



EMBRACE
the Middle East



PRAYER DIARY

**August 2025 -
January 2026**

Prayer is an important way to stand in solidarity with our Christian partners in the Middle East as they support the most vulnerable members of their communities. Prayer unites us, and gives our partners strength as they work within complex and unpredictable situations.

Our partners help thousands of marginalised people of different faiths and backgrounds. Despite conflict, political uncertainty and economic challenges, they remain faithful to their commitment to alleviate poverty, sickness and trauma. It means a lot to them that you are praying for them and the many people who need their help.

This diary highlights a different partner organisation or project for each week of the next six months. Conditions in the Middle East can change suddenly and new prayer needs arise, so we also encourage you to visit **www.embraceme.org** for the latest updates.

Picture: Overlooking the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Jerusalem.
(Credit: Jonny Gios, via Unsplash).

AUGUST 2025

3 August

Motivated by love for God and respect for human dignity, BLESS – the social development arm of the Coptic Orthodox Church – empowers marginalised communities in Egypt to improve their health, educational and environmental situations. This week, we pray for the work it does to help people adapt to the effects of climate change.

10 August

Operating in a dangerous and highly unpredictable context, the staff at Al Ahli Hospital continue to do everything they can to care for Gaza's sick and injured. Please join us in praying for their safety and for all of the critically ill patients they serve.



**The fear of the Lord
is a fountain of life,
so that one may avoid
the snares of death.**

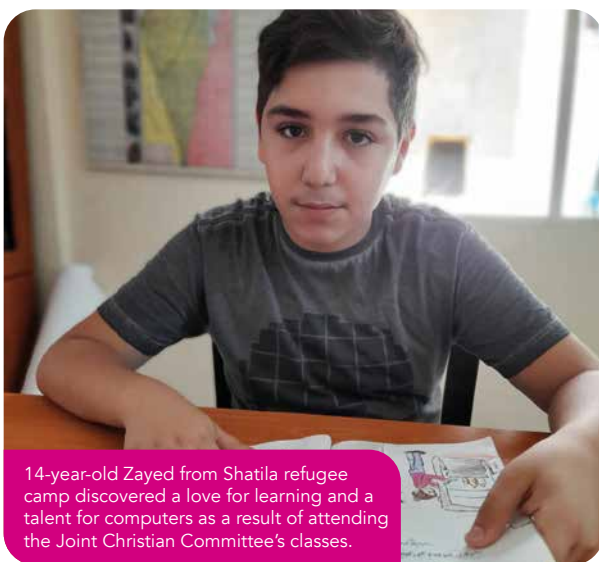
Proverbs 14v27

17 August

Healthcare in Iraq is poor and overstretched, and many people lack the means to pay for their treatment, let alone diagnostic tests. Maryamana Hospital in Ankawa is providing free screening for breast and cervical cancers. We give thanks for all of the lives that have been saved through this initiative.

24 August

Many children living in the Shatila refugee camp in southern Beirut have never been to school or have dropped out, putting their futures at risk. The Joint Christian Committee runs special classes for these children, aged 9 to 15, to provide them with education and vocational skills. We pray this will help the children reach their full potential.



14-year-old Zayed from Shatila refugee camp discovered a love for learning and a talent for computers as a result of attending the Joint Christian Committee's classes.

31 August

In Egypt, Life Vision supports children with visual impairment with specialised rehabilitation and vocational training programmes. It also raises awareness about inclusion and accessibility among their families and communities. Please pray that the children who join these programmes will flourish and feel empowered.

SEPTEMBER 2025

7 September

Many children in the West Bank have been left traumatised by the political violence they have witnessed. East Jerusalem YMCA supports children and their caregivers by providing emergency mental health first aid when an incident occurs, as well as longer-term counselling and support.

14 September

In Lebanon, successive crises in recent years have left the education sector in freefall, deeply impacting children and particularly those with learning difficulties. Please pray for the SKILD Centre as it provides personalised support to children with learning difficulties and trains teachers to better help students who are struggling.

21 September

Gender-based violence is widespread in Syria, reflecting the ongoing effects of conflict, poverty and social instability. We pray for a project Embrace supports that works with women and girls who have experienced gender-based violence in Homs. The project provides legal and psychosocial support, counselling, and healthcare services.



