PRAYER **DIARY**

AUGUST 2026 - JANUARY 2027

‘I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.’

Romans 15:13 (NLT)

This is a prayer we could pray every day, for every one of Embrace’s Christian partners serving tirelessly in marginalised areas of the Middle East, amid the challenges of conflict, economic and political instability, and injustice. Despite the incredibly difficult circumstances in which they work, our partners are daily renewed by God’s hope.

Join us in prayer for a different partner each week, with a special celebration of a Staff Hero on the first Sunday of every month. Continued volatility in the Middle East means new prayer needs regularly arise. For all the latest updates, visit **embraceme.org/prayer-room.**

PRAYER **DIARY**
AUGUST 2026 - JANUARY 2027

AUGUST 2026

2 August

SPOTLIGHT ON GAZA:
Staff Hero Yvette – Nutritionist

"A person who is capable of helping others cannot possibly stop, even in the most difficult circumstances."

Yvette, JPBC Nutritionist in Gaza

It is this courageous and compassionate commitment to every patient that makes the rehabilitation clinic of the Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre (JPBC) at Al Ahli hospital such a remarkable refuge for families in Gaza.

Since this current conflict began in October 2023, many of Yvette's youngest patients have only experienced malnutrition in their lives. Proper nutrition is foundational to healthy development and rehabilitation, making Yvette's work crucial during this crisis.

Reflecting on the positive impact that regular funding from Embrace supporters has, Yvette told us:

"The poverty currently afflicting Gaza is affecting these children. Their nutritional status depends entirely on their financial circumstances. The presence of sponsors who provide us with food and financial support means we're confident in the success of the treatment plans we offer and gives parents peace of mind, knowing that their children are receiving stable and continuous support."



The JPBC Team in Gaza at work.

PRAYER **DIARY**
AUGUST 2026 - JANUARY 2027

AUGUST 2026

2 August (continued)

God of provision,

Thank you for nutrition specialists like Yvette. As they nourish the mental and physical health of patients, may you continue to give them wisdom, strength and resilience for each day.

We ask you to protect the work of our partners in Gaza and to restore peace and safety to all in the Holy Land.

Amen.

9 August

The healthcare system in Syria is ravaged after 14 years of war. We pray for Embrace partner MECC (Middle East Council of Churches) strengthening healthcare in Syria through their Community Health Peer Educators. Women receive training in awareness and detection of conditions such as high blood pressure, cancer and diabetes, sharing this with their communities.

16 August

We pray for the team at Zvartnotz Centre, providing special education and rehabilitation for those with profound disabilities living in Lebanon. Their services include transport to and from the centre in a specially adapted vehicle to ensure all students can access the centre, despite ongoing instability and economic crisis.

23 August

With an estimated 1.5 million Sudanese refugees arriving in Egypt since conflict began, Refuge Egypt's Humanitarian Assistance Programme is in high demand. We pray for their team as they prioritise those in greatest need, providing food parcels, as well as medical, housing and school fee support.

PRAYER **DIARY**
AUGUST 2026 - JANUARY 2027

AUGUST 2026

30 August

The Akre region of Duhok, Iraq, is renowned for rice growing, but rising temperatures and water scarcity threaten cultivation. Embrace partner CAP (Christian Aid Programme), working with rice farmers, are advocating for laws to regulate groundwater use, protecting agricultural productivity. We pray their recommendations are accepted.

SEPTEMBER 2026

6 September

SPOTLIGHT ON GAZA:
Staff Hero Mousa – JPBC Satellite Clinic Co-ordinator & Physiotherapist

"All of us are brothers in humanity."

Mousa co-ordinates the team of therapists from Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre working at its satellite clinic at Al Ahli hospital in Gaza City. With food and clean water scarce, and 80% of homes destroyed or damaged, the challenges facing the team are immense; Mousa says that the commitment, not just of his team but of every person who generously supports the work they do, means they are continuing to improve lives every day:

"When people see a problem they think, 'What can I do?' Since I live in Gaza, I can co-ordinate the unit, Yvette can follow up with the patients and our donors can buy the equipment that we use, the food supplements we distribute and the training that we need. When Embrace support us it says to me that, all over the world, your brothers see you."

