

Paraguay Prayer Calendar September & October 2010



God provides in every season of life



St Andrews Sewers, raising funds for ministries



Church council member, El Redil

Devoted to thankfulness: Weds 1 – Tues 7 September

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. Colossians 4:2

St Paul urges us to be devoted to prayer that is both watchful and thankful. Please join with us in thanking God for:

- Paraguay's success in the world cup, lifting spirits
- Nurse Beryl Baker is convalescing well after a spell in hospital with an atypical pneumonia and hopes to be back in the Chaco this weekend. We also thank God for healing Roberto, Tamara, Teresa and Mili.
- Mission Paraguay Teams in Paraguay, for safety, enjoyment, for the growth in faith of the team members, for the encouragement that they were for many churches and individuals. For the many practical tasks that were carried out especially for the wonderful way in which God matches Mission Paraguay's volunteers' skills with our needs in Paraguay.
- After training in pattern cutting and machine sewing the Zeballos Cue and Saint Andrews sewing clubs are working hard making bags to raise funds for their children's and youth ministries
- with Tim Curtis we give thanks for the purchase of a new four wheel drive Toyota Hilux for the Chaco ministry which was made possible thanks to a donation from the World Mission Group and other praying friends at St Andrews' Oxford, This will enable Tim, the translation team, and church leaders to keep in touch with the different Enxet speaking churches around the Chaco
- Dr Richard & Jean Forde's visit and their input into leaders
- the families of our pastors and church leaders, especially their children, thanking God along with Ed and Marie Brice for Javier's return to Paraguay and praying that God will guide Javier in this next stage of his life
- Praise the Lord that Pastor Juan Sosa and Deacon Romualdo Rojas have successfully finished SEAN Pastoral Training book 1 and started book 2
- Rachel Rudman & Ruth Thompson as they return to the UK and continue studying, thanking God for the contribution that they both have made to the church in Paraguay and St Andrews School

God provides water: Weds 8 – Tues 14 September

We thank God for Paraguay and remember the words recorded in Deuteronomy 11:12-14 *It is a land the LORD your God cares for; the eyes of the LORD your God are continually on it from the beginning of the year to its end. So if you faithfully obey the commands I (Moses) am giving you today—to love the LORD your God and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul- then I will send rain on your land in its season, both autumn and spring rains, so that you may gather in your grain, new wine and oil. I will provide grass in the fields for your cattle, and you will eat and be satisfied.*

We thank God for the **wells** which Mission Paraguay helped to dig in the Chaco and for this provision of much needed water. We also thank God for the new underground water cistern being dug at the Diocesan Centre in Rio Verde, thankful for the generosity of Mission Paraguay support which is making this possible.

Please pray for rain in areas of South America which have been badly affected by seasonal **bush fires** causing pollution, destruction and respiratory diseases. Several parts of Paraguay have been affected and Asunción city is currently affected by smog and possibly some air flights will be cut in an attempt to alleviate the situation.

We pray for **rain in the Chaco** soon. This often begins again during the middle of September at the end of the Paraguayan winter.

Please pray for this weekend's EMA **Anglican Marriage Encounter** weekend, for Ronald & Nicky Irene's pastoral oversight of the weekend. Miriam and Miguel Greco ask us to thank God for and pray for Elvio & Sandra, Ramón & Rosie, Juanca & Marlene, and Manolo & Shirley and to pray that eyes may be opened to see God's glory. We also pray for all who will take part this weekend, especially for the new couples that marriages will be strengthened and that Jesus Christ will be the centre of these marriages.

Beryl Baker asks us to pray for **cattle ranches in the Chaco**: 'I feel that God will answer prayer for rain if people put him first again.' Please pray for a call to repentance for the abuses of the environment in the Chaco and for a letting go of the idol of money. We especially pray for Chaco ranchers to grow in the desire to be governed by God rather than the idols of greed and self interest. *Be careful, or you will be enticed to turn away and worship other gods and bow down to them. Then the LORD's anger will burn against you, and he will shut the heavens so that it will not rain and the ground will yield no produce, and you will soon perish from the good land the LORD is giving you.* Deut 1:16, 17 We pray for the Anglican men in the Chaco who work on the ranches for protection, for safety and for their families who stay behind in the communities.

We pray for the planning of **St Andrews school trips** to the Chaco this year. We pray that there will be sufficient water in Rio Verde for the classes to be able to stay and their projects will be of blessing to them and the communities that they visit.

