

**PRAYER CALENDAR - Iglesia Anglicana Paraguaya - December 2008**

*Psalm 36:9 “...in your light we see light”. Psalm 50:10 “Let him who walks in the dark, who has no light, trust in the name of the Lord and rely on his God.”*

1. At a very busy time of year, give thanks for the Preschool end of term activities at **St. Andrew's School**, which went very well. Pray that the truth of the Christmas message may be increasingly acknowledged by school parents & pupils. Tonight is the **6<sup>th</sup> Form leaver's service** when each student is prayed for personally, followed by dinner with staff & parents. Pray for the students as they come to this significant stage of their lives.
2. Today the **school leavers** have their official Graduation ceremony & **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup>** will be a **Farewell** ceremony for **Pastor Duarte** (30 years teaching history in school!) & **Murray Metcalfe**. Give thanks for each one's significant service in **St. Andrew's School** & pray for them & their families in the changes that lie ahead. Pray also for preparations for the **ex-pupils service** on **Dec 10<sup>th</sup>**.
3. Give thanks for good rains in the **Chaco** area which means the **aljibes** (water cisterns) are replenished & the planting of crops is going forward well. Pray for good health & perseverance for the indigenous people & continued good conditions in order to give a plentiful harvest later on so that the people are not forced to be dependent on government aid. Pray for Chris **Hawksbee** in his vital advisory role & his encouragement of the church leaders.
4. Pray for the **Chaco** communities which are continuing- or attempting a sesame cash crop for the first time – **El Estribo, Makxawaya & La Patria**. For the input of the indigenous pastors & church leaders so that wise use of the land God has provided will lead to greater blessing for them & their families. Pray that the community of **Sombrero Piri** will deepen their trust in the Lord & depend less on political leaders. Pray for strength for **pastors Elvio & Teodoro** & families.
5. Pray for strength & wisdom for **Bishop Andres & Estela** & the family in **Concepcion** & in their wider diocesan ministry. For the Nativity play tonight in **Ramonita**, where a new ministry to children has started, as they join together with children from **Villa Alta** for this celebration & evangelistic event. Pray for God's light to penetrate the spiritual darkness in **Concepcion** & bring people into his Kingdom.
6. Pray for wisdom over the repairs to the church building in **Makxawaya** which suffered further damage in another storm last month, as climatic conditions worsen in the **Chaco**. Pray for **pastor Juan & deacon Romualdo** & their families as they seek to evangelize & teach the community there. For the neighbouring community of **Monte Alto**.
7. Pray for the team in **Concepcion** & the “**Honouring Jesus**” activity tomorrow as **Dec.8<sup>th</sup>** is always the day dedicated in the nation to the special worship of the Virgin Mary. They have now extended the programme for children, young people & adults. Pray also for **Claire Holmes** as she travels tomorrow to **Ireland** for home ministry leave, going via **New York**, to experience the Metro Ministries amongst children there. For safety & spiritual refreshment.
8. Give thanks for the **Alpha Course** in **San Andres** cathedral church in the centre of **Asuncion** & pray for commitment by those who have been challenged by the gospel. For **pastors Agustin & Patrick** & their team of lay leaders. Continue to pray that the **Light of Jesus** will break through into people's lives on this important national day.
9. Pray for **Juana** & the team at **Esperanza Foster Home** & for each child there. There has been a disappointing lack of progress under the new leadership of the **Adoption Centre** in Paraguay in the movement of children. Pray for the director, Alicia Mingo as she battles with bureaucratic inefficiency in the courts. Pray for God's overruling over decisions for baby **Jonatan** & his birth mother.
10. **Ed & Marie Brice** give thanks for a special time with family & friends in the **UK**. Pray for safety for them as they return to **Paraguay** today & for their readjustment to the high heat & humidity. For their sons: **Derek** as he remains at school in Bristol- **Javier** studying in the USA & in need of Christian friends & a church fellowship - **Neil** working in Paraguay.
11. Give thanks for a good academic year at the **St. Andrew' Annexe School**. Pray for the pupils who are leaving now that God's word that they have been taught may remain in their lives. Pray for Head, **Victor Santa Cruz** & his staff as they clear up & prepare for next year's term & for safety & good progress for all the building work being done during the summer holiday period.
12. Give thanks for individuals & churches who have financially & prayerfully supported the **Enxet Old Testament** translation work this year & for good progress made by **Tim Curtis** & his team, **Juan, Asuncion & Martin**. Pray for sufficient funding for **2009**. Give thanks that no one was injured when the roof blew off **Martin's** house in **Rio Verde** during a recent bad storm. Pray that Tim & the translators will have good rest & spiritual refreshment during the summer holidays.
13. Pray for all the work amongst **children** taking place on **Saturdays** in the different congregations - lunches, toy library, Bible teaching & songs, plus games & sport. Give thanks & pray for each volunteer who regularly gives up free time to accompany the children both in **Asuncion & Concepcion**.
14. Pray for the church services taking place today in all the towns & country areas. For the evening meeting in **Villa Guarani** church with special invitations to

couples who have attended **EMA** weekends but have no regular church attendance. For **Miguel & Mirian Greco & pastor Jorge & Rebeca**.