EMBRACE the Middle East

PRAYER **DIARY**

AUGUST 2026 - JANUARY 2027

SEPTEMBER 2026

6 September (continued)

Even amid the devastation of war and loss, Mousa is determined to build a more hopeful future:

"We need to put the flowers and green areas back. We need to rebuild our homes, our social community, our minds and ourselves. We are ready to live in peace."

Mousa

Father of all,

We lift to you Mousa and his devoted team working tirelessly to serve communities in Gaza.Help us do all we can to stand in solidarity with our sisters and brothers most in need.

Our hearts yearn, with theirs, for the return of flourishing green spaces, safe and secure homes, and peace in minds, hearts, and communities throughout Gaza.

Amen.

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13 September

On this Education Sunday, we remember our Egyptian partner Think & Do Life School, helping women gain vital reading, writing and maths skills, alongside vocational training. We praise God for the self-confidence gained as women study, find work and begin helping their children with homework.

PRAYER **DIARY**
AUGUST 2026 - JANUARY 2027

SEPTEMBER 2026

20 September

This Peace Sunday, we turn our prayers to our partner East Jerusalem YMCA, providing mental health support for those with disabilities and survivors of political violence living in the West Bank.

27 September

To mark World Day of the Deaf we pray for our partner Learning Centre for the Deaf in Lebanon. Through their nursery and secondary school programmes, LCD offer specialised, accessible and inclusive learning opportunities for deaf students, while preserving deaf identity and Lebanese Sign Language as essential elements of cultural and linguistic diversity.

OCTOBER 2026

4 October

SPOTLIGHT ON SYRIA:

Staff Hero Wael – Programme Manager, MECC, Damascus

> **"When people come to me for their medicines and tell me their stories, it breaks me. It reminds me why I stay and why I do what I do."** Wael

Imagine spending your life savings treating chronic illness, or having to choose between food or medicine. This is the reality for many in Syria, where economic crisis and instability remain.

OCTOBER 2026

4 October (continued)

The Middle East Council of Churches (MECC) help with medicines and treatment costs but also work to reduce preventable illness through awareness and education. They run health training for local women, empowering them to share this knowledge within their communities.

Wael is acutely aware of the scarcity of resources, but his faith, and the words of appreciation of those he's helped, fuel his determination to continue:

> **"Sometimes people will stop me in the street and say, 'You stand by us. You were with us during our hardest times.' This reminds me I am doing the right thing. That God needs me here."** **Wael**

Clearly, Wael and the MECC team are genuine examples of Jesus in their community.

God of Hope,

Thank you for partners, like Wael, who pour your love into their communities and shine your light in dark circumstances.

We trust, with them, for your provision of all they need to continue their transformative work amid economic and security challenges.

Help us to be people who steadfastly stand with those in need.

Amen.

EMBRACE the Middle East

PRAYER **DIARY**

AUGUST 2026 - JANUARY 2027

OCTOBER 2026

11 October

This Prisons Sunday, we pray for the Fabric of Hope project with female prisoners in Tripoli, Lebanon, run by our partner Beit el Nour. Gaining proficiency in tailoring and embroidery skills whilst in prison enables the women to find employment following their release and builds dignity and self-worth.

18 October

Embrace partner Maryamana is a community hospital in Erbil, Iraq, run by the Catholic Chaldean Church. Its free medical screenings enable early detection, prevention and effective treatment of cancer and other chronic illnesses. We pray for Fr Shwan Kakona and his team as they show God's love and care to each of their patients.

25 October

When the tragic death of her husband left Marta alone and with 2 young children to support, she turned to The Salaam Centre in Egypt to improve her education. She went on to complete high school and will soon graduate with a law degree. We pray for all those, like Marta, transforming their futures through education.

