

Monday

Gary and Mary Reid – global mission workers in Kenya

Gary and Mary are due to travel back to Kenya in early January following a short home assignment in December, which included deputation.

- *Rejoice with Gary and Mary in the amazing goodness, mercy and grace of our Lord throughout 2019 and for his continuous leading and guiding. Pray that as they enter 2020 they will ever be obedient to the Lord's leading and that his Holy Spirit will work mightily in them and in the precious souls of the Maasai, for his glory.*
- *Pray for Gary and Mary as they return to Kenya and remember their children as the family are separated from each other. Pray that their children will grow in the knowledge of our Lord and desire to serve him, and be obedient to him.*

Christian Presbyterian Church of Portugal

- *Pray that God would continue to lead and direct Rev Paulo Jorge (President) and his colleagues in all decisions they make as part of the church's leadership team.*
- *Pray for the leaders and members of the churches as they seek opportunities to share their faith with others.*

Tuesday

Rev Cheryl Meban – Chaplain, Ulster University (Belfast and Jordanstown)

Cheryl writes, "Post-Christmas can be particularly hard for students and staff. There are exams, assignments and projects to hand in / mark, bills to pay, families to leave. For students travelling from warm places, it can be particularly hard to face the cold, grey and damp of our winter here."

- *Pray for people in the university community carrying heavy burdens, caring for family, recovering from trauma and facing mental ill-health while trying to invest in their education.*
- *Pray too for Cheryl as she seeks to support students and staff with heavy burdens.*

Irvinestown, Pettigo and Tempo Presbyterian Churches – Rev Gunther Andrich

- *Pray for fresh wisdom and insight from the Lord on how to help people in specific groups in the congregations to grow in mutual fellowship.*
- *Pray that the Sunday schools in the congregation would continue to flourish.*
- *Pray for the three kirk sessions, and for those about to become elders.*
- *Pray that they will continue to push the priorities of prayer and the ministry of the Word more deeply into the life of the congregations.*

Wednesday

Russia

New Year is the biggest celebration in Russia. Russian Christmas is on 7 January, following the Julian Calendar like many other Orthodox countries. Therefore 1 to 8 January are public holidays. Students and staff of the St Petersburg Christian University therefore use this time to rest after a busy semester and prepare for the new semester starting soon after the holidays.

- *Pray for the new course in Practical Theology that will be taught at St Petersburg Christian University from the end of January.*
- *Pray for safe travel for staff and students as they visit their families.*

Malawi – The Church of Central Africa Presbyterian (CCAP)

- *Give thanks for the work and witness of PCI's partners in the three CCAP Synods in Malawi – Blantyre, Livingstonia and Nkhoma.*
- *Pray for wisdom and guidance for Synod General Secretaries – Rev Billy Gama, Rev Levi Nyondo and Rev Vasco Kachipapa.*
- *Pray for all in Malawi still suffering the effects of Cyclone Idai. Pray especially for those who lost their homes and remember the church seeking to help those in need.*

Thursday

Michelle Purdy – deaconess in Ballyclare (Rev Peter Bovill – vacancy convener)

- *Give thanks for the dedicated volunteers at Ballyclare Distribution Centre of Newtownabbey Foodbank, not only for their extra commitment in December, but their commitment to spread God's love in a practical way all year round.*
- *Give thanks for the conversations and relationships that the Foodbank has initiated. Pray for families who will feel the financial pressure of Christmas into the new year.*
- *Give thanks for the encouragement and support Michelle receives from members of Ballyclare congregation during this vacancy and pray for the congregation as they seek to appoint a new minister.*

Kells Presbyterian Church (Co Meath) – Rev Brian Wilson (stated supply)

- *Pray for the life and witness of Kells congregation.*
- *Pray for the elders and members as they pray and plan for the future.*
- *Pray for the members of the congregation as they seek opportunities to share their faith with others.*
- *Remember also Brian Wilson as he ministers to the congregation as stated supply.*

Friday

Parents' Facebook page – The PCI Facebook page supports parents in keeping Christ at the centre of family life. *As the Christmas season ends, pray that parents would continue to find ways of keeping the gospel story before their children throughout the year ahead.*

Christmas Activities – During this Christmas season many in our homes and units will be taking part in activities. *Give thanks that so many residents are well and able to get involved in trying out new activities. Pray for all those participating in activities, that they may find refreshment and fellowship.*

Ministerial Studies and Development – 8 applicants for the ordained ministry meet on Monday 6 January for an Information and Consultation Day. They meet interview panels informally, and attend seminars. *Pray that applicants and panel members would have wisdom and discernment from the Lord as they seek his will together.*

Education – *Pray for Dr Andy Brown in his role as convener of the State Education Committee, and the other PCI representatives who sit on the Transferor Representatives' Council. Pray for wisdom and guidance as they seek to make a positive contribution to state education at all levels.*

Saturday

Peter and Valerie Lockwood – global mission workers in Nepal

The United Mission to Nepal's work is by invitation and agreement with the government of Nepal, and since its inception has followed a five-year cycle. UMN has three agreements; General, Hospital and Cluster Programmatic. All three agreements are due for renewal during 2020.

- *Give thanks that the government has granted a six-month extension to the Hospital Agreement, which allows the two UMN hospitals in Tansen and Okhaldhunga to continue to operate past 15 January and permits expatriate visas to be renewed. Pray that the negotiations for all the agreements will go smoothly.*
- *Currently all expatriate visas are in the process of renewal. This is a stressful period, so pray for patience and the quick renewal of visas.*

Kilkenny Presbyterian Church – Rev William Montgomery (vacancy convener)

- *Give thanks for all God is doing through his church in Kilkenny.*
- *Pray for the congregation's outreach initiatives to bear fruit.*
- *Pray for the elders and members of the congregation as they seek a new minister and for William Montgomery in his role as vacancy convener.*

Let's pray...

Moderator – Rt Rev Dr William Henry

As we celebrate Christ's birth with our families and friends during this special season, we remember the Moderator as he spends time with his wife Nora and their children, Bethany, Megan and Connor.

- *Pray for the Moderator as he takes time away from his busy schedule to rest and enjoy time with family and friends.*
- *As many congregations hold special services to celebrate the New Year, give thanks for the opportunity to attend these, remembering those who are unable to leave their home due to ill health or advancement in years.*

Sunday

Naomi Keefe – global mission worker in Brazil

- *Give thanks for the various evangelistic events with the families in Peixinhos over the Christmas period.*
- *Give thanks for the enthusiasm and openness of the children and adults in Beberibe in taking part in the new strategy of learning at the Sunday School event.*
- *Pray for the wheelbarrow book outreach into the community and for the contacts made.*
- *Pray that Naomi will enjoy a refreshing time with family in Ireland over Christmas.*

Presbyterian Church of South Sudan (PCOSS)

Earlier this month, the United Nations reported that it expects 7.5 million people in South Sudan will need humanitarian assistance in 2020 due to ongoing conflict, extreme weather and poor macro-economic conditions.

- *Pray for the peace deal to continue to hold and for good political progress.*
- *Pray for all facing food shortages and those displaced / living as refugees.*
- *Pray for the work and witness of the PCOSS, and their efforts to encourage peace and provide humanitarian relief to those in need, in particular those displaced.*

Resources are available for use in Sunday services to accompany today's prayer. Visit: www.presbyterianireland.org/sundayprayer