

# **St Christopher's Church**

**Trenant Road Saffron Lane LE2 6UA**



**Harvest time**

## **Memory verse**

**"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good: His love endures forever." 1 Chronicles 16: 34 (NIV)**

# **October 2024**

# St Christopher's Church Services - October

<b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> (Groups)</b>	<b>10.00am Morning Worship</b>	Reading	Leviticus 16: 1-5 and Hebrew 9: 1-10
		<i>Topic</i>	<i>In God's holy presence</i>
		Leader	Mr C Collins
		Preacher	Mr C Collins

<b>Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> Holy Communion</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	Readings	tbc
		<i>Topic</i>	<i>tbc (Harvest)</i>
		Leader	Mr C Collins
		Preacher	Mr C Ndirirwa

**Followed by a Bring and Share Harvest Lunch  
This is Charles's last Sunday with us.**

<b>Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> (Groups)</b>	<b>10.00am Morning Worship</b>	Readings	Leviticus 16: 14-16 and Hebrews 9: 11-15
		<i>Topic</i>	<i>Cleansed consciences</i>
		Leader	Mr C Collins
		Preacher	Mr C Collins

<b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> Clocks go back!</b>	<b>10.00am All Age Holy Communion</b>	Reading	tbc
		<i>Topic</i>	<i>God's Big Picture - The Proclaimed</i>
		Leader	Mr C Collins
		Preacher	Mr C Collins

## Diary Dates for October

- Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> - Chris at Diocesan Deprivation Panel
- Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> - Chris & Charles at LDEF (Leicester Diocesan Evangelical Panel)
- Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> - 'Everybody' conference at St John's Church Clarendon Park
- Monday 14<sup>th</sup> - Neil & Chris at TGSA Governors meeting
- Monday 21<sup>st</sup> - Friday 25<sup>th</sup> - Half-term - No Little Angels
- Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> - Chris at IWC (Intercultural Worshipping Community) Partner Churches day
- Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> - Angels & Heroes (dependent on team availability)

## Mission for the month - Open Hands

Open Hands continue to do an excellent job of supporting the most vulnerable members of our communities through providing food, clothing, furniture, language classes and signposting advice. People who visit Open Hands are often socially isolated and don't have the same reliable support networks that the majority of us enjoy. They are usually excluded from the workplace, financial institutions and every day social interactions. As a result, they are often frustrated and lonely. Open Hands stands as a beacon of hope for many and has always operated on the principle of treating customers with dignity and respect - and I am privileged to witness this on a weekly basis.

On a personal note, I would value your prayers as I have been invited onto the Open Hands Chaplaincy team from October and will spend the majority of my Tuesday mornings in direct conversation with customers. Please pray for wisdom, humility and compassion to be at the heart of all those conversations.

Thankyou

Neil Tansley

### Pray for:

- Charles & the family as he prepares for the end of his curacy at St C's and begins as prison chaplain at HMP Rye Hill near Rugby. Please pray for guidance & blessing for the family for the next chapter of their lives.
- Jasmine G, Alex N and Henrick Ki as they settle in to their first year of University - for safety & flourishing in their time there.
- God to work through TGSA's new lunchtime group for Secondary pupils called 'Fellows' - a gentle conversational group exploring big questions & ideas around life & faith. Led by Jenny Saunders (a Christian staff member) with Chris planning to assist.
- Sandra's husband, Ikenna, recovering from Dengue fever. Pray for his lack of work placement to be resolved, so that the family can be reunited.
- Miri as she has a two week course of radiotherapy on her lungs, that this will be the last treatment that she needs and that she will be restored to full health.
- the Leicester Diocese 'Shaped by God Together' process (ie Minster Communities). Please pray for wisdom & guidance from God for both us & diocesan staff in finding a way forward, especially following our PCC's decision to '*press the pause button*' on our involvement in the process.  
A peaceful way forward for the conflicts in Democratic Republic of Congo, Sudan, Ukraine, Yemen, Gaza, and Lebanon.

### Curate's Comment

Whether we wave good-bye to our children each morning as they walk to school or travel for their first residential trip with the school or a weekend away or shed tears of grief as we bury our loved one; farewells are hard. Farewells involve not just leaving people, but leaving places and lifestyles we have come to love and serve and cherish. Moving away, for example, can be a grieving experience in which we lose valued friendships, comfortable routines, and familiar surroundings. Often, the longer the wait until we meet again, the more difficult it is to say goodbye. Most of our farewells are tempered by the knowledge that we'll see friends or family by the end of the day, or maybe within a few days after a trip. Other farewells become more difficult. For example, saying goodbye to a grown child moving far away, to college/uni or having to move away ourselves, can be hard.

So I come with a heavy heart to the time to say my farewell to the family here at St Christopher's. I want to thank each and every one of you for making me and my family feel so welcome here and for supporting and encouraging me through my student years and time as curate. It has been a real joy to get to know you and to take our journey of faith together. As some of you know I am going on to take up a position of chaplain at Rye Hill Prison in Rugby, a calling that I have been following for many years. As we go we pray that God will bless you all and that you will continue to see God working among you and using you to shine His light into the local area.

Remember that even though parting can be sad God is a constant we can always count on - **"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good: His love endures forever."** (1 Chronicles 16: 34 NIV) We will never have to say good-bye to Him, and He will never leave us. No matter where we go, even across the farthest oceans, God is with us, guiding us as we come and go. He comforts us with the knowledge that, when we arrive in heaven, all the farewells will be over and there will only be sweet greetings.

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