



PRAYER DIARY

Praying in Christ's Name for His Suffering Church

August - September 2026

And He told them a parable
to the effect that they ought always to pray
and not lose heart.

Luke 18:1

August

SAT 1 AUG • PAKISTAN (1)

The LORD is near to all call on him.

Psalms 145:18

A 13-year-old Christian girl has been abducted, converted to Islam and married to a Muslim man. Amber Nadeem's ordeal began on 12 June when she was kidnapped on her way to a market in Faisalabad. Eventually her alleged abductor was arrested and Amber was taken into protective custody. At a court hearing on 27 June, lawyers for the alleged abductor argued that Amber had converted to Islam and therefore could not return to her Christian parents as that would be apostasy from Islam. The lawyer for Amber's parents argued that Amber was too young to consent to conversion or marriage. After the hearing Amber's mother, Nadia, was so distressed that she had to be hospitalised. Pray that Amber will be allowed to return to her parents.

" I felt every teardrop when, in darkness, you cried And I strove to remind you that for those tears I died. Marsha Stevens, USA (born 1952)

SUN 2 AUG • PAKISTAN (2)

Send out your light and your truth.

Psalms 43:3

In November 2014 a Christian couple, Shahzad and his pregnant wife Shama, were killed by a mob in Kot Radha Kishan, Punjab. Enraged by false allegations of "blasphemy", the mob beat the couple, then threw

them into a brick kiln where they were burned alive. Afterwards the police registered cases against hundreds of people, named or unidentified. Of these, 102 were acquitted, several were given prison sentences and five were sentenced to death. Appeals against the convictions of the five on death row resulted first in the acquittal of two and then, on 9 July 2026, the acquittal of the remaining three. Although the Supreme Court's decision to acquit was based on the sound legal principle of requiring proof beyond reasonable doubt, the meagreness of punishment for this horrific crime is alarming Pakistan's Christians. Pray that anti-Christian violence based on false accusations of "blasphemy" will come to an end.

" Prayer is the slender nerve that moveth the muscle of Omnipotence. Charles Spurgeon, England (1834-92)

MON 3 AUG • AFGHANISTAN (1)

Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Matthew 6:10

Afghan believers face very real danger. A woman contacted a radio ministry: "My son who listened to your radio programmes was trying to get a Bible and was arrested and has been in prison for months. I live with relatives and raise my son's children... Please pray that my son will be released soon." A man who has regular discipleship lessons became fearful because the local Islamic cleric has discovered he is a Christian. But he pressed on. After the lessons on prayer and the church he said, "I will memorize the Lord's Prayer" and "I

have one wish, that one day I can attend church.” Let the hopes and fears of our sister and our brother guide your prayers.

” *Sometimes I think I should make a cross to look at often and not forget even for a minute what Jesus has done for me! I know Jesus is with me and He is everywhere I look.* An Afghan Christian in Afghanistan, 2025

TUE 4 AUG • INDIA (1)

In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.
John 16:33 (NIV)

A raft of amendments to the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act 2010 came into force on 22 June. Under this law, all Indian non-governmental organisations (NGOs) must obtain an FCRA licence in order to receive funding from outside India. In recent years it has become increasingly difficult to get or keep such licences. It is reported that 21,933 organisations had lost their FCRA licences by March 2026. Christian organisations are particularly affected: 70% of NGOs whose FCRA licences expired or were revoked in recent years were Christian-affiliated. The new rules make compliance even more onerous and expensive. Pray that Indian Christians will not be overwhelmed by these new pressures but will find peace and strength in the Lord.

” *The name of Jesus brings salvation, The name of Jesus brings peace—proclaim it!* Indian hymn, translated from Hindi, *Mukti Dilaye Yeshu Naam*

WED 5 AUG • INDIA (2)

Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.
John 12:24 (NIV)

At the time of writing, it is expected that the ringleader of a Hindu extremist gang, which burnt to death an Australian missionary and his two young sons in 1999, may soon be released from prison. Dara Singh's death sentence was commuted to life imprisonment and now he has requested remission. Graham Staines, the missionary, had spent 34 years caring for leprosy patients in Orissa state (now Odisha). His widow Gladys stayed on in India with their daughter, Esther, for several years after the attack. Gladys's public forgiveness of the killers had a huge impact and is said to have brought many people to Christ in India. One member of the mob, known as Chanchu, who was only 13 at the time of the attack, served nearly ten years in prison. After his release he was in great anguish, until he became a Christian. Pray for continued spiritual fruit from the deaths of Graham (58), Philip (10) and Timothy (6) and the lives of Gladys and Esther.

” *I find solace and peace in the church.* “Chanchu” (real name Sudarshan Hansda), India (born 1986)

THU 6 AUG • INDIA (3)

I love you, O LORD, my strength.
Psalm 18:1

Twelve Indian states now have “Freedom of Religion” laws, often called informally “anti-conversion

laws". These laws aim to prevent Hindus converting to another religion. Christians who are active in evangelism are in grave danger under these laws, and even Christian charitable and educational work could be criminalised. Several Christian groups and civil society organisations have lodged petitions with the Supreme Court of India to challenge the laws on the grounds that they violate the rights to freedom of religion and personal liberty guaranteed by the Constitution. A three-judge bench is considering the matter. Pray that they will rule in favour of full religious liberty, allowing people to choose and share their faith without penalty.

" I love You, Lord, And I lift my voice To worship You. O my soul, rejoice. Take joy, my King, In what You hear. May it be a sweet, sweet sound In Your ear. Laurie Klein. USA (born 1950)

FRI 7 AUG • SAUDI ARABIA

No one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. John 10:29 (NIV)

Lift up to our heavenly Father our brothers and sisters in Saudi Arabia, who follow Christ with quiet courage and steadfast faith in a country where Islam is the only religion that can be publicly practised. Many Christians are migrant workers, especially from India and the Philippines, often living and working in very hard and oppressive conditions. There are a small number of Saudi converts from Islam, who face the possibility of severe persecution or even death if they make their Christian faith known.

Pray that all may be strengthened and encouraged as they walk daily with the Lord.

