

can heal some of the hurts that wound us and the confusion that divides us, but it begins with us and perhaps a good place to start is to simply see the image of God in the eyes of everyone you meet. As Jesus said, "By this everyone will know that you follow me, that you love one another." For in this spirit is the power of true faith that we learn to love each other. We know that television and film can be powerful ways of bringing inspiration and hope through emotional stories that open your heart. As my dear friend the late Maya Angelou said, "People will forget what you said. People will forget what you did. But people will never forget how you made them feel." Thank you so much, and may God bless you.

Rep. Vargas: Wow, thank you so much. Muchisimas gracias. I have to say, thank you again, Mark. Thank you so much. Our purpose in this breakfast every year is to lift up Jesus as a solution to the problems of the world, and ask for the Lord's help. In that vein, we came together today to love and pray for the President of the United States, and his family, and we do this with all our hearts and we appreciate the message that you brought today to us, it was so uplifting. Mr. President, when we were in law school together, I had lunch with one of our smartest classmates, in fact I mentioned his name to you. And I asked him who he thought was really, really smart, and he said "This guy named Barack Obama; he's really, really smart; and he may even become a Supreme Court Justice some day." So there's still time, Mr. President. There's still time, you're a young man.

But all kidding aside, Mr. President, we honor you for your dignity. We honor you for your integrity. We honor you for your faith, the way you honor God with your life and your service to all of us. Ladies and gentlemen, for one last time at our National Prayer Breakfast, it is my honor to introduce the President of the United States.

64TH NATIONAL PRAYER BREAKFAST: PART TWO

HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, February 4, 2016 I had the privilege of co-chairing the 64th Annual National Prayer Breakfast with Representative ROBERT ADERHOLT. I would like to submit Part two of the transcript:

64TH NATIONAL PRAYER BREAKFAST: PART TWO

Rabbi Jack Bemporad: I think in these few days that we are together, there is such a spirit of love and joy, and affection. A sense that an environment is produced these days that elicits the very best in us and there is a constant struggle in everyone to find a way in which our best selves emerges. And the self that manifests the love of God, and the love of one's fellow human being, and it calls us to something higher, to a calling that gives us the nobility of what it means to be a child of God.

In this spirit, I would like to read from the book of Isaiah, Chapter 58. It is a reading that is done every Yom Kippur, Day of Atonement, in every synagogue throughout the world. It is a day, incidentally, where Jews fast. And yet on this very day when Jews fast, they read this.

"Is such the fast that I choose, a day for a man to humble himself? Is it to bow down his head like a rush, and to spread sackcloth

and ashes under him? Will you call this a fast, and a day acceptable to the Lord? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him and not to hide yourself from your own flesh? Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry, and he will say, Here I am. If you take away from the midst of you the yoke, the pointing of the finger, and speaking of wickedness, if you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness and your gloom be as the noonday and the Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your desire with good things, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters fail not. And your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to dwell in."

Thank you.

The Honorable Julian Castro: Good morning. To President and Mrs. Obama, co-chairs Congressman Vargas and Congressman Aderholt, and to all distinguished guests with us this morning. On this day of hope and of harmony, let us pray.

Dear Lord, we gather here as one, connected by the strength of our faith, by our pride in this great nation, and by our common bond as Children of God. Let us remember that each of us is beloved equally in the eyes of our Lord, and let us serve as instruments that spread your mercy to our brothers and our sisters. Jesus told the disciples in the book of Matthew that what we do unto the least among us, we do unto Him. So, just as the grace of God provides nourishment to our souls and sanctuary for our spirits, we must provide food to the hungry, care for the ailing, shelter to the poor. The Bible instructs us to find unity in our faith, and compassion for all men and women through the example of Christ.

And I pray that we will find inspiration from the second chapter of Philippians, which reads:

"So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility, count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men." Amen.

Thank you and God bless.

U.S. Representative Nancy Pelosi: Good morning. Mr. President and Mrs. Obama, all of the distinguished guests gathered here in prayer. I know we all want to thank Congressman JUAN VARGAS and Congressman ROBERT ADERHOLT for their leadership in making this morning's breakfast such a success, and I thank them for giving me the opportunity to read the following from the Gospel of John. In the gospel of John, we see the golden rule that stands at the heart of the gospel. And as we hear these words from John chapters 13, 15 and 17 we know that this

message, this command of love is not confined to the New Testament. The same message stands at the center of the Torah, and the teachings of the Prophet Mohammed. From the Torah, it says, "Love your neighbor as yourself." And from Mohammed, "None of you has faith until he loves for his brother or his neighbor what he loves for himself." And now from the gospel of John: "Now before the feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father..."

"Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God, rose from the meal, took off his outer clothing and wrapped a towel around his waist. After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with a towel..."

"When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. 'Do you understand what I have done for you?' he asks them. 'You call me teacher and Lord, and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and teacher have washed your feet, you should also wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is any messenger greater than the one who sent him. Now you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.'"

A little while later Jesus said,

"As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in His love. I have told you this so that my joy may be with you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: love each other as I have loved you. Greater love hath no one than this, to lay down his life for his friend."

And finally, listen to Jesus' prayer for us, he went on to say:

"My prayer is not for them alone, I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one, I in them, and you in me, so that may guide to bring us to complete unity."

That is the gospel of the Lord. May the Lord guide us to answer this prayer of togetherness, unity, and love, that we may be from many faiths, we may be united by our service to God and to one another. Amen. Thank you.

The Honorable Robert Rigsby: Good morning. Mr. President, our First Lady, this is truly the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Let us pray.

Thank you, Father, for allowing us to live in a country where we can come together in your precious name. In peace, fellowship, and communion offering you praise, glory and honor. Father, we ask that you watch over our President, Barack Obama, as he literally carries the weight of the world on his shoulders. Continue to lead and guide him, and bless him with the courage of David and the wisdom of Solomon. Bless all of our national leaders from all branches of our government. Father, bless the leaders from around the world who are charged with the great responsibility to bring hope in the midst of hopelessness, calm in the midst of chaos, and peace in the midst of war. Father, infuse in our leaders a call to action to protect those who cannot protect themselves. For as Dr. King said, our lives begin and end the day we become silent about things that truly matter. Father, let our leaders never forget that

as a global community, or strength, our dignity, and our humanity are all closely linked to our willingness to help each other. Father, I pray that our leaders are led by faith because our faith lets us know you hear us. Father, because we have been granted this awesome responsibility to lead, we have the legal and moral obligation to strive to better conditions world wide. Father, your word and our faith provide us guidance. The Gospel of Matthew teaches that we must “first cast out of the beam out of thine own eye, and then shall thou see clearly to cast the moat out of thy brother’s eye.” Father, impress upon our leaders the profoundness of this passage. I pray that our leaders will understand that to earn our positions of leadership, we must constantly sit in judgment of ourselves. This is not an easy or a comfortable task, but it is one that is essential—whether it is at a prayer meeting or during times of self-reflection—we must examine our actions in the crucible of our faith. In First Kings, Solomon is reminded of the promise that God made to David, that is if our people remain faithful, then when in need, our God would hear them. Father, faith is essential to all we do, and faith has been vital to me. I am so proud to share my faith with our national leaders because this nation has invested so much in me. I am humbled and honored to have served in Afghanistan and Iraq as a United States Army officer. My unwavering faith sustained me while I served in a combat zone away from my wife and my son. But more importantly, my faith sustained me when I was paralyzed shortly after returning from Afghanistan. My wife Anna and I relied on our faith to sustain us and keep us. Without faith, I know I would not be standing here today. I literally would not be standing here today. Father, remind our leaders that you told us to have faith in all we do, not some of what we do, but all we do, not just when it is popular or convenient. Let our leaders know that it is through prayer and faith that our brave soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines that work to secure our homeland will return home when war will be no more. Father, remind our leaders that faith will sustain them, faith will keep them and faith will guide them. For I know firsthand that it is because my faith and the power of prayer that I stand before you today. I also pray that with continued faith and perseverance, our president will be strengthened, fortified, guided and directed to lead this great nation, and be a beacon of justice and peace around the world. In the precious name of Jesus, I give thanks. Amen.

Rep. Aderholt: Thank you Judge Rigsby. And thank you God for answering our prayers, and we thank You again for this morning and we offer all of these prayers up to the Father. Mark Burnett and Roma Downey are two of television’s most successful producers. They have made over 3,000 hours of American TV that airs in over 70 countries, and have received eight Emmy Awards. You know them from their productions of some of television’s most iconic shows, including *The Voice*, *Shark Tank*, *Survivor*, *The Bible Series*, and their major motion picture, *Son of God*.

