



Monthly Prayer Topics for France

March 2010

The 2011 Pray for France movement is underway! Thank God for His love that endures forever, and pray that Pray for France would make a powerful impact, and that France would enter more fully into her divine destiny!

In politics...

1. French Senator Paul Blanc is on a mission to improve the scholarly education of disabled persons. His initiatives include reevaluating the needs of children with disabilities, the efficacy of personal aides, and medical services. Thank God for Paul Blanc's work, and pray that he will uncover all the elements necessary for a thorough evaluation that will lead to realistic solutions.
2. France, along with the United States and Great Britain, has resolved to establish a no-fly zone over Libya and authorized air strikes to protect Libyan citizens. Pray for these efforts to reach pertinent conclusions, that the current dangerous dictatorship will be banned from Libya. Bless the efforts and the courage of French and English authorities, asking God that they would be inspired with God's wisdom in this delicate situation.
3. France held its first round of cantonal elections on March 20th. Pray for God to raise up men and women to governmental positions, according to their hearts, their respect of life, and who are guided by the values of the Kingdom of God.
4. President Sarkozy met with Jean-Francois Rouband, President of the General Confederation of Small and Mid-Sized Businesses, on March 28th. Pray for God to bless foreign businesses that work in France, naming those that you know of specifically. Pray for reforms of paralyzing practices.
5. President Sarkozy traveled to China at the end of March for G20 preparations. Pray for the ensuing discussions to lead to marked advancements for God's justice in world affairs, and that the values of poorer countries will be well represented.

In society...

1. With the rise of Islam, the issue of "secularity" (*laïcité*) in France has come to the forefront of public debate. Pray that the governmental decision-makers will sense France's current uneasiness, and that the country's response to the Muslim people would be founded in wisdom, respect, equality, and love, marked by a true Christian heritage. Call for a serious engagement of Christians in these debates, and pray for the voice of French Muslims will be heard as well.
2. Local farmers in France are suffering to keep up with and often exploited by commercialized farming. As God to bless the French agricultural industry, and pray for those hidden distresses that make daily life a challenge to the farming community, while others remain indifferent.

In the Church...

1. The Nogent Bible Institute's Department of Urban Missiology will hold its 3rd conference on April 5th and 6th in Paris. This year's theme is "Churches and Political Authorities," and will feature Henri Blocher, Sebastien Fath and Jean-Paul Willaime as speakers. Please pray for the speakers, organizers, and participants in this conference that will raise important discussions for a secular nation. More information can be found at <http://dmu2011.ibnogent.org/>.

Ministry Spotlight...

1. A series of Veritas Forums were held in Nice in late March. Veritas Forums are events held in a university context, run by a central committee in partnership with the GBU (Groupes Bibliques Universitaires, Student Christian Groups in France), to engage students and faculty in discussions about life's hard questions and the relevance of Jesus Christ to all of life. The Veritas Forum seeks to promote an open honest, informed debate on questions facing society. Each night focuses on a different aspect of a central theme (this year's theme: LOVE). Christian speakers and non-Christian speakers give some thoughts on certain issues, with interactive debate following the speakers.
 - a. Praise God...
 - i. For this opportunity (esp. given France's regulations re: secularity)
 - ii. For providing the speakers and the space necessary for this event
 - iii. For the organizational team working on the project alongside their jobs/studies
 - b. Ask God...
 - i. For strength for the team, and perseverance for Pierre (local coordinator) and his wife
 - ii. For people to see that God is relevant and vitally important to daily life!
 - iii. For the non-Christian speakers to be open to the ideas presented by the Christian speakers
 - iv. For God's name to be lifted high in Nice
 - c. To find out more, visit <http://www.veritasforum.eu/>!