



PRAYER GUIDE

OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2021

Welcome to the Autumn 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

OCTOBER 2021

Week 1 – (Sunday 3 – Saturday 9 October)

Sunday 3rd October sees the long-anticipated return of the London Marathon. Please join with us as we pray for the safety and success of all who are taking part. We pray especially for the runners who are raising money for Toybox and give thanks for the determination and commitment that has kept them going despite the lockdowns and other difficulties during their training.

Week 2 – (Sunday 10 – Saturday 16 October)

It is now just under three months to Christmas, and Toybox supporters will soon be receiving our latest appeal on their doorsteps. Focusing on our Birth Registration work in Guatemala, it reminds us that our names are part of who we are, and how important identity is for children's self-esteem, self-worth and sense of belonging. Please pray for the success of this appeal and especially for the children who will receive their birth certificates this Christmas as a result.

Week 3 – (Sunday 17 – Saturday 23 October)

Sunday 17th October is the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. In Guatemala the competition for the few job vacancies available means that, despite targeted training courses, young people and adults from deprived areas are less likely to be given a chance of employment. Please give thanks for the few who have succeeded against the odds and pray for the others – that they may not be discouraged and will continue with their training so that they may have the right skills as and when more work opportunities become available.

Week 4 – (Sunday 24 – Saturday 30 October)

Earlier in the year there was a fire in Freetown, Sierra Leone. This posed a big challenge to our partner as many people with whom they were working lost their homes and possessions. We give thanks that we were able to provide food, school materials and other essential items, and we pray this community will be able to build itself up again and the people will be able to return to a sense of normality.

OCTOBER



NOVEMBER 2021

Week 1 – (Sunday 31 October – Saturday 6 November)

This week, please join us as we give thanks for the success of a homework club run by our partner in El Salvador. This club has enabled children to strengthen their language, maths and social skills, with children showing great progress in their reading and writing. Please pray that they may continue to use the good studying practices that they have learnt, so that they may make progress at school.

Week 2 – (Sunday 7 – Saturday 13 November)

We give thanks for the week-long virtual summer camp that our partner in India organised and carried out. Activities such as yoga, art, crafts and science activities were held to encourage the children to have fun while learning, and to keep them engaged during the lockdown. The children were also encouraged to use their creativity in the celebration of festivals and other special days.

Week 3 – (Sunday 14 – Saturday 20 November)

Saturday 20th November is World Children's Day, a day to reimagine a better future for every child. We give thanks for the education work in Sierra Leone, where over the last year 181 out of 200 children involved with our project stayed in school. We give thanks that through this project they were able to see how education would enable them to live a better life, support their families and build a better future for themselves and their communities.

Week 4 – (Sunday 21 – Saturday 27 November)

Some birth registrations are more complicated than others, but we are pleased to share that in Nepal over the last year, our partners have been able to complete 17 complicated cases, where children had no information about their family background and no documents belonging to their parents. One of these cases took eight months to be completed, but we give thanks that these children are now registered, with all the benefits that offers.

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER 2021

Week 1 – (Sunday 28 November – Saturday 4 December)

This week, we give thanks that after lockdown eased in Bolivia it was possible for the children to plan some recreational activities, including walks and visits to local tourist sites, as well as trips to places further afield. Through these activities, our partner is helping the children and youth to increase in confidence and improve their communication and leadership skills. We pray that these activities, which provide an essential avenue for relieving stress, may take place safely and that the children will enjoy exploring new areas.

Week 2 – (Sunday 5 – Saturday 11 December)

Friday 10th December is International Human Rights Day, and this week we pray for our partner in Kenya, as they work with other organisations to develop a Child Protection policy for the Nairobi County government. We give thanks for this collaboration and pray that it may have a really positive impact on the children with whom we work.

Week 3 – (Sunday 12 – Saturday 18 December)

Please join us as we give thanks for the night outreach sessions that have been organised by our partner in Guatemala. The children and youth have taken on a leadership and solidarity role, with several of them helping to locate groups of people who spend the night on the streets. They have also shown their solidarity by informing their peers about the visit so that they can access the food and clothes that are shared during the tour.

Week 4 – (Sunday 19 – Saturday 25 December)

This Christmas we hope and pray that we may be able to join with our families and friends and that we can be together safely rather than staying at a distance from each other. We remember those for whom Christmas is a lonely time, and particularly for children alone on the streets, and pray that they may have people to care for them, and that they may know God's presence with them at this time.

Week 5 – (Sunday 26 December – Saturday 1 January)

**“Behold, I am doing a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?”** *Isaiah 43:19*

As we look back over the last year, we give thanks for the children in our project in El Salvador, who have been empowered to take on new leadership roles. This has arisen through the creation of committees where the children chose tasks to carry out such as keeping the classroom clean and tidy. We pray they may grow in confidence as they play a vital part in the activities and sessions.

DECEMBER