

PRAYER CALENDAR - Iglesia Anglicana Paraguaya - July 2008

Joel 2:21". ..be glad and rejoice. Surely the Lord has done great things."
1 Thess.5:16 "Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

1. Pray for the preparations for the handover of power in **Paraguay** this month to ex Catholic bishop, **Fernando Lugo** of the **Radical Patriotic Party for Change**. This election result last month gives great opportunity for radical change within the country. Pray for a peaceful handover & a willingness amongst the nation's leaders to develop the resources of the country for the benefit of all the people.
2. Pray for **David Orritt** who has recently arrived in **Paraguay** to organize the last minute preparations for **Mission Paraguay** projects during **July & August**. Pray for sufficient translators & funding & for each of the volunteers from **England & Ireland** in their final preparations.
3. During the winter period with frequent abrupt changes in temperature, pray for good **health** for Mission partners & also for church members, especially those who live in precarious housing or have little adequate clothing or heating.
4. Schools begin their 2 week winter holiday break next Monday. Pray especially for rest, relaxation and good health for **St. Andrew's** & the **Annexe School** staff & pupils after a busy first term.
5. At the **Extraordinary Synod** on **May 31st** in Asuncion a decision was made to invite an English clergyman, & his wife, both with experience of ministry in South America, to become the next Diocesan Bishop. The **Nominating Committee** under the leadership of **auxiliary bishop Andres Rodriguez** was unanimous in its decision and this was overwhelmingly confirmed by the synod delegates and will now be ratified by the **Southern Cone Province**. Pray for God's guidance for all concerned, especially in the timing & urgent raising of funds.
6. Give thanks for the ministry of **Esperanza Foster Home** & pray for **Murray & Penny, & Juana** & her team of carers. Pray that the children awaiting adoption will not be unduly kept waiting through the bureaucratic process & that suitable adoptive parents may be found for each one. Pray too that the re-signing of the special agreement the **Foster Home** has with the Ministry for Children may go ahead despite the unusual political situation.
7. Pray for wisdom, strength & protection for **Beryl Baker** in her **Chaco** clinic & in her travels, especially during the colder weather. Sadly her horse El Dorado recently died after being bitten by vampire bats. Pray too for the couple who look after her little house in **Asuncion**. Don **Jose** has a large blood clot in his neck but thankfully has been able to get free hospital treatment in **Argentina**.
Give thanks that he has become a Christian & has been attending **San Andres** morning congregation. Pray too for his wife & family in Asuncion.
8. Give thanks that donations towards the work of **FEISA** came last month & eased the cash flow problem. Pray that more funding applications will be accepted by donors & for a quick release of funds. Pray too that funding from the **Ministry for Children** in Asuncion to enable the continuation of the preschool training in the **Chaco**, will also be released. Pray for the leadership team as they begin to implement various aspects of a new 5 year plan for **FEISA**.
9. Pray for the first group of **Mission Paraguay** volunteers as they leave Heathrow tonight & for those in **Asuncion** who receive them. For the children's clubs in **Luque & San Lorenzo** & for the programme planned for work amongst women. Remember pastor **Jorge & Rebeca**, & the team in **San Lorenzo** headed up by **Teo & Lidia Rivas**. For an impact for the gospel in the **Luque** area around the church which seems so spiritually resistant.
10. Praise God for the Christians in the neighbouring communities of **Makxawaya & Monte Alto, Chaco**. Pray for strength & encouragement for them as they face so many pressures from the society around. For the young people & those who lead them. For pastor **Juan & Alicia** & their family & for deacon **Romualdo** & his wife & family. Pray too for the **Somervell family** as they depart from **Paraguay** tomorrow. For God's guidance over future ministry.
11. The translation of the **Old Testament** into **Enxet** is a long project involving much patience & perseverance. Pray for **Tim Curtis, Martin, Asuncion & Juan** as they continue their work on it.. For spiritual refreshment as they study God's Word & for the inspiration of the Holy Spirit to translate correctly. For all who live in & take care of the **Anglican Centre in Rio Verde**.
12. Pray for the **Zeballos Cue** congregation, giving thanks for increasing participation of the members there. Pray for **pastor Luis & Regina** & their family & for **Luis** in his theological studies alongside his ministry in the church. Pray for those who are sick, especially remembering **Maria** & for those who are suffering the effects of the lower temperatures during the winter months because of precarious housing & lack of clothing & food.
13. Pray for God's guidance for **Ed & Mari Brice** during their home ministry leave in the UK & for their family studying & working in different countries. For strength & perseverance for the leaders in the **Chaco** churches in their absence.
14. Pray for the church members in **Rio Verde** & their witness in the town, especially for those who desperately struggle to survive financially. For their health during the colder time of year & for **Dona Bety** who is undergoing eye surgery in Buenos Aires. For all the preparations to receive the group of **Mission Paraguay** volunteers next month.

