

**PRAYER CALENDAR - Iglesia Anglicana Paraguaya - September 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. Pray for the **health** of church members & Mission Partners as the abrupt changes of temperature over the past week in **Paraguay** have brought many respiratory problems. Pray for those who live in precarious housing & also lack adequate clothing.
2. Give thanks for the health & safety of the **Mission Paraguay** volunteers during their projects in **Concepcion & the Chaco** & for the relationships built up between Christians of such different backgrounds. Pray for the **volunteers** as they share about their experiences in their local churches back home, that links may be deepened for the future.
3. Pray for rest & refreshment for **David Orritt** the coordinator of **Mission Paraguay** now back in the **UK** after 2 months in **Paraguay** & also for **Claire, Caroline & the Metcalfes** in Paraguay, who were greatly involved in the day by day coordination of the projects, together with **Diocesan office staff & pastors**.
4. Give thanks for 14 families linked with the **St. Andrew’s Annexe School** in **Asuncion** who show an increasing desire to grow in their Christian faith & recently participated in a Bible memory verse competition. Also for many who helped as volunteers in a children’s holiday project. Pray for Head teacher **Victor Santa Cruz** & his staff & also for **Sharon McCreerie** (SAMS USA) in her ministry with the pupils & their families.
5. Give thanks that a new **Diocesan bishop** for **Paraguay** has been unanimously elected. Pray for **Rev. Peter & Sally Bartlett** as they make their preparations prior to leaving the **UK** for **Paraguay** & for the finance needed for their support.
6. Pray for **Juana** & the team at **Esperanza Foster Home** & for each child there. Give thanks for the Christian love & care they receive. Pray also for the new government **Minister for Children** & the new **Director** of the national **Adoption Centre** that they may be able to expedite proceedings so that many children still in care in Asuncion can be adopted. Pray too that 3 yr old **Jonatan** will be able to go back & live with his birth mother.
7. Pray for the spiritual well being of the pastors, deacons, lay leaders & church council members in all the congregations in **Asuncion, Concepcion** & the many **Chaco** communities. For courage & strength to boldly & clearly proclaim God’s message of salvation.
8. During a tornado in the **Chaco** recently, the roof of the historic church in **Makxawaya** was badly damaged. **Makxawaya** is the place where the work of

the **Anglican church** began & the gospel was first preached to the **Enxet** people, Pray that it may be possible to repair the roof & give thanks for the Christians in **Maxawaya** & the faithful ministry there despite many difficulties. For **pastor Juan & deacon Romualdo** & their families.

9. Pray for the **3<sup>rd</sup> Alpha Course** starting on Sept. **11<sup>th</sup>** in **San Andres** cathedral church in the centre of **Asuncion**. Give thanks for this united work between **St. Andrew’s chapel** & the **San Andres** morning & evening congregations & pray for the new Christians who have been brought into all 3 congregations. For **pastors Agustin & Patrick** & their teams of lay leaders.
10. **St. Andrew’s School** still needs **Secondary teachers** for next year in English, Maths & Computing. Give thanks for **Norman Allen** coming as a **volunteer** for 2 months to help IGCSE maths & **Belinda Van Rensburg** joining the **Primary Section**. Pray for **Secondary school teachers** to respond to this urgent need.
11. Pray too for the many different events happening in the **St. Andrew’s School** this month - the Science Fair, Vegetable garden project & the Cultural Olympics in the Secondary department. Also for the **3<sup>rd</sup> Alpha Course** starting tonight.
12. Continue to pray for the nation of **Paraguay** & its new **President Fernando Lugo** who has a difficult task ahead of him. Pray that he may have discernment & wisdom in all his contacts with indigenous leaders & campesinos & give thanks for his desire to root out corruption & injustice.
13. With rising costs for food – 71% for cheap stewing meat this year – the majority of people are struggling to feed their families. Pray for the **diocesan finances** which suffer accordingly, especially as the value of the pound sterling has also dropped by almost 30%. Pray that the government may be able to control the exportation of meat, so that home consumption prices are affordable.
14. The **Chaco** region is very dry at present & there is a min plague of locusts in the **Rio Verde** area. Pray for rain in all areas of the **Chaco** & for the **Anglican Centre** & the congregation in **Rio Verde**. The **Mission Paraguay** volunteers worked hard re-siting the foundations of the church building to a piece of land nearby now owned by the church, alongside their work in **Yatnata**.
15. Pray for the **Youth Week** activities at **St. Andrew’s School** this week, especially the final service on Friday **19<sup>th</sup>** led by **pastor Patrick**. Pray too for good competition & enjoyment at the **Sports Days** for all pupils & also for good contacts with their parents.
16. Pray for **Tim** & his team of **Bible translators** in the office in **Rio Verde** as they do extensive checking on the Psalms & Ezekiel & for **Asuncion** as he shortly begins the translation of the book of Isaiah. For their families & for **Nelson, Carmen** & their family as they look after the **Anglican Centre** there.

