

*Reflection by Heidi Stanton
presented at the Mother Son Mass and Breakfast - October 2, 2016*

A mother had a son. She thanked the Lord for the precious child that had been entrusted to her and prayed he would grow to be a true man of God.

She also prayed for his safety:

Dear Lord: Protect him from physical danger, emotional harm and spiritual attacks. Put your angels around him so that he is always sheltered in your care. Guard his mind, his eyes and his steps. In the silence she heard: "Be not afraid." (St. John Paul the Great)

She prayed for his success:

Dear Lord: Help him be honest, kind, generous and unselfish and grateful. May he be trustworthy and resilient, be willing to work hard and ready to take responsibility for his decisions. And humble enough to ask for forgiveness. Give him mentors: people he can trust, those he can emulate. I ask you to provide Godly role models. In the silence she heard: "Jesus, I trust in You." (St. Faustina)

She prayed for his sanctity:

Dear Lord: May he be an example to others in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity. May he grow in grace and knowledge of the Holy Spirit and love of Our Blessed Mother. May he become a man for others who will act like Christ-- who came NOT to be served but to serve. In the silence she heard: "A life not lived for others is not a life." (St. Mother Teresa of Kolkata)

You may have figured out by now, the mom is me. While I closed my eyes to pray it seemed all at once a man stood where a little boy used to be. I may no longer carry you in my arms but I will always carry you in my heart. You have given me so many reasons to be proud of the man you are becoming, but the proudest moment for me is telling others you are my son. I love you now and forever.

Thank you, Lord, for the gift of my son and the joy he has brought into my life. My cup runneth over.