

# Prayer Alert

ISSUE 39-2025 | Friday 26 September 2025  
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**You, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek You. (Psalm 9:10b)**

We are pleased to enclose this week's edition of Prayer Alert.

Please pray for the presidential and national assembly elections in the Seychelles on 25–27 September (main polling day 27 Sept). Also the parliamentary elections in Gabon (27 Sept) and Moldova (28 Sept). See the Prayer Alert [2025 Elections Prayer Guide](#).



We invite the Prayer Alert community to join us on the free online Interseed House of Prayer app where we are praying and sharing thoughts on the weekly prayer guide issues and themes.

Interseed is available on the Android and iOS platforms. More info [HERE](#).

## Invitation - to serve with the PA team!

How would you like to join our Prayer Alert team? We are a group of volunteers based in different parts of England. If you appreciate what we do and are confident with browsing the internet, discovering relevant articles and basic editing, we would love to hear from you! Please hit 'reply', introduce yourself, and we will be in touch.

Thank you for partnering with us in praying for the nations.

David Fletcher and the Prayer Alert team.

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## Praise Reports

### [The Gospel was preached at Charlie Kirk's memorial](#)

The memorial service for Charlie Kirk at Arizona's State Farm Stadium blended elements of political rally and charismatic evangelical worship, yet its defining feature was the bold proclamation of the Gospel. Speaker after speaker - from Ben Carson and Marco Rubio to JD Vance and even Donald Trump Jr - clearly articulated salvation through Christ. The most powerful moment came when Erika Kirk forgave her husband's assassin, declaring that the forgiveness she has received through Jesus must also be extended to the one who made her children fatherless. Her testimony of grace was a profound witness before millions watching worldwide. Even Donald Trump appeared touched, seemingly showing an awareness of the cost of true faith and forgiveness. The service became a reminder that the Gospel is for all - even those we may struggle to accept. The legacy of Charlie Kirk now points beyond politics to the transforming power of Christ, challenging Christians everywhere to live and proclaim forgiveness and grace.

Praise: God for the bold Gospel witness at Charlie Kirk's memorial; may many continue to find salvation. (Acts 2:41)

More: [www.premierchristianity.com/the-gospel-was-preached-at-charlie-kirks-memorial-and-it-should-challenge-us-all/20150.article](http://www.premierchristianity.com/the-gospel-was-preached-at-charlie-kirks-memorial-and-it-should-challenge-us-all/20150.article)

### [God sent a vision and the name of a church](#)

Born into a devout Muslim family in Tehran, Mohsen Khaleghi grew disillusioned by the contradictions he saw in Islam. As a young man, he pursued wealth, gambling, and pleasure, but the emptiness left him suicidal. After a failed attempt to end his life, Mohsen moved to the USA to study. One night, in desperation, he prayed to the unknown God for help. He then had a vivid vision of an older man named Randy, who urged him: 'Search for the light ... Mariners'. Finding out about Mariners Church in Irvine, California, he drove for nine hours to visit it. There, he heard a pastor declare, 'Jesus is the light of the world. If you follow Him, you will find peace.' Amazed, Mohsen realised God had answered his prayer through a supernatural encounter. Later, he met Randy in person - exactly as seen in his dream. Now discipled at Mariners, Mohsen serves the homeless, ministers in rehab centres, and leads a small group. He has dedicated his life to Christ, testifying that true joy is found in Jesus.

Praise: God for miraculously drawing Mohsen to Christ. Pray that his testimony will bring many Muslims to Jesus. (Luke 19:10)

More: [www.godreports.com/2025/09/he-rejected-islam-god-sent-vision-and-the-name-of-a-church-hundreds-of-miles-away/](http://www.godreports.com/2025/09/he-rejected-islam-god-sent-vision-and-the-name-of-a-church-hundreds-of-miles-away/)

## British Isles

### CAFOD and CofE bishops welcome recognition of Palestine by UK

CAFOD and Church of England bishops have welcomed the Government's recognition of Palestinian statehood, calling it a long-overdue step towards peace. CAFOD's Middle East representative said the move, alongside similar actions by France, Canada, Australia, and Portugal, affirms Palestinians' right to a viable, independent state amid the devastation of Gaza and rising settlement violence in the West Bank. Bishop Christopher Chessun and fellow bishops stressed the recognition offers parity of esteem, countering extremism and strengthening moderates, though it will not immediately end the suffering in Gaza or West Bank abuses. They see it as a moral and political signal that occupation is unjust and must end through negotiation. Families of Israeli hostages have condemned the decision as rewarding Hamas; by contrast, Hamas has celebrated the recognition as a victory. UK church leaders have also warned that Israel's ongoing military assault will only deepen human misery. Despite bleak realities, Christian leaders urged perseverance in seeking a just peace that upholds dignity for all communities. See <https://episcopalnewsservice.org/2025/09/22/church-of-england-bishops-welcome-recognition-of-palestinian-state/>

