

# PRAYER DIARY

MARCH 2023



## WEDNESDAY 1 MARCH ETERNAL HOPE

“He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away” (Revelation 21:4). Thank God for the truth that, in the end, He will make all things well.

## THURSDAY 2 MARCH NORTH AMERICA

Pray for those working in our partner offices in North America: SAT-7 USA and SAT-7 CANADA. Ask God to bless the work of their hands and make them a blessing to the individuals, churches and funders with whom they are sharing SAT-7's ministry.

## FRIDAY 3 MARCH WESTERN SAHARA

Tensions remain high in Western Sahara. As its independence is debated, Morocco and Algeria are heavily invested in the outcome. Pray for a peaceful, godly solution to a very difficult situation.

## SATURDAY 4 MARCH SAT-7 PARS STUDIOS

At first glance, it may seem strange that SAT-7 PARS' studios are located in Cyprus and London. SAT-7 PARS broadcasts Persian-language programmes and is watched primarily by viewers in Iran and Afghanistan. It is staffed mostly by expatriate Iranians, many of whom have had to leave Iran because of their Christian faith. The studio cannot be located in Iran because of religious freedom restrictions there. Limassol and London, home to significant numbers of Iranians, provide strategic alternative locations. Pray for the SAT-7 PARS staff and ask that one day it will be possible for SAT-7 to have a studio inside Iran.

## SUNDAY 5 MARCH: TÜRKIYE LENT FOCUS #2

“Let's pray for Türkiye... a land where the first Christians appeared. A land so rich with Christian heritage... and yet so forgotten. Pray this Easter for the people of this country, so that they may remember and find their path to their true God, their true father, their Heavenly Baba.

May they no longer feel isolated, in despair and without hope. May they encounter Jesus in their lives and realise that the true God does not manipulate His subjects from above, determining their every move. No. Let them know in the very fibre of their being that the true God lives! He walks with us, among us. He stands with us in face of every trial. And he is never defeated. He is risen! He has done what no man has done. He lived... He served... He suffered... He died. But the story didn't end there...

Pray that our people feel the same joy that the apostles felt when they first saw the resurrected Jesus. Let the Thomases among us ask for proof, for our God provides us with whatever we need. Pray that we can become truly one in Christ and sit at His table as His children of light.”

– Annamaria Cedolin, SAT-7 TÜRK Executive Assistant, based in Türkiye.

# Persecution

## **MONDAY 6 MARCH**

This week we'll reflect on some of the countries in the MENA where Christians are persecuted for following Jesus. Today we pray for Iraq, where the country's minority Christian population has been badly affected over many years by conflict and instability. Since Islamic State militants, who gained control of a third of the country in 2014, were driven out, there has been a drop in reported incidents of violence against Christians in Iraq. Pray for this to continue, and that Iraqi Christians can find places to settle and live in safety.

## **TUESDAY 7 MARCH TAJIKISTAN**

The authorities in Tajikistan enforce strict religious laws and allow churches to meet only if they have a permit. New converts must deal with these difficulties as well as pressures closer to home. Christian men and women whose conversions are discovered by their community face beatings, verbal abuse and being socially ostracised. Pray that the authorities in Tajikistan will allow more freedoms to Christians in the country, and for the Gospel to spread through entire communities.

## **WEDNESDAY 8 MARCH SAUDI ARABIA**

Many of the Christians in Saudi Arabia are foreign workers. They face discrimination in the workplace and restrictions on gathering for worship and sharing their faith. The very small number of native Saudi Christians have to practise their faith in complete secrecy. Pray for workplace conditions to improve, and for Christians in the country to find creative ways to gather and share their faith.

## **THURSDAY 9 MARCH YEMEN**

There are only a few thousand Christians in Yemen, mostly converts from Islam, who must live out their faith in secret because conversion from Islam to Christianity is forbidden. They are also suffering as a result of the civil war and humanitarian crisis in the country. Pray that God will uphold and strengthen Christians in Yemen.