" My Father's care is round me there; He holds me that I shall not fall: And so to him I leave it all. Samuel Rodigast, Germany (1649-1708)

SAT 8 AUG • LEBANON

Jesus withdrew with his disciples to the sea, and a great crowd followed, from Galilee and Judea and Jerusalem and Idumea and from beyond the Jordan and from around Tyre and Sidon. When the great crowd heard all that he was doing, they came to him. Mark 3:7-8

On 9 June Israel announced a new evacuation order for Tyre ahead of possible air strikes. Unlike previous evacuation orders, this one included the Christian quarter for the first time, claiming that militants from the Islamic group, Hezbollah, were operating there, although no evidence was given. Pray that, in these terrible times of suffering, the people of Tyre will come to the Lord Jesus, as they did 2,000 years ago.

" The righteous flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar in Lebanon. They are planted in the house of the LORD; they flourish in the courts of our God. They still bear fruit in old age; they are ever full of sap and green. Psalm 92:12-15

SUN 9 AUG • SYRIA

When my anxious thoughts multiply within me, Your consolations delight my soul. Psalm 94:19 (NASB 1995)

Syria's economic situation is slowly improving and life is getting less harsh. But Christians in Syria live in fear of being attacked at any time. The safety and security they used to enjoy within Syrian society until two years ago have gone, and in today's Syria, with an Islamist government, they are at risk. They are also anxious and worried about the future, which is clouded and unclear. Pray that the Prince of Peace will keep their hearts from fear and anxiety and that His angels will protect them.

“ Dark is the sky! and veiled the unknown morrow, Dark is life's way, for night is not yet o'er; The longed-for glimpse I may not meanwhile borrow; But, this I know, HE GOETH ON BEFORE
J. Danson Smith

MON 10 AUG • IRAQ

The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham while he was still in Mesopotamia. Acts 7:2. (NIV)
(Mesopotamia is modern Iraq.)

Residents of the Christian village of Sharanish, near the border with Turkey, were shocked when one of their church buildings – hundreds of years old – was badly vandalised and desecrated in June. The villagers have already endured years of pressure, including Turkish airstrikes and Kurdish settlers disturbing the once peaceful village. Ten years ago, the entire village of 50 families moved temporarily to the nearby town of Zakho after Turkish warplanes bombed Sharanish, destroying the village's electricity and water supplies. Pray that the God of glory

will strengthen the weary Christians of Sharanish with a new vision of Himself.

“ This is His practical heavenly message, that we learn meekness and humility from Him so that we lift the heavy weight of arrogance, conceit, and pride from within ourselves. Hence we will obtain peace with God, with ourselves, and with everybody.
Patriarch Ignatius Zakka I Iwas, Iraq (1931-2014)

TUE 11 AUG • YEMEN (1)

Then she gave the king 120 talents of gold, and a very great quantity of spices and precious stones. Never again came such an abundance of spices as these that the queen of Sheba gave to King Solomon. 1 Kings 10:10

Biblical Sheba is widely thought to be modern Yemen. No longer rich, it is enduring a severe humanitarian crisis due to a civil war which has caused the collapse of governance, economy and basic services. Although there has been *relative* calm in the country for three years, half the population need aid. Most Yemenis are Sunni Muslims but there is a large minority of Shia Muslims from the Zaidi sect. A dynasty of Zaidi imams ruled Yemen from 897 to 1962. Zaidi theology says that the imam must be an Islamic religious scholar, just, and a successful military leader. One side in the complex civil war is the Houthis, a modern political and military Zaidi group. Amidst it all are a small number of Christians. Ask our loving Lord to establish justice, righteousness and peace. Pray that food will reach all who need it, especially our fellow-Christians.

“ Praise be to the LORD your God, who has delighted in you and placed you on the throne of Israel. Because of the LORD’s eternal love for Israel, he has made you king to maintain justice and righteousness. The queen of Sheba, Yemen? (10th century BC). See 1 Kings 10:9 (NIV).

WED 12 AUG • YEMEN (2)

When the queen of Sheba heard about the fame of Solomon and his relationship to the LORD, she came to test Solomon with hard questions. 1 Kings 10: 1 (NIV)

Before the current civil war, there were tens of thousands of Christians in Yemen, mainly expatriates. Most have now left. Today’s Yemeni Church comprises mainly local Christian converts from Islam. They gather in small groups secretly, because they are in danger. According to the Yemeni constitution (applicable in the south and east), Islam is the state religion and sharia the foundation of all legislation. The penal code specifies a death penalty for those who leave Islam. There have been no known judicial executions of apostates in recent years but there have been murders. In the north and west, which are under Houthis rule, Christians are arrested and tortured. Pray for Christians who have disappeared into Houthi custody. Zaidism, the religion of the Houthis, is unusual in Islam because sometimes doctrine is changed. Pray that the Zaidis will cease to persecute those who leave Islam to follow Christ.

“ Dyer says: “...Fiery trials make golden Christians; sanctified

afflictions are spiritual promotions.”
Dwight L. Moody, USA (1837-1899)

THU 13 AUG • WESTERN AFRICA

The earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. Habakkuk 2:14

Statistics released by Future First show that 28% of the population of the Western Africa region identifies as Christian. Two-thirds of the Christians of the region live in just one country: Nigeria. The number of Christians in the region is increasing, but in 4 of the 17 countries it is not keeping up with population growth: In general, Muslims are increasing in number faster than Christians, while the followers of African Traditional Religions are increasing the fastest of all. Pray that the Lord will extend His Kingdom in Western Africa and that Christians living as minorities in hostile situations will have courage and wisdom to witness to Him.

“ My road may be narrow, my way rough, my companions few, but my Guide is reliable and my mission is clear. An African Martyr’s Prayer, 20th century

FRI 14 AUG • NIGERIA (1)

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; Isaiah 41:10 (NIV)

“The Church must rise to pray and act. We need Christ — please pray for us for strength. If the people are finished, where then will the churches remain? There are many places in Jos North

where churches once stood, but there are no more churches there because Fulani Muslims have taken over those places.” This plea comes from a 42-year-old Christian in Plateau State, Nigeria. He lives in Angwan Rukuba, Jos North, where 33 Christians were killed in one night in March 2026. Pray that Christians will respond to these repeated massacres in a Christ-like way and that the Christian presence and witness will not be wiped out in the areas attacked.

