



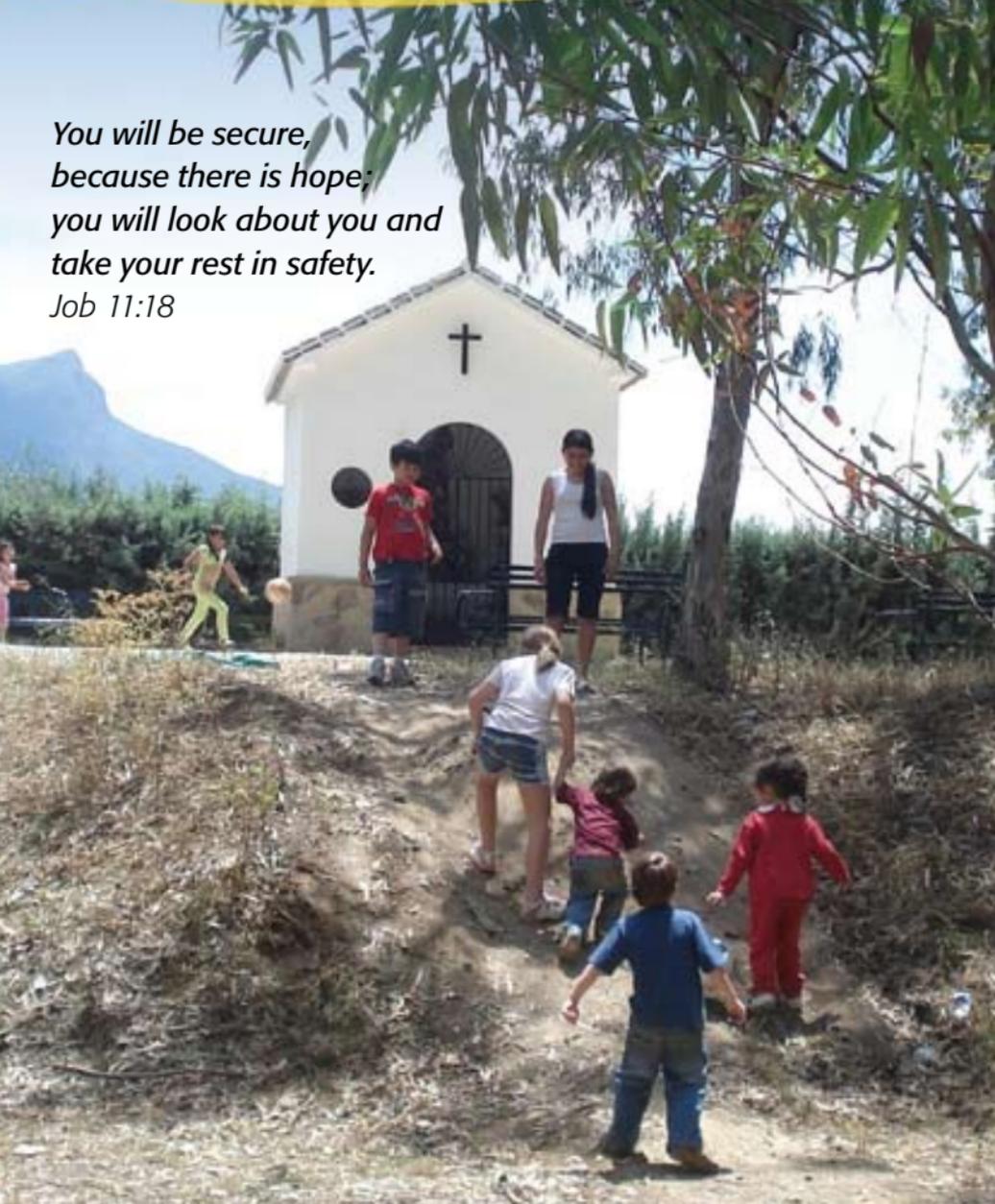
PRAYER LINES

Latin American edition

June – July 2012

*You will be secure,
because there is hope;
you will look about you and
take your rest in safety.*

Job 11:18



ARGENTINA

1 June Pray for Bishop Greg and Sylvia Venables in their oversight, teaching and pastoral care of the diocese. Pray for the staff and children of the Hogar el Alba orphanage and for the local families who act as godparents to individual children, visiting and taking them out.

