

The Blessing
(adapted from the Reverend Dr. Mark D. Roberts)

Lord,

We are grateful for all who have served as first responders in our communities. We are grateful for the safety, peace, and security their sacrifices have given us.

We ask you to bless all first responders in a special way, as well as their families, who share in the weight of their service. Comfort those who grieve for those who gave the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.

Strengthen those who bear physical, emotional, and spiritual wounds from the crises they have faced. Stand with those who provide care to them.

Move us to reach out to our sisters and brothers who are first responders, or their relatives, or who currently serve on the front lines of public safety.

We pray for the day when tragedy and crisis are no more. Help us to live now in anticipation of that day, as people who long for peace, who pray for safety, and who seek to be healers and peacemakers in this world.

We pray in your name, thank you and amen.