



**The Leprosy
Mission**
Australia



KEEPING IN TOUCH

KIT07

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God bless you and thank you! Your compassion is still delivering care despite Coronavirus!

Leprosy Mission hospitals and clinics have remained open throughout the Coronavirus pandemic. **Praise God! And thanks for your support!** You are giving them the essential help and hope they need.

Without caring people like you, providing these vital services, life would be even harder for Ambika and her family in Kathmandu. **THANK YOU and BLESS YOU!**

Ambika, 34, has leprosy and is suffering leprosy reaction. She is also deaf and unable to speak. Adding to the daily pressures of this mother of four, her husband is in another country, so she lives with her brother.

Ambika goes to The Leprosy Mission's Patan Clinic for follow-up checks and to collect medicine. However, lockdown and government restrictions make it difficult for her to get there.

Thank God they made it! During her recent visit, the clinic's counsellor communicated with Ambika about COVID-19. But Ambika seemed to have no real understanding about it. Ambika's family had only explained to her not to go out, maintain social distancing and wear a mask and gloves for protection. (Everything needs to be explained to her through sign language.)

According to her brother, because of lockdown, Ambika's behaviour is now quite different. Being inside all day long, she becomes anxious and gets angry very quickly. Ambika also has diabetes, and now when the others eat sweet food, she wants to as well. When they try to make her understand, she gets annoyed and angry. Managing her medicines is not easy. She is dependent on others.

The COVID-19 scenario is frustrating for everyone around the world today. Having a family member with disabilities adds extra pressure during this lockdown period.

We pray you and your family are safe and well. **Please pray for Ambika and her family and others like them in Nepal.**

Praise God for the hospitals and clinics that can support people affected by leprosy and their families. And only possible thanks to your prayer and support.

Thank you for not giving up on people in great need during this Coronavirus pandemic. **Your generous heart and prayers make all of this possible. God bless you and thank you.**

To provide monthly financial support to people affected by leprosy in Nepal, please call Georgie or Lisa on 1800 LEPROSY (1800 537 767) or email: sponsorships@leprosymission.org.au

Ring a Friend Bingo!

Someone who doesn't know leprosy exists

Someone who has been to Mt Everest Base Camp in Nepal

Someone who has met someone affected by leprosy

Someone who knows which British Royal visited Anandaban Leprosy Hospital, Nepal. (Princess Diana)

Someone who has visited The Leprosy Mission Office in Box Hill

Someone who has been to Lagos

Someone who has been to Indonesia, Brazil and India. The three countries with the highest leprosy burdens

Someone who knows which country in the world has the most cases of leprosy (India)

Someone who knows what Timor Leste means (East Timor)

Someone who has met Dr. Grace Warren, the author of Dr Number 49

Someone who has been supporting people affected by leprosy since they were a child

Someone who follows The Leprosy Mission on Facebook

Someone who saw the Songs of Praise episode which was a memorial of Princess Diana's life

Someone who has visited the Taj Mahal

Someone else who gets KIT from The Leprosy Mission Australia

Someone who has purchased from the online store of The Leprosy Mission Australia

Someone who has walked the Kokoda Trail

Someone who has had reconstructive surgery

Someone who heard about the Leprosy Mission from you

Someone who knows that every 2 minutes one person is diagnosed with leprosy

Someone who knows there is still leprosy in Australia

Someone who knows who discovered leprosy is a bacteria (Gerhard-Henrik Hansen)

Someone who has been to Chiang Mai (Thailand)

Someone who has made a Gift of Love to help someone affected by leprosy

Someone who has been to a Leprosy Mission event

Let us know how you went!

Email engage@leprosymision.org.au or phone Tim Collison: 1800 537 767

Regional Round-up is now interactive!

Pick up the phone for...Ring a friend Bingo!

We know many of you are, or have been, stuck indoors, isolating! So we want to encourage connection. That's why we've created this ring a friend bingo. These are the rules:

- You ring a friend/someone from church/your neighbour/family and have a chat
- You ask them if they fit any of the criteria below
- If they do you can tick off that square (write their name on it)
- You can get bingo with five squares in a row – either vertically, horizontally or diagonally
- Only one person per square

Hopefully you'll get to know some things about friends and neighbours!

JUNE 2020 — Your Daily Prayers

Wednesday, July 1

AUSTRALIA Give thanks to God for the generosity of all those who donated in the previous financial year. Their gifts are helping cure, care and restore people affected by leprosy and disability.

Thursday, July 2

INDIA Today and every day over 370 people will be diagnosed with leprosy. As they face this potentially life-changing diagnosis, pray they will receive correct and successful treatment.

Friday, July 3

TIMOR LESTE The Community Based Rehabilitation staff receive training in community development. Please pray this training is effective in helping them understand how to best help the communities they work with.

Saturday, July 4

PAPUA NEW GUINEA The team provides advocacy training to lower the discrimination people affected by leprosy in Western District experience. Please pray this training would be effective.