2 Latin partners Mario and Paula Agreda and their family serve the church of Lomas de Zamora, Buenos Aires, and tomorrow, Trinity Sunday, they celebrate the 140th anniversary of the church. Mario also has the pastoral responsibility for St Alban's College, founded by the Anglican Church 107 years ago. Pray for Mario, for God's wisdom and grace.

NORTHERN ARGENTINA

3 Pray for wisdom and stamina for Bishop Nick Drayson. He has a heavy programme of travelling this month, with long teaching visits in the Chaco, to Salta and a meeting in Uruguay. Pray for sensitivity to the different situations and clear communication of the things that are really important. Pray for son Sam and Sally's wedding on 7 July.

4 Uphold Catherine Drayson in prayer in her extensive involvement with women. Pray for follow up to conferences with Tobas and then Wichi in April and May. Give thanks for the parenting course in Juarez and pray for the couples from various ethnic groups who took part, that they will share what they learned in their communities.

5 Pray for David Stokes' role in leadership training alongside Rene Pereira's long-term work. One task David has is to help on a revision of the Wichi prayer/hymnbook. He and his wife Shelley are making visits to various zones; pray for the ongoing process of getting to know people, listening and pastoral care.

6 David and Shelley ask our prayers for a better work/rest balance, that they may make better use of time off to exercise and to plan in holiday time. They want to deepen their understanding of Wichi language and culture as working in Wichi is still very tiring. Pray for their children Jonathan and Sarah, both at university in the UK and the next step for Jonathan who finishes his course this summer.

7 Associate mission partners Michael and Silvia Browne live in Vaqueros, just outside the city of Salta where their sons Kevin, 13, and Christopher, 7, attend school. Michael makes regular visits to Ingeniero. Juarez, 500km away, to check on the progress of the Toba translators working on the minor prophets, and to encourage them. Pray for this vital work, the Brownes and the Toba people.

8 The Spanish speaking church in Ingeniero. Juarez is always in the prayers of associate mission partner Charles Barr Johnston, and he enjoyed receiving visitors from there when they came for summer camps. Pray for Juan, Narciso, Sergia and Tota and for the follow up and nurture of the young people who took part in the camps. Pray too for Lynn's health and for the care she needs.

9 For Latin partner Hugo Vergara the main highlight of the youth camp was to see the young leaders' developing commitment to the Lord. The theme of the camp was "Hedonism or Heroism" based on the book of Daniel. Ask God to have his hand of protection on these future church leaders, and on Hugo and Techí.

10 Thank God for a meeting between Hugo, other leaders and Bishop Nick, when they took time to reflect on and evaluate the urban ministry. The area is historically Roman Catholic, deeply conservative, and superstition, syncretism and folk healing practices abound. Pray for God's guidance and wisdom to understand and address the challenges they face.

11 The Wichi on the Pilcomayo are still working to gain their land rights. Francisco Perez continues as coordinator of Lhaka Honhat (Our Land), helped by Rogelio Segundo. Jose Canteros works alongside them, supported by Susana Avila. Pray for them, for patience and perseverance, for younger people to commit themselves to this slow ongoing process, and for the national government to act on their behalf.

12 Thank God for the negotiations between Lhaka Honat and Criollos at a local level. In the northern part of Lote Fiscal 55, an agreement has been reached for a group of Criollo families to move off land claimed by Wichi. Another group near Las Vertientes is also prepared to move. Pray that the provincial government will put funds into this process of relocation, as promised.

13 Mission partner Andrew Leake plans to start the bird survey in these drier months, and to replicate a study conducted in 1985. The area looked at then has since been deforested, so a repeat study using the same methods should show how bird species have been affected by these changes. He then plans to apply the same methods in an area of the Chaco still with forest cover, but under threat. Pray for the teams taking part.

14 Continue to pray for God's guidance and for funding to buy a suitable plot of land for the 'Land for Life' conservation. And pray for encouragement for Andrew and Maria in this work, "as it often feels like an uphill struggle".

UK

15 Henry Scriven is speaking at the Wales CMS conference today and tomorrow, and at Rochester Diocese World Mission Forum Day on 23 June. Pray for clarity and the Holy Spirit's guidance. Pray for Henry and Catherine and their family as daughter Anna and her husband Tom and the two little granddaughters move to Washington, DC this month.

16 Henry thanks God for the unity of the CMS senior management team, who are working under increased pressure in the interim between executive leaders. Pray for continued stamina and clear focus as the team continues to change as Asia CMS starts in Kuala Lumpur.