15. Pray for Mission Partner **Caroline Gilmour White**, as she takes on a new role in the diocese. Give thanks for the years of service within **FEISA** which included communication, setting up the faculty library & fund raising.
16. Pray for **auxiliary bishop Andres** both in his **Concepcion** ministry & in his wider diocesan responsibilities at this time, which inevitably put a greater pressure on his wife **Estela** & the family. Pray for sufficient funds to cover his support, especially now when the pound & dollar exchange rate is 30% down. In a diocese where the majority of church members are on low or intermittent wages, support for clergy & diocesan workers is a serious challenge.
17. Pray for **Claire & Norma** & the team in their ministry amongst children in & around **Concepcion**. For all the preparations for the **volunteers** next month who will help out with the children & also construct a multipurpose building for the annexe congregation in **Yvapobo**.
18. Pray for **pastor Guillermo & Rosi** & their family in Concepcion & **Guillermo's** more specific evangelistic & teaching ministry in the rural areas. For Christian leaders to emerge to give leadership in these outlying towns & villages.
19. Despite the return of several families to their own countries, the **St. Andrew's** English speaking congregation continues to receive a steady flow of people to the services. Pray for **pastor Patrick & Rosie**, together with **Murray & Penny** in their contacts there with both expatriate & Paraguayan people. For the **Alpha Course** shared with the two **San Andres** congregations.
20. Give thanks that last month a **Health Centre** was finally opened in **Pozo Colorado Chaco**, about 40kms from **Rio Verde**. Pray that staff will attend regularly & also receive the necessary support to keep the **Clinic** functioning. Pray for **Beryl** as she receives the indigenous health auxiliaries tomorrow for a course about **HIV/AIDS**. Pray too that all the health auxiliaries may receive a government salary for their important work in the communities.
21. Pray for **pastor Cefe, Ana** & the churches in **Roque Alonso, Remansito & Mirador**. For **Adelio & Isabel** as they care for the retreat centre in formation in **Emboscada** that this may be steadily built up & become both a place for teaching & fellowship for **Asuncion** Christians & for outreach in the area.
22. Give thanks for the outstanding times of listening, discussion & fellowship experienced by so many church leaders at **GAFCON** in **Jordan & Jerusalem**. Pray that God will continue to guide & teach the **Anglican Church** throughout the world. Pray for the leaders of the **Southern Cone Province**.
23. Pray for the community of **El Estribo, Chaco** where 9 schools are keen to take part in the pre-school training programme due to start next month. For **Samantha Parsons** & the **FEISA** team as they work out the practicalities & for the necessary funding. Pray for the pastors & lay leaders in the different villages that they may continue to meet together for prayer & Bible Study & preparation of services. For the young people's ministry.
24. Give thanks for the young people attending **San Andres** evening congregation & for those who lead & preach. Pray for pastor **Patrick & Rosie** as they prepare & teach them during the week. Pray for God's guidance for **Raquel Greco** as she completes her theological course in **Chile**. Give thanks for an inspiring night of prayer last month. May prayer be at the centre of all the church's ministry.
25. Pray too for the **San Andres** morning congregation. For pastor **Agustin & Teresa** & other leaders. For God's guidance over the development of links with the **Annexe School**, the **Chacarita** shanty town, the **Foster Home** & the children's ministry.
26. Pray for **Chris Hawksbee** in his ministry alongside the indigenous community leaders at such an important time in the nation's life. Pray for real change in government attitude towards the **Chaco** inhabitants & for a peaceful handover of power this week. For pastors & church members in **Sombrero Piri**.
27. Pray for the services today in the indigenous **La Patria** community. There are many villages widely spread out with **pastor Robert, 3 deacons** & several pastoral assistants covering the ministry. Continue to pray that new government initiatives giving much needed work or study opportunities will be based in the **Chaco** & not draw people away from their homes to the cities. This generally results in decadence & family break-up.
28. Pray for God's protection & strength for all who work in the **Diocesan Office** in Asuncion. For the **Diocesan Executive** Committee headed up by bishop Andres.
29. Pray for God to raise up the right leadership for the **Villa Guarani** congregation after the departure of pastor **Tony & Chris Somervell**. Pray for **Donald Brooks** as he visits there meanwhile & for the leadership & development of the **EMA** programme. For God's protecting hand on all Christian marriages.
30. Pray for safe travel for the first group of **volunteers** as they leave South America tomorrow & for those who prepare to leave the **UK** on Friday. For strength & good health for **David Orritt** in **Asuncion** as he coordinates the changeover.
31. Tomorrow is the anniversary of the supermarket fire in **Asuncion**. Pray for those who still suffer from that dreadful event & give thanks for those who are now Christians, especially some who are members of **Zeballos Cue** church.