## A Mother's Day Prayer

Most Gracious Heavenly Father,

We thank You for our mothers to whom You have entrusted the care of every precious human life from its beginning in the womb.

You have given to woman the capacity of participating with You in the creation of new life. Grant that every woman may come to understand the full meaning of that blessing which gives her an unlimited capacity for selfless love for every child she may be privileged to bear, and for all Your children.

Watch over every mother who is with child, strengthen her faith in Your fatherly care and love for her and for her unborn baby. Give her courage in times of fear or pain, understanding in times of uncertainty and doubt, and hope in times of trouble. Grant joy in the birth of her child.

To mothers, You have given the great privilege and responsibility of being a child's teacher and spiritual guide. Grant that all mothers may worthily foster the faith of their children, following the example of Mary, Elizabeth, and other holy women who followed Christ. Help mothers to grow daily in knowledge and understanding of Your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, and grant them the wisdom to impart this knowledge faithfully to children and to all who depend upon them.

Assist all "spiritual mothers", those who, though they may have no children of their own nevertheless selflessly care for the children of others – of every age and state in life. Grant that they may know the joy of fulfilling this motherly calling of women, whether teaching, nursing, religious life, or in other work which recognizes and fosters the true dignity of every human being created in Your image and likeness.

We beseech You to send Your Holy Spirit, the Comforter, to all mothers who sorrow for children that have died, are ill or estranged from their families, or who are in trouble or danger of any kind. Help grieving mothers to rely on Your tender mercy and fatherly care for all Your children.

We ask Your blessing on all those You have entrusted motherhood. May your Holy Spirit constantly inspire and strengthen them. We ask this through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.