17 Continue to pray for the right person to be found for the position of executive leader of CMS, and pray for wisdom and guidance for the trustees.

18 Pray for Jo Hazelton and her colleagues on the Latin America and personnel teams, as they facilitate others in mission and bring their stories of sharing Jesus and changing lives to the wider community of CMS.

19 Pray for Efraim and Ruth Villela as they prepare to start at All Nations College in September, for Max to adapt well to the changes and for the right job placement after their training. In Recife, pray for more health professionals to get involved with the pregnant women's ministry, and for Viviane, who has taken on much more responsibility in the House of Hope with the day to day running of the creche.

URUGUAY

20 Pray for the diocese of Uruguay during the interregnum between bishops. Pray too for Latin partners Gonzalo and Leticia Soria in their holistic ministry in Fray Bentos, seeking to deepen the prayer life of the church and reaching out to many needy people.

BOLIVIA

21 After eleven years as bishop of Bolivia, Frank and Shawnee Lyons plan to move to Pittsburgh later this year. The diocese has set up a nominating committee for a new bishop. Pray for unity among the clergy and for God's direction in this new choice. Ask God's blessing on them all at this time of change.

22 Latin partners Walter and Sandra Barrientos ask us to pray for revival among the members of Cristo Redentor church in Calacoto, La Paz, which they pastor. Thank God for the new church plant in Miraflores, which has grown from cell groups, and is now called Cristo Resucitado mission church. Pray for them to grow in faith. Pray too for a new cell group recently started in the San Jorge neighbourhood.

BRAZIL

23 Pray for the diocese of Recife following the tragic death of Bishop Robinson Cavalcanti and his wife Miriam. The funeral and burial service were attended by hundreds of folk from all strata of society, and was a testimony to how much they were loved and respected as a couple. Pray especially for the clergy in the diocese as they come to terms with this tragedy.

24 For over 30 years Latin partners Ian and Simea Meldrum have been involved with young people who are in some kind of at-risk situation. There have been heartbreaks, but they praise God for many whose lives have been turned around. One, Eduardo, has come through a drug rehabilitation programme and is now joining the team at My Father's House. Pray for him as he learns the ropes, and for this ongoing ministry to needy boys.

25 On the farm they have prepared the land and planted new crops. Praise God for the bean harvest. Feijao beans are part of the Brazilian staple diet and help supplement supplies at My Father's House. Pray for Ian and Simea, that they may develop well the use of the farm, alongside other ministry opportunities.

26 When mission partners Andy and Rose Roberts return to Brazil from home ministry in the UK, they hope to work with young girls who are being sexually abused or forced into prostitution. There are no Christian projects currently working with these girls in Olinda, and there is huge need. Pray for them as they share with UK churches their conviction that this is the direction in which the Lord is leading them. Pray too for Rose during her pregnancy, and for their first baby due in September.

27 Associate mission partner Ali Young thanks God for a women's conference in Recife led by a team of American women. The theme was "Broken lives, God restores", and this was evident during the conference as the lives of women were touched by the power of God. Ali had a lot of translating to do into Portuguese and was very aware of her dependency on God and his help.

SPAIN

28 Pray for mission partner Sue Woodcock as she continues with treatment for cancer, which often leaves her feeling tired and lethargic. But she says, "I am still doing several hours most days, regularly presiding at Holy Communion and generally prompting and guiding from behind the scenes. So there is much to praise God for."

29 Pray for the church council in Sabadell, all of whom continue to rise to the challenge of leading the church. The young adults are organising a prayer day and a weekend of prayer, and Sue is delighted with their enthusiasm and creativity. As a church their objective this year is to deepen the devotional and spiritual life of the congregation. Pray they may draw closer to the Lord.

30 In the diocese there are a number of new places of worship in different cities around Spain, mostly very small and with young and inexperienced leaders. Pray for pastor Rafa in Reus, where the church is struggling. Pray for the gospel to really take root in people's lives, for inspiration for new leaders, and for wisdom for Bishop Carlos and Ana Lopez in all decisions.

CHILE

1 July Pray for God's strength and vision for Bishop Tito in leading the diocese forward. Pray for several churches without an ordained pastor, asking the Lord to raise up church leaders and more students for the Centre for Pastoral Studies. Pray for Tito in his responsibility as presiding bishop and in the plans to divide the province to function as two regions, east and west.

