PRAYER CALENDAR - Iglesia Anglicana Paraguaya - November 2008

Hebrews 4: 14-16"...since we have a great high priest...in the heavens, Jesus...hold firmly to the faith...then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."

1. At a very busy time of the year, pray for God's strength & inspiration for the **Mission Partners** & **Paraguayan church leaders** as the hot humid weather increases & energy levels decrease.

2. Give thanks that rain fell in the **Chaco** last month, especially in the exceptionally dry **El Estribo** area. Pray that the indigenous Christians will continue to seek God's guidance & discernment over the use of their land & increase their trust & dependence on Him as they also seek practical help from the new President. Pray for encouragement for those who are preparing their ground for cultivating vegetables & for the planned sesame crop.

3. Give thanks for a successful visit to **Buenos Aires** by the **Metcalfe f**amily, with visas granted & children's passports forthcoming. Pray for them as they prepare to leave **Paraguay** after many years of service. Pray too for another couple to replace them & work alongside **Patrick & Rosie Butler i**n the **St. Andrew's** congregation.

4. Concentrate prayer for the **indigenous pastors & lay church leaders** in the many different **Chaco** communities. They come under immense pressure, both spiritually & culturally. Give thanks for their witness & pray that they will continue to grow in their knowledge & experience of the Lord & his word to enable them to stand firm "against the world, the flesh & the devil."

5. Give thanks for the Christian witness & hard work of **St. Andrew's Annexe School** in **Asuncion** Pray for Head teacher **Victor Santa Cruz,** his staff & pupils as they come into the final stressful exam period.. For God's peace in the school & in the witness of the Christian staff there.

6. Give thanks for the appointment of **Rev. Peter Bartlett** as next **diocesan bishop** in **Paraguay**. Continue to pray for him & **Sally** as they prepare to uproot & obey God's call to live & serve in **Paraguay.** Pray too for the finance needed for their support & for God's hand on all the many practical details of the move.

7. Pray for **Juana** & the team at **Esperanza Foster Home** & for each child there. As they celebrate 3 years ministry, give thanks for **Murray's & Penny**'s vision in establishing this Christian care centre & pray for **pastor Agustin & Teresa as** they take over the coordination role. Pray for two little ones recently arrived at **Esperanza** – **Barbara** (2yrs) & her brother **Victor** (1yr) & give thanks that **Jose & Gabriel** have been adopted by a Christian couple at **San Andres** church. Pray for good adaptation in their new family..

8. Remember the **St. Andrew's School** students & staff at this pressured time of final year exams. Pray for good spiritual & physical health & for encouragement to continue to sow the seeds of the gospel in many young lives. Pray for the maintenance & administrative staff, giving thanks for their Christian witness to both pupils & their parents.

9. Pray for **Remigio Romero** & **Tim Curtis** as they work together this week on checking translations of pre-School materials & Bible reading notes in **Enxet,** for use in the Chaco schools & churches. Pray for **Remigio, Susana** & their family.

10. Pray for a profound work of God's Holy Spirit in all those participating in the **Alpha Course** in **San Andres** church in **Asuncion**. Pray too for the new Christians who have begun to attend the 3 city centre congregations. For **pastors Agustin & Patrick** & their teams of lay leaders.

11. Give thanks for **Teo & Lidia** & the lay team who have ministered in a shanty area of **San Lorenzo** for so many years & for the difference this has made for families living there. There is a great need for a permanent Christian presence there. Pray for the right decision for **Jorge Gomez** & his wife **Digna,** who are seeking God's guidance over a future pastoral role in this area.

12. With continuing rising costs the majority of people are struggling to even feed & clothe their families. Pray for the **diocesan finances** which suffer accordingly. Pray for new **President Fernando Lugo** as he tackles issues of corruption, injustice & poverty in the country. Pray that the government may have wisdom & discernment as they try to stabilise the economy & encourage production.

13. Pray for **bishop Andres & Estela** in **Concepcion**, especially for **Estela** after the recent death of her mother. For outreach & good contacts in the city centre & for the ministry to young people. For the follow up of contacts made through the "**Love for Life"** meetings earlier in the year. For **Saul & Norma** as they oversee the indigenous hostel in **Concepcion** & for their spiritual contacts with the indigenous visitors.

14. Pray for **Claire Holmes** & her team as they prepare for **Christmas** activities amongst children & youth in **Concepcion** & other areas around the city. For protection & courage for the group of children & their parents in **Villa Alt**a under great pressure from the local Roman Catholic church to abandon the children's club. There is much superstition & folk religion, some attributing the recent tornado to God's judgement on them for attending the Anglican church.

15. Pray for **Tim** & his team of **Bible translators** in the office in **Rio Verde.** For **Asuncion** as he translates the book of **Isaiah** & for **Juan** with **1 Kings.** For God's blessing on the translators' marriages & for wisdom for **Martin** as he seeks to provide for his numerous family. Continue to pray for **Nelson, Carmen &** their family as they live away from their community in **El Estribo** & look

after the **Anglican Centre** in **Rio Verde**. For their spiritual growth & fellowship with other Christians.

