

March Prayer Update 2026



**Pedro and Joy Oliveira Woolmer**  
*with Mark, Zoe and Emilia*



*Serving the Lord in Uruguay*

Dear Friends,

In Colossians 1:28-29, Paul writes: “Him [Christ] we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.” These verses have been the “vision statement” for our ministry in Uruguay. They’re clear and focussed, but also relevant to every formal and informal interaction we have with everyone God has placed around us. Please pray that these verses can be true of our lives and ministry more and more!

## **Christ we proclaim**

With the recent change in schools, one thing that weighed on my mind was how people would “find out” that we were followers of Jesus. It’s something we want everyone to know, but *how* we tell them isn’t always so straightforward. (“Hi, I’m Joy. I’m a follower of Jesus” doesn’t always get you a second conversation!) Our new school is named after the founding father of public education in Uruguay (José Pedro Varela), who was outspoken about his anti-Christian beliefs. As a mum, I was

particularly concerned about how Mark might be feeling about being a public Christian at his new school. What would that even look like? And then by the second week of school, God had orchestrated a wonderful opportunity for Mark to “get it out there” with his whole class. It started with his drama teacher asking a simple question: “Why are you in Uruguay?” Which then led to a series of other questions, ending with: “So why do your parents teach the Bible in Uruguay?” To which Mark replied, “Because we’re Christians and we want people here to know about Jesus.” Mark told me he was nervous about feeling embarrassed, but I’m so thankful he decided to go through with it. Please pray with Mark and with us that even just one of his classmates will be interested to find out more.

## **Evangelism: Warning everyone**

Pedro: In December last year, I gave a workshop on evangelism to a group of young adults at our church, in preparation for a 2-week mission trip to Bolivia. A few Saturdays ago, I gave the same workshop at church, open to anyone interested in being equipped and encouraged in sharing Jesus with others. It was a very wet and windy Saturday afternoon, but a group of 30+ turned up, including many I didn’t expect to see! It was a great encouragement! A couple of weeks later, Abigail, a young woman who came to the evangelism workshop, messaged Joy to say she had shared the gospel with two people that same week, using the method I had taught them (Two Ways to Live). Please thank God for people like Abigail, who are willing to step outside their comfort zone to warn people about God’s coming judgement and share the good news of Jesus with them.

Joy: A couple of weeks ago, I did walk-up evangelism with Agustina, a woman from church. We had sat together at church lunch when the idea came up. She is currently finishing the final subjects of her university degree, and while looking for work, had a bit of free time on her hands. Her initial response when I invited her was, “That’s not me!” But after a bit of convincing (“It’s not me either!”... “But we can get better at it with practice.” ... “I’ll do the talking.”... “) she agreed to give it a go. There weren’t many people around when we went out, but God prepared a mum and daughter pair for us. We chatted for 40 minutes and were able to encourage them to re-try reading the Bible, download the Bible App onto their phone, and invite them to church. Agustina was surprised by their openness (“Uruguayans aren’t usually so open!”) and encouraged by the experience. She’s keen to go again, so please pray that we do.

## **MOCLAM: Teaching everyone**

One of our prayer points last month was that Pedro would be able to find a time to meet weekly in person that would suit all five students. It sounds simple enough, but with five different study and work schedules, we knew the chances were slim. But God answered with a yes! We have had four classes so far, and it has been a

stretching time for everyone. Generally speaking, the students are quite adept at reading a passage and applying it well. But when it comes to thinking about themes of the Bible theologically, they feel much less comfortable! Thankfully they're taking the challenge well and seeing why it's so necessary.

## **...with all his energy that he powerfully works within me**

We are so thankful to be living and serving Jesus here in Uruguay. But we feel tired and ministry is not without its complications! Please pray that God would work his energy powerfully in us, and that we would be recharged daily by his wise and nourishing Word.



*The annual CBU camp was held over the last weekend of March. Thank God for the opportunities we had to train, challenge and encourage students to live wholeheartedly for Jesus.*

## **Thank God**

- for Pedro's preaching and teaching opportunities at church and with the CBU this month. Joy thinks he did a great job!
- for an encouraging month of MOCLAM, one-to-ones and walk-up evangelism. Thank God particularly that Pedro was able to find a time to meet in person that suited all five Doctrine students - which is no small miracle! (Thanks to those who prayed specifically for this!)
- that Mark and Zoe have adjusted really well to the long school days and are enjoying school. Emi's still struggling a bit at drop-off, so please pray that God

would help her to be brave!

- for the opportunity to train students in inductive Bible study and chat individually to students about growing their relationship with God at the annual CBU camp which will held at the end of March.
- for Mark who turned 11 in March! We are so blessed to have him in our family.



*Being a World Cup year, Mark knew exactly what he wanted for his birthday this year!*

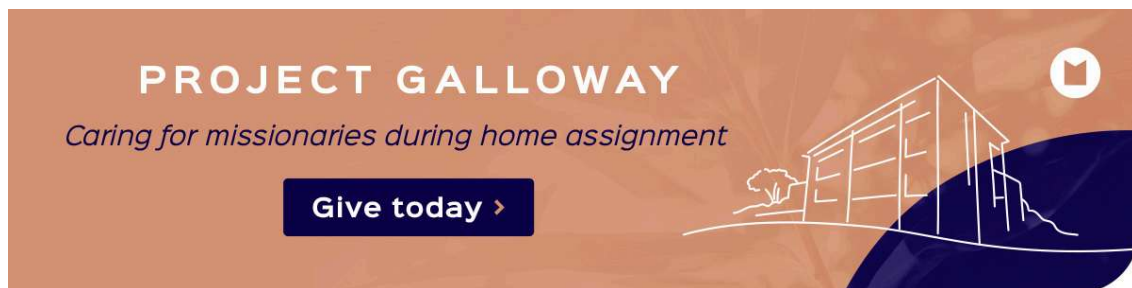
**Please pray**

- for our Christian witness at the kids school, especially now that Mark's class and drama teacher know we are followers of Jesus!
- for the workshop on evangelism at church to have a catalysing effect on the congregation members who attended, that many people will hear the gospel through them.
- for a good rhythm of ministry now that the year has begun; that one-to-one's would be regular, that the Doctrine students would finish the subject without interruption, and that we would find good times for Bible studies to meet on campus.
- for a workshop Pedro is giving with the CBU in a couple of weeks on time management. Please pray that it would focus the students on the need to put Christ first in their day to day lives.

Thank you for upholding us in prayer! We thank God for you!

*From Pedro and Joy, with Mark, Zoe and Emilia*

Write back to us!



Project Galloway is an \$8 million dollar project, to provide co-located housing for CMS missionaries on home assignment. A block of 11 units on Galloway St in North Parramatta has been fully renovated and several missionaries have commenced their stay. This purchase was made possible thanks to God's provision through the generosity of past and present CMS supporters. With just under \$800,000 left to raise, could you consider making a generous donation? If you would like to contribute, please go [here](#).

*"Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit  
that increases to your credit."*

Philippians 4:17

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