

PRAYER CALENDAR - Iglesia Anglicana Paraguaya - February 2008

1. February is the month of **preparation** during which school term commences & church activities begin again. Pray for vision & enthusiasm for the pastors, deacons & lay leaders. Pray that as a diocese we may seek to be obedient to God's guidance & teaching.
2. Give thanks for the **SAMS** Ireland "Friday Nite Live" meeting in Lurgan yesterday. For the wonderful interest & enthusiasm for supporting God's work in South America. Pray for continued vision & strength for **Denis Johnston** & his colleagues. Pray that God will call out from **Ireland** many more Christians to serve him in different parts of the South American continent.
3. Pray for **pastor Tony & Chris** & family as they have had to postpone their return to **Paraguay** until Friday 22nd, due to the poor health of **Tony's father**. Pray for peace & wisdom for them. Pray too for God's hand on the congregation in **Villa Guaraní** in their absence & that He might take control & bring blessing out of this unexpected change of plan.
4. Pray for a **youth conference** being planned in the **Chaco** for **15-17 February** under the leadership of **Pastor Elvio**. A group of 30 young people accompanied by 10 adults plan to go & share with other young people & leaders in **El Estribo** community. The conference "Sowing well for good results" will challenge young people to develop daily Bible reading habits.
5. Continue to pray for auxiliary bishop **Andres Rodriguez** & the **Diocesan Executive** during this interim leadership period in the diocese & for the **Nominating Committee** as they approach candidates to continue episcopal oversight in the diocese of **Paraguay**. For strength, wisdom & good health for **Bp Andres & Estela** & their family at this time of extra work & stress. For safety in travel & for adequate rest & refreshment.
6. Give thanks for a steady gain in weight & strength for little **Romina** in **Concepcion**. Pray for her & for the many children in the city & elsewhere in the nation, whose parents have gone to work in Argentina or Spain. Out of a population of 6 million people, there are at least 80,000 men & women in **Spain** alone who are sending back money to their families in Paraguay, with its correspondingly divisive effect on family life.
7. Pray for **pastor Guillermo, Rosi** & their family as they have a time of holiday together prior to the start of term. Pray for God's protection on them, especially the children, so that they may all continue to give a loving example of Christian family life to those who have never had stable home relationships.
8. Give thanks for **Tim Curtis'** encouraging visits to churches in the **UK** & the interest & support shown in them for the church in the **Chaco**. Pray for strength for **Tim** & for his safety as he travels widely & for a good time of rest before he returns to **Paraguay** in mid **April**.
9. Pray for the Bible translators – **Asuncion** – working on Ezequiel, **Martin** on the Psalms & **Juan** on Lamentations– as they continue their work in **Tim's** absence & for **Ed Brice** as he keeps a friendly eye on them! For their health & for their families.
10. Pray for the **Rio Verde** congregation & their witness to the town & for lay preachers **Alberto & Diego** who regularly visit from Asuncion. For **Nelson & Carmen Franco** & their family as they care for the **Anglican Centre** in **Rio Verde**, & especially for **Carmen's** health. For God's protection on all the people & property in the **Centre**, giving thanks for the blessing of electricity which has made such a difference to everyone!
11. Pray for vision & wisdom for **Patrick & Rosie** & the **EJE team** as they continue to consider the best ways forward after 8 years running the programme & make key decisions in March. Give thanks for the evening service in **San Andres** which has emerged out of **EJE** & links through **St. Andrew's School**, & pray for the new younger leaders beginning to take on more responsibility.
12. Pray for **St. Andrew's School** as term recommences on Thursday & for **Patrick** as he speaks at the opening service. Give thanks for two new members of staff starting in the **Primary** section & pray for the urgent need of more **Secondary** staff as from **July** this year. For **Gwen Carlisle & Mags Southern** & each member of staff. For a calm atmosphere & God's blessing & protection on all the school activities. For good contacts with parents.
13. Pray for **pastor Cefe** & the lay leaders in **Roque Alonso** church as they both consolidate existing ministry & seek to extend ministry to other areas. Pray for **Adelio & Isabel** caring for the new retreat centre under construction in **Emboscada**, that this may increasingly become a focal point for unity between the congregations in & around **Asuncion**. For perseverance & vision for the pastors & lay leaders.
14. Pray too for **David Orritt** as he organizes the **Mission Paraguay** volunteer programme again this year. For all those who are considering joining the team & for the liaison group in **Paraguay**. Give thanks for this expression of loving concern by UK Christians for their brothers & sisters in the Paraguayan church & for all the blessing received over past years.
15. Pray for **Javier & Mirian** & the ministry amongst young people in **Concepcion**. For wisdom & guidance for over the development of outreach through the Saturday night open house "El Puente". Also for the lay leaders in **San Juan** & for the plans to construct a building for the group in **Yvapobo**.

