

Paraguay Prayer Pointers Oct, Nov, Dec 2017



Pastoral Worker Ordinations 2.9.17
Marcelo, Bernardo and Robert



WAKE UP! Youth Camp, Concepcion
15 July 2017



Opening of the Indigenous Refuge
King of kings, Remansito 23.9.17

Responsibility x good use = God's glory!

Responsibilities given by the Lord, 5 or 2 or 1? (Matthew 25:14-30) Exercised wisely and diligently responsibilities multiply and give Him glory. The quantity isn't the 'point of the parable', what matters is what we chose to do with what we've been given by our Master. Thank you for taking up the mantle of care and prayer for the Anglican Church in Paraguay. Your use of this 'responsibility' is bringing glory to the Lord and his Kingdom here in Paraguay. Thank you for praying. Please keep praying... Let's give thanks for:

- **Abigail**, the surviving Benitez triplet is now at home with her family, Mum Adriana, Dad David, and big brother Isaac. She is healthy and growing well. David is back at work in the office and in FEISA. Praise the Lord for Abigail's survival, the provision of a very expensive vaccine for Abigail and 29 other premature babies, and pray for the family for comfort and strength as they continue to grieve the loss of Sara and Esther
- the new **Indigenous Shelter** in Remansito, providing a safe place for indigenous visitors to Asuncion, was opened at the end of September. We thank the Lord for the provision of funds and those who generously gave, and pray that those who use the shelter use it responsibly and that it will be of blessing to our brothers and sisters from the Chaco, and the host church King of kings
- **Mission Paraguay**: Give thanks for all the blessings received by the team based at Zeballos Cue; for friendships developed and the joys of working together with members of the local churches to serve our Lord; for the generosity of supporting churches and individuals in England and Ireland who gave so readily to enable us to help the ministry of the church in Paraguay
- **WAKE UP!** the diocesan youth camp - for the privilege of being able to work in partnership - youth leaders from Asuncion and Concepcion, for God's provision of a beautiful venue for the camp, and for the many lives which were touched by the Lord. We pray for all the young people who attended the youth camp that they will continue to grow in commitment to the Lord during the coming months.: *D said that before camp his sister had said to him, 'You should be leading and serving here, but you aren't because you won't commit.' Those words really hit him hard, as did the theme of camp, the Bible Stories and talks – "WAKE UP!" He shared of how he is always encouraged and fired up for God after camps but is afraid, because he always slips back and ends up letting God and the church down. D asked for prayer that this time he will be able to be firm in his decision and commitment.*
- the visit of the mission team from **Mullavilly Parish, N.Ireland**, for the Nicky and Ronald Irene's hard work in planning for the team and hosting the team and Donald Brooks collaboration with the team, for friendships forged and activities completed by the team, to the glory of God!
- pray for the Luque Church family retreat day on the 15th October for great blessings!
- Chris and Alison Hawksbee, praying for good health and blessings in their work and ministries

Trust in the Word

Jesus said, 'Heaven and earth will pass away but My word will by no means pass away.' Matthew 24:35
The Holy Spirit who reminds us of God's truth and we have access to the Bible so we can remember the great promises of God.

Esteban, Gustavo and Rafael representing Paraguay at the Anglican '**Let's walk together**' church planting and church growth conference in Recife, Brazil from 2nd – 7th October.

Mission Paraguay pray for guidance as consideration is given to projects to be supported during 2018.

Ask and give thanks! (Philippians 4:6) **Bev Richardson**, enhanced CMS volunteer

- gives thanks for the love, kindness and warm welcome received from the church and school, God's wonderful provision of lovely accommodation, the food, new friends being made and the chance to renew old friendships in Paraguay
- asks for continued good health, adjustment to the heat as the seasons change, quick settling in the school teaching English, for Spanish classes, for provision for all needs associated with documentation

Tim Curtis, after a 5 month sabbatical, settling back in, *may the favour of the Lord our God rest on him, and establish the work of his hands* in this next phase of his work and ministry here in Paraguay. (Psalm 90:17) Pray for Tim: as he moves into his new role producing discipleship training materials;

Clean water in the Chaco please pray for the provision of clean drinking water. Many areas still rely on water from lagoons and underwater cisterns, filled with rainwater or wells. In some communities the government is now providing piped water, but unfortunately, in some areas the water provided so far has been of very poor quality and has led to many children and adults getting diarrhoea. The communities that have received this water are quite discouraged. Pray that good solutions will be found, that *'water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert.* Isaiah 35:6

The Sunday school at the Cathedral ask us to pray for the teachers, Nicky, Heather and Miriam, that the Lord will give them wisdom to teach and accompany the children and young people *until they each unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.* (Ephesians 4:13)

Leading in Prayer by Example

Daniel's faultless living and dedication to God is a great example to us. Daniel was a prayer watchman who stood up for what was right. He found favour with God and served God and society wholeheartedly.