16. Give thanks for encouragement in the congregation of **Zeballos Cue** despite the difficulties faced by people in this area. Pray for more work possibilities. Also for **pastor Luis** as he leads the young people in regular Bible study & for his post ordination theological studies in the university. For his wife **Regina** & their family. Pray that the **PEPE** preschool & Saturday feeding programme for underprivileged children will be a means of sharing the gospel with many families & lead to their integration in the life of the church.

17. Pray for **Beryl Baker** in her **Chaco** clinic & for the health auxiliaries in each **Chaco** community. Continue to pray that ineffective small health centres in the **Chaco** may be upgraded & equipped to serve the indigenous people. Pray too for patients in hospital in **Asuncion,** especially in the TB sanatorium.

18. Give thanks for outreach work in the **Chacarita** shanty area through the drug rehabilitation home, **La Puerta**. Pray for young mother **Adriana** who through receiving God's forgiveness & asking forgiveness of her yet unborn child, was released from her drug addiction into a new peace & maternal love. Give thanks for the safe delivery of baby **Debora** despite repeated past attempts to destroy her. For **Sharon McCreerie** the Director, & **Hector & Delia**, the houseparents.

19. Pray for vision & perseverance for **David Greco** & the leaders of **JAPY** (Young Anglican Paraguayans) who are seeking to bring together young people in the diocese. Pray too for wisdom for young people who want to study theology & are looking for God's guidance in this area. Also for **Raquel** who completes her studies at the Theological Seminary in **Chile** & soon returns to **Paraguay.**

20. Pray for the **Chaco congregations** as they prepare to receive many from the communities who have been working away from home on local ranches. For inspiration & discernment in evangelistic & discipleship programmes. For depth of spiritual understanding for the pastors & lay leaders as they regularly meet together to study God's Word.

21. Give thanks for the great success of the sewing workshops in marginalised areas which were started during the visit of **Mission Paraguay** volunteers in July. Pray that these may create opportunities not only to provide income for the families but also to share the gospel with them. For **Caroline** as she encourages this ministry & in her other diocesan responsibilities.

22. Pray for discernment for **Ed & Mary Brice** & the congregation in **Rio Verde** as to how to develop its ministry in the town. Pray for those who are living in very impoverished circumstances, that there may be more work possibilities for them. Pray for spiritual strength & for their witness to the local community. Give thanks for the **Brices** visits to churches in the **UK** & pray for their 3 sons, each in different countries, that they may continue firm in their commitment to the Lord.

23. Pray for the teaching staff & students at **FEISA** especially as the students' end of year exams begin tomorrow. Give thanks for provision of sufficient finance until now & pray for **Sra. Estela** & the leadership team as they consider the long term future given the worsening economic situation. Give thanks for the monthly visits by staff & students to **Chaco** village schools & pray for the indigenous teachers & parents involved in the teaching programme.

24. Pray for the follow up meetings for couples who have attended past **EMA** weekends & for the weekly services in **Villa Guarani** church, that many couples may continue to deepen their relationship with the Lord & experience his power in their family life. For vision & strength for the leadership team. Pray for pastor **Jorge & Rebeca** as they meet weekly with one couple for counselling & prayer.

25. Pray for **pastor Tony & Chris Somervell** who returned to the **UK** almost a year ago, as they continue under medical supervision & seek God's guidance as to their next sphere of ministry. Give thanks for good adaptation by the family to the UK, for excellent accommodation & schools, & for a very supportive church fellowship in Bedford.

26. Pray for the **San Andres** evening congregation. For **pastor Patrick, Rosie** & their team of lay leaders & for the adolescent group headed up by older young people. For the **Butlers'** weekly times of Bible Study & prayer with younger leaders. Pray for guidance over future work & studies for **Donald Brook** as he completes his theology course at the Evangelical University in **Asuncion.**

27. Pray for **Chris Hawksbee** working alongside the **Chaco** indigenous leaders at this important time of change in **Paraguay**. Pray for spiritual wisdom & discernment as both church & community leaders seek his counsel. For **Alison** & **Ben** in Asuncion.

28. Pray for God's guidance at the **SAMS General Council** as it meets tomorrow in the **UK** to take decisions over the next steps in a possible merger with **CMS.**

29. Pray for **pastor Cefe**, **Ana** & their team in their wide ministry in **Roque Alonso.** For vision with outreach to **Limpio & Emboscada.** & for the building up of leadership teams in the different areas. Pray also for the congregations in **Remansito & Mirador** & their ministry to underprivileged children.

30. Pray for the staff of **St. Andrew's School** as they come to the end of a busy year. For all the Christmas activities & contact with parents & for a full complement of staff for the School next year. For strength & health for Head Teacher, **Gwen Carlisle** & her **Senior Management Team.**