

## World Watch List 2024

**Please pray for our family in Burkina Faso following a deadly attack on a church service.**

At least 15 believers have been killed when suspected Islamic militants opened fire on a church service in Burkina Faso. The incident happened on Sunday (25 February) at a church in Essakane Village, Oudalan province, in the north east of the country.

"In the morning at 8am, the Christians were gathered in chapel for the Sunday mass," shares Abbot Jean-Pierre Sawadogo, head of the local diocese. "Suddenly, some men arrived on motorcycles. They opened fire on the Christians in the chapel, only targeting the rank of men and shot them all. Thirteen died on the spot, two were seriously injured. They succumbed to their injuries once transported to the clinic."

"We invite you to pray for those who died in faith..." ABBOT JEAN-PIERRE SAWADOGO

"A little boy who was sitting by his dad's side was also killed," he continues. "The only two men who survived were those sitting with the women because they are part of the choir."

"In this painful circumstance, we invite you to pray for those who died in faith, for the healing of the wounded, and for the consolidation of grieving hearts."

### Worsening persecution

"Burkina Faso has been known for religious tolerance and social cohesion amongst people, however the growing Islamic insurgency threatens the peaceful coexistence of the Burkinabe," explains Jo Newhouse, Open Doors spokesperson for the work in sub-Saharan Africa.

"Christians have been disproportionately impacted by the growing insurgency in the north of the country, with churches and Christian communities singled out in attacks, while Muslims who do not side with the Islamic extremist groups have also suffered greatly," she continues.

Burkina Faso has one of the worst displacement crises in the world, and Christians are among the many who have been forced to flee their homes for safety.

The country rose several places to number 20 in the latest World Watch List due to very high levels of violence against Christians, together with worsening pressure in private, community and national spheres of life.

"Please pray for the attackers, pray that they will meet Jesus and repent of these wicked attacks," asks Open Doors local partners. "May this incident not be in vain and pray that God will use it to grow and strengthen the church in northern Burkina Faso."

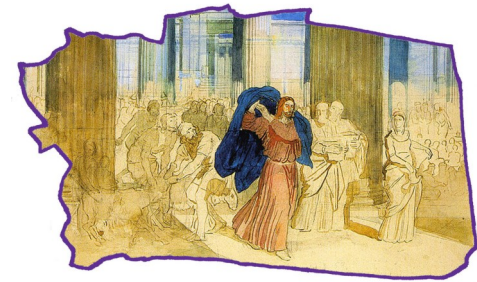
### PLEASE PRAY

- That God's comfort and healing will engulf all those affected by this attack
- For wisdom for the church leadership as they shepherd their congregation through this awful time
- That believers in northern Burkina Faso will be strengthened in their faith and protected from harm, and that the attackers will encounter Jesus.

Source: [www.opendoorsuk.org](http://www.opendoorsuk.org)



# Ringstone in Aveland News Sheet



**3 March 2024  
The Third Sunday of Lent**

## Psalm 19: God's Glory in Creation and the Law

The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

**Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.**

There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;  
**yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.**

**In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,**  
which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs  
its course with joy.

**Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing  
is hidden from its heat.**

The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul;  
the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple;  
**the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;**  
**the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes;**  
the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring for ever;  
the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

**More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey,  
and drippings of the honeycomb.**

Moreover by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.  
**But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults.**

Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me.  
Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

**Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you,  
O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.**

**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**

## Readings for this Sunday

**Exodus 20.1-17  
1 Corinthians 1.18-25  
John 2.13-22**



### Please pray for...

Anthony Andrews , Eben Atkinson, Sheila Bates, Margaret Brumby, Marie Rose Cubacub, Joan Curtis Christine Evans, Sue Grainge, Annie Hall, Clive Hall, Marion Heygate, Robert Hitchens, Jane Knight, Gordon Lack, Judy Long, Andrew Luck, Imogen Matthews, Michael Merrett, Tom Rae, John Rowntree, Maggie Sharman, 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 Derek Bard, Bella Beeken, Audrey Gray, Sophie Sandford, Sylvia Waddingham and all the faithful departed. May they rest in peace and rise in glory; and we also pray for those who mourn their loss.

Wedding Anniversaries: Anita and Gary Ramsden (2 years)

Funeral anniversaries: Ivornie Davies (6 months); Arthur Jefferys, Ivor Roberts, Andrew Waddingham (1 year); Celia Wells, Hannah Faupel, Teddie Creasey, Gordon Durno (2 years).

### Congratulations to those who were confirmed last Sunday

Our congratulations and prayers for Joanne Davies, Jon, Brooke & Tellulah Tanner, and Brian & Kim Wooldridge, who were all confirmed by Bishop Nicholas last Sunday.

*Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.*

*Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth.*

### 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**

### 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**

### Safeguarding & Contact Information

Safeguarding: We take your welfare and safety very seriously!

Rev'd 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

### Sunday and regular weekday Services in the Group

3 March	11am	Eucharist	Morton
	6.30pm	Deanery Evensong	Old Somerby
10 March	9am	Eucharist	Haconby
	3pm	Deanery Evensong	Edenham
17 March	11am	Eucharist	Morton
	6.30pm	Deanery Evensong	Bourne Abbey
24 March	11am	Eucharist	Kirkby Underwood
	6.30pm	Deanery Evensong	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?*** Just contact Rev'd Neil on 01778 219626

### Additional Services in the Group

3 March, 3pm at St. John the Baptist, Morton

### Friendship service with Morton School

Prayers and songs led by the school, all welcome -see friends old and new



### New from Morton School

Morton School recently underwent a SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) inspection, which was full of praise for the Christian ethos which underpins all aspects of school life and the positive impact it has on the whole school community. The opening sentence reads **“Adults and pupils flourish at Morton as a result of its deeply rooted Christian vision. It is aspirational which changes lives and equips people to be the best they can.”** The rest of the report is similarly glowing. It is a testament to the whole school community, pupils, parents, staff and governors, and in particular to the leadership of the school - congratulations to you all.

### 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