

St Christopher's Church

Trenant Road Saffron Lane

LE2 6UA



**Kasheneye
Water Project -
water is struck!**

Memory Verse
'the people living in
darkness have seen
a great light'
Matthew 4:16a (NIV)

January 2021

St Christopher's Church Services January

Sunday 3rd	10.00am Morning Worship	Readings Ephesians 3: 1-12 & Matthew 2: 1-12 <i>Topic The visit of the Magi</i> Leader and preacher Mrs Chantal Griffin
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Sunday 10th	10.00am Holy Communion	Readings Acts 19: 1-7 and Mark 1: 4-11 <i>Topic The baptism of Jesus</i> Leader and preacher - Mr C Ndigirwa
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Sunday 17th	Home Church	Readings Psalm 139: 1-18 and John 1:43-51 <i>Topic Come and see</i> Home Worship guidance - Revd C Collins (Note the Sports Hall is not available)
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Sunday 24th	10.00am Holy Communion	Readings Revelation 19: 6-10 and John 2: 1-11 <i>Topic Water into Wine</i> Leader and preacher - Revd C Collins
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Sunday 31st	10.00am Morning Worship	Readings Deuteronomy 18: 15-20 and Mark 1:21-28 <i>Topic The Authority of the Christ</i> Leader and preacher - Revd C Collins
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Diary Dates for January

- Monday 4th - 7:30pm - **Standing committee** (by Zoom)
- Wednesday 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th - 8am - **Informal Prayer**
- Monday 18th - Monday 25th Week of prayer for Christian Unity
- Tuesday 19th - 7:15pm - **PCC** (by Zoom).

A prayer for the New Year

The dawn of the **New Year** fills us with hope for what is to come. We pray that we will keep our focus where it needs to be on you this **year** and that we'll all have a **year** filled with joy, love and happiness. Amen

Chris Collins (Vicar) 0116 332 2722
 vicar@stchristophersleicester.com

Kashenye Water Project - Charles Ndigirwa

Thank you ever so much again to everyone who has contributed to the Kashenye Water Project in my village. As you can see from the picture on the front page, we struck water at 185 metres down and there is a good supply and good pressure for which we are so grateful.

Everyone is very excited. We are now continuing to fundraise to put in a water tank and taps and in Phase 2 to lay down pipes to distribute water to different parts of the village. The people of Kashenye say '*Tasing muno*' - thank you very much!

Prayer Topics

Pray for:

- **St C's** as we head into 2021; that God by his Holy Spirit would mould us more and more into disciples of Jesus Christ
- those in our **community** who continue to face financial or food challenges (needs that we might be able to play a part in meeting)
- **Samworth Academy** following the announcement of a staggered return of secondary pupils after Christmas
- **Mrs Sam Roach**, who steps in as Executive Principal at the Academy prior to a replacement for Alan being found
- **Jenny** and her sister following the death of their stepmum Ronnie
- **Flora** as she continues her recovery after contracting coronavirus
- **Fred and Jo** who are waiting 3 months before they consider when they should return to Africa
- **Nia** who is planning to come back to England in January for a 6 month sabbatical
- People's **mental well-being** as we face the long winter months with the possibilities of even stricter lockdowns
- the roll-out of the **vaccine** to the vulnerable in the coming weeks and months: that it would happen swiftly and efficiently
- the current vaccines to prove effective against the new version of the virus, or the speedy manufacture of a new vaccine.

Mission for the month - Arab World Ministries (AWM)

Living and working cross-culturally brings its challenges for all our workers, but **bringing children up in this context** brings additional difficulties and joys. Hannah (not her real name) shares from her family's experience.

What were your first impressions of the Middle East?

'It's cold! Where are my woolly socks?!' We were expecting to be in a very hot country but we went at the beginning of the year and it was freezing!

How are you finding raising a little one overseas?

In some ways it's harder than expected. In some ways it's not.

The main challenge is not having the same kind of support networks such as health visitors, playgroups and church groups. Experiencing this isolation can be difficult. It would be nice to talk to people who are just as clueless as we are!

Any obvious cultural differences?

One lovely aspect of living here is that children are treated so warmly. There isn't this kind of distance that you can feel with other people's children in the UK. For example, if my child is throwing a tantrum in the supermarket, instead of having lots of people judging you, you'd have people come up to her, rustle plastic bags and say, 'Look at this, darling!' and try and cheer her up for you. And it's not just other mums, it's even people who you wouldn't expect like teenage boys and older men...they're absolutely mushy over small children!

Vicar's Comment

Many of you will be aware of the famous Back to the Future films. For those who are not, they are about time-travel, and the two main characters are called Doc and Marty. One funny image I found on the internet recently was a picture someone had made of Doc saying to Marty, 'Whatever happens, don't go to 2020!' That may raise a laugh for some of you, but perhaps not for others. So much has happened, so much which has challenged and stretched us. I doubt many will look back fondly on 2020. But even as it comes to an end, we must be aware that 2021 is an unknown. It could prove more challenging, it could prove less challenging, it could be about the same. It's not in our control; therefore we need to trust the Lord as we go forward. Paul lists many obstacles in Romans 8 before going on to say, 'in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him Who loved us' (Romans 8:37, NIV). We will face obstacles. We will face challenges. But as 2021 begins, remember - our Lord is bigger, and He is on our side.