

PRAYER DIARY – WINTER 2018

SUNDAY – CHURCH MISSION SOCIETY

- Uganda has a high level of maternal mortality, partly because many women give birth with no midwifery assistance. Mission partner Kate Quarrell has been teaching midwifery at the Church of Uganda School of Nursing and Midwifery in Kuluva. She has now handed over this role to Sisters Beatrice and Bella. Please pray for Kate, Beatrice and Bella.
- Eric and Sandra read are mission partners working in the Philippines. Churches in the Philippines are generally very active in evangelism but are little involved in social and community work. Please pray for the Reads who run an organic farm and encourage community action in their teaching in a local seminary.
- Please pray for Mark and Rosalie Balfour who are the first CMS partners to work in Central America. They are working with street children and young people at risk in the centre of Guatemala City.

MONDAY – CATHERINE LEE

- Catherine asks us to 'pray for opportunities to share the gospel, for people willing to take the good news out into their communities, and for open hearts and minds to receive Christ'.
- St Stephen's Church, Keelung is situated on the north coast of Taiwan. Its vicar is Rev. Julia Lin Shu-Hua. Recently a team of 7 young people and 2 adults went to visit 4 local aboriginal indigenous churches to learn more about sharing the gospel with some of the poorest members of Taiwanese society. Please pray that these contacts will be maintained and strengthened.
- Until 1979 the Kinmen Islands just off the coast of Taiwan were regularly bombarded with thousands of artillery shells from mainland China in an unsuccessful attempt to bring them under communist control. Amongst other things, these shell casings are now being forged into crosses.

- Please pray that Bishop David Lai's project, 'The Artillery Shell Cross for Peace Love and Redemption' will help to spread the message of peace and reconciliation.

TUESDAY – THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

Mission Focus services at 10.30am:

14th January (St Luke's) and 21st January (St Michael's)

- Many thanks to all those who take a Children's Society box to collect throughout the year. These contributions form the largest part of our giving to the Society's work. Please pray that more people will take boxes during the coming year.
- Historically, a major part of the work of the Children's Society has been to find and support children who have run away from home and so become vulnerable to all kinds of exploitation. Please pray especially for the work of the Tower Hamlets Missing Service which is part of an interconnected network of agencies that support runaways in London.
- The mounting refugee crisis means that there is even more work for Children's Society projects like the Hope Young Refugee Service in Greater Manchester which helps unaccompanied refugees in the 14-21 age group. Please pray for their work

WEDNESDAY – RUKUNGIRI

- Give thanks that our 2017 Harvest Appeal meant that the latest phase in the Farmland Irrigation Project could be completed. There is now greater security in the water supply from the new 250 feet borehole that has been dug. This is especially important now with the extensive drought conditions in so much of East Africa. Please pray for the ongoing development of the farmland, the school and church at Kyegegwa.
- Rukungiri Orphan Partnership was set up in 2007 in order to raise funds to support the work of John and Alice in Uganda. Other churches in the UK also have links with John and Alice which are similar to our own. Please pray for the whole network of support and for the Trustees who work so hard to support the long term development of the school and the farmland.

- A new school year has just begun for pupils in Rukungiri. Please pray especially for all those young people who have now moved on to secondary school with all the new challenges that brings. There is a special Leavers Fund that provides extra financial support for children unable to buy school uniform, books etc. If you would like to contribute to this fund please see Doreen or Serena.

THURSDAY – KAGERA

Mission Focus services at 10.30am: 11th March (St Luke's) and 18th March (St Michael's)

- Bishop Darlington (consecrated and enthroned on 29th October) now has a lot to do building his new team, reaching out to the other candidates and healing any divisions the process has caused. His first Diocesan Synod meeting was in December. Remember him in your prayers. A report on the enthronement service can be found on the parish website.
- Bishop Aaron and Kevina are well. Kevina's eyesight is now much better following a recent cataract operation. Aaron is also much better now he no longer has the heavy burden of the Diocesan administration on him. Give thanks for them both and pray that they have a much more relaxed pace of life together.
- Please continue to pray for Absalom, Diocesan Secretary and KCTC principal, who has many demands on his time and energy.
- Please pray that Government funding to Murgwanza Hospital will not be cut.
- Prayers would be most welcome for Rose Ruzabilla, Diocesan Sunday School Coordinator. She has no budget for travel, meetings or organising training sessions.

FRIDAY – CHRISTIAN AID

- The Rohingya Crisis began in August 2017 with the burning of Muslim villages by the army in Myanmar's Rakhine State. There are now an estimated 500,000 refugees in Bangladesh. Please pray for Christian Aid and the many other organisations providing relief and support to these displaced people.
- Please pray for The Big Shift campaign which is working to stop banks investing in fossil fuels and thereby supporting global warming.

This climate change impacts most severely on less developed countries, which ironically have been least responsible for creating it.

- Climate change has created the worst humanitarian crisis since 1945. 16 million people in South Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia are starving as a result of the worst drought in living memory. Please pray for and support the many appeals to help alleviate the problems both in the short and long term.

SATURDAY – THE BIBLE SOCIETY

- Mosul in northern Iraq was recently taken back from ISIS control. Thousands of Christians fled as they had been especially targeted for killing. BUT hundreds of families are now returning to rebuild destroyed homes and churches. Bible Society provides food parcels, Bible and trauma counselling. Please pray for these faithful Christians who have lost homes and family members, yet are still courageously bearing witness to our Lord.
- Alisar is a Syrian refugee living in Jordan. She is only 18, married at 14 and has 2 children. She went to church for food parcels but also found the love of God through the love of Christians. Alisar says, “I want to read the Bible more and more. I read the whole book of John in one night”. Will you support the Bible Society in giving the bread of life to feed this spiritual hunger?
- “The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth” (John 1:14). We have the Word made flesh in Jesus; the Word in bread and wine in communion and the written Word in our Bibles. A challenge for the New Year to read the gospels, perhaps in a different translation.