

St Christopher's Church

Trenant Road Saffron Lane LE2 6UA



Memory Verse

**'I have come that they may have life, and
have it to the full.'**

John 10: 10b (NIV)

April 2025

St Christopher's Church Services for April

Sunday 6th	10.00am All Age Baptism Service	Reading tba Topic <i>Salvation in Jesus</i> Leading and preaching Mr C Collins
Followed by the APCM and 'Bring and Share' Lunch		

Sunday 13th	10.00am All age Holy Communion	PALM SUNDAY Readings Psalm 118: 19-29 and Luke 19: 28-40 Topic <i>The coming of the King</i> Leading and preaching Mr C Collins
Tea, chat and pray - 5pm-7pm at the Early's 22 Suffolk Close		

Maundy Thursday 17th - 7.15pm Holy Communion (with optional foot washing)

Good Friday 18th - 2-3pm Meditations - led by Mr C Collins

Sunday 20th	10.00am All age Holy Communion	EASTER DAY Reading Acts 10: 34-43 and Luke 24: 1-12 Topic <i>He is risen!</i> Leading and preaching Mr C Collins
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Sunday 27th	10.00am All age Morning Worship	Reading Psalm 20:19-31 and John 20: 19-31 Topic <i>Sent ones of the Sent One</i> Leading and preaching Mr C Collins
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Diary Dates for April

- Tuesdays 1st, 8th & 15th - Lent/Easter small group on Prayer, 7:15pm at church
- Wednesdays 2nd, 16th, 30th (not 9th or 23rd) - Time to pray for church & local community - both daytime and evening options (precise times tbc each week)
- Monday 7th - Last Little Angels of term
- Wednesday 9th - TGSA Easter Experience in church
- Thursday 10th - End of term at TGSA
- Friday 18th - Leicester churches Easter Walk of Witness, 9am-1pm (See poster for more details)
- Monday 28th - Start of term at TGSA and Little Angels re-starts
- Monday 28th - Standing Committee - time tba.

Prayer Topics

Pray for:

- the ongoing work in TGSA secondary following the announcement that Jenny Saunders - long-standing Christian staff member and co-leader of Fellows - is leaving the school at the end of this term. Please pray that the staff and young people involved will encounter Jesus at this and receive Him as Saviour and King personally.
- 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 Melvin as he faces treatment for his cancer.
- 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. Also that the Minister Communities project might bear good fruit in the years ahead.
- Simon and Sarah, as Sarah begins IVF treatment to conceive a child.
- Rob's daughter Crystal - thanks to God for her recent improvements in her mental health, but also ask God for her full recovery.
- Neil's mother who is unwell.
- Mike's sister's funeral and Thanksgiving Service for her long Christian life on Wednesday 23rd.

Chris Collins (Vicar) 0777 4346871

Mission for the Month Church Pastoral Aid Society (CPAS) (CPAS is our patron)

CPAS is an evangelical mission agency founded in 1836. One of their involvements is in patronage, which is a really ancient and historic tradition which dates right back to Anglo-Saxon times. Patrons are particularly important when a new Rector/Vicar is appointed in a parish. CPAS is the UK's largest evangelical patron with nearly 700 parishes and are involved in around 100 appointments each year, working collaboratively with the parish and the diocese.

When we were discussing which churches we should join with in our Minster Community we decided that we would only join with churches which were CPAS Patronage churches. This was so we can maintain our Evangelical tradition and is why we decided to partner with Holy Trinity.

At present the Church of England faces challenges around clergy recruitment and vacancies, so CPAS is thankful for God's faithfulness as they facilitate churches finding the right clergy.

Please pray for all churches in vacancy and their interim leaders as they wait for the right appointment and for CPAS as they try to match the right minister to the right parish.

Vicar's thoughts

There are certain Bible verses which explicitly describe the reasons Jesus came to earth (I once enjoyed doing a sermon series on these various verses). One of these verses is **'I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.'** (John 10: 10b NIV.) I wonder if you ever think about what this life to the full looks like? I recently read something written by missionary Simon Guillebaud, where he talks about how living a long life and a full life are not necessarily the same thing. It's possible to live until you are 100 years old but to be bitter and riddled with regrets. And it's also possible to live a full and joyful life but to die young. He points out that Jesus, who lived life to the full in obedience to his Father, died in his thirties.

This should cause us to stop and ponder. Are we pursuing the life to the full that Jesus promises, in obedience to Him? Or are we just doing things to prolong our lives without feeling like we are really living? I don't think any of the apostles lived long enough to sit in a rocking chair and regale their great-grandchildren with stories, but in following Jesus they lived the best life possible....even if they did die young. This Easter, we remember Jesus walking the way of the cross, but we must remember that He calls us to take up our own crosses and follow Him also. In doing so He promises that we will find life to the full.