15. Pray for safety & rest for all the **Mission Partners** who are on holiday or home ministry leave. For the **Metcalfes** as they leave **Paraguay** today, for **Linn** with her sister in South Africa, for **Gwen Carlisle, Mags Southern, Babs Owen & Elaine Black** travelling soon. For those remaining in **Paraguay**.
16. Pray for **pastor Luis & Regina** & their family in **Zeballos Cue**. For all the Christmas activities for children, young people & adults. Give thanks for a good year for the **PEPE** preschool & the Saturday feeding programme for underprivileged children. Pray for all plans & preparation for next year.
17. Pray for spiritual & physical strength for **Beryl Baker** in her **Chaco** clinic & for the health auxiliaries in each **Chaco** community at this exhaustingly hot & humid time of year.
18. Give thanks for the visits of volunteers through **Mission Paraguay** this year & the practical & spiritual support they gave all around the diocese. Pray for coordinator, **David Orritt** as he prepares for projects in **2009**. Give thanks for a special united service for **Asuncion** churches in the **Centre** in **Emboscada**. There is still work to be done to erect a bunkhouse for overnight retreats & weekends. Pray for sufficient finance to complete the first stage of the **Centre** that this may increasingly become a place of unity & spiritual refreshment.
19. Pray for the **San Andres congregations** in the centre of **Asuncion** & for the all the Christmas activities. For **pastors Agustin & Patrick** & their lay leaders & for **Raquel Greco** as she returns from Chile to work amongst the young people. Pray for **Teresa** & the ladies group which meets each Wednesday & for the many very faithful elderly folk who are no longer able to attend the services.
20. The staff & students at **FEISA** now begin their summer break until January 15<sup>th</sup>. Give thanks for all that has been accomplished this year & pray for good rest & relaxation over this holiday period.
21. Pray for guidance for **Caroline Gilmour White** as she currently visits the **UK**. For wisdom & brevity in communicating to churches here for the first time, about **Mission Paraguay** & all its initiatives.
22. Pray for the young people in the many congregations in the **Chaco, Concepcion & Asuncion**. For **David Greco** & the leaders of **JAPY** ( Young Anglican Paraguayans) who are seeking to bring together young people in the diocese for mutual challenge & encouragement.
23. Pray for the ministry in **Luque & San Lorenzo**. For **pastor Jorge & Rebeca**, & for **Teo & Lidia** & the team who run the children's work in **San Lorenzo**. Give thanks for the purchase of a plot of land there & pray for wise decisions to be made over the involvement of volunteers next year. For the right amount of funding needed to build more adequate facilities for this ministry to underprivileged young people.& children.
24. **Remigio Romero** is doing excellent translation work on school materials for **FEISA** into the **Enxet** language, often using the facilities in the translation office in **Rio Verde**. Pray for good relationships with the **Enxet** Bible translators & with the **Enxet** Primary school teachers. Give thanks for Tim's oversight each month. Pray for the little congregation in **Rio Verde** & its faithful witness in the town & for the re-siting of the church building.
25. On **Christmas Day** pray that we may all rejoice that the **Light** has come into our world & keep the **Lord Jesus** in the centre of our celebrations.
26. Pray for the staff at the **Diocesan office**. For Administrator **Teodosio Rivas** as he administers over a wide area. For continued good links & contacts with the different areas of the diocese. For God's provision of financial needs at a time of economic difficulty in **Paraguay**.
27. Pray for great wisdom, discernment& strength for **Presiding Bishop Greg Venables** & the other Primates at this key time in the Anglican Communion. For the upholding of unchanging biblical principles within changing cultures.
28. Pray too for the lay leaders in the annexe congregations in the country areas outside Concepcion: **Tacuati, Yvapobo, San Juan & Santa Elisa** & for pastor Guillermo who visits 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** & the building work in **Yvapobo**.
29. Pray for vision over 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. For the congregations in **Remansito & Mirador** in their weekly services & meetings & their ministry to adolescents & children.
30. Pray for the nation of **Paraguay** & its new **President** that he may have discernment & wisdom in all his contacts with campesino leaders whose expectations regarding immediate provision of land are impossibly high. For steady progress in dealing with corrupt methods & for good support.
31. Give thanks for God's faithfulness over this past year. Pray that as a diocese we may remain faithful to Him & to his Word. For bishop elect **Peter Bartlett & Sally** as they prepare to come to **Paraguay** in **February**.