

# Partners Praying Together

July 2021 – Covid-19 Special Edition



**B**ECAUSE OF THE RAPID CHANGES brought on by the Covid-19 pandemic across the globe much of ABM's normal project work has been disrupted. Because of that, we have asked our Overseas Partners to supply us with prayer points that reflect the situation in their country. Included in this edition of *Partners Praying Together* are the prayer points that we have received. We have included these so that you can show prayerful concern for them as they, who like us are 'wearied by the changes and chances of this fleeting world' (as the prayer from Compline puts it), adjust to living in a time of global pandemic. You'll also find the usual things we would normally have: the feasts and commemorations from the lectionary, the Australian Cycle of Prayer, and commemorations from the United Nations calendar. All the material is designed to inform your prayers for our Overseas Partners, the bishops and dioceses of our Church and for wider global concerns. With the Psalmist let us pray, 'Let my prayer be counted as incense before you, Lord, and the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice' (141.2).

1. Who are ABM's Overseas Partners?
2. ABM prayer theme for each day this month
3. Prayer points s from our Overseas Partners
4. The feasts and commemorations from the lectionary, the Australian Cycle of Prayer, a cycle of our Overseas Partners, and commemorations from the UN calendar

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## Who are ABM's Overseas Partners?

**T**HIS MONTH WE ARE ASKING YOU not only to remember our each of our Australian dioceses as they grapple with the Covid-19 pandemic, but also each of our Overseas Partners as they deal with it too. Our Overseas Partners consist of Activity Partners (with whom we currently have joint activities), Relational Partners (with whom we have historical relationships) and Networking Partners (with whom we work overseas, or with whom we share information). We have, as the well-used Anglican phrase describes it, strong *bonds of affection* for all of them. Because our overseas work involves both the Church, through our Church-to-Church Unit, and communities, through our Anglicans in Development Unit, we often relate to our partners both through the Church itself and through a particular Church's community development arm. So, as you pray, we ask you to remember each of our Partners (and their community development arms) some of whom are more able to weather through the coronavirus storm than others:

### Activity Partners

1. The Anglican Church of Kenya (*ADS-Eastern, a branch of the Anglican Church of Kenya's Anglican Development Services*)
2. The Anglican Church of Melanesia (*The Anglican Church of Melanesia's Board of Mission*)
3. The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea (*Anglicare-PNG, a community development organization of the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea*)
4. The Church of the Province of Central Africa (*the Zambia Anglican Council's Outreach Program*)
5. The Church of the Province of Myanmar (Burma) (*the CPM's Development Desk, and the diocesan Development Desks*)
6. The Episcopal Church in the Philippines (*E-CARE, a community development organization of the ECP*)
7. The Episcopal Church of Jerusalem and the Middle East (*the Diocese of Jerusalem's Development Desk*)
8. The Philippine Independent Church – *Iglesia Filipina Independiente, IFI* (*VIMROD – the Visayas-Mindanao Regional Office for Development of the IFI*)

### Relational Partners

9. The Amity Foundation – an expression of the National Committee of the Three-Self Patriotic Movement of the Protestant Churches in China
10. The Anglican Church in Aotearoa New Zealand and Polynesia (*Anglican Missions Board, AMB*)
11. The Anglican Church of Hong Kong, the *Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui* 香港聖公會
12. The Anglican Church of Japan, the *Nippon Sei Ko Kai* 日本聖公会
13. The Anglican Church of Korea
14. The Church of Bangladesh
15. The Church of Ceylon
16. The Church of North India
17. The Church of Pakistan

18. The Church of South India
19. The Church of the Province of South East Asia (covers Malaysia and Singapore)
20. The Episcopal Church of South Sudan (*the Church's Health Commission, the Education Commission, and the Development and Relief Agency, SUDRA*)
21. The Episcopal Church of Sudan

## Networking Partners

22. Episcopal Relief and Development (USA)
23. The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (Canada)
24. USPG (UK and Ireland)
25. Anglican Alliance for Development, Relief and Advocacy
26. Anglican Discipleship – Jesus-Shaped Life
27. CAPA, the Council of Anglican Provinces of Africa
28. The Mothers' Union

Please remember all our partners in your prayers. Whether they are in Port Moresby, London or Seoul, they need our prayers.

