

Pray for Colombia



22 - 28 March 2020

Pastor Plinio Rafael Salcedo was murdered last August at his home in northern Colombia, an attack that's thought to be linked to a protest two days earlier calling for peace in the region. We thank God for his bravery in taking a stand for justice that he knew could endanger his life.

An armed conflict that lasted half a century and claimed millions of victims officially ended in 2016, when the government signed a peace agreement with the largest guerrilla group, the FARC-EP. Yet Colombia is still far from peaceful. The second-largest guerrilla group, the ELN, is overtly hostile to religion; in some of the areas it controls, religion is banned outright, and hundreds of church leaders who defied these restrictions have been assassinated. Find out more about Colombia at csw.org.uk/colombia

Sunday 22 March

Commit to God the wife and two young children of Pastor Salcedo, as well as the congregation of the church he led. Ask God to strengthen them, comfort them and provide for them.

Monday 23 March

Sadly, despite the signing of the peace agreement, violations of religious freedom and other human rights have worsened in many parts of the country. Pray for peace, reconciliation, and the healing of the land.

Tuesday 24 March

Pray that the government would implement the peace process fully, including putting in place a transitional justice system which would investigate the human rights violations that happened during the conflict, including war crimes.

Wednesday 25 March

Many Colombians distrust the peace agreement, feeling it is too lenient on the perpetrators of violence. Pray that those in power would find a way to navigate the difficult balance between justice and peace, and find an acceptable compromise.

Thursday 26 March

'They will beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war any more.' (Isaiah 2:4 NLT) Pray this verse over Colombia today.

Friday 27 March

Church leaders such as Pastor Salcedo are often de facto community leaders, a position that makes them vulnerable to pressure from armed groups who wish to control communities. Ask God to protect church leaders throughout the nation.

Saturday 28 March

Loving Father, today we thank you for the life of Pastor Salcedo and ask you to comfort and strengthen his family and congregation. May his death prompt action to offset the dangers facing church leaders in Colombia, and be part of the path towards true peace for the country. Amen.

CSW everyone
free to believe

CSW is a human rights organisation advocating for freedom of religion or belief, and as Christians we stand with everyone facing injustice because of their religion or belief.