17. Give thanks for encouragement in the congregation of **Zeballos Cue** despite the difficulties faced by people in this area. Pray for more work possibilities & for just salaries for work done. Pray 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. For the **PEPE** preschool & Saturday feeding programme for underprivileged children.
18. Pray for **Beryl Baker** in her **Chaco** clinic & for the health auxiliaries in each **Chaco** community. Their work is tough & demanding. Pray for their spiritual strength as they often come into conflict with local shamans. Pray also for **Ed & Mari Brice** as they visit family members & start home ministry leave in the UK that they may have time of rest & spiritual refreshment.
19. Give thanks for the visit of **Mission Paraguay & Love for Life** volunteers to **Concepcion** last month. Pray for **Bishop Andres & Estela, pastor Guillermo & Rosi, & Claire Holmes**, in their different ministries. For **Saul & Norma** as they look after the **indigenous hostel** & the children's work in Barrio Imaculada.
20. Pray too for the lay leaders in the annexe congregations in the country areas outside Concepcion: **Tacuati, Yvapobo, San Juan & Santa Elisa**, & for those who visit them regularly from **Concepcion**. For safety in travel & the building up of leadership teams in all these areas. For the children's ministry in the neighbouring town of **Horqueta**.
21. Give thanks for God's ongoing work in an **ex pupil** from the **Annexe School**, so that eventually both she & her wayward father have renounced their sins & the family is being reunited. Pray for them in their desire to live a different lifestyle & for God's strength & protection to resist all the negative influences that abound in the **Chacarita** shanty area. Pray for the **current pupils** that God's word may be planted deep in their hearts & minds & that those who have strayed may be brought back to the Lord.
22. Pray for guidance for **Caroline Gilmour White** as she examines possibilities of marketing handcrafts made by the **Enxet ladies** in the **Sombrero Piri** community. Pray too for the **pastors - Elvio & Teodoro** & the other church leaders, that in the different villages, they may keep God's word in the centre of their lives, in order to give them discernment within the current political pressures & possibilities, to choose what is best for the whole community.
23. Pray for the teaching staff & students at **FEISA**. For wisdom for **Sra. Estela** & the team who are responsible for the running of the faculty & for the growing work in indigenous communities in the **Chaco**. For the administrative staff & **Rupert Parsons** as he oversees the finances.
24. Pray for **David Greco** & the leaders of **JAPY** ( Young Anglican Paraguayans) who are seeking to bring together young people in the diocese. Give thanks for a recent 3 day leadership seminar supported by the Anglican church of **Chile** & pray that those who attended will continue to seek God's will for their lives, developing their gift & skills so that the youth work is built up.
25. Pray for **Murray & Penny Metcalfe** & their children, **Alber, Jack & Luli**. They travel to **Buenos Aires** on Saturday to present their children's documents to the British Embassy there with regard to the children's future settlement in the UK. Pray for God's overruling in this complicated process & peace of heart & strength for **Murray & Penny**.
26. Pray for great wisdom & discernment for **Presiding Bishop Greg Venables** of the **Southern Cone** & other Primates forming the **GAFCON Council**, so that orthodox Biblical leadership can be given to the Anglican Communion. For their relationship with other **Global South** leaders & especially with the **Archbishop of Canterbury**.
27. Pray for the ministry in **Luque & San Lorenzo**, especially the follow up to contacts made during the visit of volunteers in July. Pray for **Caroline** as she oversees the sewing project in **San Lorenzo**, that this may be real blessing for the families involved. For **Teo & Lidia** & the team who run the children's work & for **pastor Jorge & Rebeca** leading the **Luque** congregation.
28. Pray for **Chris Hawksbee** as he continues to advise & work alongside the **Chaco** indigenous leaders at this important time of change in Paraguay. For **Alison & Ben** in Asuncion & their participation in the Zeballos Cue congregation. Give special thanks for the life & ministry of **Chris'** father, **Rev. Derek Hawksbee**, who worked for many years in **Makxawaya** and died last month. Pray for his widow **Betty** & all the family in their loss.
29. Pray for the development of the ministry in **Roque Alonso** towards **Limpio & Emboscada**. For **pastor Cefe, Ana** & their team & for the building up of leadership teams in the different areas. Pray also for the congregations in **Remansito & Mirador** in their weekly services & meetings & their ministry to adolescents & children.
30. Pray for **Remigio Romero** as he works on translation of Bible reading materials into the **Enxet** language, alongside his translation work for children organized through **FEISA**. Continue to pray for publication of these materials through the **Bible Society**. Give thanks for once a month oversight by **Tim Curtis** & for **Remigio's** consistent & accurate translation skills, learnt when he was part of the first team as they, with **Tim**, translated the **New Testament** into **Enxet**.