2 Mission partners Daniel and Ellelein Kirk, and sons David and Joshua, returned last month to Vina del Mar. They feel called to plant a church in Valparaiso, hoping to have a team of about 25 people, and to start with small home groups in different parts of the city. Pray for some older couples and families to join the 15 youngsters in their 20s who are already keen to get involved.

3 Pray for the port city of Valparaiso, where the Victorian building of St Paul's church is a tourist landmark. There are no services in this building, which can hold 450 people, and many find it hard to understand why there is no longer an Anglican presence here. Commit to the Lord the vision of Daniel and Ellelein, and pray for the beginnings of this new Anglican presence.

4 Pray for mission partners Alf and Hilary Cooper in their mission in Santiago. Alf's TV programme Hazte Cargo challenges people to take responsibility both for society and for their own lives. Alf writes: "Pray that every programme manages to get across not just the good values of the Kingdom, but also the incredible news that there is a red carpet of salvation for all who seek it and are humble enough to realise they need it!"

5 Alf likes to keep Fridays as a day of fasting and prayer. Many pressures work against it. "It would seem that the devil tries to rob us of those times in direct proportion to the importance they hold for the advance of the Kingdom." Pray for Alf, for these times of quiet, reading, seeking the Lord, and preparing the word, in readiness for the full weekend.

6 Former mission partner Janet Mena needs our prayers as her husband, pastor Alberto, who had been diagnosed with inoperable stomach cancer died on 11 April. Pray for them as they plan to move from Maquehue to be nearer their family, and that they may know God's presence.

PERU

7 Pray for Bishop William Godfrey and his wife Judith, for his ministry of pastoral care, oversight and training. Pray for his physical and spiritual wellbeing. Uphold Suffragan Bishop Michael and Linda Chapman and pray for the growth of the church in the Ica and Ayacucho area. Please also pray today for Alejandro and Doris Mesco, sharing Jesus and changing lives amongst the people of the Colca Canyon, Cabanaconde and serving God in the Chapel of St. Felipe in the Colca Canyon.

8 Short termer Charlotte Bull was surprised to have heavy rain in the desert on the first night of the youth camp! However their spirits were not permanently dampened, and at the end of camp the teenagers said what a special time camp had been, not just for the fun, but for what they had learnt and experienced on the theme of "YouFruit" – the fruits of a life of faith. Praise God, and pray for these youngsters and for Charlotte.

9 The Compassion project had a different programme during the school holidays, with workshops in carpentry, baking, crafts, painting etc. Short termer Heidi Elkington gave English classes. She loved getting closer to the children, and as they shared more about their home situations, she realised just how worthwhile all the effort is. Pray for her as she shares God's love with them.

10 Another short termmer in Lima is Ben Wilson who arrived in February. At first he said he missed rain, and knowing what was going on! Soon he felt at home, more confident in Spanish and enjoyed making friends among the young people. He helps with youth work locally and in some diocesan-wide events. Pray this may be a good experience for him and for God to be at work in his life, as well as in the lives of those he meets.

11 Short termmer Suzanne Irvine thanks God for Sundays in Arequipa, when she goes to a church in the hills where she does Sunday School for kids. She was glad to visit Cabanaconde and the Colca Canyon again for ten days at Easter where she worked with the kids throughout Holy Week. Pray for her daily teaching in the school and children's home, for God's presence and encouragement.

12 Latin partners Ruben and Guiliana Mancilla in Juliaca ask for prayer for their work with the churches of Santa Maria Magdalena and the Esquen Tariachi mission outreach. They praise the Lord that they have completed the painting and repairs at the mission and are now able to have regular services there. Pray that the congregation will grow in faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

13 Pray too for work they are doing in health projects in Esquen Tariachi, and for their partnership with the International Medical Mission who help with visits and providing medical supplies. Pray for strength and energy for Ruben and Guiliana in a project to help people with speech and hearing impairment. Pray that through these projects folk may come to know God's love for them.

ECUADOR

14 Mission partner Jill Ball is encouraged by new beginnings in Laura Flores, Santo Domingo. A small house has been rented for the new Baptist Church of Eternal Hope. Rodrigo is pastor, and they are setting up a programme of Christian literacy and workshops to teach people useful skills. Blanca, Rodrigo's wife and coordinator for the vulnerable women's work, has an office there, and is planning a series of workshops on the prevention of abuse in the family. Pray for Jill, Rodrigo and Blanca.