## **FRIDAY 10 MARCH LIBYA**

Just 0.5% of Libya's population is made up of Christians, and converts from Islam face immense pressure from their families and communities. They face being left homeless and jobless, and totally ostracised from their community. If they refuse to give up their faith, they could face imprisonment or violence. Pray that more people in Libya would seek God's Kingdom.

## **SATURDAY 11 MARCH** **AFGHANISTAN**

Afghanistan is considered to be one of the most dangerous places in the world to be a Christian, and since the Taliban took control in August 2021, the situation has only deteriorated. The choice for Afghan converts is stark: flee, hide, or face violence – even death. Pray for those who are suffering for following Jesus, and those who are mourning the loss of loved ones. Thank God that He identifies with them in their deep pain.

*Country information from Open Doors.*

## **General**

### **SUNDAY 12 MARCH: CYPRUS** **Lent focus #3**

“I pray for Cyprus and those who share this island, including SAT-7 International office staff located here. I pray for the peace and prosperity of the people, the holy churches of God and the servants of God here. As Christ was crucified for our salvation, I pray for the island’s salvation. I pray for all who carry their Cross of martyrdom, like people who fled to Cyprus due to persecution. I pray that Cyprus, as it is an island located in a region of turmoil, will be a place where people can find peace, healing, and new life.

Κύριε Ελέησον ημάς. [Lord have mercy upon us.]”

- Nicole Thoma, SAT-7 TÜRK  
Communications Officer, based in  
Cyprus.

## **MONDAY 13 MARCH** **THE WAY**

“I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me” (John 14:6). Thank God that He has made clear the way to Himself. Pray that this truth will be revealed to many in the MENA.

## **TUESDAY 14 MARCH** **SAT-7 VIEWER GHALYA**

“A year ago I asked you to pray for my mother for she was sick and needed a gall bladder operation... In the name of Jesus my mother was healed and didn’t need the operation.” – Ghalya, SAT-7 ARABIC viewer. Praise God for this miraculous healing!

## **WEDNESDAY 15 MARCH** **BASIC NEEDS**

According to the UN Refugee Agency, three quarters of all households in Syria could not meet their most basic needs in 2021 – 10 percent more than the year before. Pray that God will have mercy on these families, providing materially and spiritually for them.

## **THURSDAY 16 MARCH** **VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

Gender-based violence against women in Türkiye continues to be a serious problem. Ask God to comfort those who are suffering, and to inspire people to change the culture from the inside out. Give thanks for SAT-7 TÜRK programmes that promote the value of women and raise their aspirations.

## **FRIDAY 17 MARCH** **GOD'S PROVISION**

Thank God that He has supplied for the needs of SAT-7's ministry for almost 27 years and counting. Pray that He will continue to provide the vital financial resources and personnel needed for SAT-7 to continue bringing joy, showing love and strengthening faith in the MENA.

## **SATURDAY 18 MARCH** **SPRING**

As spring awakens the natural world, pray that God will refresh your soul and renew your vigour. Ask Him to speak to you about how you could help bring new life to others during this season.

## **SUNDAY 19 MARCH: EGYPT** **LENT FOCUS #4**

"Lord God,  
You said, 'Out of Egypt I called my son' (Hosea 11:1). We lift a prayer for this country where your son Jesus took his first steps as a child, traveled along the river Nile, and lived among its people. We ask you to touch the minds and hearts of its people so when they hear your word, they become the fertile soil that brings forth 'some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times what was sown' (Mark 4:20). We ask that the Holy Spirit quench every thirst for your abounding love.  
Amen."

– Mary Joseph, SAT-7 Egypt  
Communications Officer, based in Cairo.

## **Discipleship**

### **MONDAY 20 MARCH**

SAT-7 is committed to helping adults and children grow spiritually in some of the most difficult places to be a Christian. SAT-7 broadcasts help viewers follow Jesus and develop resilient faith. Give thanks for this opportunity to help "make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19).

### **TUESDAY 21 MARCH** **CHURCH SERVICES**

Church services, filmed on site in Lebanon, Egypt and Algeria, are broadcast regularly on SAT-7 ARABIC to support believers in the MENA. Pray for isolated Christians in the MENA to be uplifted by these broadcasts and to persevere despite their circumstances.