Pray: for lasting peace, justice, and protection of human dignity for both Palestinians and Israelis. (Matthew 5:9)

More: [www.thetablet.co.uk/news/cafod-and-c-of-e-bishops-among-those-who-welcome-recognition-of-palestine-by-uk/](http://www.thetablet.co.uk/news/cafod-and-c-of-e-bishops-among-those-who-welcome-recognition-of-palestine-by-uk/)

### 'Disgust and fear' over spate of racist graffiti

Residents of Bootle and Litherland, Merseyside, have voiced anger and fear after racist graffiti, including swastikas and slogans such as 'send them home', appeared across canal bridges and public spaces. The offensive markings, condemned as 'sickening', prompted disgust from locals who described how every bridge had been daubed with hate-filled messages. Merseyside police confirmed they are treating the incidents as hate crimes and are conducting enquiries to identify the perpetrators. Sefton Council has begun removing the graffiti. Dedicated hate crime police officers are investigating and have appealed for public help, urging residents to check CCTV, doorbell, and dashcam footage for evidence. Authorities pledged to take the strongest possible action against offenders, stressing that racist graffiti and intimidation will not be tolerated. Community leaders and police are seeking to restore trust, ensuring residents know that efforts are being made to protect and uphold respect, safety, and unity in the area.

Pray: for healing, unity, and courage to stand against hatred, racism and fear in communities. (Galatians 3:28)

More: [www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/czjv03l4yrko](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/czjv03l4yrko)

### Huntington's disease: groundbreaking new therapy brings hope to many

Doctors have reported a groundbreaking success in treating Huntington's disease, a hereditary neurodegenerative disorder that combines symptoms of dementia, Parkinson's, and motor neurone disease. A gene therapy trial at University College London slowed disease progression by an average of 75%. This means that a decline expected in one year would now take four, offering patients decades of improved quality of life. The therapy, delivered in a single dose through 12–18 hours of intricate brain surgery, permanently reduces production of the toxic huntingtin protein that kills brain cells. Early treatment may even prevent symptoms from developing. Among 29 trial participants, markers of brain cell death decreased instead of rising, and some patients regained independence: one returned to work after medical retirement. For families like Jack May-Davis's, who lost his father to Huntington's and carries the faulty gene himself, the breakthrough brings unprecedented hope. While the treatment will likely be costly, researchers call the results 'spectacular' and potentially life-changing.

Pray: giving thanks for this potential breakthrough, giving hope to many. Pray for further success as scientists work on treatment for other genetic diseases. (Jeremiah 17:14)

More: [www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cevz13xkxpro](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cevz13xkxpro)

### Northern Ireland: Bloody Sunday trial will proceed

The long-delayed trial of 'Soldier F', the only veteran to face charges over the Bloody Sunday shootings in 1972, will proceed after a Belfast judge ruled key statements from fellow soldiers admissible as evidence. Soldier F is accused of murdering James Wray, 22, and William McKinney, 26, and attempting to murder four others during the civil rights march in Londonderry. Judge Patrick Lynch confirmed that contemporaneous statements to the Royal Military Police and the Widgery Tribunal could be used, despite defence claims they were inadmissible. Prosecutors admitted these statements are the only evidence linking Soldier F directly to the shootings. Relatives of the victims welcomed the ruling with relief, while veterans' groups expressed disappointment, fearing unfair treatment compared to IRA members who escaped prosecution under the Good Friday Agreement. Bloody Sunday saw 13 protesters killed, a defining moment in Northern Ireland's Troubles, later deemed 'unjustified and unjustifiable' by the Saville Inquiry. Soldier F, who denies the charges, listened from behind a screen as proceedings continued.

