

MISSION FOCUS

PRAYER DIARY – AUTUMN 2017

SUNDAY – CHURCH MISSION SOCIETY

- CMS have launched several initiatives for pioneering mission work in large urban estates and new housing developments. Please pray for all those involved in this challenging work especially those working in inner city areas
- Jason and Tracy Day with their two young children are working in Chiang Mai, Thailand. Jason works as a personnel manager and Tracy is a volunteer with a prayer fellowship in the red light area of the city. Please pray for their work and for their welfare.
- Catriona and Stephen Bennett are both doctors working at Gahini Hospital, East Rwanda. Catriona is an anaesthetist and Stephen is a surgeon. They have a one-year-old daughter, Hannah. Please pray for health and safety for the whole family and for Gahini Hospital.

MONDAY – CATHERINE LEE

- Sadly, Catherine's father died in July after a long illness. Please pray that Catherine's mother and the whole family will be sustained by their faith during this time of grieving.
- Catherine has now returned to Taiwan but has missed several weeks of the start of the new academic year at St John's University, where she is assistant chaplain. Please pray that Catherine's energy and enthusiasm will be sustained as she gets back into 'work mode'.
- Please pray for all the new students who are starting their first term at the university. The majority will be from non-Christian backgrounds and, for some, the English language Bible class that Catherine runs will be their first contact with the Christian faith.

TUESDAY – RUKUNGIRI

- Primary school pupils returned to school on 18th September and will break for the Christmas holidays on 8th December. Please pray for all the children, staff and support workers and for the safety of children as they travel to and from school.
- Please pray for regular and steady rainfall to produce good crops on the farmland. Pray also for the continuing need to raise funds for the farmland irrigation project and for the success of our own harvest appeal.
- John and Alice continue to need our prayers for their health and the leadership they give across the whole range of activities, both on the school site and on the farmland. They now run a very major enterprise and are not getting any younger! Pray also for their daughter Claire Peace as she takes on more of the organisational responsibilities.

WEDNESDAY – THE CHILDREN’S SOCIETY

- A major part of the Children’s Society’s work continues to be support for children who have run away from home. Please pray for this work and especially for the challenges faced in our major cities.
- There are more than 166,000 young carers in the UK. More than 15,000 children under the age of 17 are providing 50 hours care/week or even more. The Children’s Society provides support for children like Molly who has been caring for family members since she was 10 year’s old. The positive side is that, as Molly says, “It feels good to help”. Please support the work of the Society as they support children like Molly.
- More and more children are coming to the attention of the Society as a result of social media abuse, cyber bullying etc. Please pray for ALL the organisations involved in dealing with this very modern problem.

THURSDAY – CHRISTIAN AID

- Christian Aid is one of the many organisations helping to support the thousands of people affected by the huge hurricanes that have hit the Caribbean. Please pray for ALL the victim and support workers.
- In Malawi Christian Aid is working with local partners to reduce the spread of TB and HIV. There is special emphasis on preventing mother to baby transmission of HIV and reducing the infection rate amongst girls aged 15-24. Please pray for this work.
- Since 2009 Christian Aid has been working with the Poorest Areas Civil Society (PACS) in 90 districts of India's poorest states. They have been focussing on reducing poverty amongst socially excluded groups e.g. women, people with disabilities, Scheduled Castes and Tribes. Please pray for the success of this work.

FRIDAY – KAGERA

- Pray for rain to allow crops to grow properly. There has been rain here but not nearly enough. Much of East Africa is suffering from severe draught.
- Bishop Aaron has been away in Dar-es-Salaam for a few weeks – his wife Kevina is ill – she has diabetes and it's causing eye problems. Aaron has blood pressure problems but is recovering. He has a very busy and stressful time ahead.
- The Bishop's election takes place on 30th September with the consecration at the end of October. Please pray for the short-listed candidates: Darlington Bendekaya, Alfred Sebaheni and Amon, currently priest at Ngara Mjini church. The election process has been expensive with parishes finding it difficult to pay their agreed contributions.
- There is a possibility that government funding for the hospital might be withdrawn and given instead to the hospital in Ngara. This would be disastrous for the hospital and also the area as Ngara hospital has far fewer beds and fewer facilities. Please pray this doesn't happen.
- Pray for Thomas Shavu, the CCMP coordinator and recipient of our Lent Appeal money, for wisdom and strength to carry out an ambitious programme of work over the next 3 years.

SATURDAY – THE BIBLE SOCIETY

- In **Algeria** the pressure on the Church seems to be increasing. Ali Khidri, who works with the Bible Society there, is coming up to retirement. Yet his commitment to supplying the Bible to Christians and enquirers in his country does not diminish, despite personal danger. Churches are threatened with closure, Ali has been interrogated by police, and a church which was a distribution centre for Bible has been torched. But people still knock on Bible Society's door to buy a Bible or ask questions about the faith. One man buys over £1000 worth of Scriptures monthly to give away. Please give generously and pray earnestly for Ali and his work, the Christians in Algeria and those who long to know our Lord.
- **Open the Book** starts up again with the new term. Please pray for the ecumenical team that goes into local primary schools once a month to tell Bible stories. We need more people to join the team – could that be you? Pray that God's love will reach many young hearts and minds through Open the Book in Beccles and throughout the country.