Mark Burnett is the president of MGM Television and Digital Group, and his wife, Roma is chief content officer of Light Works Media. Many of you also know Roma from her starring role as Monica in the long running hit TV show, *Touched by An Angel*. And to give you an idea of some of their work, we are going to look at a brief clip from their hit television series, *The Bible*.

[Video clip from *The Bible*]

Ladies and Gentlemen, please join me in welcoming the first husband and wife couple to ever address this breakfast, Roma Downey and Mark Burnett.

Mr. Mark Burnett: Good morning, Mr. President, Madam First Lady, Senators, Congressmen, members of our armed forces, esteemed foreign representatives and guests. Roma and I are so grateful to be here this year. We are used to sitting out there, and have for many years and love this prayer breakfast. We are especially grateful this year to be speaking at President Obama’s last prayer breakfast, it is such an honor. We are also really, really glad to be here to share with you a little of our story about immigrant, blue collar roots of coming to America.

Ms. Roma Downey: Yes, it is a great blessing also for us to be here as a married couple and to get to do this together. As we heard, we are the first husband and wife team ever to speak at the National Prayer Breakfast. Mark and I have been working together, side by side for years, and most couples we know can’t even do yard work together without arguing. And yet we have been together every day, producing *The Bible* and *AD*, and the soon to be released, epic feature film, *Ben Hur*. And I just have to acknowledge Mr. Morgan Freeman, who is here today, who is one of the stars of *Ben Hur*.

Spending so much time together as a husband and wife, is a blessing and a challenge, and perhaps the real miracle is that we are still speaking to each other. As business partners, we have different styles and approaches. I might tap gently on a door, and my husband might kick the door down. And both can be effective, and like all partnerships, we have learned to work as a team. And there is an art, of course, to public speaking. It should feel like a graceful dance, and speaking today, we will try not to step on each other’s toes. I am reminded of some of the great dancers from the past, like Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers, and they moved so well together. And remember that Ginger did everything Fred did, but she did it backwards and in high heels. Of course you may be able to tell from our accents, I am Irish, my husband is English—but we don’t hold that against him.

Mr. Burnett: Okay, I admit it. I was born in England but I am very lucky now, as is Roma now, to be an American citizen—so we can officially celebrate the 4th of July. I do know I am also lucky; I am the only person in the room who is married to an actual angel. Yeah, I know what you are thinking. Yes, I have been touched by an angel. Well, we are married.

Ms. Downey: I was born and raised in Derry City, Northern Ireland near the bog side section, and Derry is the second city of the North and as you all know it was home to a great deal of violence and unrest, particularly in the 1970s and 1980s. Our city was divided by a river, which flowed through the middle segregating the communities; and Catholics lived on one side, Protestants lived on the other, and never the twain did meet. We hardly ever crossed the river to the other side. Those were scary and often dangerous times when shootings and bombings became a way of life. When I was just 10 years of age, my mother died and I remember going to visit her grave when a fierce gun battle broke out in the cemetery. I narrowly missed being shot, the bullet hole singed the coat I was wearing and missed my head by inches. Surely I must have had an angel watching over me that day. Through my teenage years I can remember sitting in my little bedroom on the street where we lived, looking out at the rain and listening over and over to one of the only cassettes that I owned. It was Simon and Garfunkel’s *Greatest Hits* and I loved the lyrics, for they created a poetic world where you could hear the sounds of silence and it seemed possible that you could really build a bridge over troubled waters.

The lyrics painted a picture for me, a picture of America and a seed was planted. The American dream represented freedom, and opportunity, and there as a young Irish teenager, an American dream was born in my heart. Like so many immigrants before us, this great country has provided us with the opportunities to make our dreams reality.

