

**PRAYER FOCUS:**

Thankfulness

ASK 2020,

our annual prayer guide,
is available now!

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2020 has been a very unusual year which has presented The Leprosy Mission with many challenges. We have seen people with leprosy, our

supporters and our teams experience isolation, fear, disruption and worry.

But, we have also seen God's love, grace and mercy given freely by our friends, colleagues and the wider TLM family. This has helped us to adapt our programmes and bridge the gap suffered by many during lockdowns. There is much to give thanks for!

We continue to rely on your faithful prayers. It has been the foundation stone of our organisation and major steps forward such as the building of Leprosy Mission Hospitals around the world. Our specialist hospital teams are dedicated to caring for some of the poorest and most marginalised people in the world.

COVID-19 has put severe pressure on these hospitals at a time when, more than ever, they must innovate and adapt their services to reach, diagnose, treat and support those with leprosy, and the most vulnerable, in communities around our world.

In this issue of **PRAYERFUEL**, we particularly ask you to join us in a prayer of thanks for our global community and the resilience it has shown in the face of a global pandemic and for all of our local supporters too.

Give thanks to God for:

- Our strong community relationships and that we were able to mobilise them quickly to raise awareness of COVID-19 and how people with leprosy could protect themselves from it. Soap, face masks and information on social distancing were distributed quickly and effectively through our networks. In India, tens of thousands of people affected by leprosy and others benefitted from these awareness campaigns.
- Our critical hospital and healthcare workers who have largely been protected from COVID-19. Many of them have been working tirelessly in the frontline caring for people affected by leprosy and other vulnerable members of the population. In Ethiopia, we are grateful that people affected by leprosy in project areas are not as exposed to COVID-19 as much as was originally feared.
- The skill of our project teams across the world who were able to adapt and change in order to meet the 'new COVID reality'. Whether it was introducing video consultations, distributing critical food parcels to those unable to work during lockdown or preparing online resources to keep in touch with our critical supporters, our teams went the extra mile.

Pray for:

- The continued fight against COVID-19 particularly as people affected by leprosy are even more at risk due to their weak immunity system. Cases continue to rise in many of the countries where TLM is working. Often their hospitals have significantly fewer resources such as ventilators to fight the disease.
- Patients suffering from COVID-19 pandemic or those who continue to be in lockdown. We think of those who care for them, and those who are suffering from anxiety during this stressful time.
- Ongoing effective and meaningful engagement with local churches despite many events and activities being cancelled and rearranged. That we can continue to pull together as a virtual community to support projects around the world and help those less fortunate.
- The Lord to strengthen us in the remainder of 2020 as we plan and make adjustments to the work of the mission. For protection and health of the TLMNI family of supporters, staff and board members and that as the longer term implications of these extraordinary days shapes the future that the presence of TLM in leprosy affected areas would not be diminished, instead a brighter beacon of hope would be established in communities and countries of the Global Fellowship.

Visit www.tlm-ni.org for our online prayer resources.



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