



Friends of Ludhiana

Christian Medical College (CMC) Ludhiana
Punjab, North India

PRAYER TOPICS

December 2013

Prayer Topics – December

Week 49 : 2nd to 8th December

There are opportunities at CMC to take **POST-GRADUATE STUDIES** in medical, surgical, dental, and nursing disciplines. The post-graduate programme started in the 1960s and now offers degree, diploma and doctorate courses across CMC's colleges. Some of those who study come from mission hospitals and will return with greater experience to serve in those hospitals. Others will stay at CMC and join the faculty in due course. The University has recommended the start of new postgraduate courses in a number of departments and CMC hopes to implement this in the near future. The Medical College has been successful in starting three new superspecialty courses, admitting one student in each department, whilst the Dental College has applied to start courses in two departments and is awaiting the result of a final inspection.

The Fellowship Department also runs diploma courses in **CLINICAL PASTORAL CARE COUNSELLING (DCPC)** and **PASTORAL HEALING MINISTRY (DPHM)**. Ten places are available for each course and subjects covered include crisis counselling, counselling for the HIV/AIDS afflicted, counselling the mentally and physically challenged and addiction. The courses have similar content, although the DPHM course gives more importance and experience to hospital chaplaincy.

PRAISE GOD FOR

- *the many opportunities there are at CMC for postgraduate study in many specialities and disciplines*
- *students admitted for pastoral care diploma courses*

PRAY FOR

- *departments hoping to commence postgraduate studies in the near future and an increase in the number of faculty members where needed to make this*

possible

- *the postgraduates when they return to mission hospitals with greater skills*
- *those returning to church situations with new skills to minister to the emotional and spiritual needs of the sick and needy*

Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.
Romans 12 v.2

Week 50 : 9th to 15th December



The **ENT (Head and Neck Surgery) DEPARTMENT** deals with all types of ear, nose and throat diseases, performing routine operations as well as surgery on patients with cancer of the head and neck, seen in consultation with the Radiation Oncologist. The department sees 60-80 outpatients daily and has seen an increase in the number of operations over the past few years. Endoscopic procedures, major reconstructive ear surgery, excisions for malignant diseases continue alongside the development of neurotology services for balance problems and inner ear disease. Outreach clinics in camps, including those in smaller mission hospitals, also give the opportunity to teach the community on various diseases.

The department has welcomed visits of UK ENT specialists who offered surgical instruction,

saw patients in clinics, taught students, gave wider lectures and offered encouragement.

PRAISE GOD FOR

- *the start of MS (ENT – Head and Neck Surgery) and the planned admission of the third batch of students in February 2014*
- *the opportunity to train two students in each batch, one of whom would be returning to his/her sending mission hospital*
- *research and teaching programmes recently started*
- *the increase in patient numbers and overall care given*
- *ENT consultants from UK university teaching hospitals spending short periods of time at CMC*
- *audiologist and speech therapy interns being posted in the department*

PRAY FOR

- *the upgrading of microlaryngeal surgery instruments and computer for OPD and OT*
- *postgraduate students returning to remote villages where services can be poor without their expertise*
- *meetings on Monday, Thursday and Saturday for seminar, case presentation and journal club*
- *equipment to screen the hearing of newborn babies*
- *the department's computer and printer*

“Go back and report to John what you have seen and heard: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor.”
Luke 7 v.22

Week 51 : 16th to 22nd December

STUDENT HOSTELS All the students live in hostels, some of which are good, such as the Snow Hostel for female medical students, whilst others are far from acceptable and very overcrowded, such as the nurses' hostel, and the male dental students do not have any accommodation at all. The increase in the number of MBBS students means that there is an urgent need to increase the capacity of the existing hostels by 125. Back-up generators have recently been purchased for some of the hostels to maintain the supply of electricity to students, particularly at crucial times in their studies. The renovation of the **ASSEMBLY HALL** has been completed and will be able to seat 400 students at a time, as well as host

events celebrating significant holidays and memorable occasions.

PRAISE GOD FOR

- *dedicated wardens who take responsibility for student welfare whilst they are in residence*
- *new hostel accommodation for female dental and nursing students*
- *the provision of generators to maintain electricity supply to the hostels*

PRAY FOR

- *speedy resolution of accommodation problems*
- *worthwhile and lasting friendships to develop amongst the students to help them during their studies and beyond*
- *planned new hostel facilities for male medical and dental students*
- *GNM diploma exams taking place shortly*
- *the academic and spiritual growth of nursing faculty and students*

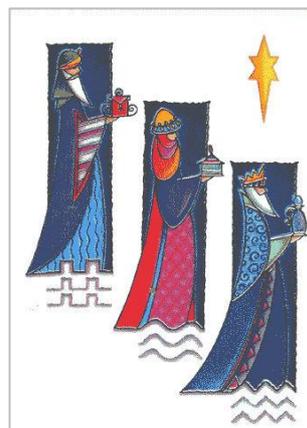
“A student is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. It is enough for the student to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master.”
Matthew 10 v.24-25

Christmas

CHRISTMAS is a special time of year for Christians throughout the world. At CMC there are many different events and activities across the campus to celebrate and to reach out to the community with good news.