### **WEDNESDAY 22 MARCH** **ESSENCE OF THE GOSPEL**

Misconceptions about Christianity are commonplace in Türkiye. Pastor Cem Ercin, presenter of *Essence of the Gospel*, aims to share the message of Jesus in a clear and engaging way. Pray that it will help many people in Türkiye who are searching for the truth.

## **THURSDAY 23 MARCH** **PRINCIPLES OF FAITH**

Live programme *Principles of Faith* seeks to help viewers in Iran and Afghanistan understand the Bible through teaching and discussion. Pray that viewers will learn more about the Christian faith through this programme.

## **FRIDAY 24 MARCH** **POWER OF PRAYER**

*Power of Prayer*, presented by Ayda Danacioğlu, exists to deepen the prayer lives of Turkish viewers. Even non-Christians send in prayer requests! Pray that viewers will recognise God's work in their lives.

## **SATURDAY 25 MARCH** **CHURCH4AFGHANISTAN**

This live weekly programme – available on Facebook and Instagram – is presented by Noorullah Noor, an Afghan assistant pastor living in Germany. Noorullah, along with different Afghan guests, explore biblical topics as well as the current situation in Afghanistan. Pray for the SAT-7 PARS team as they seek to help meet the needs of the persecuted Christians in Afghanistan through this live social media programme.

## **General**

### **SUNDAY 26 MARCH: IRAN** **LENT FOCUS #5**

**“My prayer for Iran and the people of Iran is this: just as Jesus promised us that with His death our sins will die with Him, with His resurrection, we will rise with Him and be born again. Open the eyes of my country, Iran, which is drowned in sin and dead in spirituality. May the Iranian people who hate religion and sometimes even deny God be touched by God’s Holy Spirit and find new birth in God’s Messiah.**

**Iran, remember your God and His only son who went to the cross and died for you and your sins and rose from the dead after three days to take back the key of death and curse from the darkness. Call upon your Lord. Ask Him for forgiveness so that God’s spirit will make you free.**

**Oh God, remember the heartbroken and helpless people of Iran and place them in your paternal arms. Bring justice to this country so that Iranians can enjoy the sweet taste of freedom. May your will be done in Iran as it is in heaven. Amen.”**

– Sally Momtazi, producer & presenter for SAT-7 PARS, based in London.

## **MONDAY 27 MARCH** **AMBASSADORS**

Thank God for SAT-7 UK’s wonderful ambassadors! These servant-hearted volunteers are at work all over the UK helping to raise awareness and support for SAT-7’s ministry in the MENA. Ask God to bless and strengthen them as they continue to work for His Kingdom.

## **TUESDAY 28 MARCH** **PURE JOY**

**“Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds” (James 1:2). Pray for SAT-7 viewers in the MENA who are facing trials of many kinds, that they may they know the secret of having pure joy in difficult times.**

## **WEDNESDAY 29 MARCH**

### **SAT-7 VIEWER EKRAM**

“I am asking for prayer for my family. I trust the Lord will answer. I have a brother who drinks and hurts those around him. Please pray for a merciful divine visitation for him and for my family.” – Ekram, SAT-7 ARABIC viewer.

## **THURSDAY 30 MARCH**

### **ISTANBUL STUDIO**

Thank God for the programme-makers, viewer support team, and other staff who serve Him and the people of Türkiye in SAT-7’s Istanbul studio. Ask God to help and guide them as they seek to create inspiring programmes that impact the Turkish-speaking world for Jesus.

## **FRIDAY 31 MARCH**

### **THANK GOD**

Take a moment to thank God for His constant faithfulness and amazing love. Look back over the last three months and reflect on how He has answered your prayers during this time. “Because of the LORD’s great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness” (Lamentations 3:22-23).



*Names of viewers throughout have been changed.*

**SAT-7 UK**

Registered Charity No. 1060612  
PO Box 3941, Chippenham SN15 9HQ  
01249 765865