

## PRAY FOR PRISONERS

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August

Eritrean pastor and anaesthetist **Meron Gebreselasie** was arrested in 2004 and has remained in prison ever since, with no release date set. We pray that the Holy Spirit would fill him with love, joy and peace.

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> August

**Rev Futsum Gebrenegus** (pictured) is an Eritrean Orthodox priest and psychiatrist who has been in prison since 2004. We pray for encouragement for Futsum and the other senior pastors he shares a cell with.



Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> August

**Mussie Ezaz** was an evangelist and youth leader before his arrest in 2008. We pray that Mussie would be treated well in prison and released soon.

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> August

**Pastor Zhang Shaojie** in China is due for release in November when his 12-year sentence ends. We pray that Pastor Zhang would continue to be at peace in prison and for provision for his wife **Wang Fengrui** who is disabled.

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> August

**Pastor Hao Zhiwei** has been serving an eight-year sentence in China since 2019. Pray for good physical and mental health for her and her sons **Paul** and **Moses**.

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> August

**Pastor Wang Yi** of Early Rain Covenant Church (China) has been serving a 9-year-sentence since 2018. We pray that Pastor Wang can be a beacon of light in prison. We also pray for hope for his wife Jiang Rong and his children.

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> August

Pakistani **Zafar Bhatti** has been in prison since 2012 and is facing the death penalty. We pray for better health and strength for Zafar and his wife **Nawab**. We also pray that his appeal will be heard soon and that he will be acquitted.

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August

**Y Pum Bya** is a church leader from Vietnam who has been in prison since 2018, serving a 14-year prison sentence. We pray that he would be treated well in prison and that the Lord would strengthen him in his inner being.

————— Thank you for praying with us this month! —————



### CHURCH IN CHAINS

PO Box 10447, Glenageary, Co. Dublin, Ireland. Charity No: CHY 23070  
T 01-282 5393 E info@churchinchains.ie W www.churchinchains.ie



## Church in Chains Prayer Diary August 2025

But let justice roll on like a river,  
righteousness like a never-failing stream! Amos 5:24

### PRAY FOR NEWS/EVENTS

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> August

We pray for hope and strength for Iranian Christian **Mehran Shamloui**, who fled to Turkey after being sentenced to ten years in prison for his house-church activities, as he has been imprisoned following deportation back to Iran.

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> August

Our annual Supporters Day will be held at Trinity Church, Dublin on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September and will also be live-streamed. Please pray for all the preparations and for smooth travels for our speaker **Shibu Thomas** (India).

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August

In June a suicide attack on a Greek Orthodox church in Syria killed at least 30 Christians and injured up to 90. We pray for comfort and strength for all victims and healing and sufficient medical care for those who were injured.

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> August

Since an Israeli strike on Evin prison in Iran's capital Tehran in June, several Christian prisoners have been moved to other prisons in Iran where they are reportedly without clean water, cooling or heating, and lacking hygiene and proper food. We pray for their provision, health and safety.

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> August

We pray that **Michal Geske**, daughter of German Christian worker Tilmann Geske, who was martyred in 2007, would be allowed to stay in Türkiye to complete her studies, even though her residency application was rejected.

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> August

Please pray for inspiration and direction for us to reach the next generation of Christians in Ireland to develop a heart for the persecuted church.

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> August

We will have a pop up stand at the Kinfire Christian festival in Kilkenny next Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> August. Please pray that many attending the festival will take time to find out more about our work.

## PRAY FOR CHINA

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> August

The founder and president of our partner ChinaAid **Bob Fu** recently described the situation for Christians in China as the “*worst in 40 years*”. We pray for hope and courage for our brothers and sisters despite the pressure they are under.

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> August

Many house churches have moved to meeting in small groups and some even use digital formats – called “walking churches”. On Sunday members use their smartphone and go out walking on the street and worship as they walk. We ask God to bless their fellowship tomorrow and always.



Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> August

As public witness is not allowed, much Christian witness needs to take place in the workplace. We pray for safety and opportunities for Christians to share their faith with work colleagues.

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> August

**Wang Huning** is a key member of Xi Jinping's government. Earlier this year he said that “*religious work is of special importance in the overall work of the [Communist] Party and the country.*” We pray that Chinese Christian leaders would be both bold and wise as they lead churches under such close scrutiny.

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> August

**Pastor Lian Changnian** was released on bail on 12 April after two years and eight months in prison. Pray for healing for him as he has been diagnosed with mental health problems as well as severe spine issues.

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> August

China's digital authoritarian regime has deployed face recognition cameras at a rate of 2.7 per person. Smartphones are sold with preinstalled spyware, so Christians understand that nothing on their phone is secret. We pray for wisdom and guidance for Christians as they navigate this kind of surveillance.

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> August

We pray for strength for the members of **Linfen Covenant House Church** and **Linfen Golden Lampstand Church** who were recently given prison sentences after having already spent several years in detention.

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> August

We ask that all Christian charitable and welfare organisations will be able to continue serving in society and being a blessing to the nation.

## PRAY FOR SOMALIA

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> August

Somalia has suffered civil wars, coups, Islamist terrorism, drought and corruption over the past thirty years leaving many dependent on food aid. We pray for humanitarian aid to reach the millions in Somalia who are suffering from food shortages and we pray for an end to the ongoing civil war.

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August

Somalia is considered to be one of the most dangerous places in the world, particularly for Christians. We pray for protection and blessing for members of the underground church meeting together today.



Monday 18<sup>th</sup> August

**President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud** said: “*The only agenda I have is to see Somalia back on its own feet. There's nothing else I want in life.*” We pray that his actions will back up his words and for this “*failed state*” to start succeeding.

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> August

Any Somali suspected of having converted to Christianity is in great danger. Members of their family, clan or community will harass, intimidate or even kill them. Women may be raped and forcibly married. We pray for provision for converts living in safe houses having survived threats and attacks.

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> August

Sexual violence against girls by Islamic militants is on the rise, and those suspected to be Christians are particular targets. We pray for their protection and safety.

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August

The ongoing violence perpetrated by the Islamic militant group al-Shabaab has led to Somalis being disillusioned with Islam and looking for alternatives. We pray for the Gospel to spread despite the grave dangers.

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> August

Today we pray for secret Christians who are parents. They need wisdom as they teach their children about Jesus and how to follow Him. We pray for creativity, courage and guidance as they raise their children in their faith.

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> August

Pray for the persecutors in Somalia, such as al-Shabaab terrorists and clan leaders. Ask God to soften their hearts and open their minds to the truth of His love and grace.