

Proclamation



Pam Iorio, Mayor

WHEREAS, throughout the history of our great nation, Americans have relied on prayer for guidance, strength, deliverance, protection and comfort; and

WHEREAS, the concept of setting aside time to pray for the nation first originated with the First Continental Congress in 1775 and was reaffirmed in 1952 when Congress designated an annual National Day of Prayer; and

WHEREAS, this observance allows us the opportunity to not only recall our founding fathers' dependence on God to found our Nation, but also to honor one of our basic freedoms – the right to worship according to his or her own faith; and

WHEREAS, throughout the crisis years of our nation's struggles, we have called upon our God for help and strength. Today, our prayers are particularly important as so many of our nation's heroic men and women are serving in our Armed Forces making sacrifices for citizens throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, 2008 marks the 57th anniversary of the annual observance of the National Day of Prayer, and the theme this year is, "Prayer! America's Strength and Shield." As in past years, this observance encourages all Americans to come together in churches, synagogues, temples, mosques and their own homes to pray for guidance, wisdom and courage for both themselves and our nation's leaders and to reflect on the right to religious liberty and tolerance that contributes to our continued strength; and

WHEREAS, on May 1st, Americans will come together at specific times in prayer to acknowledge and thank God for the many blessings our country has received, to recognize our need for personal repentance and renewal, to invoke God's blessings upon our leaders and ask God to protect and bless our nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Pam Iorio, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim May 1, 2008 as

"NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER"

in the City of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens, according to the dictate of his or her own beliefs, to pause on this day to give thanks for our many blessings and to pray for continued guidance in the future.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 19th day of March, 2008.



Mayor

