

# **St Christopher's Church**

**Trenant Road Saffron Lane  
LE2 6UA**



## **Memory Verse**

'...the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many'

Mark 10:45 (NIV)

# **April 2021**

## St Christopher's Church Services for April

**Maundy Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> 7.30pm**  
**Prayer time with Scriptural reflection (on Zoom)**

**Good Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> Home Worship** guidance to be provided  
 (including video from Revd C Collins )

<b>Easter Day</b> <b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	10.00am <b>Holy Communion</b>	Readings    Mark 16: 1-8 and 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11 <i>Topic</i> <i>Risen conquering Son</i> Lead and preacher    Revd C Collins
	<b>In the Sports Hall</b>	

<b>Sunday</b> <b>11<sup>th</sup></b>	10.00am <b>Home Worship</b>	Readings    John 20: 19-31 and 1 John 1: 1-2: 2 <i>Topic</i> <i>'Peace be with you!'</i> Lead and preacher    Revd C Collins
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<b>Sunday</b> <b>18<sup>th</sup></b>	10.00am <b>Holy Communion</b>	Readings    Luke 24: 36b-48 and 1 John 3: 1-7 <i>Topic</i> <i>Our Resurrection Hope</i> Lead and preacher    Mr C Ndigirwa
	<b>In the Sports Hall</b>	

<b>Sunday</b> <b>25<sup>th</sup></b>	10.00am <b>Home Worship</b>	Readings    John 10: 11-18 and 1 John 3: 16-24 <i>Topic</i> <i>True love in action</i> Lead and preacher    Revd C Collins
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### PCC following the APCM

**Please pray** for our new PCC following our recent APCM. Neil Tansley and Flora Kitindi have replaced Steve Joyce and James Gibson who had both completed their 3 year term. All other people remain the same.

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> - 7.30pm **Standing Committee** (By Zoom)

### Kashenye Water Project

The project has been waiting for a plumber to go to the village and connect pipes together. This will include connecting the pumping machine to the Well, and to connect pipes to the 10,000 litre water tank that will be used as a distribution point.

This work was supposed to have been completed on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March, but was delayed because a lot of people were in shock because of the sudden death of the President on 18<sup>th</sup> March. But the end is now in sight!

**Please pray** for Tanzania during this difficult time

## Vicar's comment

I was recently at a Diocesan Retreat (online), when another church leader shared something that struck a chord with me. He referred to a Bible passage from Isaiah which, speaking of the Messiah, states that 'A bruised reed he will not break, and a smouldering wick he will not snuff out' (Isaiah 42:3, NIV). After hearing him refer to these words, I leant my head back and closed my eyes, somehow moved by the comfort of them.

Personally speaking, although I've felt most days during this pandemic have been 'okay', I wonder if my reaction to this verse showed my need for renewed comfort from the Lord. I wonder if you are aware of this need for yourself too. I sense many of us don't yet know the toll this pandemic has taken on us. Perhaps we won't realise it for a while. But as this verse shows, Jesus isn't in the business of letting go of those who feel weak, yet continue to cling to him.

The church leader in question went on to talk about two types of friend: the one who puts their arm around you for comfort, and the one who tries to sort your problem out. But Jesus is both! He is gentle with bruised reeds and smouldering wicks; He is comforting. But He's also in the business of healing the reeds and bringing the wicks to full flame.

This Easter time, however you feel, hold onto that. And hold onto the Saviour who lived, died and rose again for your eternal comfort.

## Prayer Topics

### Pray that:

- we would be amazed at the wonder of Jesus' death and resurrection, and be empowered by the Holy Spirit to share this good news with others
- we as a church community would be shaped and moulded by God, becoming more like Jesus....whatever happens regarding the pandemic situation.

### Pray for:

- the many people who have lost friends, family, colleagues or neighbours to COVID in the last year, as a year passes since the beginning of lockdown
- the end of the global pandemic, and for the continued effectiveness of the vaccination process both in the UK and worldwide
- Tudor Grange Samworth Academy, in their recruiting of a new Head of Secondary
- Grace (James' ex-girlfriend) to be found safe and well after going missing from her home in Hinckley
- those in our community who continue to face financial or food challenges (needs that we might be able to play a part in meeting)
- our Scouts, who are now able to meet again outside.

## **Mission for the Month AWM with a focus on Jordan**

This year Ramadan starts on 12<sup>th</sup> April and for the next 30 days, most Muslims around the world will be fasting from food and drink between sunrise and sunset. They will devote more time to prayer and see this month as the holiest of the year. **Pray** for this time that God will speak to many.

**Jordan** is a land once marked with the footsteps of such men as Abraham, Job, Moses, and Jesus Christ and so the Kingdom of Jordan is rich with Biblical history. As a country with no oil reserves it is the poorest country in the Middle East and relies heavily on tourism, so has been badly affected by the pandemic.

Jordan is categorized as a restricted nation, where Christians are persecuted or oppressed as a result of government policy, and a staggering 14 of the 21 people groups in Jordan have not heard the Gospel. While Islam serves as the official religion, the constitution allows for religious freedom as long as Islamic law and public morality are not violated. Though legally protected, many new followers of Christ are pressured by the Muslim society and emigrate. This results in fewer people remaining to bear witness to the transforming power of the Gospel. Media ministry by AWM is proving to be effective, specifically Christian satellite TV and radio broadcasts.

### **Pray for:**

- current religious freedom to remain despite increasing pressure to suppress it
- the multitude of refugees who have crossed into Jordan that they will hear the gospel (over 1 million from Syria and 2.3 million from Palestine)
- the unreached to hear the Good News and be equipped to effectively minister to those around
- Christianity to be held in high regard so that God's work in this strategic part of the Middle East would not be thwarted.

### **Leicestershire at the Cross 2021 Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> April**

(Note the new name!)

Because of the on-going Covid restrictions this event is going on-line. It will feature an hour-long programme, which will include the musical, dramatic, and spoken elements that have always been a significant part of the event.

It will be broadcasted live on Good Friday between 6 and 7pm via Youtube.