

Living in a country where Christians are persecuted for their faith—India

The persecution of Christians in India is intensifying in many parts of the country as Hindu extremists aim to cleanse India of the presence and influence of believers. The driving force behind this is Hindutva, an ideology that disregards Indian Christians and other religious minorities as true Indians because they have allegiances that lie outside India, and asserts the country should be purified of their presence. This is leading to an often violent and carefully orchestrated targeting of Christians and other religious minorities in many parts of India, including use of social media to spread disinformation and stir up hatred. Increasing numbers of states are implementing anti-conversion laws, which purport to prevent coerced conversion, but are often abused to harass and intimidate Christians with false accusations. Simply being a Christian is enough to be in acute danger of persecution in many parts of India. For those active in telling others about Jesus, the risk is heightened even further.

Sumi* and her family were amongst several Christians forced from their village because of their faith. They set up homes on farmland, but the conditions were poor. Despite threats and attacks by village extremists, Sumi's husband, Ravi, kept telling others about Jesus. "That was the joy of his life," she shares. Tragically, Ravi's perseverance and bravery cost him his life. He was shot dead.

Clutching her Bible close to her chest, Sumi – now a single a mother of four – remains steadfast in her devotion to Jesus. "I will continue living here, and will continue the ministry of my husband," she says.

**Name changed for security reasons*

Update: On 1 September, a preliminary hearing looking at the intensifying persecution facing Christians in many parts of India took place at the country's Supreme Court. The court wants to verify the claims made in the petition and has granted the government two months to gather evidence. The case is due to be heard again on 6 December.

Please pray:

Lord Jesus, help our persecuted brothers and sisters in India to stand strong in their faith and shine as stars (Philippians 2:15) in their local communities. Continue to manifest Your love and power through healings and miracles. Guard Your children from harm and equip them for the challenges they face. Provoke social media companies to do more to combat the use of their platforms to spread disinformation and hatred. Soften the hearts of influential local leaders and officials towards Christians, so that greater protection is given to them. Amen.

www.opendoorsuk.org; Open Doors World Watch List

Ringstone in Aveland News Sheet



25 September 2022
Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

Psalm 146 - Praise for God's Help

Praise the Lord!

Praise the Lord, O my soul!

I will praise the Lord as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

Do not put your trust in princes,
in mortals, in whom there is no help.

When their breath departs, they return to the earth;

on that very day their plans perish.

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,

whose hope is in the Lord their God,
who made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them;

who keeps faith for ever;

who executes justice for the oppressed;

who gives food to the hungry.

The Lord sets the prisoners free;

the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.

The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;

the Lord loves the righteous.

The Lord watches over the strangers;

he upholds the orphan and the widow,

but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

The Lord will reign for ever,

your God, O Zion, for all generations.

Praise the Lord!



Readings for this Sunday

Amos 6.1a,4-7; 1 Timothy 6.6-19; Luke 16.19-31



Collect and Post Communion Prayer for this Sunday

Collect

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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.**

Post Communion Prayer

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy; and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall, keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Please email items for the news sheet to Sue
by the **Thursday** of each week

www.ringstonegroupchurches.org ringstoneoffice@gmail.com

Please pray for...

From our prayer list

Eben Atkinson, Sheila Bates, Margaret Brumby, Jane Creasey, Josh Elliott, Christine Evans, Sue Grainge, Nora Green, Ann Hall, Clive Hall, Marion Heygate, Arthur Jeffries, June Langley, Judy Long, Imogen Matthews, Neil Morgan, Richard Rice-Oxley, John Rowntree, Maggie Sharman, Jose Stokes, Amanda Thomson, John Weatherspoon, 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 Sadie Hall, Neil Morgan, and the souls of all the faithful departed may they rest in peace and rise in glory; and we also pray for those who mourn their loss.

Baptisms: Milo Allard (4 September); Parker and Miller Leyland (2 October)

Weddings: Sophie Barnett and Lloyd Wright (17 September); Renee Dams and Toby Uglow (1 October); Rachel and Raymond Cooper (1 year anniversary)

Funeral anniversaries: Celia Wells (6m); Hannah Faupel (6m); Teddie Creasey (6m); Gordon Durno (6m); John Street (1y); Hermia Slator (1y).

Upcoming events in the Group

Every Wednesday at 10.45am - coffee morning at Morton. We extend a special welcome to the Ukrainian members of the community

If you have an event taking place in the next four weeks that is not on this list, please let Sue know.

Memorial Service for Sadie Hall

Friday 30 September at 12,noon—St. Andrew’s Church, Haconby

From today’s Gospel reading:

"Jesus said to the Pharisee, "There was a rich man who dressed in purple garments and fine linen and dined sumptuously each day. And lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who would gladly have eaten the scraps that fell from the rich man’s table."

Reflection:

By means of the parable Jesus says, "Wake up! The poor are right at your doorstep." We pray at this Eucharist that Jesus anoints us again with his Holy Spirit. We pray that our eyes are opened to see those who need our help, perhaps the very ones we pass by each day.

So, we ask ourselves:

- ✚ When I see a poor person and am moved with pity, how do I respond?
- ✚ Are there people in my daily life who need me to help them?

Sunday and regular weekday Services in the Group

25 September	11am	Harvest Eucharist	Rippingale
	6pm	Evening Prayer	Kirkby Underwood
3 October	11am	Harvest Eucharist	Haconby
	3pm	Harvest Thanksgiving	Morton
			with Morton School
9 October	11am	Harvest Eucharist	Kirkby Underwood
	3pm	Harvest Songs of Praise	Dunsby
	6pm	Evening Prayer	Rippingale
16 October	11am	Eucharist	Morton
	6pm	Evening Prayer	Haconby
Each morning	9 am	Morning Prayer/Eucharist	see below
Monday: Morton, Tuesday: Dunsby; Wednesday: 10am, Eucharist, 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



Harvest Festivals in the Group

4 September	11am	Harvest Eucharist	Haconby
25 September	11am	Harvest Eucharist	Rippingale
2 October	3pm	Harvest Thanksgiving	Morton
			with Morton School
9 October	11am	Harvest Eucharist	Kirkby Underwood
9 October	3pm	Harvest Songs of Praise	Dunsby



Bourne Foodbank

THESE ITEMS ARE CURRENTLY WANTED

Tinned meat	Tinned custard	Tinned rice pudding
Tinned vegetables	Jars of pasta sauce	packets of plain rice
Squash or fruit juice	Tinned potatoes	Instant mash
Shaving gel	Toothbrushes	