Let's follow Daniel's example and pray:

- What is the Father doing and saying at the moment? Be humble, ask and listen.
- Growth in numbers attending the prayer groups in the city churches, the Cathedral, the Roque churches, Luque and Zeballos Cue
- Weekly prayer and Bible study groups, lead by Sally Bartlett
- The young people who attended the Wake UP camp in July, especially H. During a testimony time *H started to say how much he had enjoyed the camp and to thank everyone. After a few words he started to cry bitterly and say that he has been coming to church since he was 5 and wants to serve God, he wants to tell others about Him, to make a difference for Him, but that there is something holding him back. He said he wants to have a heart for the Lord, like that of Bishop Andres.* He publicly asked the leaders to pray for him, which they did. Let's pray for H.
- The church in Luque ask us to pray for:
 - continued growth of the following groups, Bible studies, adolescents and youth
 - the Friday evening group meeting with 9 couples
 - new people who are coming along to the church to listen to the Gospel
 - for the children of the 4th zone of Luque
 - the music group

Crisis intercessors

Then I saw heaven opened, and a white horse was standing there. Its rider was named Faithful and True, for he judges fairly and wages a righteous war. Revelation 19:11

Some people are called to pray specifically for those who are suffering crisis. Maybe this has been your experience or maybe you know of those who need this kind of prayer support. Let us pray:

- our administrator Miriam Greco asks us to give thanks for improvement in her husband Miguel's eye sight and for Pastor Donald's recovery from hepatitis
- pray for any one you know who is in a crisis at the moment
- the following people are suffering health crises and so we pray for them for healing, strength, God's presence and comfort: Ramón, Giselle, Nahuel, Aldo, Jorge, Rosa, Maria Luisa and Blanca
- peace for Perla's family
- faith and encouragement for Rosalba

Why Watch for the Lord?

Because lawlessness is increased, most people's love will grow cold...This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come. Matt 24:12-14

We live in the troubled time between Jesus' first coming and his second coming, and he tells us to watch and pray. Let us pray for:

- clergy to pray and watch with the Lord, and to be shining examples to those around them, their families, their churches and their communities
- **the clergy**, Bishop Peter, Agripino, Agustin, Andres, Carlos, Cefe, Celino, Donald, Gilberto C, Gilberto M, Gumersindo, Juan, Ronald, Luis, Lucho, Mario C, Mario R, Nicasio, Niño Pepe, Remigio, Robert, Romualdo, Ronald and Tito that they will be strengthened in the challenges they face.
- **Newly ordained pastoral workers**: Robert and Marcelo from Laguna Tejas; Bernardo from Laguna Carpincho, that they will grow in wisdom and favour before the Lord
- **Newly ordained presbyters** from Karanda, Gilberto, Celino and Nicasio
- Pray for yourself that you will be given strength to watch and pray



Nicasio, Gilberto & Celino ordained in Karanda 3.9.17

Listening to God

"Daniel, I have come here to give you insight and understanding. The moment you began praying, a command was given...Listen carefully so that you can understand..." Daniel 9:20-24

- Don't be afraid to pray unusual prayers
- Pray for church leaders in Paraguay to grow in discernment and maturity both spiritual and emotional
- Pray for Gloria and Gladys teaching at the Pepe Preschool, for their weekly study and prayer time with Pastor Luis, for registration with the Ministry of Education to move forward, for plans for expansion, for the children and their families, and praying for the final details of the new building to be completed.
- Please pray Anglican teacher Anuncio who teaches in the school in Maklawaya
- FEISA ask us to give thanks for:
 - the 2015 graduates
 - the recent Chaco visit to indigenous schools
 - the solidarity and unity of the FEISA staff
- FEISA ask us to pray for:
 - the planning & Teaching Practices of the Third Year students
 - the proposed move of the FEISA offices
 - for an independent site for FEISA

- Pray for Pastor Donald Brooks, waiting for a kidney transplant. He and his wife Caroline give thanks for the Lord's working in their lives during this last year and trust God for the future that his plans for them are good, will prosper them and give them hope and a future. (Jeremiah 29:11)
- Pray for Pastor Lucho as he leads 3 churches and prays for renewal, order, self discipline and wisdom about the church Bible studies and prayer meetings

Dutiful Prayer

Daniel did his job and kept praying with diligence, he was resolute and strong and he ended up in dangerous situations. But above all he served God as King, relying on God and being reliable himself.



