



## CHRIST CHURCH PARBOLD SUMMER 2022 PRAYER NEWSLETTER



### ENCOURAGEMENT.

I love to sing the old hymn "To God be the *glory* great things He has done, so loved He the world that He gave us His Son!"

When, however, it comes to explaining the word "*glory*" I struggle to bring out its meaning in a clear and simple manner. This is important for me this week because I am preparing my next talk for the Wednesday Communion – we have been going through The Gospel of John week by week and have arrived at Chapter 17 – Jesus' prayer before calvary. The first five verses of the prayer contain the word glory / glorify on five occasions: -



After Jesus said this, he looked towards heaven and prayed:

"Father, the hour has come. *Glorify* your Son, that your Son may *glorify* you. For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. I have brought you *glory* on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. And now, Father, *glorify* me in your presence with the *glory* I had with you before the world began." (John 17v1-5)

Funnily enough I think I nailed it, the meaning of a glimpse of *glory* for me , during the "Trouping of the Colour" as I watched it on TV. The Irish Guards had the honour of parading their colour, their flag, in front of other regiments of the home guard, the Grenadier, the Scots, the Royal Fusiliers, and the Coldstream guards. The colour is then lowered as their Colonel William and then Charles representing the Queen salutes the march past. The glimpse of *glory* came to me as the flag was lowered perfectly straight by the ensign, the lowest ranked officer chosen for the honour of carrying it, as he marched in slow time each step in perfect balance toe first then heel to the beat of the drums.

What was the glimpse of glory, it was as the 80 troops turned a corner in a stunning movement, carefully missing the next troop as they turned all in a timeless movement in their red jackets with white buttons and white belts with gold buckle. All eyes were on the flag, the soul and cenotaph of the regiment. The flag that carried the names of the battles fought -Ypres in WW1 I noticed. None of it was about individuals it was about the tasks that had been set for them. When they were in trouble the flag was the place to which they were to rally and reform. That was the true purpose of the trouping to show the flag to the troop so that they would recognise it in the heat of battle.

I started to draw similes to Jesus. The staff was the cross, the fag attached to it The Word of God, the Bible. The flag was lowered as his body was taken from the cross, but was lifted again as the Word of God and that's where we rally. We Christians are all dressed the same in the armour of God, we run the race often in a slow time march. Our belief in Christ is constantly tested to see we carry his colour correctly.

Often the newest, least experienced is chosen by our commander in chief, our heavenly father, to carry the gospel and as we come to worship, whatever denomination, we bow and our Father looks on with love and salutes us. All of us in perfect time to his plan. With the colonel, Jesus, at the Father's side taking a salute as well.

It's hard to put into words my glimpse but there we go it's the best I can do.

God Bless.

*John.*

### **PRAYER REQUESTS**

- Please continue to pray for a peaceful end to the war in Ukraine and for all those who have fled as refugees, that they will be safe and protected.
- We give thanks that Jedidah's work permit for Kenya has now been agreed.
- Pray for all our children and teachers as the summer term begins.
- Pray for the work of Mercy Rescue, Andrew Fanstone and Miriam in Sierra Leone, Judith in the Message Trust and Joko & Karen in Cambodia,



### **NEWS FROM MERCY RESCUE TRUST**

Hi Everyone. Jedidah says thank you to everyone who has been praying for her, regarding her work permit which has now been approved and she should receive it within the next couple of weeks. During that week of waiting she really felt a peace in her heart knowing that all would be OK. She is hoping to travel to the UK later in the year probably October time just for a few weeks, then hopefully next year for a couple of months, She is travelling to Nairobi with Una to start the process of getting her visa for travel. Which can take up to six weeks. Please pray that this goes through without any hitches.

At the moment Mercy Rescue is in a time of transition, as Sally is now in the role of Deputy Manager, they have employed a new Social Worker (sorry I forgot to ask her name) who has lots of experience as previously she worked in the Children's Department and is very good at filling in forms, meeting with prospective families, home visits and more. Jedidah is training up Sally into the role of Deputy Manager, as well as overseeing the transition of these roles she is also networking trying to raise more funds.

