

### **A Policeman's Prayer**

O Heavenly Father, from whom all blessings flow, please hear your servant's prayer.

Help me to recognize the lamb from the wolf. To have the vision to see through the eyes of the victims. Fill me with compassion for those who have been done harm and those near them who feel the pain of injustice in this world.

When the call comes for me to act, let me not hesitate to respond and give me the wisdom to know what I may affect and what I cannot repair.

Help me to remember every day that I am privileged to be a servant of my community.

Give me the physical strength and keen senses to perform my work. Help me to choose the right tools for each call.

Show me the error of choosing vices that surely will tempt me and would defile my reputation and negate my mission should I be weak.

Help me to be brave in the face of evil and death-that I might remain strong when seeing unspeakable horror.

Steel my resolve to stand my ground when forces rise against me. Deafen my ears from those who speak obscenely, advocate anarchy and disorder and who attempt to impugn my profession simply because I wear a badge.

Provide understanding to my family, that they may not be harmed by my absence, my actions or my words.

Let me end my career without the burden of having taken a life. Though I do not begin each shift with the expectation of my own death, I am prepared, should you decide to call me.

When I fail to live up to your expectations, Lord, please forgive me. After all, I'm just a policeman-not an angel.

God, thank you for helping me find my purpose in this life. The calling to my profession has been a true blessing.

I know I am here to protect the innocent, comfort the injured and relentlessly prosecute those who make prey of others.

Amen

(Author unknown)