15 Jill writes: "People are coming forward with problems of drug addiction and we are working with existing organisations to organise rehabilitation. The needs in this community are enormous. We have started a weekly prayer group to support this ministry as it is only through the power of God that we will see transformation of lives." Join them in prayer for this.

16 Praise God for answers to prayer for the women's project. A church in the US will bring a team to build a refuge for vulnerable women. They have help from local experts in planning the land project; pray that the plot of land may be developed in the way God wants. Thank God that people in First Baptist Church are engaging with these projects and sensing God's presence as they pray for them.

PARAGUAY

17 Bishop Peter and Sally Bartlett pray for themselves and the leaders of the Anglican church in Paraguay, that the Lord would teach new ways to relate to one another and that Jesus would be at the centre of their relating. Pray for relationships of love, forgiveness, service and mutual instruction and learning.

18 Praise God for Victor, Salomon and their companions who faithfully visit San Mateo church in Rio Verde, and whose ministry has led to an increase in attendance. Their commitment to covering three Sundays a month releases mission partner Ed Brice to visit neighbouring communities over these weekends. Pray for Ed to use these opportunities well, and for Marie and Jasmin too, in their visits.

19 Pray for Ed in the planning of teaching conferences in Rio Verde, and in his desire to plan others in another Chaco centre. Thank God for the church leaders within reach of Makxawaya who would welcome a teaching conference, and for Pastor Elvio who already has a vision to teach in this area, using the Bible Encounter Manual (SEAN material) already translated into Enxet. Ask the Lord to guide.

20 Ed and Marie also ask for prayer for Juan Fransisco, his wife Juana and family, especially their oldest son Oscar, miraculously recovered from a serious motor cycle accident. "Please pray that Oscar and his family will soon discover that God's offer of life and salvation has dimensions which go far beyond physical health."

21 Mission partner Tim Curtis thanks God for the opportunity to take some colleagues from Makxawaya to the Wichi church in Potrillo in the Argentine Chaco to join in their centenary celebration, and for the encouragement they received. It was SAMS missionaries from Makxawaya who first took the gospel to the Wichi in 1911. Pray for further opportunities of meetings between the different Chaco tribes, which they so love.

22 Pray for the Enxet translation team, Tim and Latin partners Juan and Asuncion, as they continue their work on the Old Testament. Give thanks for good progress on the checking of drafts and for the continuing contacts with Enxet churches throughout the Chaco.

23 Pray for associate mission partner nurse Beryl Baker, for the help she needs in her Chaco clinic and for God's guidance to know clearly the way ahead. Norma, the 27-year-old Ministry of Health nurse who was based in Rio Verde, was killed recently when the front tyre of her vehicle exploded. Pray for her family, especially for her two daughters who are both under five.

24 Associate mission partners Chris and Alison Hawksbee praise God for abundant rains in the Chaco and for the recovery of the Moringa trees after a hard winter and dry spring last year. Honey production was also good. Pray that the market for these products will grow.

25 In Asuncion, Chris and Alison belong to the church in Ceballos Cue. They thank God for the valuable work of Gloria and her helpers in running the Pepe kindergarten. Pray for Pastor Luis to utilise this way into the lives of local families through the kindergarten, and for wisdom in building up the church congregation.

26 Pray for a good recovery for mission partner and teacher Linn Tedman following her operation, and pray for St Andrew's College. The head teacher writes: "We see an openness to the gospel. Parents are asking for meetings and the children seem to be more spiritually aware too. Pray that we may make the most of the opportunities that God gives us."

27 Latin partner Ronald Irene finds his responsibility as school chaplain a “wonderful challenge”. This year, as well as leading assemblies and Bible studies, he is able to go with the children on school trips and retreats. He is also now involved in ministry to the poorer children at the Annexe school. Pray for him and for Nicky in her teaching.

