

In Need of Prayers

- **Victims of Gun Violence** There was another school shooting Wednesday morning. This time, no one died, but 4 were hurt. There have been 536 mass shootings already this year. There were 611 mass shootings in 2020 – a record high – 194 incidents higher than in any year since 2014. With 3 months left in this year, 2021 could be worse. . . 34,144 people have already been killed with guns this year. 18,414 of these were suicides. 31,377 more people have been injured.
- **Pray for those dealing with COVID.** (Now, in the U.S. 1 out of every 500 people has died of COVID) 37% of COVID patients report having at least 1 long-term symptom. As the number of people sick, & dying increases, so does the anger, frustration, & fear surrounding the pandemic. Too many people are allowing those feelings to overwhelm them & cloud their judgment. We need to foster cooperation, empathy, & Christ-like concern for each other. Concern for personal health is understandable, but cannot be separated from concern for everyone else if COVID is to be controlled and stopped.
- **The people of Myanmar (Burma)** who continue to face an oppressive government which does not allow decent.
- **Pray for the people of Afghanistan – especially the women & girls** as they face life under extreme Islamic fundamentalism & the continuing terrors of violence. Pray for Afghan refugees trying seeking new homes. Child Disaster Services is working with the children at some facilities where they are being held. Church World Service is calling on churches to help resettle families.
- **Continue prayers for those affected by Storms, flooding, & fires.** There are also several volcanos erupting which are putting people and their homes at risk. We need to foster empathy, resolve, encouragement, & creativity as we help people recover & address the human causes that have contributed to these disasters.
- **Pray for refugees** fleeing violence, political upheaval, hunger, economic crisis, or environmental catastrophe. Help us work for peace, and encourage reason, community, & problem solving as we tackle the issues that put people in such desperate situations. Remember especially those seeking help along U.S. borders who need our compassion, empathy, and assistance.



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