Pray: for justice, healing, and reconciliation in Northern Ireland as painful memories of Bloody Sunday resurface. (Micah 6:8)

More: [www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15127099/Trial-Army-veteran-accused-murder-Bloody-Sunday-53-years-ago-proceed-judge-rules-key-evidence-admitted.html](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-15127099/Trial-Army-veteran-accused-murder-Bloody-Sunday-53-years-ago-proceed-judge-rules-key-evidence-admitted.html)

### Andy Burnham warns UK needs 'wholesale change'

Greater Manchester mayor Andy Burnham has urged the Labour Party to pursue 'wholesale change' to confront what he described as an 'existential threat' to Britain. Speaking ahead of Labour's annual conference in Liverpool, Burnham criticised the party's leadership style under Keir Starmer as 'factional and divisive'. Though often tipped as a future leader, he insisted he was not plotting an immediate return to Westminster, but challenged Labour to present a clear plan to 'turn the country around'. He said he was willing to work with anyone serious about radical reform, citing his efforts to re-nationalise Manchester's bus network as an example, and suggesting that core services such as housing, energy, water, and rail should return to public ownership. His intervention comes amid political turbulence for Starmer, following Angela Rayner's resignation over tax errors, the sacking of Peter Mandelson for links to Jeffrey Epstein, and the departure of a senior aide over offensive leaked messages.

Pray: for UK leaders to pursue unity, integrity, and transformative policies that truly serve the nation. (Proverbs 14:34)

More: [www.mirror.co.uk/news/politics/andy-burnham-warns-uk-needs-35957985](http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/politics/andy-burnham-warns-uk-needs-35957985)

### Expanded England childcare scheme 'poorly thought out'

The Government's expansion of free childcare in England, offering thirty hours a week from nine months of age, has been welcomed by some parents but criticised as poorly designed and underfunded. For Alec, a father in Sheffield, the policy reduced his family's nursery bill by 55%; he calls it the first initiative with immediate positive impact on his life. Yet many providers say the funding does not cover costs, forcing them either to reject places, cap hours, or raise fees for other families. Parents in Oxford, Kent, and Hampshire described waiting lists of more than two years, rising charges, and nurseries unable to offer the full entitlement. Some households not eligible for the scheme reported fee increases of up to 30%, while others reduced working hours or diverted income to qualify. Critics say the expansion risks increasing demand without addressing structural shortages, leaving families with little flexibility and higher costs. While hailed as a major investment, many see the system as unsustainable, a 'sticking plaster' rather than a long-term solution for childcare. [See https://www.gov.uk/government/news/childcare-offer-exceeds-target-benefiting-over-500000-children](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/childcare-offer-exceeds-target-benefiting-over-500000-children)

Pray: for just, sustainable childcare policies that support families, protect children's wellbeing, and ease financial strain. (Proverbs 31:9)

More: [www.theguardian.com/money/2025/sep/24/poorly-thought-out-expanded-england-childcare-scheme-results-in-higher-fees-for-some-families](https://www.theguardian.com/money/2025/sep/24/poorly-thought-out-expanded-england-childcare-scheme-results-in-higher-fees-for-some-families)

### Epping hotel asylum seeker jailed for sex assaults

An Ethiopian asylum-seeker has been jailed for a year after sexually assaulting a 14-year-old girl and a woman in Epping, Essex. Hadush Kebatu, who had arrived in the UK by small boat just eight days earlier, was found guilty of harassment, two sexual assaults, inciting a child to engage in sexual activity, and attempted sexual assault. His arrest sparked protests outside the Bell Hotel, where he had been housed. At Chelmsford magistrates' court, judge Christopher Williams described the offences as 'disgusting and sickening', noting the lasting fear inflicted on the schoolgirl, who said she now feels unsafe going out with friends. Kebatu also assaulted a woman who had offered to help him with his CV, placing his hand on her thigh. He is subject to automatic deportation under the UK Borders Act 2007 once his sentence is served. Essex police praised the victims for their bravery in testifying. The case has reignited public concerns over safeguarding, asylum accommodation, and the protection of vulnerable people from predatory behaviour. [See also https://news.sky.com/story/home-office-loses-appeal-to-challenge-block-on-asylum-seekers-deportation-to-france-13436568](https://news.sky.com/story/home-office-loses-appeal-to-challenge-block-on-asylum-seekers-deportation-to-france-13436568)

Pray: for victims' healing, stronger safeguarding of children, and justice that protects communities from future harm. (Psalm 34:18)

More: [www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cp8j5vp7413o](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cp8j5vp7413o)