Please pray for **Chris Hawksbee** and his work in the Chaco remember the NGO, Global Chaco which is going very well, the beneficiaries are very pleased and enthusiastic with its development. We also pray for **Alison** in Asuncion teaching at ACA, for strength and time for her Open University course.

Like cold water to a weary soul is good news from a distant land. Proverbs 25:25

Wise builders: Weds 15 – Tues 21 September

Jesus said: *Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.* Matthew 7:24, 25

We give thanks to God for financial contributions from the members of St Peters Makxawaya, the Makxawaya community itself and for financial help from the Sanderson family which has enabled repairs to be carried out on the **roof of the church** in July. We thank God for builder Jorge Torres asking that he will be blessed in his work and witness. We pray for St Peters as this church continues to make the Gospel known to the Enxet people of the Chaco that its light will shine even more brightly in the years to come.

Redeemer Church in Zeballos Cue rejoice in the **building work** that is going on to provide more adequate facilities for youth work, and are grateful for the building materials which have been donated. They ask us to pray for financial commitment on the part of the congregation to enable the work to continue and to be completed. May many young people in this community build their lives on Jesus the Rock.

Please pray for Chris Hawksbee as he helps an NGO construction **adobe houses** in some of the communities that Chris visits. This has come about because of the work of two of our pastors in making their own adobes. Please pray for Esteban Galeano who will train people in the use of adobes. It is exciting that adobe houses are now being considered as a viable option for housing projects!

Lord Jesus, we pray for **Nelson & Carmen Franco** who look after the Anglican Centre buildings in Rio Verde, and who receive visitors in the Chaco. May they and their family always build their lives on Jesus and be protected as they serve His church. Amen.

Lord Jesus, we pray for the development of **Pastor Agustin's** visits to Yatnata/La Herencia, that he and **Pastor Elvio** will be able to complement each other's gifts for the good of the local church, that the church will be strengthened and built up with Jesus at the centre.

We thank God for the ongoing **improvements in the Diocesan Centre** in St Andrews and the **Chaco hostel**, and pray that these facilities will continue to be used for the building up of God's church.

In the name of Jesus Christ, may you be strong. May you build wisely as you stand firm on Jesus who is your Rock. He is your strong tower. He is the source of your energy and it is he who gives strength to the weak. You will be made strong as you renew your trust in him and as you put your faith in him. You will rise up like a strong eagle, able to face life's challenges. As you call out to him, he gives strength for every task that he has given you. Amen.

Growing up in Christ – persevering: Weds 22 – Tues 28 September

Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. James 1:2-4

This week we pray for God's people that we would grow in perseverance and become mature and complete.

- Praise God for 18 young men who have sought and received forgiveness through **La Puerta**. Pray for clarity in perceiving God's will for the way He wants to continue using La Puerta when the Colombian couple which has been helping leave Asunción in December.
- We pray for Charlie Mendez and his team this weekend of the **EJE Youth Encounter**, that the team would be motivated by Jesus and his love for the young people who will take part. We pray for the participants that they would experience Jesus' love and grow in Christian vision and also be blessed in their family relationships.
- We pray for the members of Redeemer Church, doing **evangelistic visits** in the neighbourhood, that the members would make witnessing to Christ central in their lives, and that there would be abundant fruit.
- We pray for the **sewing groups** in the cities and in the Chaco that they would grow in maturity as they organise their groups and that they would follow God's leading in finding markets.
- We pray for the groups of ladies in the Chaco making **traditional handicrafts**, thanking God for all the sales that were made recently and that new markets would open up.
- We pray for good management and perseverance in the following up of **mission Paraguay projects**, and for David Orritt and Caroline Gilmour White in the ongoing planning of Mission Paraguay, for perseverance, creativity and sensitivity to God's leading.
- We pray for church and community leaders for perseverance and wisdom in the light of tensions in the community of **Santa Fe** which have continued to disrupt church and community life.

For a righteous man falls seven times, and rises again. Proverbs 24:16

Growing up in Christ – wrestling in prayer: Weds 29 September – Tues 5 October

Epaphras, who is one of you and a servant of Christ Jesus, sends greetings. He is always wrestling in prayer for you, that you may stand firm in all the will of God, mature and fully assured. Colossians 4:11-13

Please pray for the **Diocesan Synod** (1st – 3rd October), praying for Bishops Peter and Andrés and all the synod representatives that this time of meeting together will result in healthy growth in the Anglican Church. Please pray for all the practical arrangements and that all representatives will be enabled to participate fully.

