



Prayer & Praise

**Strengthening the Leprosy Mission
Family through Prayer**

December 2020

'The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.'

Luke 1:35

Protective Footwear

Tuesday 1 December

Protective footwear is a practical way for many new supporters to relate to the effects of leprosy. Give thanks for the open hearts of New Zealanders who learn about this need through letters and leaflets distributed in magazines and who give generously to help people affected by leprosy.

Wednesday 2 December

Receiving a leprosy diagnosis can be a very difficult experience, particularly given the stigma that surrounds the disease. Many people face rejection by their families and communities and they begin to fear for their futures. Give thanks for the counselling that helps them to see that they have nothing to fear. Please pray for peace for newly-diagnosed patients and their families.

Thursday 3 December

Give thanks that part of the care that Kanti received during her treatment for leprosy was a pair of protective sandals. These have protected her feet from further injury and allowed the serious ulcer on her foot to heal. Give thanks that Kanti is now able to go back to school.

Friday 4 December

Give thanks to God for the creative idea and inexpensive production of protective sandals, which are made in the country in which they are used. Pray for the continuous supply of appropriate materials for the sandals and give thanks for the employment of those making the sandals, which are such a help to people affected by leprosy.

Saturday 5 December / Sunday 6 December

Pray that the provision of protective sandals will not only provide comfort, but also give dignity and a sense of purpose for those affected by leprosy. Pray that people will begin to see hope for the future as they are healed with medication and cared for with the provision of these aids.

Really Good Gifts

Monday 7 December

Give and it will be given to you.

Give thanks that the Really Good Gifts appeal for 2020 has touched the hearts of many people, who are willing to give so that someone affected by leprosy can receive a gift that will enable them to have a better life. Pray that God will bless the givers as well as the recipients.

Tuesday 8 December

Pray that during the final two weeks before Christmas many more people in New Zealand will decide to bless someone affected by leprosy by giving a Really Good

Gift that can make a positive impact in the life of a person affected by leprosy.

Wednesday 9 December

A residential scholarship for a young person affected by leprosy to attend a Vocational Training Centre is a huge blessing to that person. Please pray that more young people will be able to receive these scholarships and have a chance to learn a trade.

Thursday 10 December

A vegetable seed hamper, a fish farm and a tradesman's toolkit are examples of popular Really Good Gifts that can give someone affected by leprosy the chance of a new start. Please pray that those who receive these gifts will understand how their lives can change through the use of the gifts and will be able to use them well to make a contribution to their families and their communities.

Friday 11 December

The Really Good Gift of the Cure enables a person affected by leprosy to access a month of medicine to be cured from this dreadful disease. Pray that through the Leprosy Mission projects, we are able to reach more people affected by leprosy; more patients can receive and complete their leprosy treatment. It is vital, if leprosy treatment with multi-drug therapy is started early enough, long-term disability can be completely avoided.

Saturday 12 December / Sunday 13 December

The 18th of December is the deadline for Really Good Gift orders so that they can be processed before Christmas. Thank God for the many orders and donations that have come in and pray that the gifts will provide hope and practical help for people affected by leprosy and Covid-19.

Nepal

Monday 14 December

The isolation ward for Covid-19 patients at Anandaban Hospital is now in use as cases of the virus continue to climb in Nepal. Please pray for patients and staff at the hospital as quite a lot of staff have also become infected.

New Zealanders Overseas

Tuesday 15 December

Without Anandaban Hospital, there would be very little support or essential surgery available to leprosy-affected patients. Give thanks for the continuous care that Anandaban provides and the ability to mend people in all ways – physically, psychologically and spiritually.

Wednesday 16 December

Give thanks for the strong connection staff at Anandaban Hospital have with patients throughout their journey with leprosy. Thank Him that the staff provide a safe and caring relationship with the patients every step of the way. Pray that patients will find a refuge that prepares them for a fuller, healthier life when they leave.

Thursday 17 December

As getting to the hospital can be difficult for some people, Patan Clinic is an important Outpatients Clinic which provides education and awareness about leprosy and its treatment. Give thanks for this weekly clinic, which also provides diagnosis and treatment.

Friday 18 December

Give thanks for the staff and volunteer health workers who travel to rural areas of Kathmandu to meet with and support members of self-help groups. Please pray for safety for these staff and volunteers as they travel and carry out their work.

Saturday 19 December / Sunday 20 December

Give thanks that the 2020 Youth Advocates have been raising funds for a continuous water supply for Anandaban Hospital. Please pray that the Youth Advocates will be able to complete their financial commitment to this project so that the lives of staff and patients at Anandaban Hospital can be easier.

Prayer & Thanksgiving

Monday 21 December

2020 has been a year like no other but amongst it all, we have seen God do incredible things. This has all been made possible because of the faithful supporters who have so kindly given to the Mission's

work, and uphold our work in prayers. Pray for God's abundant blessings upon our wonderful supporters.

Tuesday 22 December

Today is the last day that the LMNZ office is open for 2020. Praise God for the hard work of the LMNZ team over this year as they have worked diligently and dedicated every day in supporting people affected by leprosy. Pray that the LMNZ staff will be refreshed over the Christmas period in preparation for the New Year.

Wednesday 23 December

Praise God for our dedicated and committed volunteer Board and committee members who have worked so diligently over the year. Give thanks especially to Anne Ratliff and Phil Johnstone who recently completed their term. We honour and thank Anne and Phil for their services, time and expertise.

Thursday 24 December

At Christmas we remember the blessings in our lives. Give thanks for the support and love that people affected by leprosy are shown at hospitals and clinics around the world. For all those people who today will receive the devastating diagnosis, pray that they feel safe, supported and loved.

Friday 25 December

Merry Christmas! We rejoice for the precious gift of Jesus Christ, born to us this day. Praise God for the hope we have in His birth. Pray for the good news of Christ's birth to be spread around New Zealand and across the world. Thank God for His compassion for all of us.

Saturday 26 December/Sunday 27 December

Give thanks for the ongoing support of churches around New Zealand, many of whom have supported our work for decades and collectively, have transformed the lives of thousands of people affected by leprosy. Pray that doors will be opened for LMNZ to reach out to new churches and they will be moved to support the Mission's work in defeating leprosy and transforming lives.

Monday 28 December

Due to strict lockdown in South Asia, the migrant worker ministry that Julie is leading had to change its ways of running. Despite all the challenges, praise God for the enthusiasm and commitment of the workers in participating the fellowship after working very long hours all week. Please pray for God's protection and provision over Julie and all migrant workers.

Tuesday 29 December

During the pandemic and lockdown, Julie has been able to partner with local fellowships to provide care, support, counselling, health advice and food relief to those affected by leprosy, diabetes, other chronic diseases or elderly. Praise God for these good connections that Julie has built over time. Pray that Julie and her team can be a living testament of God's love, people will come to know God and grow in relationship with Him.

Wednesday 30 December

Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown has been a big focus this year, but is not the only emergency or disaster people are facing in South Asia. Fires, landslides and flooding have also occurred in the past few months, causing loss of lives, homes, livestock and livelihoods. Pray for God's peace and comfort for all who are grieving the loss of loved ones and struggling with effects of Covid, lockdown and loss of income, especially the most vulnerable.

Thursday 31 December

The visa programme that Julie is under is currently being reviewed. The most recent batch of applications was rejected with no explanation. There has been a lot of speculation about this and it is uncertain what it would mean for those who already hold the visa. Please pray for good outcome of review and the programme that Julie is part of will be able to continue.