16. Pray for **pastor Juan & deacon Romualdo**, their families & the lay leaders in **Makxawaya**. For the ministry amongst young people at a time of great change. They now have access to mobile phones, as is the case in the majority of the **Chaco** communities, & it is a mixed blessing! Pray that church leaders may be aware how to guide & teach so that vulnerable young people are not exposed to & affected by pornography & other evil influences.
17. Over the summer period indigenous church leaders challenged Christians who work for periods outside their communities, to consider channelling some of their income back into the communities & churches. Give thanks for a positive response & pray that it will be acted upon during the year.
18. Pray for **pastor Luis & Regina** & the lay leaders in **Zeballos Cue**. For the ministry amongst children through the Sunday School, the Comedor & the PEPE pre-school. Pray for enthusiasm & vision as the activities recommence & for provision for families on small incomes as they face the need to buy books, pencils & clothes for the start of school term.
19. Pray for the nation of **Paraguay** as it prepares for **General Elections in May**. The fruitless political wrangling continues & corruption is still an integral part of life. Officially 42% of people live below the poverty line & there is a general loss of hope & confidence for the future. Pray for honesty, integrity & systems of accountability to be established in business & government.
20. Pray for **adequate rain** this year in the **Chaco**, giving thanks for the downpours in December. Several communities have planted sesame as a cash crop, which has the potential of giving a good income but needs a steady rainfall to ensure a good harvest. So often all the heavy, hard work put in during scorching heat comes to nothing. Pray for **Chris Hawksbee** as he works alongside the indigenous leaders in a practical & spiritual ministry. For **Alison & Ben** in **Asuncion**.
21. **Health care** remains a challenge in the vast **Chaco** area. Pray for strength & safety for **Beryl Baker** in her Chaco clinic & for the indigenous health auxiliaries. Pray that **Beryl** will receive steady volunteer help during this year, giving thanks for all who have helped in the past.
22. Pray for the **Diocesan office** staff in **Asuncion** & for wisdom over the care of indigenous patients who come to the city for treatment, as there is still no hospital for them in the Chaco.
23. Pray for **pastor Agustin & Teresa** & the congregation in San Andres congregation. For vision & wisdom as they work together in the city centre with the **St. Andrew's** & the **evening** congregation. For God's guidance as they build up links with the **Annexe School** this year. Pray for the staff & pupils of the **Annexe School** as they restart the academic term.
24. Pray for all the indigenous congregations in **La Patria**. For **pastor Robert & deacons Mario, Agripino & Nino Pepe** & their families giving thanks for their faithful witness over many years. Pray for their ongoing theological training & for **bishop Andres**, that he may be able to make regular visits to them. For sufficient funds to buy a more reliable vehicle for Bp. Andres.
25. Give thanks for the ministry amongst children & adolescents in **San Lorenzo** & pray for **Teo & Lidia, Pedro & Maria Eugenia & Maria Constanza**. For God's guidance over the plans to purchase the site there with help from **Mission Paraguay** volunteers & to extend & improve the facilities next year. Pray for sufficient funding to make this possible.
26. Give thanks for the **St. Andrews's** English speaking congregation which draws together a rich variety of nationalities & backgrounds. Pray for **Patrick & Rosie** as they lead it & for the outreach to visitors & temporary residents this year, who are often more open to spiritual matters when away from their home environment.
27. Continue to pray for the leadership & staff of **St. Andrew's School**. For the new intake of pupils in the **Pre-primary** section & for good contacts with their parents. Give thanks for the freedom to teach the children from God's Word & pray for the effective witness of all the Christian staff in the teaching, administrative & maintenance departments.
28. Pray for Juana & the staff of the **Esperanza Foster Home** as they receive new children this month. Pray too for Murray & Penny as they undertake Home Ministry in the UK & for their family.
29. Continue to pray for wisdom & guidance for **Bp John & Judie** as they adapt to a very different life in the UK & seek God's will for where they should live. Also for the **SAMS GB Trustees, General Council & Home staff** as they take new initiatives this year & seek a new General Director of the Society.