

# St Christopher's Church

Trenant Road Saffron Lane LE2 6UA

## The Nicene Creed



Composed in part and adopted at the *first*  
Council of *Nicaea* in 325 *AD*.

### Memory verse

'This is my Son, Whom I love; with Him I am well pleased. Listen to Him!' (Matthew 17: 5b, NIV)

# February 2025

# St Christopher's Church Services February

Theme for the month: Following Jesus, being Church

<b>Sunday</b> <b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> <b>(Groups)</b>	10.00am <b>Morning</b> <b>Worship</b>	Readings Malachi 3: 1-5 and Luke 6: 12-26 <b>Topic</b> 1. <i>A called community</i> Leader and Preacher - Mr C Collins
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<b>Sunday</b> <b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	10.00am <b>Holy</b> <b>Communion</b>	Readings Matthew 6: 5-18 and James 4: 1-3 <b>Topic</b> 2. <i>A praying community</i> Leader Mr C Collins Preacher Mrs Ali Simpson-Smith
	Tea, chat and pray - 5pm-7pm at the Earlys 22 Suffolk Close	

<b>Sunday</b> <b>16<sup>th</sup></b>	10.00am <b>All Age</b> <b>Morning</b> <b>Worship</b>	Readings TBC <b>Topic</b> 3. <i>A worshipping community</i> Leader and Preacher - Mr C Collins
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<b>Sunday</b> <b>23<sup>rd</sup></b>	10.00am <b>All</b> <b>Age Holy</b> <b>Communion</b>	Readings TBC <b>Topic</b> 4. <i>A compassionate community</i> Leader and Preacher - Mr C Collins
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## Diary Dates for February

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> - Neil & Chris at TGSA Governors' meeting

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> - Chris at 'Fellows' faith exploration group, lunchtime with TGSA students

Monday 10<sup>th</sup>-Friday 14<sup>th</sup> - Chris at General Synod London

Monday 17<sup>th</sup>- Friday 21<sup>st</sup> - Half-term - no Little Angels this week

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> - 6:30pm - Inter-cultural worship (IWC) community worship 'jam' session at St Paul's church Oadby

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup>-Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> - Chris at New Wine Leaders' conference (NWLC)

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### Advanced Notice

2<sup>nd</sup> March **Tearfund Sunday**,

a soup and bread lunch will follow the morning service.

## Prayer Topics

- Open Hands as they seek to provide for the needy this continuing winter. That the truly needy would receive what they need, including those in our area.
- Melvin, Veronica's husband, after the discovery that his prostate cancer has spread elsewhere in his body. Please pray for peace and faith in Christ for the family and for the successful treatment of the cancer.
- John Tonkin and family following the death of dear Margaret. Please pray for John to feel loved and supported during this difficult time, and for the wider family.
- Mike and his sister Margaret, who is not expected to live long. Please pray for a sense of God's closeness and care for the family and for Margaret to know God's peace.
- those guests who came to the recent Fish+Chip Supper with Quiz. That we as a church community can build on these contacts that people might come to Christ.
- the TGSA/St C's lunchtime group for secondary pupils called 'Fellows'. Please pray that the staff and young people involved will encounter Jesus at this and receive Him as Saviour and King personally.
- TGSA as they prepare for an upcoming SIAMS assessment (a bit like an OFSTED assessment but for church schools). Chris and Neil are involved in this work.
- our church's future following our PCC's decision to connect up with Holy Trinity Church Leicester and possibly with Enderby Parish Church in a Minster Community. That by God's grace we would be able to establish a community of churches which is seeking the glory of God and the spread of the gospel.
- the wider Church of England following ongoing Safeguarding issues. That God may turn our denomination fully back to the Bible's authority and in so doing develop a godly culture of loving our neighbours as ourselves.

**Chris Collins (Vicar) 0777 4346871**

## Mission of the month Crosslinks

This month's missionary display shows the **Open Doors World Watch List** for 2025.

**Crosslinks** works in a number of countries which are high on this list. One of these countries is China where regulations continue to be more tightly enforced, and the country has risen four places on the World Watch List 2025, from 19<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>.

### So what has changed?

- Unregistered churches have been forcibly closed, and believers forced to take their fellowships underground.
- Registered churches faced restrictions around the topics for their sermons. They are required to put up pro-Communist signs and are monitored.
- Church leaders anywhere in the country can be invited for 'tea' by the Chinese authorities, usually a thinly veiled excuse to check on Christian activities. More leaders of house churches are being convicted of fraud or other economic crimes, and face long and arduous prison sentences.

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### Vicar's thought

I wonder if there's a particular occasion when you forgot a big day? Perhaps a birthday, or Valentine's Day, or maybe even an anniversary? Well there's another anniversary happening this year that you might be interested to hear about. This year is the 1700<sup>th</sup> anniversary of a very important meeting of Christians: the Council of Nicaea. If you have been in church and wondered about the creed that we sometimes say (the Nicene Creed), this is where that comes from (did you also know that some sources suggest that St Nicholas of Myra i.e. the historical 'Santa Claus' was at this meeting?)

The big issue that prompted the council was a question about who Jesus is. Was he simply an amazing man and nothing more??? Was He even human??? The council of Nicea followed the Bible's teaching and recognised Him to be both God & man - the Godman: a man of history, who walked specific dusty roads, who spoke with particular people who wrote down what He said and did, who was publicly crucified. This man was at the same time "God from God, light from light, true God from true God". And so, the true God who really is there, is a God whose heart overflows with love so much that He became a human being so that we might know Him - so that you might know Him.

I hope that you don't forget your anniversary or a birthday this year, but even if you do, let's be determined on the 1700<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Nicene Creed to follow the Godman Jesus ever more closely. As the Father said at the Transfiguration:

**'This is my Son, Whom I love; with Him I am well pleased. Listen to Him!'**

(Matthew 17: 5b, NIV)