Mr. Burnett: Yet we both came seeking that same American dream. Thirty years ago, I left the British Army Parachute Regiment and I moved to Los Angeles with zero skills, but I did need a job and a place to live and I had a friend from home who lived in Beverly Hills and worked as a chauffeur for a rich family. He suggested a chauffeur might be a good job—at least I could drive a car—but there were no chauffeur jobs available. But there was a job advertised and it sounded great. It was a live in position in Beverly Hills; got paid 125 dollars a week and the job did come with a room, a car, and even cable TV. The trouble was there were two words right at the front of the job description, which made no sense for a guy from the parachute regiment. Those two words were: child care. My friend Nick told me it was a waste of time even going to the interview but I remember him saying “Mark, come on, how are you going over being the commando yesterday to Mary Poppins tomorrow, really?” But I knew I was desperate. So I showed up that night at 624 North Beverly Drive in Beverly Hills for a job interview. It was crazy. Keep in mind I was 22 years of age, I had just come out of the army. Irving, the husband, began by asking what on earth I was doing there. Here he had a 3 year old from this marriage, a 17 year old and a 19 year old from the previous marriage, and what did he possibly need another 22 year old kid for? What Earl said he needed was a nanny and a housekeeper. Just then his wife, Patty cut him off and said “Wow, you have an accent, where are you from?” I said “Ma’am, I’m from London.” She said “Oh, we love London.” Earl did not crack a smile, he was just annoyed so he started drilling me to get rid of me. He said, “This job isn’t just about chasing a 3 year old around a Beverly Hills estate—you need to do some cleaning. Can you clean Mark?” I said “Sir, I just left 4 years in the British army. They came around with a white glove to inspect our lockers every day. No one ever found a speck of dust on my locker.” Patty smiled and Earl got even more annoyed. Then he asked me “Okay, can you do laundry?” I said “Sir, laundry? We have to do all our own washing and ironing, I could iron a shirt with a crease so sharp you could shave with it.” Patty was loving this. But then Irving finally got me when he said “Mark, can you cook?” I said “Sir, I’m British. My mom can’t even cook.”

Anyway, I thought I wasn’t getting the job—but a few hours later, Patty called the number I had left where my friend Nick lived and said, “It’s a very soft sell, but you got the job. Can you start tomorrow?” And then I began the next day in America as a domestic help/nanny/housekeeper at 624 North Beverly Drive, Beverly Hills. This was really amazing. Last year, Roma and I, as a lot of you know, merged our company into MGM, which made me the president of MGM Television. And I was given an office on the top floor of MGM, right next to Gary Barber, the Chairman and CEO of MGM. I walked in there and looked at this incredible view of Los Angeles—the Hollywood sign, Beverly Hills and it dawned on me. The address of this building is 245 North Beverly Drive. I looked out the window up Beverly Drive and I could actually see the house where I was a nanny at 624 North Beverly Drive. You have to know, this can only happen in America. It’s the American dream.

Ms. Downey: Yeah, there are certain things that could only happen in America. Back when I emigrated from Ireland, I lived in New York City, and the very first job I had there was checking coats in a very fancy Upper West Side restaurant. The meals were lovely but so expensive and I never could have afforded to eat there myself. When I checked a coat, I used to get maybe a quarter a coat or sometimes a dollar on average. One night I checked the coat of Regis Philbin. He was the very first celebrity that I ever met, and he gave me a 20 dollar tip and I thought I died and went to heaven. Just a few years later, I was living in Los Angeles, starring on a TV show called *Touched by an Angel* and the show had millions of viewers each week and it was a big hit on CBS. Soon I was invited to fly back to New York and be a guest on the Regis Philbin Show. Checking coats one moment, starring on television the next—only in America. And I remember I told Regis that story and he laughed, and he laughed, and he was just so glad that he hadn't stiffed me.

Anyway, for almost 10 years I had the privilege of playing the angel, Monica on television opposite the great Della Reese, and we were undercover angels who showed up at a crossroad in people's lives, often when they had hit the bottom, and in their brokenness, they had reached out to God for help. Every week I got to deliver a message of God's love on national television to millions of people. As a believer myself, this was such an honor to share with the audience that there is a God, that he loves us, and that he wants to be part of our lives. Before we filmed these angel revelation scenes each week, we would pray a very simple prayer, "Less of me, God, more of you; less of me, more of you." And we prayed because we hoped we would be used to touch people's hearts and to open their lives to God—and thankfully that happened thousands of times. Both Mark and I have been so blessed with our careers here in the United States, and we are both so fortunate and incredibly grateful.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MS. MARIA LOURDES GUTIÉRREZ

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Mr. BECERRA to honor the life of Ms. Maria Lourdes Gutiérrez of Los Angeles, California. Maria passed away on May 19, 2016 after a year-long battle with cancer. She led a prolific career and will be greatly missed by her family, friends, and entire community.