## Europe

### Moldova: president warns of Russian interference as elections near

Days before crucial parliamentary elections, Moldova's president Maia Sandu has warned that Russian-backed plots are threatening her nation's independence and European aspirations. Police have arrested 74 people accused of planning violent unrest, seizing weapons and explosives allegedly supplied through Russian training in Serbia. Sandu accused the Kremlin of pouring hundreds of millions of euros into Moldova to spread disinformation, buy votes, and intimidate pro-EU supporters, echoing past meddling during the 2022 EU-accession referendum which was narrowly approved by just 50.4%. Pro-Russian parties deny wrongdoing and claim Sandu is stifling opposition, while Moscow's SVR intelligence agency countered with disinformation alleging European plans to falsify the vote and occupy Moldova. Sandu's Party of Action and Solidarity faces stiff competition, especially in Russian-speaking regions like Gagauzia where many favour closer ties to Moscow. She is calling for high voter turnout, particularly from the diaspora, to safeguard the country's sovereignty and keep its path toward EU membership.

Pray: that Moldovans will choose peace and democratic integrity, resisting manipulation and standing firm for their nation's independence. (1 Corinthians 16:13)

More: [www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cjw79x9qvp7o](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cjw79x9qvp7o)

### Italy: two days of strikes in support of Palestine cause widespread disruption

Thousands of Italian workers and students staged a nationwide general strike and demonstrations on 21 September. Organised by grassroots unions and supported by Italy's largest trade union, CGIL, the walkout disrupted public transport, trains, schools, and ports. Major cities such as Rome and Milan experienced severe transit delays, while sit-ins at Genoa and Livorno ports slowed the movement of goods. The action, which followed a similar strike the previous day, was called to protest about the humanitarian crisis in Gaza, Israel's blockade of aid, and threats against the Global Sumud Flotilla mission. USB, a key union federation, criticised the government and the EU for refusing to impose sanctions on Israel and for maintaining economic ties despite ongoing violence. Rome authorities reported about 20,000 demonstrators at midday near Termini station, though organisers said there were up to 100,000. Meanwhile, Giorgia Meloni's government faces rising domestic pressure over its stance on the Israel-Hamas war.

Pray: for peaceful dialogue and compassionate leadership to guide Italy and other countries towards lasting justice in the Middle East. (Matthew 5:6)

More: [www.euronews.com/2025/09/22/thousands-strike-across-italy-in-solidarity-with-palestinians-in-gaza-causing-widespread-d](https://www.euronews.com/2025/09/22/thousands-strike-across-italy-in-solidarity-with-palestinians-in-gaza-causing-widespread-d)

## Worldwide

### Indonesia: a tiny island files climate lawsuit against cement firm

Recent protests in Indonesia over economic hardship have coincided with a landmark climate lawsuit filed by four residents of Pulau Pari, a tiny island only three metres above sea level which has already lost 11% of its land. Backed by international organisations, the plaintiffs are suing Swiss cement giant Holcim in a Swiss court, demanding proportional compensation, urgent emission cuts of 43% by 2030, and support for climate adaptation. Pulau Pari's homes, fishing livelihoods, and freshwater supplies are being threatened by rising seas and saltwater intrusion, with projections suggesting the island could largely disappear by 2050. The case is historic: it seeks to hold a major corporation legally accountable in its own country for climate damages, echoing the International Court of Justice's call for 'full reparation' for climate victims. It highlights the severe inequity facing low-emission coastal communities like Bangladesh. What lies ahead is a whole new discussion, but this case has surely created a path where victims are not defenceless and corporate giants are not untouchable.

Pray: for a just outcome to this lawsuit. Pray for other vulnerable communities who might follow this example, and for accountability and justice. (Proverbs 31:8)

More: [asianews.network/lessons-for-global-south-as-a-sinking-indonesian-island-sues-climate-polluters/](https://asianews.network/lessons-for-global-south-as-a-sinking-indonesian-island-sues-climate-polluters/)

### **Taiwan / China: super typhoon causes widespread devastation**

On 24 September Typhoon Ragasa, the strongest tropical cyclone globally this year, slammed into Yangjiang, southern China, after killing 17 people in Taiwan and battering Hong Kong with destructive winds and torrential rain. The storm, which reached Category 5 strength with winds over 260 kph before weakening, inundated Hong Kong's coastal areas, submerging roads and buildings. China's authorities ordered the evacuation of over two million residents across Guangdong province, and dispatched tens of thousands of tents, folding beds, lighting equipment and other rescue supplies. While Hong Kong kept its stock market open as a sign of infrastructure resilience, authorities warned of continued flooding risks. Experts link Ragasa's ferocity to climate change and predict stronger typhoons ahead, highlighting the need for urgent climate action and preparedness across vulnerable coastal regions as global temperatures and sea levels rise.

