



What next, after the earthquakes? Interview with Rev. Ibrahim, Syria

The front part of the church was very dangerous. I said, "Please go out of the church and go to our shelter in the school." At that second, I said, "It is not enough to get people into the shelter. People are out of their homes with nothing. What should be done now?"

I started to organise the shelter, and this shelter was open to everybody. We never asked the people about their religion, we never asked about their ethnicity. I thought about what Jesus said: "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in [...] Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." (Matthew 25:35, 40).

On the first day, we received 633 people, whom we took care of. On the second day we received 697 people, whom we took care of. On the third day, we received 253, whom we took care of. I don't remember the other numbers on the days after. And every day we provide 1,500 sandwiches for lunch for public shelters, as nobody can afford food. We offer them food and water. This isn't just for Christians, by the way. The shelters are for anybody.

They have seen Jesus Christ working through us. One woman, a non-Christian, wanted to thank us but didn't even know the word 'Christian'. "People of the cross," she told me, "you were our family, taking care of us." Instead of concentrating on the bad situation, I was leading the church of Aleppo in how to deal with this critical situation – bringing transformation in the lives of society because of the presence of Jesus Christ within this church.

PLEASE PRAY

- ✠ For the church in Syria to be a unified light of hope in the midst of this ongoing crisis
- ✠ For strength and equipping for Reverend Ibrahim and all Open Doors partners in the region
- ✠ That God would bless and encourage all who are suffering and mourning.

If you feel able to donate to this urgent appeal for help, please go to <https://www.opendoorsuk.org/>

Alternatively, scan this QR code to get straight to the website



Contact Information

Safeguarding: We take your welfare and safety very seriously!

If you see or experience anything that concerns you, please contact either
Revd Neil (our Rector): revdneil@yahoo.com, 01778 219626 or
Anthony Andrews (our group safeguarding officer): andrews.seed@btconnect.com,
01778 440669

Group Administrator and for entries to news sheet (by Tuesday please)
Sue O'Riordan: ringstoneoffice@gmail.com

Ringstone in Aveland News Sheet



12 March 2023
The Third Sunday of Lent

Collect for this Sunday

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen

Psalm 95 - A Call to Worship and Obedience

O come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!
For the Lord is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.
In his hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the mountains are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it,
and the dry land, which his hands have formed.
O come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!
For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.

O that today you would listen to his voice!
Do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah,
as on the day at Massah in the wilderness,
when your ancestors tested me,
and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work.

For forty years I loathed that generation
and said, 'They are a people whose hearts go astray,
and they do not regard my ways.'
Therefore in my anger I swore,
'They shall not enter my rest.'

Post Communion Prayer for this Sunday

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Please pray for...

From our prayer list

Eben Atkinson, Sheila Bates, Margaret Brumby, Debbie Dams, Josh Elliott, Christine Evans, Judith Gentleman, Sue Grainge, Nora Green, Ann Hall, Clive Hall, Marion Heygate, Jane Knight, June Langley, Judy Long, Imogen Matthews, Richard Rice-Oxley, John Rowntree, Maggie Sharman, Jose Stokes, Amanda Thomson, Clive Walker, John Weatherspoon, Kevin Whitfield, and for any others whom we name in the silence of our hearts.

We give thanks for those on the road to recovery.

We also remember the souls of Peter Emmingham, Arthur Jeffries, John Kearsey, Ivor Roberts and all the faithful departed may they rest in peace and rise in glory; and we also pray for those who mourn their loss.

Funeral anniversaries: Sadie Hall (6 months), Celia Wells (1 year), Hannah Faupel (1 Year), Teddie Creasey (1 Year), Gordon Durno (1 Year), Joan Coupland (2 Year), Kenneth Exton (2 Year)

Deanery Evensong in Lent Each Sunday at 6.30pm

12 March Edenham
19 March Bourne Abbey
26 March Colsterworth
2 April Corby Glen

12 March at 3pm at Morton

Friendship service with Morton School.

Bring a friend, make new friends. Worship then stay for tea/coffee.

Readings for this Sunday

Exodus 17.1-7

Romans 5.1-11

John 4.5-42



Reflections for Lent - Meditation

“May the words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.” – Psalm 19:14

What comes to mind when you think about meditation? Do you feel positively or negatively about it? For Christians, meditation isn't about emptying our minds, but filling them with biblical truth

The three keys to meditation:

1. Embrace interruption: slow down and be patient
2. Exercise intuition: explore the implications
3. Apply imagination: adopt a mental playfulness

“Our mind, will, emotions and our body can also be ways of communicating with God and God communicates to us in those as well... Logic and emotions are not mutually exclusive, they live together.” – Mara Klemich

Sunday and regular weekday Services in the Group

12 March	11am	Eucharist	Kirkby Underwood
	3pm	Friendship service	Morton
	6.30pm	Deanery Evensong	Edenham
19 March	11am	Eucharist	Morton
	6.30pm	Deanery Evensong	Bourne Abbey
26 March	11am	Eucharist	Rippingale
	6.30pm	Deanery Evensong	Colsterworth
2 April	11am	Eucharist	Haconby
	6.30pm	Deanery Evensong	Corby Glen

Each morning 9 am Morning Prayer/Eucharist see below

Monday: Morton, Tuesday: Dunsby; **Wednesday: 10am, Morning Prayer, Morton**; Thursday: Haconby; Friday: Rippingale; Saturday: Kirkby Underwood.

Do you know anyone who is unable to get to church but who would like to receive Holy Communion? Just contact Revd Neil on 01778 219626 or revdneil@yahoo.com

Chrism Eucharist—Tuesday 4 April at 11am, Lincoln Cathedral

This service takes place annually, during which the oils for baptism, confirmation and anointing to be used during the year will be blessed.

All clergy are invited to attend, and an invitation is extended to all members of their congregations as an opportunity for the laity to show their support for their clergy, and for all to be reminded that the call to be the people of God is given to us all.

Tea and coffee will be available after the service.

If you would like to attend, please let Neil know by **Wednesday 22 March**, so that he can let the Bishop's Office know.



THESE ITEMS ARE CURRENTLY WANTED

There is a collection box in St. John the Baptist Church, on the left at the back of the church

Tinned meat
Tinned rice pudding
Jars of pasta sauce
Squash or fruit juice
Instant mash
Toothbrushes

Tinned custard
Tinned vegetables
Packets of plain rice
Tinned potatoes
Shaving gel