

PRAYER CALENDAR - Iglesia Anglicana Paraguaya - May 2008

1 Peter 1: 3-5 "Praise be to God...he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ and into an inheritance kept in heaven for you.....who through faith are shielded by God's power..."

1. Give thanks for a peaceful **General Election Day** on April 20th the first time in Paraguay's history that a new political party has come to power without bloodshed. Pray for the newly elected President **Fernando Lugo**-an independent candidate backed by the Liberal party & formerly a Roman Catholic bishop. This ends 61 years of political dominance by the Colorado Party. The new President faces immense challenges to tackle widespread poverty, corruption, land reform, unemployment, health & education.
 2. Pray for the team in **Concepcion – Bishop Andres & Estela; Claire Holmes & pastor Guillermo & Rosi**. Also for **Saul & Norma** as they care for the indigenous hostel & support the children's work in **Barrio Inmaculada**. Give thanks for the life of little **Romina** & the loving care given to her before her death last month. Pray for all the preparations for Mother's Day on the 14th.
 3. Pray for the **pastors & church leaders** in **El Estribo**, after all the recent political upheaval prior to the General Election. Pray that the faithful preaching & teaching of God's Word may continue. Remember especially the **young people** with so many outside pressures on them through mobile phones & DVDS, that they may be "shielded by God's power" (1 Pet. 1:5) & discern the truth.
 4. Give thanks for the second bilingual **Alpha course** taking place in **San Andres** cathedral with new Christians from the last course taking part in the leadership of the groups. Pray for all the leaders & a deep work of the Holy Spirit in each of those attending. For the catering & all the practical details.
 5. Give thanks for **Beryl Baker's** medical ministry in the **Chaco**. Pray for strength & protection as she accompanies patients to **Asuncion** & for more volunteers to be alongside her. Give thanks for a good recovery for 93 year old **Luisa** in **Yatnata** after an eye operation. Pray for her & her daughter **Norma**, one of the health auxiliaries.
 6. Pray for vision, discernment & unity for the **pastors & leaders** meeting each week in **Asuncion** & for similar meetings in **Concepcion** & the **Chaco**. For **bishop Andres** in his overall leadership during the transition time in the diocese. Pray for the **Nominating Committee** as they make a decision over the presentation of a candidate to be the next diocesan bishop.
 7. Give thanks for the **St Andrew's School** work trip to the **Chaco** & continue to pray that the impact of these visits will help students to have a greater understanding of the needs of their nation & how they can be part of the solution.
- Pray for **Gwen Carlisle, Mags Southern** & the Senior Management team in the daily running of the school & for a full complement of teaching staff for the latter part of this year. For good health for each one. For all the activities for Mother's Day & the contact with school parents.
8. Give thanks for spiritual breakthroughs during the **EJE** Retreat in April & for the dedication of the coordinating team as they organized it. Pray for the discipleship process in each one, giving thanks for the **EJE** programme which is so effective in bringing about contact with young people. For **Patrick & Rosie** working alongside the leaders & all the plans for the next **EJE** weekend in June.
 9. Continue to pray for a successor to temporary Director **Bill Lattimer** in the **SAMS**. Pray for the person of God's choice to come forward & take on this exciting & challenging role. Pray for the **EMA** weekend starting in Asuncion.
 10. Give thanks for the preparations for **Mission Paraguay** later this year & for **David & Jean Orritt** in their leadership. Pray for the team going to **Luque/San Lorenzo** in **July** & the possibility of running sewing workshops for the ladies in a very underprivileged part of the city. Also for the work amongst children there & preparations for building more adequate facilities in **San Lorenzo** next year.
 11. Give thanks for the purchase of a water tank & trailer which can be used in the **Chaco** during water shortages. Continue to pray for the indigenous communities that they may use their land wisely & for the benefit of all. Give thanks that **Esteban Galeano** from **El Estribo** has recently been contracted by the Commission for Chaco Development as one of their extension workers. Pray for him & his family & for his spiritual leadership in **Karanda**.
 12. Pray for **Chris Hawksbee** as he works alongside the indigenous leaders in **La Patria**. They are drilling wells in several villages. Give thanks that sweet water has been located in the **La Patria** area, (as in most of the Chaco it is salty) & for **pastor Robert's** initiative & perseverance on behalf of his community. Pray for the church leaders in each village.
 13. Give thanks for **Tim Curtis's** safe arrival back in **Paraguay**. Pray for him as he settles back & for vision, enthusiasm & concentration for **Martin, Asuncion & Juan** as they continue their work on the translation of the Old Testament into **Enxet**. For all who live & take care of the **Anglican Centre** in **Rio Verde**.
 14. Pray for the new Church Council members in **Zeballos Cue**, giving thanks for the increasing participation of the congregation in the weekly meetings for prayer & in the youth & women's groups. Pray for **pastor Luis & Regina** & their family. The **PEPE** preschool continues well & parents request higher grades to be available. Pray for wisdom in this. Give thanks for better health for **Maricela** who has Downs Syndrome & pray for her & her mother **Luisa**.

