Introduction
Welcome to the March prayer sheet. This is a temporary resource replacing the prayer diary until the next edition comes out online in April. Do print or forward to anyone you think would be glad to receive it so as to aid them in their prayers.

This March, we share a powerful prayer for the people of Myanmar and prayers of thanks for vaccines received. There are also points for prayer on upcoming UN International Days that were once a feature of the monthly prayer e-mail.

You can sign up for the prayer e-mail using the link available on the prayer diary page: caid.org.uk/prayerdiary
Thank you for joining with us in prayer.

Reflection on Lent
'The spiritual journey of Lent is not presented as an easy one. The great themes of Lent represent areas of struggle and vulnerability for all believers – mortality and death, temptation and resistance, repentance and holiness. The classic location of this struggle is the desert or wilderness, the place of wandering, waiting, hunger and temptation.'

Praise and petition
Give thanks for the Covid-19 vaccines. Give thanks especially for yourself, or any family and friends who have received a vaccine, and for the staff and key workers administering vaccines.

Pray for the poorest and most vulnerable communities across the world, for whom there is little hope of a vaccine rollout. Pray that governments across the world will ensure fair and equitable provision of vaccines that shows the dignity and value of all people.

Give thanks for the work of Christian Aid over the past 75 years and the extraordinary achievements of our supporters and partners in that time. Pray for more lasting change to come in the years ahead as we continue to strive for justice.

Give thanks for all those who have contributed prayers to Rage & Hope: 75 Prayers for a Better World – a new book to mark Christian Aid's 75th anniversary. Pray for the book's launch on 10 March that it would go well, and that these prayers will be a powerful resource for those looking for ways to respond to the injustices of the world with lament and hope.
Prayer requests for Myanmar

Pray for the unfolding political crisis in Myanmar and the impact this will have on the most vulnerable communities already suffering the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic and the consequences of protracted conflict.

Give thanks for all the work of Christian Aid’s partners in Myanmar over many decades, and pray that the resilience and strength of local partner organisations will help during this difficult and uncertain time.

Pray for humanitarian access to all those affected by ongoing conflict and those suffering from health concerns. Pray that a peaceful resolution to the current crisis ensuring justice, equality, and dignity for the people of Myanmar may be found.

A prayer for the people of Myanmar

God whose love knows no borders,
Give us grace and courage to respond amidst strife and oppression.
Open our minds to engage with the pain borne by the peoples of Myanmar,
Open our eyes to see you in the troubled places of your world,
Open our arms to embrace our sisters and brothers enduring loss and hardship.
We pray for our world, our humanity, our peace.
In the pain of the tortured and in the loneliness of the refugee.
In the arrogance of the strong and in the security of the powerful.
Turn us again Lord, to drink the cup of salvation that we may die to self and live for you.
Help us to remember today Lord, that there is nothing we cannot face together in solidarity, prayer and action.
May all your children regardless of ethnic identity, creed or gender find dignity and life in all its fullness – for we believe in life before death. Amen.

Written by Ramani Leathard, Christian Aid’s Head of Region (Asia). This prayer is from the upcoming Christian Aid book Rage & Hope: 75 Prayers for a Better World.

International days in March

1 March: Pray that everyone has the chance to live a full and productive life with dignity on Zero Discrimination Day.

3 March: Pray for the world’s forests to be protected as they sustain our planet and its people on World Wildlife Day.

8 March: Pray for courage and determination for all those standing up for gender equality and for all those ordinary women who play extraordinary roles in the history of their countries and communities on International Women’s Day.

21 March: Pray for all those whose lives are touched by racial discrimination and courage for those speaking out against racism across the world on the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

22 March: Give thanks for water and its role in sustaining us and keeping us safe through washing and sanitation and pray for clean and safe water for all people on World Water Day.

23 March: Pray for all those who will experience extreme weather events in 2021 and who risk losing their lives and livelihoods on World Meteorological Day.

24 March: Pray for all those upholding the memory of Archbishop Oscar Romero and who continue to seek the truth when rights are abused on the International Day for the Right to the Truth concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims.

25 March: Pray for all those whose lives are still touched by a legacy of slavery, and those who live today in systems of slavery around the world on the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade.

Rage & Hope: 75 Prayers for a Better World

You can book your place at the launch event online now and pre-order the book of prayers commemorating 75 years of Christian Aid.

Go to www.christianaid.org.uk/news/rage-hope-75-prayers-better-world-book-launch

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