



PRAYER GUIDE

APRIL-JUNE 2022

Welcome to the Spring edition of the Toybox Prayer Guide. Thank you so much for all your prayers for our work with street children.

Please feel free to share this guide with your church and friends.



www.toybox.org.uk/pray

APRIL 2022

Week 1 – (Sunday 3 – Saturday 9 April)

Our Easter Appeal has just landed on doormats across the country and beyond. With its focus on essential items that will make both an immediate difference and long-term change to street children's lives, we pray that people will respond well to this appeal so that the children and families with whom we work may receive the support they so desperately need.

Week 2 – (Sunday 10 – Saturday 16 April)

Tuesday 12 April is International Day for Street Children so please join us as we mark this day alongside our partners and street children around the world. In Sierra Leone, our partners are organising an activity that celebrates street children as heroes or heroines. We give thanks for this initiative, which will celebrate people who work on the frontline, as well as encouraging children to believe in their own potential, that they too can be heroes.

Week 3 – (Sunday 17 – Saturday 23 April)

**“The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness has not overcome it.”** John 1 v5

This Sunday, as we celebrate Jesus' resurrection, we give thanks for the joy and hope that Easter brings, praying for everyone who needs to claim that promise of hope and new life for themselves. We pray especially that children in difficult and dangerous situations around the world may be able to move out of the darkness in which they find themselves and enter into a new reality of life and light.

Week 4 – (Sunday 24 – Saturday 30 April)

This week we pray for 'Take me with you', an innovative new project in Bolivia that supports the caregivers within vulnerable families to build small businesses, as well as helping them to set up a bank account after receiving training on the benefits of saving. We give thanks that 18 of the families involved in this project now have a savings account, which allows them to properly manage the profits from their sales, and allows them to pay for school, as well as other expenses.

APRIL



MAY 2022

Week 1 – (Sunday 1 May – Saturday 7 May)

This week we ask you to pray for the continued safety of our partners, especially in Guatemala. The team has observed an increase in violence in the areas in which they work, together with an increase in organised crime and the active recruitment of young people into these organisations. We pray that these young people know that there are alternatives to joining a gang and that they can be protected from this dangerous way of life and that communities do not have to live in fear.

Week 2 – (Sunday 8 – Saturday 14 May)

So many people struggle just to live from one day to the next, so it is wonderful to hear from the families our partners have supported as they start planning for the future. Carla from Bolivia says, ***“Now I have my business, I hope to grow it, sell more products and live in a house with all the basic services. My children are now happy.”*** We give thanks that Carla now has a chance to fulfil her own dreams as well as those of her children.

Week 3 – (Sunday 15 – Saturday 21 May)

This week, we pray for two brothers, Marco, 11 and Johny, 17, who live in Guatemala City. To them, family is everything. As the International Day of Families is celebrated on Sunday 15th May, they will be thinking particularly of their grandmother, who recently passed away. They were extremely close, and Marco remembers how much she loved them. ***“My nan was such a good person and so loving. I want to be like her when I'm older.”*** Let's pray for all children attending Toybox projects, that they may feel the love of their families extra-specially this week, whether it be a biological or chosen family..

Week 4 – (Sunday 22 – Saturday 28 May)

As the United Kingdom continues to learn to 'live with Covid', we are all too aware that coronavirus is still very much an issue in the countries we work in. Many have lower vaccination rates, especially among street children and poorer communities. We give thanks that 133 street children and young people were recently vaccinated in one of our projects in Nepal and pray that the vaccine may be made available to everyone, especially those who are most vulnerable.

MAY

JUNE 2022

Week 1 – (Sunday 29 May – Saturday 4 June)

Please pray for our partners in Nepal as they face the daily challenge of working with street children and their families. Their work includes medical support for many different illnesses, with some more complex than others, and it is not always possible for the team to help them. We pray for our partners as they accept that they can't always help, asking that they may know comfort and peace about the decisions they make.

Week 2 – (Sunday 5 – Saturday 11 June)

This week we give thanks for improved well-being of the young people with whom we work in Kenya. Many of these young people struggle with drug dependency and through frequent group activities and counselling, where there is a requirement that the children and young people must be sober when they attend these sessions, they have helped keep each other accountable, especially on mentorship days.

Week 3 – (Sunday 12 – Saturday 18 June)

12th June is World Day Against Child Labour and to mark this day we would like to share Shaheen's story with you. 11-year-old Shaheen in India plays an important role in her family. She is responsible for looking after her younger siblings, as well as working by designing and painting sandal straps to sell. Shaheen has never been to school, but dreams of one day becoming a doctor. Please join us as we pray that she may soon be able to enrol at school - an important first step towards achieving her dreams.

Week 4 – (Sunday 19 – Saturday 25 June)

We are really excited to tell you about a new project in India for street children called STRIPE. This project will run for three years and will support over 500 children to improve their well-being through education and nutrition. Please join us as we pray for the success of this project, and that it will help the children to realise their potential by learning long-term life skills and leadership skills.

Week 5 – (Sunday 26 June – Saturday 2 July)

This week we give thanks for the way our partner in El Salvador is working with local leaders, providing training for staff on the birth registration process. We also give thanks for an activity organised by the Mayor's office – 'Being mayor for the day', during which children and young people learned first-hand about the role of local government, how they can have their voices heard and represent their communities.

JUNE