"For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope'

Jeremiah 29:11 (NRSV)

EMBRACE the Middle East

PRAYER **DIARY**

AUGUST 2026 - JANUARY 2027

NOVEMBER 2026

1 November

SPOTLIGHT ON LEBANON:

Staff Hero Hanna – Relief Worker, MERATH, Beqaa Valley

"This is the work of mercy that Christ commanded us to do."

Hanna

Food parcels, tarpaulins, mattresses, blankets, heaters and fuel - all are essential items that Hanna helps bring refugees and displaced Lebanese families sheltering in the Beqaa Valley, northern Lebanon. It's part of the winter support offered by Embrace partner MERATH and run with the help of local churches.



Hanna installing a heater for a displaced family.

Alongside vital supplies, the team offer emotional and spiritual support to families. Originally a Syrian refugee himself, Hanna knows that this welcoming and compassionate support is rare and precious.

For Hanna, the most rewarding aspect of his work is knowing that he is sharing the love of Christ with people in a practical way.

NOVEMBER 2026

1 November (continued)

"We seek to help vulnerable families as holistically as possible, regardless of whether they are Syrian or Lebanese. One man we support had heart trouble because of cold living conditions. We just helped him install a heater so he can finally be warmer." **Hanna**

Loving God,

Thank you for our partners like Hanna, who extend your care and compassion to vulnerable communities through practical help and emotional support.

Please provide the strength, determination, energy, and resources they need to continue their outreach.

May the support each person receives be the start of a brighter future, enabling them to become established members of new communities.

Amen.

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8 November

Embrace partner MERATH works with local churches in Syria providing a support centre for women who have experienced gender-based violence and abuse. Often fear, financial dependence and a lack of knowledge of their rights mean women remain silent about abuse. We pray for all at the support centre helping women escape harmful environments and empowering them for the future.

EMBRACE the Middle East

PRAYER **DIARY**

AUGUST 2026 - JANUARY 2027

NOVEMBER 2026

15 November

Repeated conflict and crises have destroyed Lebanon's economy and healthcare system. For most families, medicines, testing, and hospital care are unaffordable or unavailable. We pray for Embrace partner The Karagheusian Centre providing affordable healthcare services to approximately 150,000 patients each year.

22 November

Based in Cairo, Egypt, we pray for new Embrace partner IMPACT, which empowers women from marginalised communities with sewing, business and finance skills to establish their own micro-enterprises, supporting and mentoring one another through the Bridges of Hope project.

29 November

On this International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, we remember in prayer Embrace partner International Christian Committee in Israel (ICCI) as they work in Acre, Galilee, providing additional support to Palestinian-Israeli teen girls in danger of dropping out of school.

DECEMBER 2026

6 December

SPOTLIGHT ON SYRIA:

Staff Hero Lily – Programme Manager, MECC, Damascus

> **"I believe there is a huge need for people in this field who really feel for others. You must be able to put yourself in their shoes; to be a good listener; to care."** Lily

Lily has worked in the development sector providing humanitarian aid for many years. She considers her work to be the greatest expression of her Christian faith and though the needs and challenging conditions change, her commitment to helping others impartially and with respect remains steadfast.

Identifying the economic and security situations in Syria as the current greatest challenges, Lily told us:

> **"People have been living under such stress and pressures for so long and this affects their wellbeing."** Lily

This is why the group sessions that Lily and the team provide for local communities are so vital – they offer a safe space for people to share the struggles they are facing, find like-minded people who understand their situation, and implement strategies to move forward knowing they are not alone.

DECEMBER 2026

6 December (continued)

Faithful God,

Please strengthen and protect Lily and the MECC team bringing help and hope to their neighbours in Syria.

We pray for a shift and easing in economic and security situations so people can feel safer and rebuild their lives.