PRAISE GOD FOR

- *the Christian community at CMC*



PRAY FOR

- *chapel services at CMC and church services in Ludhiana*
- *special activities and events within CMC when there are special opportunities for proclaiming the gospel*

“The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” which means “God with us.”
Matthew 1 v.23

Week 52 : 23rd to 30th December

The **DEPARTMENT OF NEUROLOGY** started as a Division of the Department of Medicine in 1989 and became an independent Department in the 2001. The Neurophysiology lab has a Video EEG and an EMG/EP machine and has been upgraded with Sleep Study facilities. A



Comprehensive Stroke Programme was started in December 2007 and there are six dedicated acute beds where stroke patients are managed. Intravenous thrombolysis is routinely given for patients who come within the window period of 4½ hours of stroke onset. A dedicated Autonomic lab was established in 2010. The department has a separate Clinical Trials Office to manage all the Neurology drug trials. At present there are six ongoing International trials in various fields of Neurology. The Department is involved in Clinical Research; most of the projects are self funded from the departmental research fund. In 2010 CMC received a grant from the Indian Council of Medical Research for a 'Ludhiana Population based Stroke Registry' project (three years) and has now completed the research. The future plans are to start Neurosonology lab, Neurocritical care and Neurointerventional treatments.

PRAISE GOD FOR

- *permission to start a new postgraduate training programme and the admission of the second candidate*
- *ATTEND Trial on stroke rehabilitation which will be starting patient recruitment from December 2013. CMC is the coordinating centre with 10 centres who are participating in this trial. This is funded by the NHMRC Australia. Praise God for the staff appointed for the trial in CMC and all the centres.*
- *for the INDO-USA National stroke registry funded by the Department of Biotechnology, India and National Institute of Health USA. CMC is the coordinating centre and there*

are five centres in the country. This project is one year old now and it will conclude after one more year.

- *for the successful organisation of the Indian Stroke Association's National Congress in Ludhiana (March 2013)*
- *for the organisation of the 31st Dr. L.H. Lobo Memorial Oration and CME and also Neurointerventional workshop*
- *for winning the BID to host the World Stroke Congress in Hyderabad in the year 2016 on behalf of Indian Stroke Association - Dr. Jeyaraj Pandian was the Chair of the bidding process.*
- *for the election of Dr. Pandian as the Chair of the World Stroke Congress 2016 Organizing Committee*

PRAY FOR

- *good relationships with collaborating institutions in India, Australia and UK*
- *plans for a new ward and ICU*
- *good functioning of new equipment*
- *the development of new programmes and facilities*
- *dedicated Junior faculty*
- *for Dr. Pandian in the new position as the Chair of World Stroke Congress 2016.*

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. Romans 8 v.26

New Year's Eve

CMC Ludhiana has many **FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS** around the world, including those who have previously worked or studied there.



Sometimes at the end of the year there can be great joy for all that has happened but also sadness in unfulfilled dreams.

PRAISE GOD FOR

- *all that has been achieved through the ministry of CMC in the past year*
- *the faithfulness of CMC staff and students in their work*
- *the support of friends and supporters around the world*

PRAY FOR

- *CMC as it seeks to continue to serve the people of Ludhiana and Punjab in the year ahead*
- *those responsible for planning for the coming year*
- *the work of Fellowships in promoting the work of CMC overseas*

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began

a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. Philippians 1 v.3-6

Pray for Dr. Abraham Thomas and the administrative team for wisdom to further develop the work of CMC – its pioneering treatments, its care for the poor, its training of doctors, nurses and dentists for the rural hospitals of India - so that it remains a beacon for Christ's grace in the Punjab.

The Good Samaritan Fund

The Good Samaritan Fund assists patients, in needy circumstances, through a number of CMC's departments. Each of these patients' families faced bills well outside of their ability to pay, yet CMC did not turn them away, but treated them and many others and bore costs through the Good Samaritan Fund.

There are many untold stories of families staying away from debt, preserving their livestock/livelihood, keeping children in schools and avoiding hunger and exploitation as a result of the fund. Knowing that someone cares for them in their hour of deepest need is priceless.

You can make a real difference

Can you be a Good Samaritan? Can you help CMC in its ministry of providing healthcare to the poor and needy, those unable to afford the cost of their treatment?

All the funds so far transferred to CMC for the Good Samaritan Fund have been used entirely for the direct benefit of patients (men, women and children) in need and CMC has given regular news of those who have been helped.

In the past 20 months, the Fund has given concessions totalling £20,000 to 209 patients. Thank you for your help so far. The need is still great as the number of patients seeking assistance is increasing.

Jesus Christ, in his birth and throughout his life, identified himself with the poor. This Christmas we are asking you to continue to support the Good Samaritan Fund as a practical expression of Christian concern.

Donations can be made –

Online **by credit/debit card, Paypal or CAF Charity Account at**
<https://www.cafonline.org/charityprofile/Friends-of-Ludhiana>

By post **cheques payable to 'Friends of Ludhiana'**

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