Let us pray for **the church in La Patria**

- give thanks for the new church Christ the Overcomer in Laguna Carpincho, pray for this faith community and Bernardo, the pastoral worker. Many the regular worshippers at this church grow in faith and commitment and may the church be a beacon for those who don't yet follow Jesus to become disciples
- unity for the Anglican church leaders, and good working relationships with Mennonite church leaders
- grace, firmness and wisdom to deal with extreme Pentecostal visitors with strange teaching

Blessing of the new Christ the Overcomer Church

The church in Concepcion ask us to pray for

- the small mission church in San Juan following the death in June of Alfredo, the main church leader there, and especially for his widow Aparicia
- Norma, as she ministers in the Indian shelter and as leader of the children's work in Concepcion and also recovers from the recent death of her mother. Norma shares that she is so grateful to the Lord that her mother was smiling and calling on the name of the Lord as she passed away

Let us pray for Ricardo & Cristina, and Claire as they lead **St Paul's church in Concepcion**, for good health, strength in the heat, ability to prioritize, be diligent in their spiritual lives and for reliance on God

Irene family – Ronald is the pastor of the Cathedral and also Christ the Saviour church and is part time school chaplain at St Andrews. Nicky works full time as an English teacher and is the Sunday school leader in both churches, Natasha at university, Tammy aged 15, Danny aged 12 and Samuel aged 7

- good health, wisdom, provision of the family's needs
- time for family, relaxation and spiritual life
- Ronald's studying through Trinity School of Ministry & his responsibilities as chaplain at St Andrews
- Nicky's classes and studies
- Continued growth in the 2 churches

I would rather be at the door of the house of my God than to live in the tents of wicked people. Psalm 84:10

Responding to God's Word

Listen! A farmer went out to plant some seeds. Matthew 13:3

The aim of preaching God's Word is to speak into the lives of both the unconverted and the converted.

We pray for:

- plans for the 'Simply the Story' workshop in January, for the Lord's guidance in all the details.
- good growth from the seeds planted at the recent Luis Palau meetings in La Patria
- the Chapel congregation spending the next few months digging into Jesus' parables, for preachers Mags, Gwen, Donald, Tim, Geoff, Bev, Alison, Chris and Sally
- the leaders of the Palau event for good evaluation and follow up meetings
- the faithful teaching of God's word to the children attending Anglican schools and Sunday schools
- Pastor Luis and Regina for wisdom in their ministry and for safety

Small beginnings

I tell you the truth, if you had faith even as small as a mustard seed ...nothing would be impossible.

Matthew 17:20

A process has begun, the Kingdom of God is upon us, but things are not always as we would want them or as we expect. Our faith is not perfect but we have faith in God who is perfect.

We give thanks for **two volunteers** from Northern Ireland - Melissa Newell and Rachel Buchanan who will be here until January. Pray for them as they adjust to the heat, settle in and for Rachel learning Spanish.

Annexe school: we give thanks and pray for Catalino, the head teacher, and his dedicated staff, the progress of the students, and that children from challenging home situations will find stability and grow in confidence and security and for the planned November Show

We pray for Esteban, Gustavo and Rafael as they **study Theology** full time at the Evangelical University, that their studies will be preparing them for future ministry and church leadership. We also pray for each one in the responsibilities that they already have in their local churches.

Hernan & Sonia Abente are in charge of the day to day running of the new indigenous hostel in Remansito, We pray that they will be given wisdom and ability to deal with the challenges that this project involves and that the local church would be of blessing to those who stay in the hostel, which is in the grounds of the King of kings Church. Sonia's father Salomon is a policeman who faithfully leads in this church.

One of the local police officers, Salomon, Sonia and Hernan at the opening of the hostel 23 Sep17



Pray for nurse Beryl Baker as she continues to offer **health care in the Chaco**, giving thanks for an increase in government provision of health care in the Chaco, and asking for this to continue to increase in quality.

*Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant,
and whoever wants to be first among you must become your slave. Matthew 20:25-27*

Surprised by God

The Kingdom of Heaven is like a treasure that a man discovered hidden in a field. Matthew 13:44

In this parable the Kingdom is found seemingly by chance and has the ability to excite a person so much that they will give up everything they own to obtain it. This is hard to understand from a materialistic point of view. Materialism and consumerism are powerful forces here in Paraguay.

The Church in the Chaco praying for:

- El Estribo: Celino Rodriguez, Gilberto Martinez, Nicasio Martinez, Remigio Fretes and Carlos Carillo, for fruitful ministry and wisdom in community issues and pastoral situations
- Chris and Agustin for safety as they travel visiting homes, groups and churches encouraging believers and sharing the Gospel. May they be given energy, wisdom and discernment.
- Victor Gonzalez and the church in Rio Verde
- Pastors Juan and Romualdo and St Peters Church in Maklawaya
- Christians in Sombrero Piri for perseverance and faith

Diocesan Site Matters: give thanks that the plans to renew the offices are being finalised and praying for Architect Salazar and his team for good progress with the works.

- We pray for all mission partners and volunteers in Paraguay, that they would be surprised by God as they discover where and how the Lord is working to extend His kingdom
- Pray for Paraguayan Christian families to establish godly, healthy and generous priorities so as to be a shining example in the society of today where God's values are under scrutiny and threat

Esperanza foster home: give thanks that F has returned to his extended family and we pray for his future to be a good one; for the 4 little girls' emotional and educational wellbeing; for Teresa and all that she has contributed to the home, asking for her future to be blessed, she has retired from the home; for Adriana, a lawyer who is helping to move along the girls' legal cases, for Aunties Vicky, Kari, Olga, Cris and Juana; for progress on the children's legal cases and paperwork and for Diana who is helping with the administration

Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place, and I did not know it." Gen 28:16

An Expert Seeks and Finds

When he found one priceless pearl, he went and sold everything he had, and bought it. Matthew 13:46 Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples. The parable alludes to a special relationship and closeness to God. Jesus explains that this intimate friendship is not merely stumbled upon, rather it is sought out and those who seek it are willing to give all to obtain it.

Pastor Ronald and the Cathedral asks us to pray:

- giving thanks for the members of this church and their commitment to the life of the church
- giving thanks for Miriam and Miguel Greco who lead the weekly prayer meeting
- for positive results from the reaching series on the responsibilities of a church member
- young people attending St Andrews youth Bible class on Sunday morning, praying for Miriam as she leads the class and for the young people to seek with passion God and his Kingdom, praying for Renato, José, Emilio, Sebas, Dani, Giselle, Veronica, Montserrat, Gabi and Ati
- the development of more service leaders

Pastor Ronald also asks us to pray for the Christ the Saviour Church

- giving thanks for the music ministry of the church music group
- growth in the commitment of the members
- service leaders and preachers and Sunday School teachers
- discernment and ability to follow the Lord's will for Pr Ronald as he forms a church council
- increase in giving to cover the monthly expenses of the church

The End of Times

The Kingdom of Heaven is like a fishing net that was thrown into the water and caught fish of every kind. Matthew 13:47 Let us pray for:

- all who teach God's word that they would be 'good fish' in the Kingdom and that their teaching under the anointing of the Holy Spirit would invite others to enter the Kingdom
- all the children who attend Anglican schools and for their families that they would enter the Kingdom
- B asks for prayer that her brothers and she will be a good testimony for the rest of her family
- the staff of St Andrews School and the Annexe school, giving thanks that in Paraguay there is freedom to preach the Gospel. We pray for wisdom in all the decisions that are made and for the heads of areas and for integrity in the testimony of the staff to the children
- Anglicans in schools - teachers, helpers, administrative and ancillary including Gwen, Mags, Alison, Neill, Nicky, Caroline, Rachel, Cecilia, Arsenio, Ronald, Donald, Bev, Mirtha, Rita, Carolina, Regina, Dina, Rosalba, Sarita, Clara, Sara, Nancy, Diego, Samuel, Gloria, Gladys, Carlos and Claire, that their testimony would play a part in many entering the Kingdom
- Saint Pauls: *we are preparing 'Nativity Plays' in all our annexes, which are always a great way to work closely with our children and young people, and are also an evangelistic opportunity as we proclaim the Christmas Story and the love of God.*

Thank you for praying for the Anglican Church in Paraguay

+ Peter & Sally Bartlett

on behalf of the Anglican Church of Paraguay

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