

# **St Christopher's Church**

**Trenant Road Saffron Lane LE2 6UA**



## **Memory Verse**

'I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.'

John 6: 51 NIV

# **April 2023**

## St Christopher's Church Services for April

<b>Palm Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	10.00am <b>Morning Worship</b> (Groups)	Readings <b>Topic</b> Led by Guest Preacher	Psalm 118: 19-29 and Matthew 21: 1-11 <b>Here comes the King</b> Mr C Collins Mr Gary Kennaugh
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**Maundy Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> - 7pm Holy Communion (with foot washing) Leader and preacher Mr C Ndigirwa, 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26 and John 13: 1-35**

**Good Friday 7<sup>th</sup> - 2-3pm Reflections - led by Mr C Collins**

<b>Easter Day 9<sup>th</sup></b>	10.00am <b>All age Holy Communion</b>	Reading <b>Topic</b> Led by Preacher	Matthew 28: 1-10 <b>He is risen!</b> Mr C Ndigirwa Mr C Collins
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<b>Sunday 16<sup>th</sup></b>	10.00am <b>All age Morning Worship</b>	Reading <b>Topic</b> Led by Preacher	John 20: 19-31 <b>Seeing and believing</b> Mr C Ndigirwa Mrs C Griffin
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<b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup></b>	10.00am <b>Holy Communion</b>	Readings <b>Topic</b> Led by Preacher	1 Peter 1: 17-23 and Luke 24: 13-35 <b>Hearts aflame</b> Mr C Collins Mr C Ndigirwa
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<b>Sunday 30<sup>th</sup></b>	10.00am <b>All age Morning Worship</b>	Reading <b>Topic</b> Led by Preacher	Galatians 5: 13-26 <b>The fruit of the Spirit (New Series)</b> Mr C Ndigirwa Mr C Ndigirwa
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<p><b>Little Angels</b> Mondays and Fridays 9.15-11.15am Last meeting of Spring term Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March Summer term starts Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April</p>	<p><b>Scouts (10-14 years)</b> Meeting night Mondays - 5.30- 7.00pm Adventurous Activities, also at other times For further details ring Roger on 07766456239</p>
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Visit our web site - [stchristophersleicester.com](http://stchristophersleicester.com)  
and follow the **You Tube Link** on our Home Page  
to listen to recorded sermons

## Diary Dates for April

- Monday 10<sup>th</sup> - Friday 14<sup>th</sup> - Charles on Annual Leave
- Monday 10<sup>th</sup> - Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> - Chris on Annual Leave
- Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> - 7pm - '**Fruitfulness on the Frontline**' course,
- Monday 24<sup>th</sup> - 6pm - Standing committee, (on Zoom)
- Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> - TGSA Secondary Assemblies in St C's (provisional).

## Prayer Topics

### Pray for

- those suffering in our church: for blessing on Rob Griffin's daughter Crystal, for Charles and Pauline's eldest daughter Grace, for comfort for Flora and Rod and the family following Rod's brother's sudden death.
- Stephen Slatter at Stonesby Lodge, who is not well at all.
- That he would know Jesus and be comfortable as he receives care there.
- those in our church taking time off over Easter, or going away - that they would experience God's presence, peace and refreshment, and serve Him in that time.
- Secondary age assemblies happening in St C's. That students would sense the presence of God, and hear Him speaking through the content.
- those who use our St C's Open Hands Foodbank (an increasing number of people recently). That we offer a warm welcome along with the food, and that opportunities come from these contacts for building relationships and sharing the gospel.
- the still-delayed St C's replacement sound system, that it might be received and installed soon.
- our Mission Partners; that the Lord would use them in the work of His Kingdom.

**Chris Collins (Vicar)** 0116 332 2722

vicar@stchristophersleicester.com

## Mission for the Month Arab World Ministries (AWM)

Ramadan started this year on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March and will finish on 22<sup>nd</sup> April.

There are many different reasons why Muslims observe Ramadan, but these are some of the most common:

- Keeping Ramadan is one of the five pillars of Islam. This is an *essential* part of the Muslim faith. People are encouraged to put extra effort into their religious practices, because it is taught that prayers, almsgiving, and other acts of piety have greater weight and worth during this month.
- For those seeking personal growth and self-development, Ramadan can be a time to learn patience, self-control, and restraint.
- A desire not to get arrested. In an Islamic country it is illegal for anyone to eat or drink in public during Ramadan.
- "It's just what we do." Ultimately, many people fast because that's just the done thing. Their family has always done it and everyone around them is fasting. And there is a lot of fun to be had in the communal experiences: breaking fast together, enjoying Ramadan TV together (the best shows come out during Ramadan), and so on...

**Pray that this Ramadan, many more Muslims will comprehend the breadth and length and height and depth of the love of Christ. (Ephesians 3: 18-19)**

### Vicar's Comment

I've reflected before that the *practice* of Christianity could be difficult for outsiders to get a handle on. Why do I say that? Because although we have buildings, it is we ourselves who are actually the building God lives in. And although we are called to pray, we are not given set times for it but instead it's supposed to be ongoing. And although most Christians mark certain days of year annually (such as Christmas and Easter), this is not something we are commanded to do in the Bible.

And it's this freedom that means....

...Some of us might set aside time to pray in the morning...others in the evening.

...Some sing worship to God in the shower, some in the car going to work.

...Some churches meet together in 1000 year old church buildings, some meet in modern homes.

What has all this got to do with Easter? Well, it's a reminder that the grace of God is not tied to certain times and places. If we are Christians, the grace God poured out to us through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ *covers us at all times and in all places*. Because of Jesus, we can swim in oceans of grace, mercy and love forever. Jesus said '*I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world*' (John 6: 51 NIV, emphasis mine). May you know this Easter time and always the blessings that come from Jesus' sacrifice for us!