“ *This is the mystery and beauty of the cross: in Jesus Christ, we do not encounter a distant God who observes suffering from afar. We meet the God who steps into suffering. We meet the God who bears pain. We meet the God who, in love, enters the darkest depths of human existence.* Bishop Yassir Eric, Sudan (born 1972)

SAT 15 AUG • NIGERIA (2)

The LORD is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped.
Psalm 28:7

The Netherlands-based Observatory for Religious Freedom in Africa has analysed reports of killings in Nigeria from 1 October 2019 to 30 September 2025. They found that the main civilian victims were Christians and the main perpetrators were Fulani extremist militias. Most civilians were killed during attacks on their communities, when Christian civilians typically offered little resistance to the mass killings, abductions and torture. Attacks on civilians, especially on Christian farmers in the central North, tend to peak in April and May, a time

of year when farmers are very busy. Pray that the Lord will protect His people.

“ *A God who cannot suffer cannot truly love. But the God revealed in Jesus Christ is not indifferent. He is not cold. He is not absent. He is the crucified God, the God who suffers with us and for us.* Bishop Yassir Eric, Sudan (born 1972)

SUN 16 AUG • CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith. Hebrews 12:1-2

The Ivorian population is about 42% Muslim, 35% Christian and 22% followers of African Traditional Religions (ATR). Christian converts from Islam or ATR can face hostility from family or clan. They may also find it difficult to obtain land to build churches. The north is predominantly Muslim, and Christians there sometimes experience discrimination from local government officials. Radical Islam is on the rise. The south is predominantly Christian, but Muslims are now moving into the south and this is giving rise to persecution of Christians. Sometimes the government intimidates Christian pastors, seeking to control what they preach. In the midst of this complexity, pray that Ivorian Christians will keep their focus on the Lord.

“ *Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in His wonderful face, and the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace.* Helen H. Lemmel, USA (1863-1961)

**MON 17 AUG • DEMOCRATIC
REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO (DRC) (1)**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Islamic State (ISIS) have a vocabulary reflecting their extreme Islamist views. "Combatant Christians" is what they call Christians who refuse to pay *jizyah*, the traditional Islamic tax on non-Muslims which is a sign of subjugation. In classical Islam, non-Muslims who pay *jizyah* will be "protected" by Muslims, but non-paying non-Muslims are to be fought against. On 15 June Islamic State Central Africa Province (ISCAP) claimed four attacks in the Haut-Uélé province of the north-eastern DRC. They said the attacks targeted the "crusader Congolese army" and local "combatant Christians" and reportedly killed a soldier and six Christians and burned 80+ Christian homes. Just two days earlier ISCAP had claimed responsibility for attacks in North Kivu province in which they said 35 Christians and four soldiers were killed, with 19 Christian homes set on fire. Ask for the Lord's comfort and provision for our brothers and sisters who are mourning, traumatised or homeless.

"" *Almighty and most loving God, the Father of mercies and God of all consolation, whose compassion never fails, save Your persecuted people. As they pass through the waters of adversity, may the rivers*

not overwhelm them. As they walk through the fires of affliction, may the flames not consume them.

Patrick Sookhdeo, Guyana (1947-2026)

**TUE 18 AUG • DEMOCRATIC
REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO (DRC) (2)**

For we were so utterly burdened beyond our strength that we despaired of life itself. Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death. But that was to make us rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead. He delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. 2 Corinthians 1:8-10

Ituri province, in the north-east of DRC, is the centre of an outbreak of Ebola which is spreading faster than any previous outbreak. In less than five weeks, the deadly virus had already killed 754 people in DRC out of 2,011 confirmed cases there. Ituri is also one of the provinces where Christians suffer repeated attacks by Islamist militants. Pray for our brothers and sisters that their faith may not fail in this time of great trial and ask that our loving Lord will, in His mercy, deliver them from the perils they are facing.

"" *Give them: Your aid, for they are needy; Your strength, for they are helpless; Your hope, for they are in despair; Your deliverance, for they are in danger.* Patrick Sookhdeo, Guyana (1947-2026)

WED 19 AUG • NORTH KOREA

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you. Isaiah 43:2

North Korea is probably the most dangerous place in the world to be

a Christian. This communist country is so hostile to Christianity that Christians have been executed just for owning a Bible. Only the Lord knows how many have been put in prison cells or political labour camps, where they are abused, tortured and worked to death. Children are encouraged to report their Christian parents if they see them praying. Lift to the Lord Jesus His faithful disciples in North Korea and ask that He will be everything to them.

” O God, make them firm in their faith, make them joyful through hope, fill them with your love, protect them from the wiles of the devil and the conspiracies of men. So that, passing through the waters, they may come at last to the land of everlasting life, there to reign with You forever. In the Name of the all-powerful and triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen Patrick Sookhdeo, Guyana (1947-2026)

THU 20 AUG • CHINA (1)

Oh, how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day. Psalm 119:97

Several American online theological seminaries have recently withdrawn from China since the government has required Chinese churches to cut off their ties to Western religious organizations. Providing theological training to Chinese Christians based in China has become more challenging and sensitive. Please pray that the Lord will watch over those who are still helping Chinese believers to study their faith in depth and open up new ways to do this.

” If you are a theologian you truly pray. If you truly pray you are a theologian. Evagrius Ponticus, from Pontus in what is modern-day Turkey (c. 346-399)

FRI 21 AUG • CHINA (2)

It is good for me that I was afflicted, that I might learn your statutes. Psalm 119:71

Beijing Zion Church was founded in 2007 and grew to 5,000 members meeting in person in over 40 cities with an estimated 10,000 attending online. After the premises in Beijing, where 1,500 people came to worship, were closed by the authorities in 2018, church members continued to meet in smaller groups and online. In October last year, over 30 pastors and church workers were arrested in coordinated raids; 18 of them are still in detention centres. Some ordinary church members are detained at home and therefore have lost their jobs. This is causing financial hardship, and affecting their children's education. Pray for all affected by this situation: the leaders, the ordinary church members and the children.

” Dyer says: “Afflictions are blessings to us when we can bless God for afflictions. Suffering has kept many from sinning. God had one Son without sin; but He never had any without sorrow.” Dwight L. Moody, USA (1837-1899)

SAT 22 AUG • CHINA (3)

The law of your mouth is better to me than thousands of gold and silver pieces. Psalm 119:72

In June a lawyer representing the leaders of Beijing Zion Church managed

to get permission from the Chinese authorities for one of the pastors still in detention to receive a Bible. The lawyer had filed a written application instead of yielding to verbal refusals. This resulted in written permission for Pastor Sun Cong to receive a Bible. Thank the Lord for this and pray that it will create a lawful channel for other Christians to receive Bibles and Christian literature while in detention.

