

pray for ★ columbus

Marriage & Family – June 2023 Prayer Guide

ANSWERED PRAYERS

- We have been praying for all forms of violent crime to dramatically decrease. Just last year, Columbus, Ohio experienced a **30% drop in the homicide rate, the largest single-percentage drop** compared to all the largest cities in the U.S.! Praise God for this direct answer to prayer!
 - We officially launched a 24/7 prayer initiative this past month. We already have dozens of sign-ups representing over **400 hours of prayer and worship and 20 days of fasting each month!**
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SPECIFIC REQUESTS

- **Pray this month for godly marriages.** Pray for an increase in Christlikeness, selflessness, grace and forgiveness between spouses.
- Ask God to **rescue marriages and families in crisis.** Pray protection over children and for hearts to turn to Him for redemption and restoration.
- Pray for spouses to **walk in humility and to honor** their partner above themselves (*Philippians 2:3, Romans 12:9-10*).
- Pray for our **culture to recognize the sacredness of marriage.** Ask for the Holy Spirit to convict of sin, righteousness and judgment (*John 16:8*)
- As our world grows increasingly dark, Ask God to **stir up a hunger for righteousness** among parents and children to seek Him first (*Matthew 5:6 and 6:33*).
- Specific, measurable prayers for our city:
 - **SALVATION:** *Pray for unbelievers to come to Christ at a faster rate than our population growth.*
 - **SHALOM:** *Ask God for a dramatic decrease in all forms of violent crime in Columbus over the next two years.*
 - **SCHOOLS:** *Ask God for every single Columbus City School to have a Church or Christian nonprofit partnership.*

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June 2023 Personal Prayer Guide

PRAISE and THANKSGIVING

- **Praise and thank God for His creation of mankind in His image.**
Meditate on Genesis 1:26–28 and Revelation 7:9–12
 - **Thank God for your family not only by birth but in Christ!** (*see Exodus 20:12, Psalm 68:6, Malachi 4:6, Ephesians 2:19–22, Romans 8:16*)
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CONFESSION and INTERCESSION

- **Ask God to speak to you personally about your family life** – whether it be your relationship with your parents, siblings, spouse, children etc. **Invite the Holy Spirit to convict you** of anything in your heart that is grieving Him. **Yield to God’s prompting** to confess your sin and forgive and reconcile with others.
 - **Bless your family, neighborhood and all of Columbus with a desire to love mercy, do justly and walk humbly with Jesus.** Pray specifically for those in your family who still do not know Christ.
 - Take a moment to read Romans 1. Pray for the light of Christ to shine brightly in our culture to **affirm and uphold the sacredness of marriage and families.** May the truth not be suppressed but brought to full light.
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PRAY ALOUD

Jesus, You have made us male and female in Your image and this is a glorious thing! You have ordained marriage and commanded us to be fruitful and multiply. Help us and the world around us to see gender, marriage and family as a precious gift from You. May spouses honor one another and grow together towards oneness with each other and with You. May children be raised in loving, nurturing homes and protected from abuse and trauma. Raise up godly adoptions and foster care families for those in need. May You be honored and glorified in and through godly marriages across the globe. Amen