



**CHRISTIAN
SOLIDARITY
WORLDWIDE
USA**
VOICE FOR THE VOICELESS

PRAYER CALENDAR
March 2018

March 1: Almighty God, we lift the nation of Mexico to You. Protect Christians targeted for their faith, whether church leaders carrying out their pastoral duties or those pressured to change their religion. Grant them courage, endurance and justice.

March 2: Pray for Protestant families in Mexico. These families are facing persecution for not participating in their village's Roman Catholic festivals, the majority faith in Mexico. Christians are often pressured to convert to the majority religion of their community.

March 3: Protestants are being violently expelled from villages in Mexico, and their homes destroyed. Village leaders openly made threats but the government takes no action. Pray for Mexican government to bring justice to those forcibly displaced from their village and to prevent further expulsions.

March 4: Many communities in Mexico are pressuring Protestants to change their religion with threats and deprivation. Christians endure unjust violations, including having their water and electricity cut off. Pray the government would protect people who have been displaced because of their beliefs, and their appeals for justice would be heard.

March 5: Violations of freedom of religion or belief are often exacerbated by the authorities being slow to act, if at all. Most cases are never resolved. Pray the Mexican government would take strong measures to defend freedom of religion or belief.

March 6: Mexico is one of the most dangerous countries in the world to be a priest, with dozens of murders since 2006. Please pray for strength and safety for priests and other church leaders in Mexico.

March 7: Father Omar Sotelo Aguilar, a courageous priest in Mexico, has documented threats and violence against his fellow clergy for years. Pray God's protection over him and for freedom of religion or belief to be upheld by authorities.

March 8: Today is International Women's Day. Pray for the many inspiring women all over the world who stand up for freedom of religion or belief despite fewer educational opportunities and fewer chances to raise their voices. God bless them and their work.

March 9: Pray for the Ladies in White, a group of brave women who peacefully protest in support of human rights in Cuba. Praise God for their courage, and pray the Cuban government would respect their right to attend religious services without hindrance.

March 10: One of CSW's long-term partners is Michelle Chaudhry, head of the Cecil and Iris Chaudhry Foundation in Pakistan. She fights tirelessly for the rights of Christians and is a dedicated advocate for freedom of religion or belief. Please pray God protects her as she goes about her challenging, often dangerous work.

March 11: Pray for Wang Hongwu, whose husband, Pastor Yang Hua, is currently serving an unjust two and a half year prison sentence in China. Their church, Living Stone Church, is under immense government pressure. Every member of the church has been visited at their home by government officials. Pray God's presence comforts and supports Wang.

March 12: Pray for human rights defender, Tran Thi Hong, a member of Vietnamese Women for Human Rights. She reported several incidents of harassment against her and her family in 2016, including severe beatings during interrogation sessions and still experiences harassment every day. Please pray God protects them from further abuse.

March 13: Pray for Helen Berhane, an Eritrean woman who was arrested in 2004. Beaten and imprisoned, she spent 32 months in a shipping container without adequate light, ventilation or food. Her faith sustained her, and she was able to write songs while in prison. Praise God for Helen's amazing courage and endurance.

March 14: Praise God for the many godly, inspiring women all over the world. Thank God for raising them up and empowering them to fight for justice and freedom in their countries. Pray they will have faith, hope and endurance to keep doing their amazing work even when persecuted.

March 15: CSW launched a bold, new initiative in 2018 to ensure opportunities in life for all children. Children are suffering because of their faith, paying a very high price with their education and their future. Pray for the thousands of children impacted.



March 16: In some Mexican communities, children from Protestant families are barred from school as a way of coercing their parents to join the majority faith. Pray these children would be allowed to resume their education.

March 17: School should be a place to learn facts, but in Pakistan, children are taught using biased curriculum that teaches the importance of Islam and actively disparages other faiths. Pray for curriculum reform that promotes peace between religious groups.

March 18: Pray that abductions and forced marriages of young girls from Christian families in Pakistan would end. They are married against their will to men they don't know, forcibly converted to Islam and prevented from seeing their families.

March 19: Pray for the safety of human rights defenders children in China. They are unfairly punished at school as a way of putting pressure on their parents. Grace Gao has been beaten at school because of the work of her father, human rights lawyer Gao Zhisheng.

March 20: Teachers and students in some Cuban schools bully and punish children of pastors who are being targeted by the government. Pray God strengthens these children and keeps them safe at school.

March 21: Pray for the many children in Nehemiah Camp, (a camp for people displaced by violence in Nigeria), who were forced to flee their homes due to attacks by militia from the Fulani tribe. Pray for comfort and healing for these children traumatized by violence and lost family.

March 22: Lord, we lift up to You all the children who are suffering because of the persecution of their parents for their faith. Watch over and protect them and their families.

March 23: Pray for governments around the world which are complicit in violations of human rights of their citizens. Dear God, we pray for strength, comfort and protection upon the children caught up in religious conflict.

March 24: Almighty God, protect all human rights defenders who devote their lives to bravely speak out for religious freedom and human rights, even at great risk. Bless them and their families for all they sacrifice to be voices for freedom.

March 25: Dear God, thank You for reconciling us to You through the death of Your son, Jesus. As we enter this Holy week, watch over all those who are dispossessed by their governments and are crying out for justice.

March 26: The events of Easter includes an unfair trial. Please pray for Christians who are currently undergoing unfair trials across the world. Pray that justice and freedom would prevail in all these situations.

March 27: Almighty God, in this week of observing Your Son's death on the cross and His glorious resurrection, we pray for those who approach Easter fearing that celebrating these events would make them a target. Protect Your children and bring Your peace.

March 28: Easter reminds us that Jesus suffered alone for our sins. Pray for those who have been abandoned by friends and/or family because of their faith in Jesus. Ask God to comfort the families of Christians who have been killed for their faith.

March 29: Lord, we pray for protection of Christians around the world this Easter when they may face greater threats. Watch over persecuted Christians who worship in unregistered churches, house churches and in secret.

March 30: As we remember the sacrifices Jesus made for us, pray for those who follow in the footsteps of His suffering. May they know the peace, comfort and presence of God. Pray for protection of Christians who may face greater threats in the run up to Easter.

March 31: Lord Jesus, our Savior and King, we thank You for bringing forgiveness of sins and life in abundance. We pray for Your mighty power to be poured out upon Christians facing persecution.

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