15. Pray for strength & perseverance for **Ed & Mari Brice** in their wide ministry amongst the **Chaco** communities. For wisdom as they plan for the teaching programme amongst indigenous leaders during their time in the UK in August. Pray for Christian friends & support for their son **Javier** who is studying in the United States & adjusting to a very different culture. For **Derek** studying in the UK & **Neill** teaching in Paraguay.
16. Pray for God's protection on the **pastors** in each of the indigenous communities who are frequently sought after by political or secular agencies. Pray that they may continue to seek the Lord's will & the support of other Christian leaders as these situations confront them. Pray that they may be encouraged in their ministry & for God's hand on their marriages & families.
17. Pray for health, strength & energy for **Sra. Estela** & all the staff at **FEISA** as they cope with the pressure of 70 students this year. Give thanks for the good response to the new degree course. Pray for Samantha Parsons & the team who organize the training programme for mothers in the **Chaco** community of **Yatnata** & for each of the women attending. For **Sra. Estela** in her regular contacts with the Board of the **Evangelical University** in Asuncion.
18. Pray for the **Nominating Committee** as they continue the process to elect a new **Diocesan bishop** in **Paraguay** & for strength & wisdom for auxiliary **bishop Andres** in his wider responsibility at this time. For his wife **Estela** as she supports her elderly parents & especially for her mother's health.
19. Pray for **Claire & Norma** as they continue to take Bible classes in two schools in **Concepcion** & give thanks for this wonderful opportunity. Pray too for God's grace & encouragement for **Javier** who failed his medical exam & now has to retake it next year. For perseverance & dependence on the Lord in this disappointment.
20. Give thanks for the constant flow of people in **St. Andrew's** English speaking congregation & for the renovation of the chapel building. Pray that it may continue to be used to reach both expatriate & Paraguayan people for the gospel.
21. Continue to pray for wisdom & perseverance for those studying in the **Paso a Paso** lay leaders' course on **Wednesday** evenings & for all home groups in the local churches. Pray for a growing awareness of the need to read & understand God's Word, & then to share it with others.
22. Give thanks for the success of the family allotments in **Makxawaya** & for the perseverance & hard work of **deacon Romualdo**. He now also has 10 beehives to help provide some income for him & his family. Give thanks too for the big increase in young people who are attending the church & pray for their discipleship & ongoing spiritual growth. For **pastor Juan** & his family.
23. Pray for **pastor Cefe, Ana** & the lay leaders in **Roque Alonso** & the annexe churches in **Remansito & Mirador**. For vision & unity as they evangelize the area around the churches & also reach out to **Limpio & Emboscada**. For the extensive ministry amongst children in the different areas.
24. Pray for God's protection & encouragement for the indigenous health auxiliaries in each of the Chaco communities. Given the recent change of government, pray that a **state hospital** may now become a reality in the vast **Chaco** region.
25. Pray for the staff & pupils of the **Annexe School** in Asuncion. For **Head Victor Santa Cruz** & for growing links with the **San Andres** morning congregation. Pray for vision & strength for **pastor Agustin, Teresa** & the lay leaders.
26. Give thanks for the **San Andres** evening congregation & pray that more & more young people contacted through **EJE** will become part of the fellowship there. For **pastor Patrick** & the midweek Bible study groups & for preparation sessions with **Rosie, Eduardo & Karenina**.
27. Pray for strength for **Sharon McCreerie** in her pastoral & evangelistic contacts with pupils at the **Annexe school** & also with contacts through the National Centre for Drug Rehabilitation. Pray for God's guidance as to the right way forward in this. Give thanks for increasing family participation using Bible materials taken home by pupils from the **Annexe school**.
28. Pray for **pastor Tony & Chris** as, following medical advice, they prepare to leave Asuncion & return to the UK. Give thanks for **Alex's** safe recovery from appendicitis & pray for the whole family at this time of readjustment. For the future leadership of the **Villa Guarani** congregation.
29. Pray for perseverance & good concentration for those continuing their theological studies & for others to respond to God's call into Christian leadership. For sufficient funding to enable leadership training. Pray too for the congregation in Rio Verde, for its lay leaders & those who regularly make visits from the city.
30. Give thanks for the work of the **Esperanza Foster Home**. Pray for **Juana** & her team & each of the little ones awaiting adoption. For wisdom for **Murray & Penny** in its future development. Give thanks for **Penny's** hard work with **Mission Paraguay** & for **Murray's** teaching at **St. Andrew's School**.
31. Pray for **Adelio & Isabel** as they care for the retreat centre in formation in **Emboscada** that that this may be steadily built up & become a place for spiritual teaching & fellowship for the **Asuncion** Christians. For the development of a house group in the area.