



April 2019

***‘And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.’
Colossians 3v14***

New Zealand

Monday 1 April

Remember and pray for all those affected by the mass shootings at the Christchurch Mosques on 15 March. Pray for God’s peace, healing and comfort for people in Christchurch and all who have been impacted. Give thanks for the amazing work of police, emergency services, doctors, nurses, other health professionals, and government leaders from both local and central government.

Tuesday 2 April

‘Men of every creed and race, gather here before Thy face, asking Thee to bless this place, God defend our free land. From dissension, envy, hate, and corruption guard our state, make our country good and great, God defend New Zealand.’ May God strengthen New Zealand during this difficult time and give us wisdom, courage and grace to build a stronger community.

Wednesday 3 April

Because we follow Jesus Christ, the Leprosy Mission values compassion, justice, integrity, inclusion and humility. Pray today especially for the Muslim communities in NZ and around the world.

Pray that they can feel safe and supported during this challenging time. Pray also God would protect them from unjust aggression and discrimination. Let us express care, compassion and support to those in need.

Thursday 4 April

LMNZ came across some technical issues with our World Leprosy Day mailing and our phone lines earlier this year. We were disappointed by the services of our printing and phone company but these issues have now been corrected. Praise God for LMNZ supporters who were so incredible in understanding the situation and continuing to support the mission work.

Friday 5 April

LMNZ has started a new strategic plan for 2019-2023. Pray for God’s guidance and provision as we work towards its goal in engaging New Zealanders to end leprosy and transform lives. Over the course of this year, LMNZ is conducting a range of fundraising activities to cure, care for and restore people affected by leprosy around the world. Pray that these initiatives will be fruitful and inspire new committed supporters.

Saturday 6 April / Sunday 7 April

Indonesia has the third highest number of leprosy cases in the world. Praise God for the open door which enables LMNZ to partner with other organisations in supporting the leprosy work in Indonesia. Pray that through this project, LMNZ will be able to see a breakthrough in reducing transmission of leprosy through ‘contact tracing’.

Nepal

Monday 8 April

LMNZ is a supporting partner of the work of the Leprosy Mission Nepal’s Anandaban Hospital (‘Anandaban’ meaning ‘forest of joy’ in Nepali). Pray for people affected by leprosy that they would feel loved and safe in Anandaban Hospital. Pray also they can complete their full course of medication, and be cured of leprosy without any complications.

Tuesday 9 April

Give thanks for the medical teams who through outreach clinics to remote villages, identify and treat

leprosy patients. Pray for many more opportunities to find all ‘hidden’ cases of leprosy, and that the fear of diagnosis and stigma of the disease will not prevent people from seeking treatment. Pray leprosy can be diagnosed early and long-term disability can be avoided.

Wednesday 10 April

Dr. Indra is the Surgeon Medical Director of Anandaban Hospital, he is also one of the very few doctors who can do reconstructive surgery for leprosy patients. Praise today for his expertise and diligence as he humbly serves people affected by leprosy not only in Nepal but in neighbouring countries, like India, Bangladesh and Myanmar. May God bless his hands and all that he touches.

Thursday 11 April

Give thanks for the research facility at Anandaban Hospital which is a centre of excellence and a world leading authority in leprosy treatment. Please pray for continued breakthroughs in the pursuit of better ways to diagnose, treat and prevent leprosy and for effective ways to manage leprosy reaction. Remember especially Dr. Deanna Hagge, Director of Mycobacterial Research Lab at Anandaban Hospital.

Friday 12 April

Praise God for Solomon, a counsellor at Anandaban Hospital. Give thanks for the care and concern her has for all patients and their families’ needs, as many people affected by leprosy have faced discrimination, rejection and mental health struggles. Pray that his desire to bring joy and hope through singing and music will bring wholeness and healing to leprosy-affected people.

Saturday 13 April / Sunday 14 April

Since the 2015 earthquakes, TLM Nepal has been restoring the damaged infrastructure of Anandaban Hospital. Praise the Lord! With your prayers and support, after years of planning and construction, the new staff quarter Lele was officially opened last month.

Autumn *inTouch* Magazine

Monday 15 April

Pray for a positive response to the Autumn *InTouch*

magazine which is currently being posted to supporters. Pray that the message can reach the wider NZ community. Pray also that the hearts of New Zealanders will be stirred into action with a willingness to support the work of the Leprosy Mission. Together we can eradicate leprosy transmission by 2035.