Maria L. Gutiérrez was born on September 23, 1954, in Los Angeles, California to Jose and Manuela Gutiérrez. As the only child of immigrant parents, Maria's story is a testament to the American Dream. She grew up in East Los Angeles, graduated from Loyola Marymount University with a Bachelor's degree in history and political science, and did graduate work at the University of Southern California. She worked for a short time as a station manager of KMEX in Los Angeles before moving to Fresno in 1998, to serve as the General Manager for KFTV. Her hard work and determination allowed her to rise quickly to the position of Senior Vice President and Regional Director of Local Media for Univision until her retirement in 2012.

Under Maria's leadership, KFTV became a leading force in local news. She worked to raise the level of the local Spanish-language television stations during her career and she never stopped working to do so. With her guidance, KFTV won several awards for outstanding journalism, becoming the leading Spanish-language television station in the San Joaquin Valley and earned recognition and honors from various news associations.

After her retirement, Maria continued to serve her community. Maria served on the boards of the Fresno State Bulldog Foundation, Fresno State Art and Humanities, the San Joaquin Debate Committee, the National Parks Conservation Advisory Board, and El Agua es Asunto de Todos, highlighting the importance of having a reliable and secure water supply in California. She was also the chairman for the Complete Count committee for Census and was the President for both the Loyola Marymount University Latino Alumni Association and the National Association of Broadcasters Board.

Maria's faith and love for family, public service, and her community was guided by her strong belief in shining a light on issues that impact the quality of life in the Central Valley. Her hard work led her to be honored by several groups, including the Girls Scouts of Central California South, The National Women's Political Caucus of Fresno County, and The Fresno Area Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. Maria received various awards, including "Women of Influence," "Humanitarian Award," "Hispanic Woman of Promise Award," and the American Advertising Federation's Silver Medal Award. Maria was passionate about her work and was a fantastic leader, mentor, and friend.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that Mr. BECERRA and I ask our colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to honor the life of Ms. Maria Lourdes Gutiérrez. The positive difference Maria made in the lives of others and her community will never be forgotten.

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION RECOGNIZE THE 229TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DRAFTING OF THE CONSTITUTION

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, the 229th anniversary of the drafting of the Constitution of the United States was nationally noted on September 17, 2016. The Constitution, the greatest framework of human liberty, incorporates the principles of freedom, equality and justice. Constitution Week, September 17–23, was initiated by the Daughters of the American Revolution in 1955 to promote the observance of the U.S. Constitution. The organization also created the DAR Constitution Hall in Washington D.C. as a memorial to the enduring document. The DAR encourages patriotism, education and historic preservation in communities across America and has continued this mission, honoring and celebrating the Constitution and encouraging observance of Constitution Week throughout the nation, and in communities and classrooms, encouraging

adults and children to study and discuss the Constitution. In recognition of this magnificent document and this important annual event, I congratulate the Daughters of the American Revolution for their ongoing commitment to our unique American history.

TRIBUTE TO LUELLA AND CLARK HERZBERG

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Luella and Clark Herzberg of Clarinda, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 70th wedding anniversary. They were married in Oakland, California and celebrated their anniversary on July 16, 2016.

Luella and Clark's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 70th anniversary, I hope it is filled with happy memories. May their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 70th year together and I wish them many more. I know my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

INTRODUCING HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT THE UNITED STATES SHOULD CONTINUE TO EXERCISE ITS VETO IN THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL ON ANTI- ISRAEL RESOLUTIONS

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a House Concurrent Resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the United States should continue to exercise its veto in the United Nations Security Council on resolutions regarding the Israeli-Palestinian peace process and to oppose anti-Israel measures considered by the United Nations General Assembly and other United Nations bodies.

As we all know, Israel is routinely the subject of unfair attacks at the United Nations. Israel is one of our nation's great allies—a free and open democratic society in a region that is anything but—yet it is the only country in the world that has to defend its very right to existence on a daily basis. International bodies unfairly target Israel regularly, and it's shameful.

For instance, the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) has voted to condemn Israel 62 times since its creation in 2006. Earlier this year, the UNHRC named Israel as the world's top human rights violator.

Here's another example. Resolution 1, adopted during the 29th session of the Commission on the Status of Women last year singled out Israel as the only nation responsible