

Join in prayer with our persecuted brethren in Iran

Imprisoned for starting a church

Two Christian women – one of whom is recently married – have begun two-year prison sentences for involvement in church activities.

Fariba Dalir and Sakine (Mehri) Behjati are both converts and started their sentences on Holy Saturday (16 April). Fariba is in Iran's notorious Evin Prison in the capital Tehran, while Sakine is in Lakan Prison in the northern city of Rasht.

The news is a setback to Iran's minority Christian population after the encouragement that came earlier this year with the acquittal of nine Christians prisoners for participation in a house church.

This was after Iran's Supreme Court ordered a review of the sentences, saying that sharing the Christian faith in a private home is not 'gathering and collusion against internal or external security', as the original verdict alleged.

These recent verdicts highlight the unpredictability of Iran's justice system, extending even to the country's Supreme Court. It means that, as Christians across the country continue to bravely gather in homes for worship, Bible teaching and fellowship, they still do so at great risk.

In a report to the UN Human Rights Council earlier this year, the UN Special Rapporteur on human rights in Iran, Javaid Rehman, said he was concerned about the 'continued repression of religious minorities', including at least 53 Christians who had been arrested between 1 January and 1 December 2021 for practising their faith.

Iran is number nine on the World Watch List, making it still one of the most dangerous countries in the world to be a Christian.

Please pray:

- That Fariba, Mehri and all other Christian prisoners will be sustained by God's strength
- That Iran's justice system will be stirred and provoked to overturn the sentences of more Christian prisoners
- That our Iranian family will not grow discouraged, and pray that the tentative steps towards religious freedom will be built upon and not reversed.



Fariba is yet another Iranian Christian imprisoned for her faith

Ringstone in Aveland News Sheet



15 May 2022
The Fifth Sunday of Easter

We welcome Revd Sylvia and Richard Rice-Oxley, and thank them for leading this Sunday's Eucharist service.

Psalm 148 - Praise for God's Universal Glory

Praise the Lord!	stormy wind fulfilling his command!
Praise the Lord from the heavens;	Mountains and all hills,
praise him in the heights!	fruit trees and all cedars!
Praise him, all his angels;	Wild animals and all cattle,
praise him, all his host!	creeping things and flying birds!
Praise him, sun and moon;	Kings of the earth and all peoples,
praise him, all you shining stars!	princes and all rulers of the earth!
Praise him, you highest heavens,	Young men and women alike,
and you waters above the heavens!	old and young together!
Let them praise the name of the Lord,	Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for he commanded and they were created.	for his name alone is exalted;
He established them for ever and ever;	his glory is above earth and heaven.
he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.	He has raised up a horn for his people,
Praise the Lord from the earth,	praise for all his faithful,
you sea monsters and all deeps,	for the people of Israel who are close to him.
fire and hail, snow and frost,	Praise the Lord!

Collect and Post Communion Prayer for this Sunday

Collect

Lord of all life and power, who through the mighty resurrection of your Son overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him: grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, may reign with him in glory; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be praise and honour, glory and might, now and in all eternity. **Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

God of Life, who for our redemption gave your only-begotten Son to the death of the cross, and by his glorious resurrection have delivered us from the power of our enemy: grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may evermore live with him in the joy of his risen life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



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	

Please pray for...

From our prayer list

Eben Atkinson, Sheila Bates, Margaret Brumby, Josh Elliott, Christine Evans, Sue Grainge, Nora Green, Ann Hall, Clive Hall, Annie Hersey, Arthur Jeffries, June Langley, Judy Long, Imogen Matthews, Neil Morgan, Jonathan Newell, Richard Rice-Oxley, John Rowntree, Maggie Sharman, Jose Stokes, 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 Ed Cunningham, 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.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries fall this month:

Weddings: James and Harriet Guest (1 year)

Funerals: Evelyn Stublely (1 year), Roy McConchie (1 year)



Readings for this Sunday

Acts 11.1-18

Revelation 21.1-6

John 13.31-35



22 May - Rogation Sunday Service 3pm St John the Baptist Church, Morton

Celebrate the joy of creation

Walk round the church and bring a picnic to enjoy at the school (tea and cakes will be provided)

A service for the young and the young at heart.

Extra and Jubilee Services in the Group

Thursday 26 May	5.30am	Dawn Eucharist for Ascension Day Kirkby Underwood
Thursday 2 June	6pm	Songs of Praise Dunsby
Sunday 5 June	6pm	Service of Thanksgiving for the Queen Kirkby Underwood

www.ringstonegroupchurches.org ringstoneoffice@gmail.com

Sunday and regular weekday Services in the Group

15 May	11am	Eucharist	Morton
	6pm	Evening Prayer	Haconby
22 May	11am	Eucharist	Rippingale
	3pm	Rogation service With Morton School	Morton
	6pm	Evening Prayer	Kirkby Underwood
29 May	11am	Eucharist	Kirkby Underwood
5 June	11am	Eucharist	Haconby
	6pm	Service of Thanksgiving for the Queen	Kirkby Underwood
12 June	11am	Eucharist	Kirkby Underwood
	6pm	Evening Prayer	Rippingale
Wednesday	10am	Morning Prayer	Morton
Monday - Saturday	9 am	Morning Prayer	Zoom

Contact Revd Neil for the link

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

Have you come to church and forgotten to bring cash for the collection?

Fortunately this need not be a problem if the service is at Haconby, Kirkby Underwood, Morton or Rippingale as they all have online giving pages.

How do I access these pages?

- Use your phone and go to the group website, www.ringstonegroupchurches.org
- Go to the dark blue box on the home page and select the name of the church
- Follow the instructions online and select one of the set amounts, or choose your own amount
- Enter your card details (you may have these already saved on your phone)
- ALL DONE

If this seems too tricky, you can always make a payment from your PC, laptop or tablet when you get home.

EVEN EASIER Morton now has a card reader, so you can donate to the collection using your card or payment app on your phone.

If you already use the online giving pages, thank you for your generosity, and please spread the word as to how easy it is now to give to your church.