“ To be a truly-loving person, to fully do God’s will, to sacrifice all, and to desire an absolutely selfless life, one must focus wholeheartedly on the Cross. Yu Chenhua, China (1901-56)

SUN 23 AUG • INDONESIA

Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6

The situation of Christians varies widely across this vast country, which has more Muslims than any other nation. In some places, Christians face injustice and even violence, others have an easier time. A quarter of the Indonesian population are under 14 years of age, but for many churches the spiritual growth of their children is not a priority. Pray for spiritual maturity and the guidance of the Holy Spirit for Christian children. They are growing up in an Indonesia which is very different from the Indonesia their parents knew when they were young, when all religions lived together in harmony and mutual respect.

“ Father, hear the prayer we offer: not for ease that prayer shall be; but for strength, that we may ever

live our lives courageously. Love M Willis, USA (1824-1908)

MON 24 AUG • MYANMAR

You are my hiding place and my shield. Psalm 119:114

Christians in Myanmar continue to suffer at the hands of their own government and its military. They are targeted partly for their faith and partly for their ethnicity as nearly all are from the ethnic minorities, not the Bamar majority. Many are displaced, living in camps or hiding in the jungle. Some have been displaced multiple times. The population of Chin state is about 85% Christian. It is the home state of a Christian medical doctor and philanthropist called Salai Maung Taing San, but generally known as “Dr Sasa”, who served as the Minister of International Cooperation in the National Unity Government National Unity Government (2021-2025). Dr Sasa has described the persecution: “They raped women. They tortured our parents. They destroyed crosses... across the Christian regions.” Ask the Lord to protect our brothers and sisters in body, mind and spirit.

“ O safe and happy shelter! O refuge tried and sweet! O trysting place where Heaven’s love And Heaven’s justice meet! As to the exiled patriarch That wondrous dream was given, So seems my Saviour’s cross to me: A ladder up to Heaven. Elizabeth Cecilia Clephane, Scotland (1830-1869)

TUE 25 AUG • BHUTAN (1)

Put my tears in your bottle. Are they not in your book? Psalm 56:8

This small Buddhist kingdom does not give legal recognition to non-Buddhists, so all Christian activities are illegal except worshipping in private homes. Efforts to register Christian organisations with the Bhutanese authorities, so as to make their activities legal, have not succeeded. Discrimination against Christians is less than it used to be, but Buddhist-background Christians face much pressure to return to Buddhism, especially women. Pray for God's blessing on efforts to extend the Kingdom of God in the kingdom of Bhutan, including the distribution of audio devices to play the Bible in various Bhutanese languages.

“ God has a bottle and a book for his people's tears. What was sown as a tear will come up as a pearl. Matthew Henry, Wales (1662-1714)

WED 26 AUG • BHUTAN (2)

The Sovereign Lord is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer, he enables me to tread on the heights. Habakkuk 3:19 (NIV)

For much of its history, Bhutan has deliberately cut itself off from the rest of the world. Its international airport, in a winding valley amongst the mountains, is extremely tricky for pilots, so visitors are few. But Bhutan is now opening itself up, with a new and more accessible international airport being built, and a new city. The hope is for international visitors to come for the country's wildlife and Buddhist spirituality. "We have an opportunity to try new things," said King Wangchuck. Pray that the "new

things" will include religious liberty and a more accepting attitude to Christians and other non-Buddhists. Pray that international visitors intending to experience Buddhism may meet the Lord Jesus instead.

“ Whate'er my God ordains is right: His holy will abideth; I will be still, whate'er he doth, And follow where he guideth. Samuel Rodigast, Germany (1649-1708)

THU 27 AUG • IRAN (1)

Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, "Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." John 7:38

At the time of writing the Iranian authorities have begun a process of taking ownership of the oldest Protestant church in Tehran, built in 1872 by American missionaries. Twenty families living on the premises will be evicted. The grounds are reported to be already occupied by officials linked to the Revolutionary Guards and new title deeds are in preparation. The church's documents have been confiscated, leaving them no way to make a legal challenge to the seizure of the property. Pray that Christians in Iran will not be persecuted because of the actions of foreign countries.

“ Living water of my being, Jesus, my God. I want to be in your presence, hear your voice. Forgive my selfishness, my Saviour, Jesus. Guide me, my beloved Jesus, I come to you tired of this world. Bless me with a new existence. Fill me up with your Spirit, my beloved Jesus. Iranian

Christian song, translated from Farsi

FRI 28 AUG • IRAN (2)

On him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again. You also must help us by prayer. 2 Corinthians 1:10-11

Mary Mohammadi is only 27 but has been arrested several times and served two periods in prison since she decided, ten years ago, to leave Islam and follow Christ. Now she has disappeared. Contact with her family abruptly ceased in late February when she was travelling from Tehran to Ahvaz and she has not been heard of since. It is suspected that she is being detained by the Iranian authorities. She is not only a convert but also a well-known human rights defender and journalist. The authorities are apparently using the pretext of “wartime conditions” to intensify their repression. Pray for Mary’s protection and release.

“ I came to find truth, love, life, humanity, forgiveness, calmness, – Mary Mohammadi (originally Fatemeh Mohammadi), Iran (born 1998) explaining her decision to follow Jesus Christ.

SAT 29 AUG • IRAN (3)

And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour.” Luke 1:46-47

In 2019 Mary Mohammadi (see above) launched a campaign called “KHMA” (from the Farsi words for “Church is Christians’ Right”). She called for all Christians, whether from a Christian community or converts

from Islam, to be given the right to go to church. Christians in Iran are not permitted to meet for worship in Farsi (Persian), the official language of Iran. Converts from Islam are not permitted to attend the historically-recognised Armenian and Assyrian churches which worship in their own languages. Pray that Mary’s campaign will bear fruit.

“ Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might! Powers and dominions lay their glory by. Timothy Dudley-Smith, England (1926-2024)

SUN 30 AUG • ARMENIA

Let brotherly love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

Remember those who are in prison...

