



Evangelical Sisterhood of Mary Canaan of God's Comfort Australia

August 2021

Dear Friends,

Our hearts are very much with the people of Afghanistan as the Taliban takes control. It's truly devastating not only for the Christians, but also for the many women and children who will face severe suffering. The people of Afghanistan are clearly fearful and distraught, with many feeling the whole world has abandoned them in their greatest time of need.

Persecution is quickly descending upon their nation. Now is the time for us as intercessors to stand in the breach for our brothers and sisters in the Lord as well as the many who don't yet know Him.

From the Bible we know that in times of national crisis, such as war, judgement will be tempered with mercy if God can find enough believers who walk in humility and obey His commandments. What a great responsibility has been placed in our hands if we consider ourselves to be God's children. Let us live up to this responsibility for our own country and especially now for Afghanistan.

At a time like this, God who loves us, does not want us to sink in fear and suffering. His Word shows us that His help avails for us: 'Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you' (Psalm 50:15 NIV).

God promises to answer us and come to our aid when we call to Him in our utmost need. He pays special attention to His children when they are suffering anxiety and distress, for He loves us and bears the pain with us. He watches over every land and nation. And His heart yearns to help us. Therefore, when one blow after the other strikes and we wonder what to do, we can turn to Him.

We find God's answer in a prayer of Holy Scripture uttered during great affliction. It is the prayer of Daniel in chapter 9 – a real gold mine. This prayer not only reveals the nature of God, but it shows us how we can reach His heart with our prayers and receive help for ourselves and those we pray for.

In times like these, we must remember that prayer is the most powerful weapon we have against injustice.

Please join us in praying fervently for the people of Afghanistan:

Our Father in Heaven, we pray for the people of Afghanistan who are frightened and need to know the Prince of Peace. May they know the presence of Jesus, through dreams, visions and Scripture.

We pray for our Christian brothers and sisters, for protection, peace and strength, and that they will be a light in their community. Give them wisdom, Lord, and discernment, that they may not endanger themselves or others.

We pray for our Prime Minister Scott Morrison as he considers Australia's response to the refugees needing a safe haven. We thank You for the commitment made, to welcome 3000 Afghani refugees. If it is Your plan for more, please let the number be raised.

We pray for our Australian soldiers from the 3rd and 17th Brigades based in Townsville as they coordinate Australia's critical and dangerous evacuation mission from Afghanistan.

We pray for the Taliban, that the Holy Spirit would work to bring about conviction in their hearts and minds. Do a miracle, dear Lord, that the world may be astounded by their change of direction, for the good of the people.

Dear Lord, we pray for those Australians who have served in Afghanistan over the past 20 years, many of whom returned home with physical and invisible scars and may be wondering why. Comfort them and help them to know that their sacrifices have not been in vain. Yours is the final victory of that nation.

In the face of the unfolding tragedy, O Lord, we bring our feelings of despair and great sadness to You. We are comforted by remembering the words of Psalm 34:18, which says: 'The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit' (NIV). We bring our sadness to You as we commit to pray for the people of Afghanistan.

In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.

Adapted from Prayer Points by Martyn Iles
Managing Director - Australian Christian Lobby



On behalf of Sister Simone, we would like to thank everyone for the cards, flowers, tributes and kind expressions of farewell given to Sister Simone for her departure from

Australia to our Motherhouse, in Germany. Sister Simone expressed that all your support over the many years was, and continues to be, very much appreciated, and a great comfort to her and to all of the Sisters in the Australian Branch.

Sister Simone departed from Australia on the 27th of July 2021 and safely reached Kanaan in Germany, without any issues during her whole time of travelling.

We are so very grateful that she was able to leave just before the Delta strain of the COVID 19 virus took a hold, here in Greater Sydney, NSW. The Lord took care of all the details, and we are grateful that Sister Simone can continue to be cared for within our Sister family.



In June 2021 we asked you to pray with us for the provision of a used fleet mobility bus that can take two wheelchairs.

This is so that Sister Theophania, who is in care, can sometimes be involved in our Sister family life here at Canaan during the day. It would also meet our long term aged care needs.

We are excited to let you know that the Lord has been answering the Australian 'Realities of Faith' prayer, and He has indeed provided the money for us to be able to purchase it! We can start looking when the COVID restrictions are lifted.

FATHER, WE THANK YOU!

We never cease to be surprised by how the Lord has provided the funds for this purchase to happen - and in such a short space of time. Given the difficult financial circumstances that people are facing in our country, it is truly amazing.

We would like to thank all those who helped to make it possible—may our Heavenly Father bless each one!



As many of you know, we do a lot of our own printing production here at Canaan. This goes for our newsletters, cards and more.

We have been experiencing difficulties with the special printer that was used for this work, as it had become outdated.

One of the companies that has been supporting us for many years was able to help in guiding us into purchasing an appropriate printer that would continue to meet our ministry and outreach needs. On Tuesday, the 24th of August 2021, our new printer arrived and was installed!



FATHER, WE THANK YOU!

LEADERS IN THE MAKING: MOSES & ELIJAH'S ENCOUNTERS WITH GOD

Over the coming months we would like to share with you a series on life-changing encounters Moses and Elijah had with God.

We follow the career of Moses, who went from prince to fugitive, from nomad to deliverer. 'Now Moses was a very humble man, more than anyone else on the face of the earth' (Numbers 12:3 NIV). His secret? He allowed God to be God.

The same goes for Elijah, who at his lowest point found healing in the loving presence of God and the courage to move forward.

There in the desert God prepares His chosen instruments. The principles apply to all who would make themselves available to God and His service.

We pray these texts by Mother Basilea will be a blessing and an encouragement to each one of you.

For all your prayers, friendship and support we send you our heartfelt thanks and we pray, may each one of you be blessed abundantly!

The Evangelical Sisters of Mary



Resource materials written by
M. Basilea Schlink