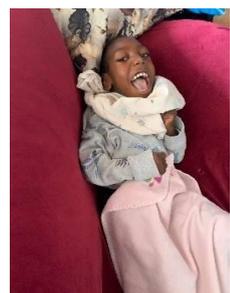
Please Pray for Sheryl who has been at Mercy Rescue for sometime now. When she arrived she was suffering from malnutrition and although she has gained some weight she is still well below the average weight she should be. At the recommendation of the doctor she is now on a high protien diet but has still not gain very much weight.



Mina now aged seven came to Mercy Rescue as a baby and was placed with a foster family, unfortunately due to having a change in the family's circumstances it became impossible for Mina to remain with them as she has autism. She is now with a member of staff who has taken her into their home and they will become her forever family, Mina is a day pupil attending a school for children with special needs and is doing well.

Jayden is now also most five years old and has been at Mercy Rescue since birth. He is has severe Cerebral Palsy, but is such a happy young boy, when you interact with him he rewards you with the biggest smile that lights up the whole of his face.

*Barbara*



## **NEWS FROM ANDREW FANSTONE - BRAZIL**



Thanks for your email and glad you had many celebrations for the Queen's jubilee. I followed it from afar and it all seemed very impressive and made me a little home sick but we are doing well. Last week Claudia tested positive for Covid but is already recovering well and only remains with a bit of fatigue and so if you could pray that she fully recovers quickly and has no lasting symptoms that would be great. Thankfully the children and I seemed not to get it, which we are thankful for.

We just finished our missions school which went really well and the students left more in Love with Jesus, firmer in his Word and ready to go and produce much fruit.

The main prayer request we have is for guidance. We have now been here in Fortaleza for over 20 years. Two years ago I handed over the leadership of the base and have been more involved in Iris in Brazil. We feel God is asking us to move and start a new work in the south of Brazil where we would work with continued mobilisation of missions in Brazil and also start a work in a large slum in partnership with another mission that has a house of prayer.

Next week Claudia and I will be going to this place for a few days to see and pray if this is the next place God is guiding us to. We and the children are happy here in Fortaleza but we feel the Lord stirring our hearts for a new challenge and so we want to be obedient to him.

Please pray that we will be guided and especially next week feel God opening or closing the door to this new place.

Thank you very much, we so appreciate your prayers!

*Andrew and Claudia*



### **EDUCAID**

It is entirely my fault that there is no EducAid Update. However, I can assure everyone at the Church that the work of EducAid continues apace with the influence extending to many state schools and many state teachers. (More details in a future edition!)

Please remember Miriam, the EducAid staff and students/pupils, Trustees (who meet all the administrative costs of EducAid) and supporters in your prayers.

*Pat Horn.*

### **PARISH TELEPHONE PRAYER CHAIN.**

- a) Anyone who has a prayer need can phone his/her request to Brian and Frances McGucken (01257 462058) between 6pm and 6.30pm any day, or for urgent needs, at any time. A team of people is on hand to pray immediately for your need.
- b) If neither is available to take your call live - please do not use the answer phone for this purpose - but contact Lin Milne on 463523 or John Mountain on 463919.

Your prayer request will be treated as confidential – unless you state otherwise



### **A PRAYER OF THANKS FOR THE QUIET SAINTS**

Thank you Father,  
for the selfless giving of time.  
For those often quiet saints  
who do not argue their theology loudly,  
engage in lengthy debates  
over complex doctrinal issues,  
or make their presence felt  
within the hallowed space  
of Church Council meetings,  
but simply get on with doing  
the business,  
visiting the sick, the aged  
and the lonely,  
a shoulder to cry on,  
a listening ear  
and the reassurance  
of one who cares.  
Thank you Father,  
for all those quiet saints,  
who live their faith through their lives  
in a world that often forgets  
that you were never too busy to listen,  
never too busy to minister to needs,  
never too engrossed in work  
to bring hope and wholeness into lives.  
Thank you Father,  
for your quiet saints.



(courtesy of [www.faithandworship.com](http://www.faithandworship.com) )