Hebrews 13:1-3

“ Remember, O Lord, the displaced people of Nagorno-Karabakh (Artsakh), who were forced to leave their ancestral homeland, its ancient monasteries, churches, and sacred Christian heritage. Comfort those who mourn, shelter the refugees, and preserve the faith and hope of Your people. Your Holy Scripture reminds us: Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body.” (Hebrews 13:3) Therefore, we pray for the Armenian hostages and the leadership of Artsakh held in prisons in Baku. Grant them strength, courage, and hope in the midst of suffering and uncertainty. Comfort their families and loved

ones who await news of them with anguish and prayer. Bishop Hovakim Manukyan, Armenia (born 1976)

MON 31 AUG • UZBEKISTAN

Father, glorify your name. John 12:28

In a Roma Muslim village, a visiting pastor and two Sunday School assistants were teaching children in the home of a Christian convert from Islam. An angry neighbour called the police. The police took photographs, interviewed everyone, and ordered the three visitors to report to the police station. Then a delegation of mullahs and village elders came to the home, shaming the convert family, calling them infidels and apostates, and threatening that they would be ostracized and not buried. These are very serious threats in a village setting. Pray that the Lord will grant all the believers an unshakeable trust in Him, and that He will reveal His glory in the situation, showing that it is not mullahs and elders who govern people's lives, but He, our Heavenly Father and Saviour.

“ My life is for You, My being is for You, My love is for You too, My Lord! Malohat Pulatova, Uzbekistan, 21st century, translated from Uzbek

September

TUE 1 SEP • KYRGYZSTAN (1)

The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it. Matthew 13:45-46

According to Forum 18, Baptist Christians are the latest target of the secret police in Kyrgyzstan. Specifically it is those Baptist congregations who choose not to seek official registration. Although a right under international human rights law, in Kyrgyzstan it is illegal to exercise freedom of religion without state registration. In April a Baptist congregation in Bishkek was raided by the secret police. Its leaders were fined for holding a religious meeting without registration. Pray for an end to this harassment of Christians who believe that it would be wrong to put themselves under the control of a secular state.

“ Jesus, Jesus, I'm in a hurry. When I walked the hard roads You found me, You became my treasure now, Jesus. Nodira Xoshimova, Uzbekistan, 21st century, translated from Uzbek

WED 2 SEP • KYRGYZSTAN (2)

I am the way, and the truth, and the life. John 14:6

“You can't ban us from praying,” said a church member to the police officer who discovered that Christians had continued to access a “sealed” room in order to worship together. In January secret police raided the Sunday worship of an unregistered Baptist congregation in Vasilyevka village. A local police officer sealed a door to the room that was used for worship. But the room had another door and the Christians continued to gather there. (Forum 18) Thank the Lord that the police have been courteous to this congregation and

pray that they will allow the Christians to continue worshipping.

**“ O Jesus, You have given me life.
My destiny is in You. O Jesus, I
send You love. May great praise
be to You. Nodira Xoshimova,
Uzbekistan, 21st century,
translated from Uzbek**

THU 3 SEP • TURKMENISTAN

Abide in me, and I in you. John 15:4

Turkmenistan is the most closed country in Central Asia. For over 20 years, no church has been able to register. However, in recent years, there has been no pressure on churches from the state. In cities, unregistered churches can gather in the buildings of registered churches for worship. Please pray for freedom of religion in the country, for the registration of churches, and for importing and printing Christian literature to be allowed. Especially ask God for believers to have boldness in preaching the Gospel, for the growth in faith of new believers and for the education of a new generation of church ministers.

**“ Jesus, Jesus, I come to You.
Jesus, Jesus, I sing. You are the
only one around me. My life is full
of You. I will always be with You
every day. Nodira Xoshimova,
Uzbekistan, 21st century,
translated from Uzbek**

FRI 4 SEP • RUSSIA

*For the joy that was set before him he
endured the cross.* Hebrews 12:2 (NIV)

Forum 18 reports an apparent increase in prosecution of religious

organisations who fail to put their full official name on their literature and online material. At the same time there seems to be a decline in prosecutions for failing to put their full official name on a sign on their buildings. In June 2019 the Supreme Court defined “distribution” of missionary literature to include “not only their delivery to specific individuals, but also as ensuring free access to them for an indefinite number of people outside of places specially designated for the implementation of religious activity”. This broadening of the definition seems to have triggered a wave of prosecutions about unlabelled literature. Pray that Christians will be wise as serpents and innocent as doves as they respond to this situation.

**“ And if the traveller suddenly turns
off this path, Which leads to joy,
Then light the fire of love in his
heart, So that he could find that
way. Russian hymn**

SAT 5 SEP • UKRAINE

*They left the presence of the council, rejoicing
that they were counted worthy to suffer
dishonour for the name.* Acts 5:41

More than 1,000 criminal cases have been launched against conscientious objectors in Ukraine. These individuals had applied for alternative civilian service as they did not want to fight due to their religious beliefs, but their applications were refused. There are 24 people already in jail, serving sentences of up to six years. Hundreds of other conscientious objectors, aged from their twenties to their late fifties, have been forcibly

taken to military bases, where they often face emotional and physical pressure. The body of a 50-year-old Baptist man who died in military detention on 21 March showed signs of brutal treatment. (Forum 18) Pray that the Ukrainian authorities will enable genuine conscientious objectors to serve their country in a peaceable way.

“ It is a blessed mark of their belonging to God, when they are honoured to suffer for Him. George Whitefield, England (1714-70)

SUN 6 SEP • AFGHANISTAN (2)

The fields are white for harvest. John 4:35

Thank the Lord for the fruitfulness of an online ministry which brings the Gospel to Muslims in Afghanistan by social media and Bible apps. Many are responding, experiencing the Lord Jesus in their lives and eager to learn more about how to be His disciples. Last year one wrote, “Many people have Covid-like sickness in our area, but we pray in the name of Jesus, and I can say we didn’t get sick, and the name and power of Jesus protected us. I fully believe in the power of Jesus. Please teach me how to worship as a follower of Jesus. I believe in Jesus, but we need to learn many things to live as followers of Jesus.” Another message said, “We are three believing families, but we have no one to teach us.” Pray for these and others, that they will grow in their faith, knowledge and love of the Lord.

“ The name of Jesus is not just a name; it is power. In every

situation, the name of Jesus is a powerful tool for salvation, deliverance, healing, and victory. Samuel Arimoro, Nigeria, 2024

MON 7 SEP • PAKISTAN (3)

He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. Psalm 147:3

Amir Peter, a 61-year-old Christian, died in prison on 1 July after waiting almost a year for trial on a false “blasphemy” charge. Amir was accused by a Muslim shopkeeper of making derogatory remarks about the Islamic prophet Muhammad, a crime which carries a mandatory death sentence. The accusation was in retaliation for Peter accusing the shopkeeper of overcharging him. Thank the Lord that Peter has been set free from likely years of imprisonment and anguish. Ask for God’s comfort for those who miss and mourn him.