The anti-gender-based-violence project we support in Syria empowers women and girls to identify abusive and toxic situations and, where possible, to exit them. (Credit: Amirhossein Khedri, via Unsplash).



28 September

EpiscoCare works with some of Egypt's most economically marginalised communities to help women and children access education, healthcare and economic opportunities. Please pray that this holistic support will lead to better life chances and opportunities for families living in challenging circumstances.

OCTOBER 2025

5 October

The war in Gaza has caused widespread destruction and triggered a humanitarian emergency, leaving civilians in urgent need of aid. Please pray for Caritas Jerusalem, as they provide emergency medical services to vulnerable communities and cash assistance to families struggling to pay for their basic needs.

12 October

It is the season for the olive harvest in Palestine. We give thanks for the olive trees that have been sponsored by generous Embrace supporters, and we pray for protection on the Palestinian olive farmers as they harvest this year's crop.

19 October

Tripoli is one of the poorest cities in Lebanon, and many children there from underprivileged families are vulnerable to violence, exploitation and child labour. Please pray for Beit El Nour, which works alongside such families to provide educational and social support, as well as awareness about children's rights, especially gender equality.

OCTOBER 2025

26 October

Although refugees can access Egypt's government health services, language barriers, bureaucracy and racism mean many people still do not receive the care they need. We pray for Refuge Egypt, which delivers specialised health provision for this vulnerable population, which includes many who have fled from the conflict in Sudan.

Highly skilled doctors and medical staff at Refuge Egypt provide culturally responsive medical treatment to the most vulnerable refugees.



NOVEMBER 2025

2 November

Many people living on the streets of south Tel Aviv have lost everything as a result of drug addiction. We pray for the staff and volunteers at Aviv Ministry as they respond to the practical and spiritual needs of these people, treating them with compassion and dignity.

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“Now I’m at the rehab centre and I’m so grateful for everything. Listening to the stories here has given me the hope to change my own life.”

.....

Vlad, supported by Aviv Ministry

.....

9 November

Mental healthcare in Lebanon is under-resourced and unavailable to many who desperately need to access it. As part of its holistic approach, the Karagheusian Centre offers psychosocial support to marginalised people in a town north of Beirut. Pray that those who access these services will be empowered to live fulfilling and autonomous lives.

16 November

Many nurses in Egypt have not received formal nursing education, resulting in poor care and risks for patients. The Harpur Nursing School is responding to this through its practical and comprehensive two-year nursing programme. We pray for the continued passion and dedication of its current cohort of student nurses.

23 November

As the number of indigenous Christians in Palestine declines sharply, there is an urgent need to invest in the next generation and develop positive, effective Christian leaders. Our partner, the Palestinian Bible Society, is running leadership training for young Christians across the West Bank to develop their leadership skills.

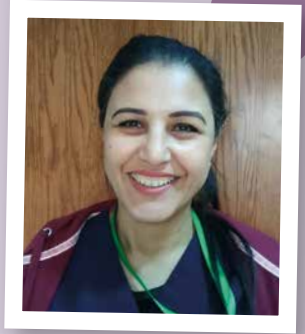
30 November

Hay el Gharbeh, in southern Beirut, is home to families living in extreme poverty. Our partner Tahaddi runs several projects in this community, including special education services for young children with complex needs. Please pray that these children would thrive as a result of the care and support they receive from the teachers and therapists.

DINA'S STORY

Before joining the two-year training programme at Harpur Nursing School in Egypt, 37-year-old Dina had very little medical knowledge.

Her work as a nurse was nothing more than a job she turned up to – and she did what she was told with very little critical thinking.



Starting the training was not easy because it had been a long time since Dina had studied. But, motivated by the example of previous graduates from the course, she was determined to keep going and do her best.

Some months in, the training is proving to be hugely beneficial. Dina is now able to read patients' lab results, understand normal ranges in biology, and she has also built her knowledge about diseases. She understands the medical terms the doctors use and she feels much more confident in her abilities. Not only does all of this make her a better nurse, but it also helps in her personal life when family members or friends get sick.