Above all Lord, we thank you for your faithfulness, exhibited through the steadfast, compassionate service of our partners.

Amen.



Lily facilitating an awareness session in Damascus.

13 December

Embrace partner CAP work in Iraq, the fifth most climate-affected country in the world. We pray for the continued success and development of their Sustainable Livelihoods project which, in its first year, planted 225 trees, established 36 community enterprises, and gifted 142 sheep to vulnerable families.

PRAYER **DIARY**
AUGUST 2026 - JANUARY 2027

DECEMBER 2026

20 December

As we recall the birth of the Christ child in a stable this Christmas, we remember all those displaced. We particularly pray for our partner MERATH's Winterisation project, providing mattresses, blankets, and heaters so displaced families can survive the harsh winter conditions in Beqaa Valley, Lebanon.

27 December

We pray for Embrace partner Caritas Jerusalem, providing vocational and business management training for women and young people in the Bethlehem area, helping them create innovative social enterprises which regenerate marginalised communities.

JANUARY 2027

3 January

SPOTLIGHT ON EAST JERUSALEM:
Staff Hero Sarah – Nutritionist

> **"This is not just a job; it is a humanitarian calling. We are touching the lives of small children in need and impacting them positively - that alone encourages me."** **Sarah**

Like her colleague Yvette (see p.2), Sarah works as a nutritionist but in the main Jerusalem Princess Basma Centre on the Mount of Olives. One of the biggest challenges Sarah encounters is lack of food security, she explained:

JANUARY 2027

3 January (continued)

"Many people have lost their jobs during the war [the conflict escalation since October 2023], so most of the time food with protein is not available and they are not able to consume enough vitamins."

Sarah tells us that, in the face of such challenging conditions, every donation that enables the work of the Princess Basma Centre to continue, not only benefits the health of individual children but their communities:

"It shows that there is hope; there's a way things can change. There are people that still care."

Sarah

Generous God,

We know that your heart is for all your children to have all they need.

Thank you for the way you provide for children and families in the West Bank through specialists like Sarah who give them the best possible start in life.

Help us to be those who care and strive for positive change at every opportunity.

Amen.

JANUARY 2027

10 January

We pray for Embrace partner BLESS (Bishopric of Public, Ecumenical and Social Services), the social development arm of the Coptic Orthodox Church in Egypt. Their Community Development programme includes education, healthcare and economic initiatives to help marginalised communities build sustainable long-term change.

17 January

Embrace partner St Vincent de Paul's Health Care Programme in Aleppo provides medication and financial assistance for hospital treatment for hundreds of people who would otherwise struggle to afford care. As economic and security instability continues in Syria, we pray for all staff, volunteers and beneficiaries.

24 January

This International Day of Education, we pray for our partner the Joint Christian Committee, enabling teens in the Sabra and Shatilla camps of Lebanon to access Arabic, English, science and maths classes, through their Children on the Move programme.

31 January

We pray for Embrace partner Aviv Ministry who provide a refuge for those living on the streets and battling addiction. The centre in Tel Aviv provides a warm welcome and supportive community, offering meals, clothing and first aid interventions and enabling those in recovery to rejoin society and step into a brighter future.

EMBRACE the Middle East

PRAYER **DIARY**
AUGUST 2026 - JANUARY 2027

Go deeper with **Embrace...**

For more information on the partners and projects featured in this Prayer Diary, along with reflective thoughts, prayers and scriptures please visit: **embraceme.org/devotions**.

To request extra copies of the Prayer Diary for your church or community group, please contact: **info@embraceme.org** or **01494 897950**. You can also download standard and large print versions at **embraceme.org/prayer-room**. If you don't usually receive the Prayer Diary in the post but would like to, please enter your contact details on the above webpage. You are welcome to reproduce the text in your church newsletters and share the information with your community.

Thank you for your faithful prayer support. As we stand with our Middle East sisters and brothers, joining hands in prayer and solidarity as members of the One Household of God, lives are being transformed.

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