“ When sufferings cease and sorrows die, And every longing satisfied, Then joy unspeakable will flood my soul, For I am truly home. Stuart Townend, England (born 1963) and Mark Edwards, England

TUE 8 SEP • PAKISTAN (4)

In my distress I called to the LORD, and he answered me. Psalm 120:1

Praise God that three Christians in Lahore have recently been acquitted of false accusations of “blasphemy” in three separate cases. Dennis Albert, a 37-year-old rickshaw driver, was accused of standing barefoot on some pages of the Quran which were lying at the roadside. But the prosecution’s

case was full of holes and he was acquitted after more than two years in jail. Zafar Masih was acquitted of a separate accusation of desecrating the Quran. Nadeem Masih, a blind man who had been charged under the much more serious Section 295-C of the Pakistan Penal Code with its mandatory death penalty, has also been acquitted. But it will be dangerous for them and their families to live in neighbourhoods where they are known, for fear of violence by zealous Muslims despite the acquittals. Pray for Dennis, Zafar and Nadeem as they settle into unfamiliar areas and try to find work again.

“ *All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well.* Julian of Norwich, England (1342–1416 or later)

WED 9 SEP • PAKISTAN (5)

And the LORD gave them rest on every side. Joshua 21:44

Local Muslims intervened to prevent a mob attacking a Christian family in Baldia town, Karachi. It began when a Muslim shopkeeper received an envelope containing a desecrated page of the Quran and a photo of Azeem Javed and members of his family. Predictably, there was soon a violent Muslim mob outside the family's home. Christians who believed the accusations to be baseless, perhaps a deliberate provocation against Azeem, contacted the local authorities in Baldia. The surprise came when the local authorities announced they would investigate the letter and trace who sent it. At this point Islamic religious

leaders and other local Muslims persuaded the mob to disperse. Praise the Lord for this unusual intervention and the recognition by the Baldia authorities that the real culprit was the sender of the letter, not Azeem Javed.

“ *He paid the price for our sins with His blood on the Cross. His precious blood flowed like a spring. His blood washed our sins and covered our transgressions. Why should I not sing praises to Him?* Prem Bhaghat, Pakistan (1910-82)

THU 10 SEP • PAKISTAN (6)

I am small and despised, yet I do not forget your precepts. Psalm 119:141

Please continue praying for Maria Shahbaz, who was only 13 when abducted in July 2025, forcibly converted to Islam and married to her abductor. The Pakistani government reacted to the court judgement in February, which upheld the validity of Maria's marriage, by announcing the formation of a committee to review the court judgement and make recommendations to the Ministry of Law and Justice. This review is still pending. Meanwhile the European Parliament adopted a resolution about Maria Shahbaz on 8 July, calling for her "to have access to legal representation, her family, and psychological support." The resolution also condemned "similar abuses committed against underage girls belonging to religious minorities." Pray that Maria will cling to her Christian faith and soon be returned to her parents. Pray for an end to incidents like this, in which Christian and Hindu girls and young women suffer greatly.

“ I am precious in His sight, He will hold me fast; Those He saves are His delight, He will hold me fast. Ada Habershon, England (1861-1918)

FRI 11 SEP • BANGLADESH

Be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life. Philippians 2:16-18

Twelve young Christian men have been trained in skills which enable them to get a decent income. They live in a very poor rural part of Bangladesh, and unemployment in their community is high. But, with funding from TBF Trust, each has learned either mobile phone repair, motorcycle repair, power tiller and pump mechanics, automobile electronics, or masonry. Not only has their income grown, but also their faith, confidence and sense of self-worth, which could make them future leaders in their community. They are determined to reflect Christ to their customers by their honesty and good work. Ask the Lord Jesus to bless these young men, that they will be channels of blessing to others and witnesses for Him.

“ Through this project, I learned not only a skill but also how to serve others with honesty and faith. Now I can support my family and help in church. Ratan Murmu, Bangladesh (born 2002), who trained in masonry

SAT 12 SEP • SRI LANKA

And will not God give justice to his elect, who

cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? Luke 18:7

The country's former intelligence chief has been arrested in connection with the tragic 2019 Easter Sunday bombings that claimed 279 lives – the vast majority of them Christians – and deeply impacted the nation. Pray that the Lord will bring the full truth into the light and ensure that all perpetrators and those responsible for these attacks are brought to justice with integrity, fairness and accountability. Ask Him to comfort and heal the families who lost loved ones, to strengthen survivors and all who continue to bear the trauma of this tragedy, and to grant wisdom, courage and discernment to investigators, judicial authorities and government leaders as they pursue justice and reconciliation.

“ Christians believe that God's hand guides history, directing the good as well as bad from the start until the appointed end in which he will prove victorious. Gintota P.V. Somaratna, Sri Lanka (born 1941)

SUN 13 SEP • NICARAGUA (1)

Do not be surprised, brothers, that the world hates you. 1 John 3:13

Church leaders at all levels are among the many targets of the repressive Nicaraguan authorities. They are subject to threats, smear campaigns and arbitrary detention. They are expelled or exiled or denied entry. Christian activities outside church buildings are forbidden, and worship services inside buildings may be under surveillance by police or

infiltrated by spies and paramilitaries. Church properties and media outlets are seized and church-run social programmes closed down. Pray for wisdom, courage and perseverance.

“ Suffering can awaken us and draw us closer to God. Bishop Hovakim Manukyan, Armenia (born 1976)

MON 14 SEP • NICARAGUA (2)

I urge you, brothers and sisters, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to join me in my struggle by praying to God for me. Romans 15:30 (NIV)

At least 12 church leaders were detained by the Nicaraguan authorities in June. One was 80-year-old Abelardo Mata who asked his Sunday congregation to pray for the persecuted Church. This apparently triggered his arrest, but after some days he was released. For eight years, Bishop Mata has been denouncing the persecution of the Nicaraguan Church and publicly supporting clergy who were imprisoned or exiled. “They don’t even know how to lie any more,” he said in 2020 about the authorities, “The devil himself ends up entangled, and whoever follows the devil falls into the very trap he digs for others.”

“ Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. Romans 8:26-27 (NIV)

TUE 15 SEP • IRAN (4)

You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Psalm 23:5 (NIV)

Mahshar Parandin, a Christian convert from Islam, needs our prayers. She is more than half way through a 2-year sentence in Evin Prison, Tehran, and urgently requires surgery to remove two tumours, one in her throat and the other in her brain. Her speech, vision, balance and movement are all affected. She also has serious heart problems. Despite recommendations from prison medical staff, the authorities will not allow her to have the treatment she desperately needs. Lift up to the Lord also her teenage son, who has a chronic illness and has faced many difficulties during the imprisonment of his widowed mother.

“ Why should I be frightened and surprised by the plough of the Lord, which makes deep furrows in my soul? I know He is not some arbitrary or irrational farmer – His purpose is to yield a harvest. Samuel Rutherford, Scotland (c.1600-1661)

WED 16 SEP • IRAN (5)

Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. 1 Peter 5:7 (NIV)

Five Christians who appealed against the lengthy sentences imposed on them have been told their appeals have been refused, even though no hearing has taken place. They were sentenced last October for activities that included establishing a house church, holding prayer meetings, conducting baptism,

taking communion and celebrating Christmas. Pray for Naser, Joseph and his wife Lida, Aida, and an unnamed woman. They must serve a combined 48 years in prison. Pray that in prison they will know the Lord's presence with them as never before, and will be a channel of blessing to their fellow-prisoners.

” John Bunyan blessed God for that Bedford jail more than for anything else that happened to him in this life. We never pray for affliction; and yet it is often the best thing we could ask. Dwight L. Moody, USA (1837-1899)

THU 17 SEP • IRAN (6)

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God.
James 1:5

When Christian converts from Islam, Sam and Maryam, were arrested in July 2019, it was just five months after they had adopted baby Lydia. The next year they were convicted of “membership of an illegal organisation” because of their Christian activities. The court also ruled that Lydia, who has multiple health issues, must be taken away from them because of their Christian faith. They fled to Turkey to try to stay together as a family. On 2 June 2026 Sam attended an interview with Turkish immigration officials. At the interview questions were raised about the custody of Lydia, now 7, and the possibility that she might be removed from her parents. Pray that Sam and Maryam will have wisdom from above for their complex situation and that the family will be able to settle permanently in a third country.

” We live fascinating lives if we are living in the centre of God's will. All the attacks that Satan hurls at us through the sins of others are not only powerless to harm us but are transformed into blessings along the way. Hannah Whittall Smith, USA (1832-1911)

FRI 18 SEP • MAURITANIA

For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness”, has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.
2 Corinthians 4:6

Pray for Mauritanian Christians – all of them former Muslims or their children – who worship the Lord in secret and at great risk. Pray that their faith will be unshakeable and their hearts filled with the peace that passes understanding. Ask that the Lord will protect them with His angels, as they live for Him in a country where the law lays down a death sentence for leaving Islam. Thank the Lord that this law has not been implemented in recent years.

” There is a hope that stands the test of time, That lifts my eyes beyond the beckoning grave, To see the matchless beauty of a day divine When I behold his face!
Stuart Townend, England (born 1963) and Mark Edwards, England

SAT 19 SEP • EGYPT

Let us not grow weary of doing good.
Galatians 6:9

On 19 May the Egyptian government issued an executive order legalising 191 more churches and affiliated

buildings. This was the 30th batch of approvals and made a total of 3,804 churches and affiliated buildings approved since the Law for Building and Restoring Churches was passed in 2016, enabling unlicensed churches to apply for legal status. Praise God that the total has now passed the initial 3,730 applications submitted by the first deadline, after which a further 1,685 applications were made when a new deadline was set. Pray that Islamist extremists will not launch violent attacks on the newly legalised church buildings.

“ A humble-spirited person asks himself every day if he has served, helped, encouraged and comforted someone. He never stops being kind. Patriarch Tawadros II, Egypt (born 1952)

SUN 20 SEP • TUNISIA

Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us. Hebrews 12:1

There are thought to be around 30,000 Christians living in Tunisia. In the freedom that followed the “Arab Spring” in 2011, political Islam flourished. But aspects of autocratic rule were reimposed in 2021. This is the complicated context in which Tunisia’s small Christian community find themselves, juggling a mixture of freedoms and restrictions. Most of the Christians are expatriates but there are also Tunisian converts from Islam who are stigmatised by the Muslim community and may face persecution from their relatives. Pray that they

will share their faith and make more disciples of the Lord Jesus.

“ I’m related to these martyrs who were among the first Tunisian Christians in my country. My identity is related to them. I belong to something historic and deep rooted in Tunisia and that makes me feel even more proud to belong to Christ. – “Moufida”, Tunisia, 2025, speaking of Tunisian martyrs in the early centuries AD

MON 21 SEP • ALGERIA

My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will. Matthew 26:39

The main challenge facing Christians in Algeria is how to meet together to worship. Since 2017 almost all the Protestant church buildings have been gradually but systematically closed by the authorities. Pastors and their church members risk arrest whenever they gather in private homes to pray. There are tens of thousands of Christians in this mainly-Muslim country, most of them first-, second- or third-generation converts from Islam. There is no official penalty for choosing to leave Islam, but evangelising Muslims is illegal and can result in a jail sentence. Persecution has ebbed and flowed in Algeria in recent decades. Ask that it may decrease again if that is the Lord’s will.

“ A Christian is: a mind through which Christ thinks, a heart through which Christ loves, a voice through which Christ speaks, and a hand through which Christ

helps. Augustine of Hippo (modern Annaba, Algeria) (354-430)

TUE 22 SEP • MOROCCO

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Matthew 5:5

Officially all Moroccan citizens are Muslims, so the only Christians in the country are supposedly foreigners. Thank the Lord that for many years the Moroccan authorities have turned a blind eye to Moroccan Christians (converts from Islam and their children) who practise their faith discreetly. A general election is due to be held on 23 September. Pray that the 395 MPs who will take their seats in the House of Representatives after the election will guide their country towards greater religious liberty and the recognition that Moroccans should be free to choose their faith.