The future is looking bright for Dina, and she has many ambitions for what she wants to achieve: *"I really wish to study about infection control deeply. I wish the nurses here to be more and more trained and be better and better. The hospital has a blessed service among the area here. I wish that I can help the hospital to be the best ever."*

“O Lord my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me.”

Psalm 30v2

7 December

Gender inequality means that many women in rural Egypt have not had the opportunity to complete their education. Our partner, Think and Do, is teaching women basic literacy and numeracy to help improve their life skills and employment opportunities. We pray this will have a positive ripple effect in the wider community.



Through educating women in rural Egypt, Think and Do is empowering women to understand their rights, support their families financially and pass on good values to their children.

14 December

Many girls living in the old city of Acre in northwest Israel are from socially and economically vulnerable families, and are at high risk of dropping out of school. Please pray for a project run by the International Christian Committee in Israel, which provides these girls with holistic support and a safe space to gather at its building in the heart of the old city.

DECEMBER 2025

21 December

This week, we celebrate God's greatest gift to our world: Christ, our Saviour. We pray for all of those who are responding to Christ's call to care for people in need in the lands of his birth, and we pray that all would know peace in this festive season.

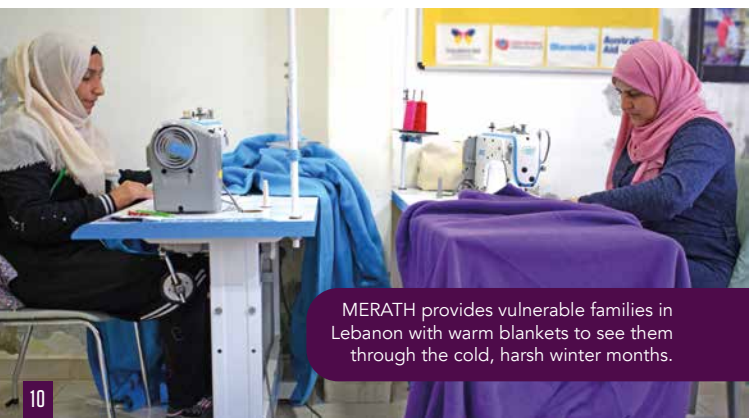
28 December

As we look ahead to a new year, we pray for Embrace's partners across the Middle East. As they work in highly challenging and pressured situations, we pray for their protection and that God would richly supply their every need.

JANUARY 2026

4 January

High poverty rates in Lebanon mean that humanitarian needs are widespread. This is particularly acute during the harsh winter months. We pray for the winter assistance programme MERATH runs, which provides vulnerable families with heating fuel, blankets and warm clothes.



MERATH provides vulnerable families in Lebanon with warm blankets to see them through the cold, harsh winter months.

11 January

Koinonia Jerusalem is providing Christian Palestinian students in East Jerusalem with much-needed education support and career guidance. We pray that this programme will empower the students to become independent leaders and decision-makers of the future, and use their new-found skills to benefit the wider Palestinian Christian community.

18 January

This week we give thanks for the invaluable contributions of all those who volunteer for Embrace. Across the UK and beyond, people give their time, skills and energy to fundraise and spread the word about our work. Their efforts help us make a positive difference in the lives of disadvantaged people in the Middle East.



For nothing will be impossible with God.

Luke 1v37

25 January

Please pray for the library that our partner, the Joint Christian Committee, runs in Dbayeh Palestinian refugee camp in Lebanon. Since it was established in 2011, it has become a hub for people to browse, read and borrow books, as well as a space for recycling programmes, life skills classes, and public health education.



Above Staff and volunteers at Aviv Ministry's drop-in centre help homeless people meet their basic needs through providing clothing, hot meals and first aid - see 2 November.

Go deeper with Embrace...

You can find more information about each prayer prompt by reading the weekly devotions we add to the prayer section of our website. The devotions give more details about our partners and projects, as well as a relevant Bible passage and spiritual thought: www.embraceme.org/devotions.

If you would like extra copies of the prayer diary, please phone us on **01494 897950** or email info@embraceme.org. Alternatively, you can download it from our website in either standard or large print versions. You are welcome to reproduce the text in your church newsletters, and to share the information with your community.

Thank you for praying with us – our Christian partners gain so much courage and resilience from your compassion and solidarity.

Embrace the Middle East

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