Information from our Partners regarding Covid-19 will be put up on our website as it comes to hand.

### EACH DAY THIS MONTH

✠ *ABM Prayer Theme: Pray for all those affected by the Coronavirus disease (Covid-19) whether here in Australia, within ABM's Overseas Partners, or beyond – for the souls of all who have died; for the families and friends they have left behind; for the sick; for those so overwhelmed by anxiety that they have resorted to panic buying and hoarding; for children who are now scared of dying; for those in self-isolation or in quarantine; for those unable to work from home; for those whose businesses have been negatively affected; for those whose income is now reduced or who have been laid off; for those more susceptible to the disease – whether by age or underlying medical condition; for those who are unable, for any reason, to worship in their churches or synagogues, mosques or temples. Give thanks for all the doctors, nurses, and other medical staff who are tending to the sick; for the epidemiologists and other scientists who are working towards a vaccine; for those who show kindness to others through 'social distancing', through buying groceries for the elderly, or through phone calls to the isolated; for all those businesses who are able to let their staff work from home; for those who have been buying responsibly in the supermarkets; for those churches who are finding creative ways to engage in worship and prayer online or outside; for all who minister to others in Christ's name in this season of anxiety*

# *Prayer Points*

from our

# *Overseas Partners*

## **The Anglican Church of Aotearoa, New Zealand, and Polynesia**

- ✦ We continue to pray for Fiji as the country struggles to cope with and respond to Covid. We pray for families who have lost loved ones. We pray for the government and those in authority that the decisions made are the right ones. And we pray for the Diocese of Polynesia as it cares for communities, providing hope and comfort during these dark and difficult times.
- ✦ We are grateful that the recent potential Covid outbreak in Wellington did not eventuate and we give thanks for medical and health professionals who work so tirelessly to keep us safe.
- ✦ We give thanks for the way people are picking up on and generously supporting the 'Get one. Give one.' campaign being promoted by Anglican Missions. Money raised will provide vaccines for people in countries that cannot afford them.
- ✦ We give thanks for the work of the Anglican Alliance and its commitment to fighting poverty and injustice and for its commitment to supporting the last, the lost and the least.

## **The Church of the Province of Myanmar**

- ✦ Pray for the health of Archbishop Stephen during this time of deep pressure to become totally healed.
- ✦ Pray for the health of all bishops, priests, deacons, catechists, provincial and diocesan staff members in their various ministries.
- ✦ Pray for the congregations of CPM and the communities in the country to be relieved of the fear of COVID 19 third wave which is affecting more people day by day and to receive effective health coverage.

- ✦ Pray for the country and the people who are currently facing all kinds of anxiety and instability, for the ending of their worries and thus regain a better future for the present generation as well as for generations to come.
- ✦ Pray for the ministry of the church including the community development work especially the Water, Sanitation and Health (WASH) programme as the communities are needing it more due to the reduction of rainfall in the country because of the climate change and creating increased need for agriculture and basic health needs.

## **The Episcopal Church of South Sudan**

- ✦ Pray for the neighbouring Uganda as the cases of COVID-19 keep on increasing and everyone is locked at home.
- ✦ Pray for the Church in South Sudan to unite for the divine mandate to reach the lost with the gospel.
- ✦ Pray for the communities in South Sudan to reconcile and live in harmony.
- ✦ Pray for the upcoming meeting of the Board of Trustees headed by the primate, the Most Revd Dr. Justin Badi.
- ✦ We thank God for the low rate of new infections in South Sudan.
- ✦ We thank God for consecration and enthronement of five bishops in the Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan.