This week please pray for:

- The development of the **3 St Andrews congregations** that they will grow as the body of Christ, for their leaders to hear God's voice and lead well
- **Emanuel Church** Luque, for the Bible study on the Sermon on the mount, for the health of Ramón & Rafael, and for the caretaker Ruben and his wife, thanking God for all that they do in the community.
- Pastor Lucho asks us to pray for **St John's, King of kings & Mirador** for coherent discipleship, for more workers to be raised up, for youth evangelism and for the Sunday school and for a move of the Holy Spirit to bring healing to broken families.
- **Regular study discipline** for Pastors Teodoro, Lucio & Mario as they study SEAN, for Ronald and Luis in their theological studies, Donald and Feliciano completing theses.
- Pastor Juan and Romualdo, for **wisdom** in relating to visitors and leaders from other churches.
- Pastor Elvio and his wife Lorenza and their children **away from their home** in Yatnata for most of the year.
- For Teodoro Campestequi (pastor and political leader) of **Palo Blanco** with his brother Claudio and for Laureano and Cristobal of **La Rosa Cue**. For the 2 congregations and that God will change people's hearts.
- Remigio Romero as he does the final checking of the **SEAN Bible Study Manual** in Enxet and pray for the training of pastors and pastoral assistants to use it

Thank you for being like Epaphras, wrestling in prayer for the clergy and church leaders. Please pray for all the clergy and their wives that they will continue to mature as they stand firm in God's will remembering **+Peter & Sally Bartlett & +Andres & Estela Rodríguez**; pastors **Agustin & Teresa Maidana, Ed & Marie Brice, Elvio Lorenza Cabañas, Juan & Alicia Sosa, Lucio & Priscilla Romero, Luis & Regina Echeverría, Mario & Rosa Caballero, Robert & Cristina Fernández, Teodoro & Severiana Campestequi** and **Cefe & Ana Romero** and deacons **Agripino & Nilda Cerro, Ronald & Nicky Irene, Mario & Agustina Recalde, Niño Pepe & Feliciano Agüero & Romualdo Rojas**, pastoral workers **Donald & Caroline Brooks & Lucho & Estela Robles**, and all lay leaders as they disciple those under their pastoral care to stand firm in the will of God.

At the crossroads: Weds 6 – Tues 12 October

This is what the LORD says:

"Stand at the crossroads and look;
ask for the ancient paths,
ask where the good way is, and walk in it,
and you will find rest for your souls.
But you said, 'We will not walk in it.' Jeremiah 6:16

This week we set aside time to pray for those who are at a crossroad in life, praying that we and they will be enabled to stand, to see, to ask, to walk and to find rest for our souls.

We pray for those who have studied the **Maturing in Christ** course that they will continue to apply the teachings to their lives and teach others to advance in spiritual maturity in Christ.

Please pray for **Simeon** who has moved house and is now attending St John's that God will guide him in this time of change and adaptation, and we thank God for all his faithful years of service at St Andrews.

Let us pray for Tim, Asunción, Juan and Martín, the **Enxet translation team** in Rio Verde continuing to check Martin's draft of Jeremiah, and Juan's draft of 2 Kings. We pray for spiritual protection for them and their families.

We pray for the Dario & María and Cirilo & Raquel of the St Matthews, Río Verde congregation as they think about and **prepare for their confirmation**.

Let's thank the Lord and pray for **Judith Duddy** from Warminster, here in Asunción as a short term volunteer, helping St Andrews pupils with conversation practice, to prepare for the Trinity English exam.

We thank God for the **Sanderson family** and their involvement in the Chaco, and we pray for **Peter & Pat** as they retrace the steps of Peter's parents Jack and Kay as they travelled to the Chaco. (In those days people went by boat to Concepcion and then by horse or oxcart to the Chaco. Peter and Pat plan to travel parts of the route on horseback, and aim to raise funds for the Chaco communities. On some of their travelling they hope to be accompanied by **Ed Brice** and this part of the route will cover most of the old routes used by the first English settlers from 1906 onwards. They will travel through brush, palm forest and cleared land.) Please pray Peter, Pat and Ed for many blessings, for safety, good health and rest for their souls. Amen.

