prayer in our land; and
- WHEREAS: We are afforded the privilege of prayer and the joy of seeking guidance, strength, comfort and inspiration from Almighty God. Regardless of our individual beliefs and faith practices, we have an assurance that God hears our prayers and faithfully responds to our humble petitions; and
- WHEREAS: Our state and her people have been blessed, and we have faith that this is a direct result of the heartfelt prayers of Georgia families and individuals. We are proud to join the nation in observing May 1, 2003, as a Day of Prayer, with its theme, Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people; and
- WHEREAS: Throughout this Day of Prayer, we ask the Lord to bless our President and our troops and keep them from harm as they continue to free the Iraqi people. We ask that He bless the Iraqi people with peace and wisdom as they begin a great struggle toward Democracy, and we ask that He bless the countless people still living in fear without freedom; and
- WHEREAS: We pray for our heroes here at home who risk their lives every day to protect us, including police officers and firefighters, and ask that He watch over them as they perform their sworn duty; and
- WHEREAS: We remember and mourn for all Americans lost whose mission was to protect us here at home or to free the helpless abroad. As they join our forefathers, many of whom also made the ultimate sacrifice, we ask the Lord to bless and comfort their families; now
- THEREFORE: I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim May 1, 2003, as a DAY OF PRAYER in Georgia and encourage our citizens to pray for God's blessings on our nation and her people.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 1st day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand three.