Sunday, July 5

NEPAL There are still discriminatory laws which affect people affected by leprosy in Nepal. Please pray these would be repealed.

Monday, July 6

GLOBAL Pray The Leprosy Mission would be increasingly holistic in enabling people affected by leprosy to enjoy life in all its fullness.

Tuesday, July 7

THAILAND Pray neighbours and church folk will provide the support needed by many increasingly elderly and frail people disabled by leprosy and living alone.

Wednesday, July 8

AUSTRALIA Give thanks for the churches and groups who have continued to support people affected by leprosy, including by having a speaker join them over video or livestream. (Please let us know if your church would be interested in this).

Thursday, July 9

INDIA The Leprosy Mission works with 590 'champions' affected by leprosy and continues to identify and build more 'champions'. Please pray for God's strength for the champions so they can continue working in the face of the many challenges they face daily.

Friday, July 10

TIMOR LESTE The team have been pivoting some of the programs to help the people affected by leprosy they serve become better prepared and able to survive both the health and economic impacts of COVID-19. Give thanks for their ability to do so, and please pray these programs would be successful.

Saturday, July 11

PAPUA NEW GUINEA The project in the Western District is working on having a tool to help diagnose leprosy remotely. Please pray this would help bring earlier diagnosis to people affected by leprosy.

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Sunday, July 12

NIGERIA Please pray for program staff providing training for volunteers on leprosy and how to help those affected.

Monday, July 13

NEPAL The Leprosy Mission Nepal conducts three leprosy satellite clinics which fill the basic leprosy services gap the government has been unable to provide. Please pray for the dedicated team of experts that conduct these clinics.

Tuesday, July 14

THAILAND Please pray the elderly people affected by leprosy in Thailand will be safe from COVID-19.

Wednesday, July 15

GLOBAL Today is World Youth Skills Day. 16% of the world is aged between 16 and 24. They often face more issues than older generations. This year's focus is on the mechanisms needed to help people learn how to learn all their life. Give thanks for the Vocational Training Colleges which help young people affected by leprosy learn skills for the future.

Thursday, July 16

INDIA Children affected by leprosy experience discrimination because of the stigma associated with leprosy. The Leprosy Mission India provides educational support to these children and mentors them to continue in their education. Pray they develop their potential and become responsible citizens.

Friday, July 17

TIMOR LESTE The team are able to help modify 5 houses so people affected by disability are able to live more independently. Give thanks to God!

Saturday, July 18

PAPUA NEW GUINEA The team have been able to share messages on how to wash your hands safely even

if you don't have access to much clean water. Give thanks to God that they have been able to do this.

Sunday, July 19

NIGERIA The project helps provide access to a 1,000 assistive technology devices for people affected by disability. Praise God!

Monday, July 20

NEPAL The COVID-19 situation has had serious impacts for people affected by leprosy in Nepal (please see cover story). Please pray for those affected by leprosy as they wrestle with this.

Tuesday, July 21

AUSTRALIA COVID-19 has had economic and health implications for many TLMA supporters. Please pray for those who are worried, anxious, unwell, or who lost income or employment as a result.

Wednesday, July 22

INDIA Pray for the strengthening of The Leprosy Mission's partnerships with government and local organisations.

Thursday, July 23

TIMOR LESTE Please pray that the healthcare programs conducted in rural areas are effective in helping people affected by leprosy.

Friday, July 24

PAPUA NEW GUINEA Governments are usually responsible for transporting Multi-Drug Therapy (MDT) for people affected by leprosy. However in PNG The Leprosy Mission provides financial help for this. Give thanks that this is possible, and pray MDT gets to the communities who need it.

Saturday, July 25

NIGERIA The team is seeking to refurbish some public health clinics to provide better service to people with Neglected Tropical Diseases. Pray this will be successful.

Sunday, July 26

NEPAL Due to travel restrictions as a result of COVID-19 some people affected by leprosy have not been able to travel to access MDT, or ulcer care. Please pray for the team as they seek to help people receive access to medical care during this time.

Monday, July 27

INDONESIA Give thanks for how well civil society has been able to respond to COVID-19, especially while the government has struggled with responding. Please continue to pray for God's hand on this.

Tuesday, July 28

INDIA Continues to wrestle with the ongoing consequences of COVID-19. Please pray for all the programs that have been disrupted, but also for staff and people affected by leprosy who have been impacted.

Wednesday, July 29

AUSTRALIA The last half of the year is always a big one for The Leprosy Mission Shop team with many new customers purchasing gifts over the Christmas period. Please pray for their creativity and patience during this stressful time.

Thursday, July 30

GLOBAL Today is International Day of Friendship. An annual reminder of the power of friendships between peoples, countries, cultures and individuals. To inspire collaboration and aid between communities. Give thanks for the friendships and collaborations that help supporters like you to fundraise and pray.

Friday, July 31

PAPUA NEW GUINEA Please pray for staff members who need to travel away from their families to help people affected by leprosy in remote areas. Pray for their safety and for peace as they go about their duties.