Please pray for Caroline Gilmour as she edits and prepares for publication '**Journey into the Paraguayan Chaco**' by Jack Sanderson, detailing his life and horseback journeys in the Chaco, illustrated with his beautiful water colours and shedding light on the traditional Enxet way for life. Sales of the book will benefit Chaco communities as they seek to maintain their cultural heritage in a rapidly changing world.

Seasons of Life: Weds 13 – Tues 19 October

*He will be the sure foundation for your times, a rich store of salvation and wisdom and knowledge;
the fear of the LORD is the key to this treasure. Isaiah 33:6*

Remembering that 16th October is the Day of the Library in Paraguay we pray that we will all be **lifelong learners** and ask Jesus to guide us in our study of the Scriptures. We pray for a group of mothers in St Andrews School meeting together to study the Bible that each one will grow in salvation, wisdom and knowledge. Amen.

Jesus, our healer, we pray for healing for **President Fernando Lugo**. May he be strengthened during chemotherapy, may he be filled with wisdom and may he govern in the fear of the Lord. We also pray for Ignacio in hospital in Villa Hayes, Narcisa the health promoter having gall bladder surgery, Valoi and Elodia receiving cataract surgery, Fermina undergoing chemotherapy, Maria recovering from surgery. Thank you, Jesus, for your healing hands and your compassion. Amen.

Lord Jesus, protector of the vulnerable, we pray for the **Esperanza foster home**, giving thanks for Alexis' adoption, and praying for Barbara, Victor, Antonio and Sebastian, that their time in the home will continue to be of great blessing to their loves and praying for a speeding up of their papers. We pray for Teresa Maidana and Juana in the running of the home that they will be granted wisdom. We pray for fundraising efforts that the homes needs richly met. Amen.

Lord Jesus, our Saviour, we pray for those who are **elderly**, those who live with loneliness, those who are suffering a time of ill health and pray that you will save them, take care of them, and bring them comfort. We pray for ministries to the elderly. We pray for strength for our brothers and sisters who care for elderly and sick relatives, especially remembering Roland, Emma, Mario, Miguel y Miriam. Grant them patience, wisdom and good humour. Amen.

Lord Jesus, our teacher, we pray for **FEISA teacher early years training college**, thanking you for your provision and the generosity of donors enabling student from families with limited resources to be able to study. Please grant Ana Maria and Gloria wisdom in their leadership of this college. We pray for all the students that they would take maximum advantage of this opportunity to train, and excel in their studies and practices. Amen.

Lord Jesus, the Author of life, we thank you for the precious gift of life. This week we pray for all who are expecting **new babies**, especially Ronald & Nicky Irene (baby Samuel) and Dionisa from Ipvu and her baby. Grant them safe labours and great blessing and joy. Amen.

Holy Spirit of truth, we pray for all **Christian teachers and all school pupils**, that they would walk in the light and be guided in their learning, and would know Jesus as their Lord and Saviour. We pray for leadership in Christian schools in Paraguay, St Andrews College director, Gwen Carlisle, deputy Mags Southern, Annexe School Head, Victor Santa Cruz, deputy Mirta Moyano, and consultant Nelson Aguilera for wisdom and godly leadership. We pray for all teachers and school staff known to us, that their godly leadership would glorify God and benefit young lives, especially remembering Anglican worshippers: ACA staff: Alison H, Tally and Sam, St Andrews staff: Babs O, Carol M, Caroline B, Linn T, Miriam G, Miguel G, Nicky I, Raquel G, Regina E, Rita C, Ryan M, Sue N, Neill B and chaplain Ronald Irene. Amen.

Lord Jesus, our Rabbi, we pray for Caroline Gilmour with a busy schedule as she prepares the **mobile lending library** catalogue that she would find time to focus and be granted wisdom and strength. Amen.

Lord Jesus, we pray for **all children** that as they grow and learn of your love they would want to know you more and follow you. We thank you for the Children's Day event that Marie, Toshie and Jasmin organised in the Chaco with children's groups and pray that they will be given further opportunities to minister to children. Amen.

The Lord will provide: Weds 20 – Tues 26 October

So Abraham called that place The LORD Will Provide. And to this day it is said, "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided." Genesis 22:14

As 2010 is rapidly finishing we thank the Lord for providing all that has been needed for what He is doing. Please take a moment to thank God for all that He has provided for you, your family and your community.

