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# President Asks God to Assist United States

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WASHINGTON, Oct. 20 [1917].— President Wilson today issued a proclamation setting aside Sunday, October 28, as a day of prayer, on which the people of America are requested to ask God to look after the interests of America in the world war.

Some officials at Washington, when questioned about the proclamation, vouchsafed the opinion that the Presidents proclamation is merely in accordance with the request of all the rulers of Europe to the Deity to protect them and their subjects in the war.

The proclamation follows:

“Whereas, the Congress of the United States, by a concurrent resolution adopted on the 4th day of the present month of October, in view of the entrance of our nation into the vast and awful war which now afflicts the greater part of the world, has requested me to set apart by official proclamation a day on which our people should be called upon to offer concerted prayer to Almighty God for His divine aid in the success of our arms; and

“Whereas, it behooves a great free people, nurtured as we have been in the eternal principles of justice and of right; a nation which has sought from the earliest days of its existence to be obedient to the divine teachings which have inspired it in the exercise of its liberties, to turn always to the supreme Master and cast themselves in faith at His feet, praying for His aid and succor in every hour of trial, to the end that the great aims to which our fathers dedicated our power as a people may not perish among men, but be always asserted and defended with fresh ardor and devotion, and, through the divine blessings, set at last upon enduring foundations for the benefit of all the free people of the earth;

“Now, therefore, I, Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States, gladly responding to the wish expressed by the Congress, do appoint October 28, being the last Sunday of the pre-

sent month, as a day of supplication and prayer for all the people of the nation, earnestly exhorting all my countrymen to observe the appointed day according to their several faiths, in solemn prayer that God's blessing may rest upon the high task which is laid upon us, to the end that the cause for which we give our lives and treasure may triumph and our efforts be blessed with high achievement."

*Edited by Tim Davenport*

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