## **香港聖公會**

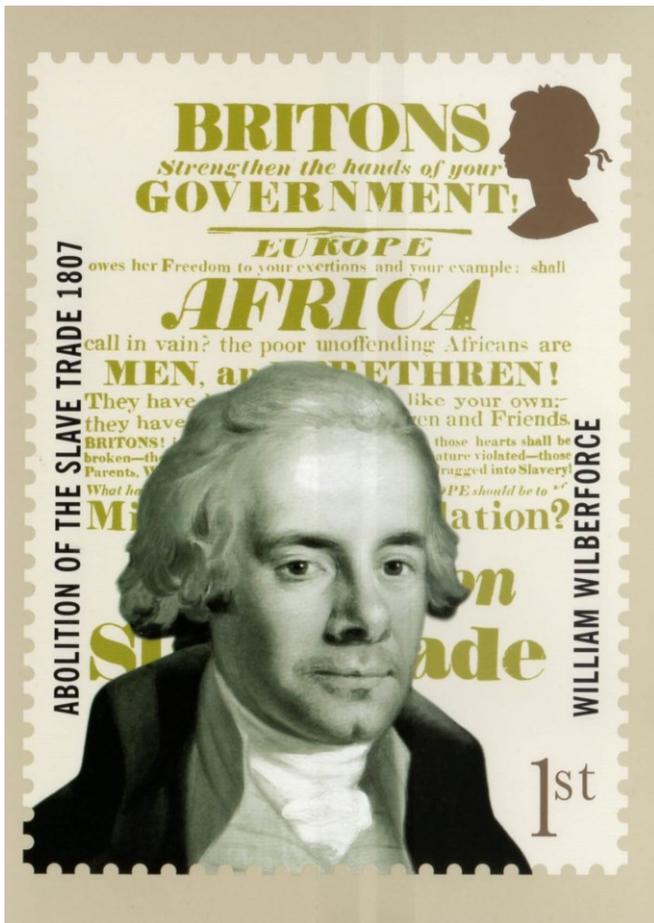
## **The Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui The Anglican Church of Hong Kong**

- ✦ Pray for the revival of the Church in the Pentecost season, and the active participation of the faithful in the ministries after the resumption of open public services and group activities in the Church.
- ✦ Pray for the preventive measures against COVID and the vaccination of people for a safe and healthy community.
- ✦ Pray for the recovery of the economy, the improvement of unemployment rate, especially in the sectors which have been badly affected in the epidemic.
- ✦ Pray for the youth ministry, the release of DSE examination results of secondary school students, and the admission results of primary school pupils to secondary schools.
- ✦ Pray for the work being carried out to set up the Missionary Area of Macau as a missionary diocese and for the ministry in Macau, the meeting of the 11th Provisional Council of the Missionary Area of Macau.

日本聖公会  
**The Nippon Sei Ko Kai**  
**The Anglican Communion in Japan**

- ✦ Give thanks for the rainy season and all the rain which waters our beautiful planet and the crops that so many people rely upon for their livelihoods; may we always be good and wise stewards of the world God has blessed us with.
- ✦ Please pray for the Olympic Games as they commence in Tokyo this month; that all athletes and others in attendance may be kept safe, and that the Games may be a means of bringing the international community closer together in the midst of this pandemic.
- ✦ As we celebrate Sea Sunday on the 11 July, give thanks for the lives and work of seafarers who crew the ships which cross the oceans, and serve the needs of this island nation; also pray for the ministry of the Mission to Seafarers in the Japanese ports of Tomakomai, Yokohama and Kobe, especially in these times when seafarers are denied shoreleave in ports worldwide and stress onboard builds up exponentially.
- ✦ Please pray for the NSKK's House of Bishops as they join in the series of pre-Lambeth Conference online 'conversations'; that technology may work, and that they may be able to take part fully in these events and share experiences and learn from other parts of the Anglican Communion.
- ✦ Give thanks for the increasing rollout of COVID vaccines in Japan - now available for anybody over 16 - and for the continuing devotion of all involved in the medical industry seeking to deal with this.
- ✦ Please pray for the Japanese government as they continue to look at how to safely reopen the country's borders to international travel; and for all those families and loved ones separated by this policy.

**For access to the electronic version of *Partners Praying Together*, go to [www.abmission.org/partners-praying-together](http://www.abmission.org/partners-praying-together)**



Postage stamp from the UK featuring the social reformer, William Wilberforce, who campaigned to end the transatlantic slave trade. Feast day 30 July.