Tuesday 16 April

India - Only 11 years old, leprosy bacteria had already taken a hold of Niran's little body. White patches developed all over Niran's body and his hands became clawed. Leprosy also damaged Niran's left eye, leaving it unable to close. Thankfully, because of Cure One supporters, Niran is now completing his 12 months of medication. Niran also receives regular eye treatment to stimulate the muscle movement around his left eye, and physiotherapy on his hand.

Wednesday 17 April

Nepal - Maya's hands became clawed because of leprosy. She had trouble gripping, and carrying out simple everyday chores. Thankfully, Maya received hand surgeries on her hands, and a sewing machine. Maya also completed a 6 month design course and learnt to sew beautiful garments. She can now sell clothes in a nearby community and earn a living to support her family. Pray that Maya's story can give hope and courage to other people affected by leprosy.

Thursday 18 April

Bougainville - Elijah was diagnosed with leprosy when he was only 14 years old. He lives in a small remote village which is only accessible by very rough roads and terrain. Give thanks to village health volunteers who actively recognise cases of leprosy. Elijah was diagnosed early and is now cured of leprosy. Pray for on-going success of our Bougainville project, so more people can be cured from this disease and have a brighter future.

Friday 19 April

Good Friday - Let us remember today that each of us are precious to the Lord. He loves us so much that He died on the cross for us. Pray those who are affected by leprosy, disability, war or poverty will

come to know His amazing grace and unconditional love.

Saturday 20 April

'For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him.' Romans 6v9 Give thanks to the Lord that we have the privilege of serving The Living God!

Sunday 21 April

Resurrection Sunday - *'Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.'* 1 Peter 1v3 Give thanks for his everlasting love. He loved this world so much that He gave His only son. Let us rejoice today and remember what Jesus has done for us on the cross with hearts of thankfulness.

Monday 22 April

Easter Monday - *"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."* John 14v6 Praise for Jesus who died on the cross for us, overcame death and was resurrected. Let us celebrate this day with joy and thanksgiving!

Nepal Appeal

Tuesday 23 April

Sita was diagnosed with leprosy two years ago at a satellite clinic and started her multi-drug therapy. Devastatingly, her husband and family abandoned her because of the disease. Sita had to travel alone for long hours across rugged country to Anandaban Hospital in the hope of receiving help. Pray that through the Mission's projects and education, the myths surrounding leprosy can be dispelled.

Wednesday 24 April

Sita finds it difficult to stand for long periods of time on her leprosy damaged feet, and her hands now show the telltale signs of clawing. She finds it hard to do even simple tasks like sweeping and washing the dishes. Pray that Sita will diligently continue physiotherapy on her hands after the reconstructive surgeries that she will be able to find suitable work and support herself, and have a hopeful future.

Thursday 25 April

2015 earthquake - 4 years ago today, a magnitude 7.8 earthquake shook Nepal and took more than 9,000 lives. Remember families and communities that were affected by the earthquakes. Pray for God's peace and provision in their recovery journey, that they can be emotionally and spiritually healed.

Friday 26 April

With no family support and no income, there is no way people affected by leprosy, like Sita, could afford the food, medicine and hospital care they so desperately need. Pray that through the Mission's projects, more people like Sita can benefit and be able to stay in Anandaban Hospital to complete their leprosy treatment, receive physiotherapy, and overcome any serious disabilities.

Saturday 27 April / Sunday 28 April

Praise God for the selfless love and care of the doctors and nurses in Anandaban Hospital, who are motivated by the example of Jesus Christ to 'love their neighbor as themselves'. Pray that through their amazing care, compassion and acceptance, patients affected by leprosy will feel accepted and know that they are not forgotten or abandoned.

Leprosy and Stigma

Monday 29 April

People affected by leprosy often say that the most damaging aspects of the disease are the stigma and social exclusion they experience. The Leprosy Mission works in partnership with local organisations in speaking out against the myths and misunderstandings that lead to exclusion. Pray that their voice can reach the wider community, myths will be dispelled and leprosy-affected people can live with hope and dignity.

Tuesday 30 April

There are currently 157 laws across 29 countries that discriminate against people affected by leprosy. Praise God that earlier this year, the Leprosy Mission has launched a 'Petition Campaign' to seek support from all the 47 member countries of the UN Human Rights Council to address issues around people affected by leprosy, and contribute to ending transmission, preventing disabilities amongst children and to eliminate discrimination.