

IDOP Mini-Banquet Program

(Suggested prayer lengths make this a 30 minute program)

Our biggest focus this year is on Nigeria, where there has been a genocide against Christians for over a decade, with thousands of Christians killed for their faith. In 2019 alone, more than a thousand Christians have been brutally murdered for believing in Jesus. There has also been a huge increase in persecution in India since 2019, and Iraq continues to struggle to recover from all the damage of ISIS. Please watch these videos and use the prayer points below to aid you in a time of prayer after each video.

1. The Nigerian Persecution No One is Talking About – (7 min 16 sec)- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H_eW2zNj_9I *Note: This video is a few years old, but the situation is not any better. Attacks have continued, increasing in location and number.*

Prayer Points (Pray for approx. 6 min):

- That the Muslim leaders of Nigeria would govern according to the Constitution, which states that there should be no official religion. Pray against sharia law and for governors trying to resist the pressure to implement it.
- For strength and wisdom for President Muhammadu Buhari, who was inaugurated in May 2015 after winning the election against the incumbent, Goodluck Jonathan, and re-elected in February 2019. He is a Muslim who promised to fight corruption and Boko Haram. Pray he and his advisers will be committed to fighting for a complete end of corruption in this land and will know how to stop Boko Haram and the Hausa-Fulani Muslim herdsmen.
- Pray for an immediate end to these Boko Haram and Fulani attacks on Christians.
- Pray for the thousands of Christians left homeless or with no church building by recent Muslim violence or government oppression. Ask the Lord to be the shelter they need (Isaiah 25:4) Pray for provision and protection.
- Pray for comfort, peace, and healing for Christian victims of several recent Muslim rampages. Pray for the families and relatives of the 25,000 people killed, many of them Christians, during the Boko Haram carnages and Fulani herdsman attacks during the past 6 years. Pray the Lord will comfort them, and that they will respond in a Christ-like way.
- Pray for Christian orphans who have lost both parents because of Boko Haram or Fulani attacks. Pray for the Lord to bless, anoint, and provide for the ministry of the Zambiri Outreach and Childcare Center as they minister to these orphans.
- Pray for the protection of young girls who are being kidnapped and forced to convert to Islam and to marry Muslims. They are used mainly as servants in these marriages. Pray for comfort for grieving parents as well. We especially lift up the 112 Chibok girls still missing after being kidnapped by Boko Haram terrorists and Leah Sharibu, age 16, still in captivity because she refuses to deny Jesus. Pray for healing of the trauma for those who were rescued or have escaped as well.

2. Unshakable faith in India: Kirti's story (3 min 25 sec)- <https://youtu.be/BXf5tZz6UcM>

Prayer Points (Pray for approx.. 4 min)

- Pray for healing, peace, strength, and comfort for the many Christians like Kirti who have recently been beaten and severely injured by Hindu extremists. For the full recovery of those injured in recent attacks and for endurance for them to remain faithful despite these attacks

- Pray for comfort and strength for the families of those martyred for their faith, especially the wife and son of Anant Ram Gand, beheaded for his faith. For provision for those who lost homes and churches in the attacks.
- Pray for the Lord's provision and mercy for our brothers and sisters in India living in great poverty, especially the widows and orphaned children of Christian martyrs and women who have been abandoned by their husbands because of their faith. Pray for those thrown out of their homes and villages for their faith in Jesus.
- Pray for the Lord's intervention in the national government, very strongly influenced by the BJP. Pray against the vision for "a Hindu nation" and against the misuse of the anti-conversion laws now implemented in at least seven Indian states.
- There are over 500,000 villages in India without a single Christian! Pray for village workers! For salvation of the 205 people groups with populations of over 10,000 that are still totally unreached.
- Pray for provision of food and other necessities for Christians in all countries in the COVID crisis – that the Lord will move government officials to stop discrimination against our brothers and sisters in Christ as they distribute aid. Pray for Open Doors and local partners as they perform this important ministry. Pray especially for the widows.

3. "Iraq: Dalia's story" on Vimeo (4 min 26 sec)- <https://vimeo.com/452231468?ref=em-share>

Prayer Points (Pray for approx. 4 min.)

- Praise God for the 16 Centers of Hope in Iraq which currently run a women's ministry group. Ask God for wisdom for local workers who equip and train existing groups and plan to establish new groups too.
- Please remember Dalia and the ladies in her town as they continue to connect online through the Covid-19 lockdown. Pray that they may soon be able to meet in person again.
- Violent incidents against Christians still occur in this region. Please pray for God's church in Iraq to be strengthened, to stand firm and to shine as a beacon of light.
- Pray for the financial support of hospitals in the Nineveh Plain. In the past year and a half, tens of thousands of Christians have returned to their villages after fleeing from ISIS militants in 2014. The area still lacks medical services, equipment and hospitals.
- Pray for the Lord to not completely remove the Christian presence from Iraq. Pray for wisdom and courage for believers who may be afraid to return to their villages. Pray for the government to keep them safe and protect their rights.
- For adequate Church leadership, now that many good leaders have been martyred or have been forced to flee the country. Some Iraqis are in training in Jordan, Lebanon, and elsewhere. Pray that many may return to Iraq.
- For God to put His hedge of protection around all Christian believers, guarding their coming in and going out. Pray for the Lord's angels to have charge over them. Pray for those who have remained in Iraq to be bold witnesses to their friends and neighbors.

Offering

Thank you for taking time to pray for our precious brothers and sisters in Christ who are suffering simply because they worship the same Lord and Savior that we do!

We pray for God's blessings on you and your guests, and hope that you will be inspired to learn more about how you can continue to pray for the worldwide persecuted church.

We hope that you will also consider giving towards a few projects to support our brothers and sisters in Christ in Nigeria and all over the world. This year's IDOP offering will go to support these three projects:

1. Mission African International, ministry of Dr. Sayo Ajiroye, with a focus on helping Christians in Southern Kaduna (in the middle belt of Nigeria) – a frequent attack place of Fulani
2. Support for the school and home for orphans in Jos, Nigeria hosted by Archbishop Ben and Mama Gloria Kwashi (*see below for more information)
3. Giving to Open Doors projects to help widows, orphans, and children

How to send your offering:

You can use either method below:

1. Click on this link to donate by credit card: <https://quickclick.com/r/oxiew>
2. Write a check to "St. James Anglican Church" with "IDOP offering" on the memo line and mail it to: St. James Anglican Church, 2995-A Airway Ave. Costa Mesa, CA 92626

Thank you for attending this banquet for the persecuted church! We want to invite you to a very special IDOP with a powerful speaker, focused on Nigeria:

What: International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church (IDOP)

Speaker: Faith McDonnell, Director of the International Religious Liberty Program, Institute on Religion and Democracy (IRD), Washington, D.C.

When: November 1, 2020 - 4 to 5:30 pm.

Where: Calvary Chapel Living Word, 17101 Armstrong, Irvine

Live-stream: <http://www.calvarylivingword.org/watch-live.html>

*This article about the persecution of Christians in Nigeria paints a wonderful picture of the loving care and education that Anglican Archbishop Ben Kwashi and his wife Gloria give to 400 orphans who lost their parents due to Muslim extremists. "The orphans have nothing, but surrounded by the warm and disciplined Christian love of the Kwashis, they have everything (read the full article at <https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/7112/nigeria-christians>).