Father God our Provider, we pray for **Bishop Andrés & Estela López**, and the **church in Concepción**, thanking you for your faithfulness over many years. We pray that you will encourage the leaders of St Paul's church and the missions that they run, especially the children's clubs and we pray that you will provide the vision and resources for the development of this work. Amen.

Father God, the Gardener, we pray for the **Growing Together Encounter** being held in Asunción this week, praying for each delegate that this time would be of great encouragement and instrumental in the growth of your church here in Paraguay and South America. Amen.

Father God, we pray for the political leaders of Yatnata, Isidro, Wilfrido and the young people running the new Yatnata village **Enxet FM radio station**. Grant that they will be given wisdom in relating to politicians, NGOs, and other organisations and for the looking after and protecting of the equipment. We pray that this medium would be wisely used for the benefit of the community. We pray for those who are Christians that they would be able to proclaim the message of Christ, *(And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. ⁴Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. Col 4:3, 4)*

Father God, we pray for all **students** for intelligence and diligence in their studies, that they would have the necessary financial resources to complete their studies. We pray that they would balance rest, work study and family responsibilities. We pray that with humility the skills and knowledge that they are acquiring would be used to the glory of your name. Amen.

Father God, we pray for **prayer groups and prayer vigils** that meet across the Diocese of Paraguay, that our praying will be guided by you, that our knowledge of you would increase and that your presence would be manifest in our midst and that all that we do would worship and bring glory to your name. Thank you too for the faithful prayers of many who seek your favour on our lives and ministries. Amen. (*And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. Matthew 6:7, 8*)

Father God, we pray for the small community of faith in **Ipvu** that you would provide for their need, and that their place of meeting would be the one of your choice. Amen.

Father God, we pray for **families** that have been abandoned by fathers and mothers and pray that just as you heard the cry of Hagar and her son in the desert, so to you will hear our cry for the young ones who live without the care and protection of their parents. Lord we pray that their needs, spiritual, physical and emotional will be met. We pray for young Jeremias in his responsibility to care for his siblings that you will provide, protect and keep him safe from temptations. Amen.

Father God, we praise you and thank you for providing for our needs. We recognise that all that we have comes from you and we pray that you would enable us to be **good stewards** of the resources that we are given. We pray for initiatives across the Diocese to be generous, bless the lives of those who are needy and helping those facing challenges. Just as you taught the Early Church to be generous we pray that you will teach us. Amen. (*During this time some prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. One of them, named Agabus, stood up and through the Spirit predicted that a severe famine would spread over the entire Roman world. (This happened during the reign of Claudius.) The disciples, each according to his ability, decided to provide help for the brothers living in Judea. Acts 11:27-30*)

Speaking that honours God: Weds 27 - Sun 31 October

A bird that you set free may be caught again, but a word that escapes your lips will not return. Jewish Proverb
The disciples were amazed at his (Jesus') words. Mark 10:24... when they (all the people) heard Jesus' words, they acknowledged that God's way was right Luke 7:29 What a challenge for us his followers, that the words that we speak would be as Jesus' words, words that bring life, hope and blessings.

This week take the opportunities that come your way to converse with others in a way that pleases the Lord. Some suggestions to give space for your speech to be seasoned with grace:

- take time to reflect on your heart and any lack of peace that is there, remembering that our speech springs forth from what is in our hearts
- take time to read and meditate on Jesus' words which can be found in the Gospels
- take time to reflect on God's great love and ask to be filled with grace
- take time to ask for wisdom, especially in relationships where there has been tension and a lack of peace

Pray for all church leaders and members for an improving of communication where there has been a lack of communication, and asking that God that he would use you as an example of graceful speech. Amen.

Loving God, I desire to be an excellent communicator. I ask for your wisdom. Help me not to take part in conversations that dishonour you and my fellow church members. Help me to keep my communication positive and relevant to the matters in hand, so that I may be a loyal and worthy disciple. Amen.

*Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt,
so that you may know how to answer everyone. Colossians 4:6*

Thank you for your prayers for the Anglican Church in Paraguay,

+Peter ☩ Sally Bartlett,

on behalf of the Anglican Church of Paraguay

Iglesia Anglicana Paraguaya, Casilla de Correos 1124, Asunción, Paraguay, South America

peterparaguay@gmail.com saritabartlett@hotmail.co.uk Skype: pjhbartlett