## YOUR STAMPS FUND MISSION

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Australia

July	<b>Lectionary and ABM Commemorations, the Australian Cycle of Prayer and the Anglican Cycle of Prayer</b>	<b>ABM Partner + development arm – where appropriate</b>	<b>UN Days</b> see <a href="http://www.un.org/en/observances/international-days-and-weeks">www.un.org/en/observances/international-days-and-weeks</a> for more information about each
<b>Thu 1</b>	<p><i>The Coming of the Light – first missionaries to the Torres Strait, 1871</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Anglican Church of Australia; The Primate – Archbishop Geoffrey Smith; the General Secretary – Anne Hywood; the General Synod and the Standing Committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Anglican Church of Kenya ADS-Eastern, a branch of the Anglican Church of Kenya’s Anglican Development Services</li> </ul>	
<b>Fri 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Adelaide – Archbishop Geoffrey Smith, his assistant bishops, clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Anglican Church of Melanesia <i>The ACOM Board of Mission</i></li> </ul>	
<b>Sat 3</b>	<p><b>Thomas, Apostle and Martyr</b> – if not observed on 21 December</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Armidale – Bishop Rod Chiswell, the clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea <i>Anglicare-PNG, a community development organization of the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>International Day of Cooperatives</li> </ul>
<b>Sun 4</b>	<p><b>Pentecost 6 [Ordinary Sunday 14]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Ballarat – Bishop Garry Weatherill, the clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Church of the Province of Central Africa <i>The Zambia Anglican Council’s Outreach Program</i></li> </ul>	

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<b>Mon 5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Bathurst – Bishop Mark Calder, the clergy and people.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Church of the Province of Myanmar <i>CPM’s Development Desk, and the diocesan Development Desks</i></li> </ul>	
<b>Tue 6</b>	<p>John Fisher, bishop, and Thomas More, martyrs († 1535)</p> <p>The Diocese of Bendigo – Bishop Matt Brain, the clergy and people</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Episcopal Church in the Philippines <i>E-CARE, a community development organization of the ECP</i></li> </ul>	
<b>Wed 7</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Brisbane – Archbishop Phillip Aspinall, the regional bishops, clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Episcopal Church of Jerusalem and the Middle East <i>The Diocese of Jerusalem’s Development Desk</i></li> </ul>	
<b>Thu 8</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Bunbury – Bishop Ian Coutts, the clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Philippine Independent Church – (<i>Iglesia Filipina Independiente, IFI</i>) <i>VIMROD – the Visayas-Mindanao Regional Office for Development of the IFI</i></li> </ul>	

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<b>Fri 9</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn – Bishop Mark Short, the Assistant Bishop, the clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Amity Foundation – an expression of the National Committee of the Three-Self Patriotic Movement of the Protestant Churches in China</li> </ul>	
<b>Sat 10</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ministry to the Forces – Bishop Grant Dibden, chaplains and members of the Armed Forces</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia <i>Anglican Missions Board, AMB</i></li> </ul> <p>See p. 4</p>	
<b>Sun 11</b>	<p><b>Pentecost 7 [Ordinary Sunday 15]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Gippsland – Bishop Richard Treloar, the clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Anglican Church of Hong Kong (<i>Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui</i> 香港聖公會)</li> </ul> <p>See p. 5</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Population Day</li> </ul>
<b>Mon 12</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Grafton – Bishop Murray Harvey, the clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Anglican Church of Japan (<i>Nippon Sei Ko Kai</i> 日本聖公会)</li> </ul> <p>See p. 6</p>	

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<b>Tue 13</b>	<p>Sydney James Kirkby, bishop, pioneer of outback ministry and the Bush Church Aid Society († 1935)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ministry with the Aboriginal People of Australia – Bishop Chris McLeod, Aboriginal clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Anglican Church of Korea</li> </ul>	
<b>Wed 14</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ministry with the Torres Strait Islander People of Australia – Torres Strait clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Church of Bangladesh</li> </ul>	
<b>Thu 15</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Melbourne – Archbishop Philip Freier, the regional bishops, clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Church of Ceylon</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Youth Skills Day</li> </ul>
<b>Fri 16</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Newcastle – Bishop Peter Stuart, the regional bishops, clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Church of North India</li> </ul>	
<b>Sat 17</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of North Queensland – Bishop Keith Joseph, the clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Church of Pakistan</li> </ul>	
<b>Sun 18</b>	<p><b>Pentecost 8 [Ordinary Sunday 16]</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of North West Australia – Bishop Garry Nelson, the clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Church of South India</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nelson Mandela International Day</li> </ul>

