

mother's day

UNDERSTANDING LOVE & LOSS

The Bible encourages us to honor mothers (Eph 6:2). What better place to celebrate the gift of mothers than in the church – with our faith family?

Mothers are *compassionate, selfless, sacrificial, and nurturing*.

They are *providers, guiders, and life-givers*. They are *an integral part of the Kingdom of God*.

We encourage you to find creative ways to celebrate the mothers in your church on this special day.

It is also essential to remember and acknowledge that Mother's Day is challenging for some in your faith family.

These groups may struggle with this day:

1. Those who have *lost their mother to death*
2. Those who had or have *a painful relationship with their mother*
3. Those who were *abandoned or abused by a mother*
4. Those who are *not yet mothers but want to be – those struggling with infertility*
5. Those mothers who have *experienced the death of a child or had a miscarriage*
6. Those who are *single parents – either mothers or fathers who raised their children without the other parent present*
7. Those who *never had the chance to be a mother*

As you celebrate mothers on this day, *keep in mind* those in your congregation who will find this day difficult. You could offer a *special prayer* for them or *reach out to them personally* to let them know you are thinking about them.

Those struggling with the circumstances above often will not attend a Mother's Day service at your church. *Sometimes it is too painful*. A phone call or text message to those you may not see in church this Mother's Day is a great way to care for those in your faith family that may have a hard time with this day.