



Prayer News Bulletin

APRIL 2021

“Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.” (Rom 12:12)

Dear Friends

We are grateful that our State of Emergency ended on 21 March. However, case numbers are rising again, and 2 other prefectures where we work have now declared their own SOEs. Others are enacting new restrictions. The vaccine rollout is only just getting started and is expected to take up to a year. However, the Olympic torch relay has started, with the theme of Hope Lights our Way. Please pray that many Japanese would come to know the true Hope that will light their way.

OMF News

Here is the fourth prayer point of OMF Japan’s prayer focus for 2021 on spreading the gospel more widely – please continue to pray with us for:

- ✚ 4) the Lord’s blessing on our new Japanese language evangelism training launching this year – that many churches and believers would grow in their passion and commitment to evangelism.

As expected, the Japanese borders remain closed to all new workers and to tourists. Since the Government needs to allow Olympic athletes and their entourages into the country over the next few months, it might be that the borders remain closed for a while. The ban is “for the time being”.

Since no short-term workers can come at the moment, we are preparing a virtual “Journey to Japan” which we will host in May. We hope this will help potential short-term workers to know how to pray for the people here as they wait to be able to come. Please pray for:

- ✚ The Lord to provide for all those waiting to come to Japan and that we can support them well;
- ✚ Our digital mobilisation (Facebook, Instagram and the virtual tour) and the prayer booklet to raise up more people to pray informedly for the needs here.

Family News

Matthew has now finished his Diploma in Legal Practice and is waiting for the final results. It looks like he has a job from May which he can do mainly online. He is just waiting for the contract. **Calum** has uploaded all his information to the transfer portal as he looks for a University to transfer to. He needs one which will accept his current credits and will also offer a scholarship. He has final exams and assignments this month. He also lost his wallet recently, complicated by the fact that his bank cards are issued in the UK and Japan. His Japanese residence card was also in the wallet so he needs to get a police report to be able to apply for a new card once he gets back to Japan. **Alistair**’s final year of school starts on the 6th and his football league starts this weekend. We are waiting to see if spectators are allowed at any of the matches, since this is always a good chance to connect with other parents. Please pray for:

- ✚ Matthew as he makes the transition to working life and looks at moving flat at some point;
- ✚ Calum to get everything done in his studies, ongoing insurance issues, and his lost cards, and for the Lord to provide a good transfer option;
- ✚ Alistair to have a good final year of school and football, and to know the Lord’s leading for his future;
- ✚ The chance to connect with other parents and Japanese friends who are still wary of meeting.

Church News

Thanks for praying for the youth group. We all got together online in March and hope to do so in person this month. The church AGM is taking place on the 11th. Please pray for:

- ✚ The youth, especially Rina who has just graduated from University and started her first job. This is a big step, especially in Japan where many workplaces can be quite challenging.
- ✚ The coming church year. It would be great if we could hold some outreach events again.

With love and prayers

Lorna, Daniel, Matthew, Calum and Alistair