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<b>Mon 19</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Perth – Archbishop Kay Goldsworthy, the regional bishops, clergy and people</li> </ul>	The Church of the Province of South-East Asia (covers Malaysia and Singapore, with missionary congregations in Nepal, Indonesia, Thailand and some parts of Indo-China)	
<b>Tue 20</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of the Riverina – Bishop Donald Kirk, the clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Episcopal Church of South Sudan <i>The Church's Health Commission, the Education Commission, and the Development and Relief Agency, SUDRA</i></li> </ul> <p>See p. 5</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Chess Day</li> </ul>
<b>Wed 21</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Rockhampton – Bishop Peter Grice, the clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Episcopal Church of Sudan</li> </ul>	
<b>Thu 22</b>	<p><b>Mary Magdalene</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Sydney – Archbishop Kanishka Raffel, the regional bishops, clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NATSIAC, the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Anglican Council</li> </ul>	
<b>Fri 23</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Tasmania – Bishop Richard Conde, the Assistant Bishop, clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nungalinya College, Darwin</li> </ul>	

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<b>Sat 24</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of the Murray – Bishop Keith Dalby, the clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wontulp-Bi-Buya College, Cairns</li> </ul>	
<b>Sun 25</b>	<b>James, apostle and martyr or Pentecost 9 [Ordinary Sunday 17]</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of the Northern Territory – Bishop Greg Anderson, the clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Episcopal Relief and Development (USA)</li> </ul>	
<b>Mon 26</b>	<b>Anne, mother of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Wangaratta – Bishop Clarence Bester, the clergy and people.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Primate’s World Relief and Development Fund (Canada)</li> </ul>	
<b>Tue 27</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Diocese of Willochra – Bishop John Stead, the clergy and people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>USPG (UK and Ireland)</li> </ul>	
<b>Wed 28</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anglicare Australia: Chair, Bishop Chris Jones; Executive Director, Kasy Chambers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anglican Alliance for Development, Relief and Advocacy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>World Hepatitis Day</li> </ul>
<b>Thu 29</b>	<b>Mary and Martha of Bethany</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theological Colleges and Church Schools of the Anglican Church of Australia</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anglican Discipleship – Jesus-Shaped Life</li> </ul>	

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<b>Wed 30</b>	William Wilberforce, social reformer († 1833) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mission Agencies of the Anglican Church of Australia</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CAPA, the Council of Anglican Provinces of Africa</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>International Day of Friendship</li> <li>World Day against Trafficking in Persons</li> </ul>
<b>Thu 31</b>	Joseph of Arimathea Ignatius of Loyola, priest and founder of the Society of Jesus († 1556) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Religious Orders of the Anglican Church of Australia</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Mothers' Union</li> </ul>	

### Omissions and displacements in July this year –

11 July: Benedict of Nursia, abbot († 550)

# *Let us pray for our sisters and brothers throughout the world ...*

*Peace, peace, to the far and the near, says the Lord; and I will heal them – Isaiah 57.19*

WE PRAY FOR OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN AFRICA, where there have been 5,212,918 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are South Africa (1,823,319), Morocco (526,651), Tunisia (382,950), Egypt (277,797) and Ethiopia (275,194).

Spare your people, O Lord,  
**And heal them by your mighty power.**

WE PRAY FOR OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN THE AMERICAS, where there have been 71,244,692 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are the United States (33,542,378), Brazil (17,921,728), Argentina (4,277,332), Colombia (3,968,405) and Mexico (2,478,551).

Spare your people, O Lord,  
**And heal them by your mighty power.**

WE PRAY FOR OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN ASIA, where there have been 48,221,705 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are India (29,935,221), Iran (3,095,135), Indonesia (1,989,909), Philippines (1,359,015) and Iraq (1,292,700).

Spare your people, O Lord,  
**And heal them by your mighty power.**

WE PRAY FOR OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN EUROPE, where there have been 54,315,390 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are France (5,757,311), Turkey (5,370,299), Russia (5,316,826), the United Kingdom (4,630,040) and Italy (4,252,976).

Spare your people, O Lord,  
**And heal them by your mighty power.**

AND WE PRAY FOR OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN OUR OWN REGION, OCEANIA, where there have been 80,194 cases; the five countries reporting most cases are Australia (30,331), French Polynesia (18,963), Papua New Guinea (17,013), Guam (8,284) and New Zealand (2,720).

Spare your people, O Lord,  
**And heal them by your mighty power.**

*\* Figures are the latest available from the European Centre for Disease Control and accurate as of 24 June 2021.*