“ We Christians ... should be very demanding with ourselves on behalf of all other believers, and particularly on behalf of Muslims who explicitly expect from us this meekness, this humility, this mercy, this search for perfection.
Jean-Mohammed Abd el-Jalil,
Morocco (1904-1979)

WED 23 SEP • UGANDA

We preach Christ crucified.
1 Corinthians 1:23

On 14 June David Musobya (37) and his wife Elizabeth Nakato did some street evangelism in Mayuge District, eastern Uganda, a part of the country where many Muslims live. As the couple walked home afterwards, a group of about nine Muslims

approached them, questioning their presence in the area, their distribution of Christian materials, and especially their preaching Christ and using the cross in worship. They struck David on the head, snatched his Bible from him, pushed him to the ground, and carried on hitting, kicking and stamping on him until he lost consciousness. Pray that David and Elizabeth will not be intimidated by their experience but will press on with their evangelistic ministry. Pray that the Christian materials they distributed on 14 June will impact many lives.

*“ And can it be that I should gain
An int'rest in the Saviour's blood?
Died He for me, who caused
His pain? For me, who Him to
death pursued? Charles Wesley,
England (1707-1788)*

THU 24 SEP • SUDAN

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight. Hebrews 13:20-21

Unremarked by the Western media, the civil war in Sudan rages on. At the time of writing, it centres on the city of el-Obeid, capital of North Kordofan state, which has endured siege-like conditions for 18 months and drone attacks as the Sudanese Armed Forces and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces battle with each other for control. Power stations, fuel depots and water pumps have been hit. To make it worse, there is an outbreak of cholera. The city of 500,000 is hosting

another 100,000 people displaced by the civil war. Amongst them are some of our Christian brothers and sisters, a vulnerable and despised minority. Ask the God of peace to intervene.

“ Jesus did not die with words of detachment or distance on His lips. He died crying out from a place of abandonment. He fully entered into the agony of human suffering. He experienced pain, rejection, injustice, humiliation, and divine silence. In that cry, Jesus connected not only to the suffering of a single moment in history but to the suffering of all humanity. His voice became the voice of the broken, the forgotten, the persecuted, the displaced, the grieving, and the wounded. Bishop Yassir Eric, Sudan (born 1972)

FRI 25 SEP • ETHIOPIA

What does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? Micah 6:8

Prayer is asked for small rural churches in Muslim-dominated areas of Ethiopia. Every year some are burnt down and their congregations forced to flee. Ask that the Lord Jesus Christ will guard and protect His people, that their faith in Him will not waver, that they will not seek revenge but will continue to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with Him.

“ Humility is the foundation of all virtue. Tekle Haymanot, Ethiopia (1215-1313)

SAT 26 SEP • ERITREA (1)

For Christ did not send me to baptize but

to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power. For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

1 Corinthians 1:17-18

Pray for the protection of our brothers and sisters in Eritrea who are vulnerable to being arrested and detained in harsh conditions, often for many years, without charge or trial. Churches that meet in private homes, i.e. all churches except Orthodox, Roman Catholic and Lutheran, are especially vulnerable as one is supposed to get government permission for any type of meeting involving more than ten people, unless there is a valid reason such as a birthday, engagement or graduation. The worship style of evangelical and Pentecostal churches can involve loud singing and dancing and this often leads to neighbours filing complaints, which then lead to police raids and arrests.

“ The Cross is our strength. The Cross is our might. The Cross is our ransom. The Cross is the healing of our souls. From an Eritrean daily prayer

SUN 27 SEP • ERITREA (2)

They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. Revelation 7:16

“In the past six months 300 Christian prisoners have been released – most were short-term prisoners, but one was released after 18 years. There are many, who sometimes we don’t know, who are still suffering in many

Eritrean prisons. There is one Christian who has been imprisoned for eight years in an isolated container and his family has had no chance to see him. But there is also good news. The good news is people are still worshipping wherever they are – in prison or outside prison, in houses everywhere ...”

These are the words of Dr Berhane Asmelash, Director of Release Eritrea, speaking at a Prayer and Protest Vigil at the Eritrean Embassy in London in May. Pray that the Lord will continue to sustain His suffering people in Eritrea until, in His perfect timing, the persecution comes to an end.

“ Hell works the hardest on God’s saints. The most worthy souls will be tested with the utmost pressure and the highest heat, but heaven will not desert them. William L. Watkinson, England (1838-1925)

MON 28 SEP • SOMALIA

The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season. Psalm 145:15

Hunger and malnutrition continue to soar in Somalia, a result of the current drought which was officially declared in November 2025. But it is feared the drought may end with catastrophic flooding because 2026 is a year with an El-Niño weather pattern affecting the planet, which tends to bring heavy rain in East Africa. Worse, it is expected that it will develop into a rare Super El-Niño bringing even more extreme weather. Pray for all Somali citizens suffering so greatly, and especially for the small community of Somali Christians, who endure the same plus the constant risk of persecution – perhaps death – at

the hands of family, community and zealous Muslims.

“ He is my God; though dark my road, He holds me that I shall not fall: Wherefore to him I leave it all. Samuel Rodigast, Germany (1649-1708)

TUE 29 SEP • SOMALILAND

I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star. Revelation 22:16

Somaliland broke away from Somalia in 1991 but has not been recognised internationally as a state. Somaliland has been more stable than conflict-ridden Somalia and has had governments and democratic elections. However, Somaliland is a very hard place for Christians. Islam is the state religion and promoting any other religion is forbidden. All laws must be grounded on sharia (Islamic law). There is no recognition that a Muslim could choose to change their beliefs and some have been imprisoned for converting to Christianity. Pray that the Lord will build His Church in Somaliland.

“ Christ has turned all our sunsets into dawns. Clement of Alexandria, Egypt (died 215)

WED 30 SEP • DJIBOUTI

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Ephesians 6:10 (NIV)

Although Islam is the state religion, the government works hard to ensure that the Islam practised in Djibouti remains moderate and peaceable.

Religious groups must register with the government but since 2023 foreign religious workers are no longer required to obtain work permits. About half the population are ethnic Somalis. Most of the Christians in Djibouti are Ethiopians or Europeans. There are also a small number of Djibouti citizens who have left Islam to follow Christ; this is permitted under Djibouti law but converts are often ostracised

by society. Christian literature can be imported freely. Pray for continued good relationships between the different faiths in Djibouti and that converts from Islam will be strong in the Lord to face harassment or persecution.

“ Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace. Francis of Assisi, Italy (1182-1226)

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