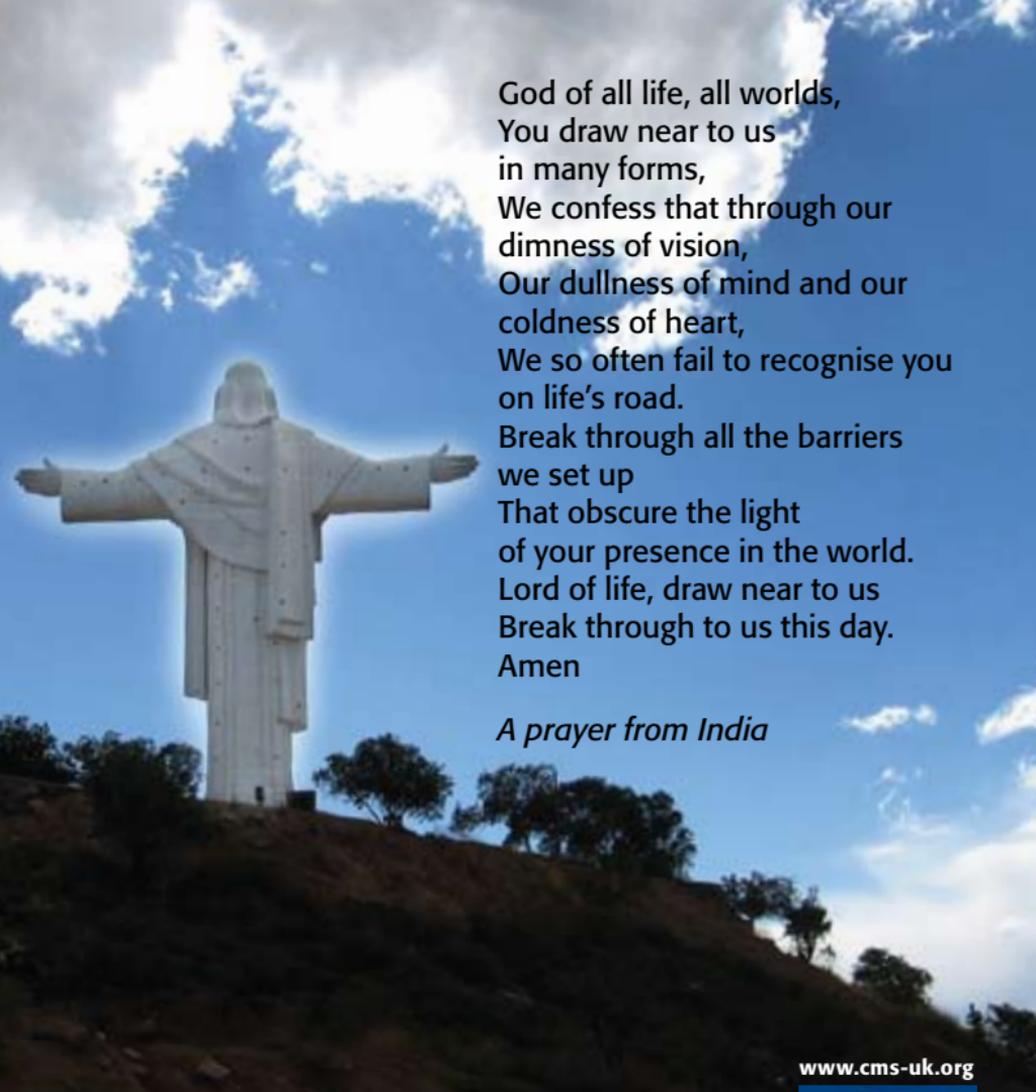
28 Ronald and Nicky live in the pastoral house of Cristo Salvador church, which has been closed for some time. For several months they have held Bible studies with a view to forming a new congregation. Attendance has been low, but encouraging. Pray for the Lord’s guidance and blessing in this new venture.

29 Mission partner Caroline Gilmour White gives thanks for the materials that have been given for the sewing clubs, and for the sense of wellbeing and laughter the women enjoy while sewing together. Pray especially for the preparations for the centenary of St Andrew’s Chapel, as Caroline and church members work together to contribute different skills.

30 FEISA, the teacher training college, praise God for new students this year, and for gifts that mean they can offer help with fees to 12 students with financial difficulties. Ana (director and academic coordinator) and Noemi (coordinator of teaching practice) ask prayer for “physical, emotional and spiritual strength for the staff as we are few, with many areas to cover.”

31 FEISA are excited about a new project offering a specialisation course in early years education to trained teachers who are working as infant teachers without specific training in this area. This has been approved by the Ministry of Education, so pray for teachers to take it up.

Cover photo: A Spanish chapel



God of all life, all worlds,
You draw near to us
in many forms,
We confess that through our
dimness of vision,
Our dullness of mind and our
coldness of heart,
We so often fail to recognise you
on life's road.
Break through all the barriers
we set up
That obscure the light
of your presence in the world.
Lord of life, draw near to us
Break through to us this day.
Amen

A prayer from India

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