

160 people, mostly Christians, kidnapped in Nigeria

There's been another devastating attack in Nigeria, with eight people killed and 160 mostly Christian people kidnapped after Islamic militants targeted Kuchi village in Niger State. Please pray.



Eight people have been killed and around 160 people, mostly Christians, have been kidnapped after Islamic militants attacked a village in Nigeria.

The incident happened on Friday (24 May) when some 300 armed men believed to be

Nigeria is number six on the latest World Watch List from Ansaru (a breakaway faction of Boko Haram) entered the village of Kuchi in Niger state. An Open Doors contact says that it's difficult to verify exact numbers and the names of those kidnapped because many have fled. Most of those taken are reported to be women and children. Attacks in the region have increased, leading to the formation of several displacement camps. Last month, armed gangs targeted several villages and kidnapped people for ransom. Ansaru splintered off from Boko Haram in January 2012 and has since targeted civilians, including Westerners, the Nigerian Government and security officials. The group claims to defend Muslims throughout Africa by fighting against the Nigerian Government and international interests. While Ansaru says it identifies with Boko Haram, it has criticised the group for killing fellow Muslims.

Unabated attacks

"We are saddened to learn about this latest attack in Niger State, however, attacks on largely Christian communities and villages in parts of northern Nigeria are ongoing whether at the hands of Boko Haram/ISWAP (Islamic State in West African Province), Ansaru or Fulani militants and happen largely unnoticed by the international community," says Jo Newhouse*, Open Doors spokesperson for sub-Saharan Africa.

"We are horrified that these attacks continue unabated, displacing thousands of people from their homes, farmlands and livelihoods. We call on the international community to do everything in its power to ensure the Nigerian Government faithfully and transparently protects all communities and that the displaced receive the support they need in these circumstances."

PLEASE PRAY

- ✚ For the safety, wellbeing and imminent release of all those taken, and for God's presence to surround them and their families
- ✚ That the government will act swiftly to free those kidnapped and provide better security for vulnerable communities
- ✚ That the Holy Spirit will move powerfully in the hearts of the militants and criminals, drawing them away from evil.

Source: www.opendoorsuk.org

Ringstone in Aveland News Sheet



2 June 2024
First Sunday after Trinity

Collect for this Sunday

O God, the strength of all those who put their trust in you, mercifully accept our prayers and, because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing without you, grant us the help of your grace, that in the keeping of your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; 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 81: God's Appeal to Stubborn Israel

Sing aloud to God our strength; shout for joy to the God of Jacob.

Raise a song, sound the tambourine, the sweet lyre with the harp.

Blow the trumpet at the new moon, at the full moon, on our festal day.

For it is a statute for Israel, an ordinance of the God of Jacob.

He made it a decree in Joseph, when he went out over the land of Egypt.

I hear a voice I had not known:

'I relieved your shoulder of the burden; your hands were freed from the basket.

In distress you called, and I rescued you; I answered you in the secret place of thunder;

I tested you at the waters of Meribah.

Hear, O my people, while I admonish you; O Israel, if you would but listen to me!

There shall be no strange god among you; you shall not bow down to a foreign god.

I am the LORD your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.

Open your mouth wide and I will fill it.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and for evermore, Amen

Post Communion Prayer for this Sunday

Eternal Father, we thank you for nourishing us with these heavenly gifts: may our communion strengthen us in faith, build us up in hope, and make us grow in love; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Please pray for...

Anthony Andrews , Eben Atkinson, Sheila Bates, Margaret Brumby, Marie Rose Cubacub, Christine Evans, Sue Grainge, Annie Hall, Clive Hall, Marion Heygate, Robert Hitchens, Jane Knight, Judy Long, Andrew Luck, Imogen Matthews, Tom Rae, John Rowntree, Maggie Sharman, Ivan Spencer, Amanda Thomson, Clive Walker, Denise Warcup, Kevin Whitfield, King Charles III, 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 Wally Baxter, Gordon Lack, Belinda Neumann, Barbara Robinson, and all the faithful departed. May they rest in peace and rise in glory; and we also pray for those who mourn their loss.

Baptisms: Patrick Kacperski, Amelia Kacperski, Paul Taylor, Molly Cooper (1 year)

Wedding Anniversaries: Danielle and Patrick Kacperski (1 year)

Funeral anniversaries: Maurice Brooker (6 months); Don Ricci, Nora Green, William Middleton, Paul Clark (1 year); Albert Edwards, Maxine Jessop, Brenda Brenkley (2 years).

Sunday and regular weekday Services in the Group

2 June	11am	Eucharist	Morton
	6pm	Evening Prayer	Kirkby Underwood
9 June	9am	Eucharist	Haconby
	6pm	Evening Prayer	Morton
16 June	11am	Eucharist	Morton
23 June	11am	Eucharist	Kirkby Underwood
	6pm	Evening Prayer	Morton
Wednesday	10 am	See below	Morton

Wednesday services will usually be a service of Holy Communion . On occasions this will be replaced by a service of Morning Prayer

Do you know anyone who is unable to get to church but who would like to receive Holy Communion? Contact Revd Neil on 01778 219626

Readings for this Sunday

Deuteronomy 5.12-15
2 Corinthians 4.5-12
Mark 2.23 - 3.6



Can you help?

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

Tinned meat	Tinned custard	Tinned rice pudding
Tinned vegetables	Jars of pasta sauce	Packets of plain rice
Squash or fruit juice	Tinned potatoes	Household goods
Shaving gel	Toothbrushes	Toiletries

Safeguarding & Contact Information

Safeguarding: We take your welfare and safety very seriously!

Revd Neil (Rector): revdneil@yahoo.com, 01778 219626 or

Janice Hill (Group Safeguarding Officer): janicethreetuns@hotmail.co.uk,
01778 440733 and 07972 211936

Group Administrator and for entries to news sheet (by Tuesday please)

Sue O'Riordan: ringstoneoffice@gmail.com

General Election 2024: An invitation to pray

A call for "good grace and a commitment to truth and integrity"

The bishops of the Church of England have issued a call to put prayer and participation at the heart of the General Election campaign as the UK prepares to go to the polls.

The Church of England is launching a campaign known as #PrayYourPart – to promote prayer and participation in the life of our nation and communities, both as voters and as citizens.

A series of daily thematic reflections written by bishops, drawn from the Bible and exploring major themes will be published shortly, covering the final three weeks up to polling day.

Archbishops Justin and Stephen said: "The coming General Election is a critical moment in the life of our nation, which will shape our future by electing those who will make decisions affecting generations to come.

"It is a time for us all – people of all faiths and of none – to ask important questions about what kind of country we want to be.

"We are facing epic challenges both in our country and our world: from questions of war and peace, to poverty and injustice and very future of the Earth God has given us.

"Faced with such huge questions, our instinct as Christians is to turn to God in prayer and so we want to put prayer at the very heart of this campaign."