Pray: for protection and swift recovery for all affected communities, and wisdom for leaders addressing climate-driven disasters. (Psalm 46:1)  
More: [www.reuters.com/business/environment/super-typhoon-lashes-hong-kong-with-hurricane-force-winds-heavy-rain-2025-09-23/](http://www.reuters.com/business/environment/super-typhoon-lashes-hong-kong-with-hurricane-force-winds-heavy-rain-2025-09-23/)

### **Nepal: the challenges facing new PM**

New prime minister Sushila Karki, a former chief justice known for her uncompromising stance against corruption, faces an immense challenge just weeks after taking office. Chosen after huge protests which toppled her predecessor KP Sharma Oli, she has six months to deliver elections and satisfy demands from Nepal's energised Gen Z movement. Protesters are urging her to arrest senior leaders accused of graft, purge politically connected bureaucrats, and investigate the 74 protest-related deaths. Their support remains conditional, with leaders such as Sudan Gurung warning they will oust her if progress stalls. Karki has pledged an anti-corruption committee and a panel to examine the violence. Yet entrenched party power - especially Oli's influence as head of the Communist Party - poses obstacles. With youth unemployment above 20% and decades of political instability, Nepal stands at a pivotal moment reminiscent of the 2008 Maoist uprising. Karki must balance swift action and careful diplomacy to prevent renewed turmoil, while proving that democratic reform is possible.

Pray: that prime minister Karki will lead Nepal with courage and wisdom to uproot corruption and secure lasting peace. (Psalm 82:3)  
More: [www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/nepals-caretaker-pm-navigates-fragile-peace-amid-youth-revolt-party-pushback-2025-09-23/](http://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/nepals-caretaker-pm-navigates-fragile-peace-amid-youth-revolt-party-pushback-2025-09-23/)

### **Kenya: turning a deadly weed into an eco-friendly innovation**

Innovator Joseph Nguthiru has turned a personal challenge into an award-winning environmental enterprise. In 2021, he and classmates were stranded for hours on Lake Naivasha when water hyacinth, a weed that disrupts fishing, navigation, and irrigation worldwide, blocked their boat. That incident inspired their engineering project to convert the invasive plant into biodegradable products. Nguthiru envisioned 'one problem solving another', so launched HyaPak Ecotech Ltd to create eco-friendly alternatives to single-use plastics, including packaging bags and seedling wrappers. HyaPak has already removed over 700 kilograms of hyacinth and partnered with Kenya's government in a programme to plant 15 billion trees over ten years. Nguthiru has also invented a solar dryer, reviving Kenya's pyrethrum farming, and leads Adopt a River, which has cleared more than three tons of river waste while educating communities on climate action. He believes lasting change requires grassroots involvement, proving innovation and community engagement can drive sustainable solutions.

Pray: giving thanks for these innovations. Pray for more, equally creative solutions which heal creation, empower communities, and inspire lasting stewardship of God's environment. (Psalm 24:1)  
More: [www.obama.org/stories/innovation-in-action-joseph-nguthiru/](http://www.obama.org/stories/innovation-in-action-joseph-nguthiru/)

### **Colombia: president condemns US airstrikes on alleged drug-smuggling boats**

Colombian president Gustavo Petro has condemned recent US airstrikes on alleged drug-smuggling boats in the Caribbean, calling them an 'act of tyranny' and urging criminal proceedings against US officials if Colombians were killed. The strikes, authorised by Donald Trump and reportedly responsible for 17 deaths this month, target vessels suspected of trafficking fentanyl and other narcotics, especially near Venezuela, Colombia's neighbour. Legal experts and UN officials have questioned the legality of these actions, describing them as possible extrajudicial executions. Petro argued that deadly force is unnecessary, citing Colombia's long history of cooperative drug interdictions without fatalities. He stressed that the principle of proportionality is violated 'if you use anything more than a pistol'. The White House maintains that Trump will use 'every element of American power' to combat narcotics. He has designated several drug-trafficking organisations and criminal groups in Mexico and elsewhere in Latin America as terrorist organisations, and the US military has bolstered its forces in the southern Caribbean over the last two months.

Pray: for justice, accountability, and peaceful solutions to international drug trafficking in the Caribbean, without unnecessary loss of life. (Proverbs 23:12)  
More: [www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cy8rjp178mno](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cy8rjp178mno)

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Prayer Alert is produced in partnership with  
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