

No more shame: why does the See. Change. campaign focus on persecuted Christian women?

Batoul* from North Africa was so excited when her father became a Christian. It was not long afterwards that Batoul became a Christian herself and was baptised at 16. She assumed that her own conversion would mean very little to her mother and sisters, who had remained Muslims, but she was wrong. Her mother and sisters felt they couldn't take their frustration and anger out on Batoul's father for becoming a Christian, because he was the head of the family – but they could take it out on her. "To my misfortune, I paid the price for both my father's conversion and my own," she says.

Her mother kept her away from church. Her sisters beat her and asked how much money she'd accepted to convert. "It was very hard for me to see my own mother – who should have been tender and close to me – instead persecuting me alongside my sisters," Batoul says. Her story is just one of many.

Across the world, millions of Christian women suffer not only because of their faith but also their gender. Their faith makes them targets, and their gender makes them particularly vulnerable. This persecution tends to be violent, complex and hidden from public view.

Please pray

Heavenly Father, thank You for the courage and perseverance of our persecuted sisters around the world. Draw near to them today to strengthen them and restore them. Take away their shame and remind them that they are made in Your image, and that You call them precious and beloved. Refresh their faith and open doors where they can minister the gospel and Your love to those around them. Amen.

**Name changed for security reasons*

Source: www.opendoorsuk.org



Safeguarding & Contact Information

Group Safeguarding Officer - Janice Hill
janicethreetun_s@hotmail.co.uk, or 01778 440733 and 07972 211936

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

Ringstone in Aveland News Sheet

2 March 2025
The Sunday before Lent



We welcome Revd Sylvia Rice-Oxley, and thank her for leading our Eucharist service

Psalm 99: Praise to God for His Holiness

The Lord is king; let the peoples tremble!

He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!

The Lord is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples.

Let them praise your great and awesome name. Holy is he!

Mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity;

you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

Extol the Lord our God; worship at his footstool. Holy is he!

Moses and Aaron were among his priests, Samuel also was among those who called on his name. They cried to the Lord, and he answered them.

He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud; they kept his decrees, and the statutes that he gave them.

O Lord our God, you answered them; you were a forgiving God to them, but an avenger of their wrongdoings.

Extol the Lord our God, and worship at his holy mountain; for the Lord our God is holy.

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

Collect for this Sunday

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; 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

Holy God, we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ: may we who are partakers at his table reflect his life in word and deed, that all the world may know his power to change and save. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Please pray for...

Eben Atkinson, Sheila Bates, Margaret Brumby, Marie Rose Cubacub, Christine Evans, Sue Grainge, Annie Hall, Clive Hall, Robert Hitchens, Jane Knight, Imogen Matthews, Pat Reid, John Rowntree, Maggie Sharman, Amanda Thomson, Clive Walker, Judy Watson, 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 pray for Charlie Hopkinson as he takes his next steps on his journey of faith

We remember Mary Richardson, Ivan Spencer, Brenda Hare, and the souls of all the faithful departed. May they rest in peace and rise in glory; and we pray for those who mourn their loss.

Funeral anniversaries: Margaret Winter, Audrey Gray, Sophie Sandford (1 year); Ivor Roberts (2 years)

Additional Services in the Group

2 March	11am	Baptism of Charlie Hopkinson	Morton
5 March	5.30pm	Eucharist	Morton
20 March	10.30am	Funeral of Norma Worth	Kirkby Underwood
30 March	11am	5th Sunday Eucharist	Haconby



Can you help?

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

Please be as generous as possible.

Milk (UHT cartons)	Fruit juice / squash	Coffee
Tinned meat	Jam	Deserts
Custard	Snacks—pot nodles, rice etc	
Laundry powder / liquid	Washing up liquid	Toothbrushes
Toilet roll	Razors and shaving foam	

Sunday and regular weekday Services in the Group

2 March	11am	Eucharist	Morton
	3pm	Evening Prayer	Haconby
9 March	9am	Eucharist	Haconby
	3pm	Friendship Service	Morton
16 March	11am	Eucharist	Morton
23 March	11am	Eucharist	Kirkby Underwood
	3pm	Evening Prayer	Morton
30 March	11am	Eucharist	Haconby
Wednesday	10 am	See below	Morton

From 1 January, the Wednesday service will be Morning Prayer.

Do you know anyone who is unable to get to church but who would like to receive Holy Communion? Please speak with your church warden, or email ringstoneoffice@gmail.com



Readings for this Sunday

Exodus 34.29-35; 2 Corinthians 3.12 - 4.2

Luke 9.28-36



Friendship Service

When: Sunday 9 March

Time: 3pm

Where: St John the Baptist, Morton

This is a service for all ages, led by the children at Morton School. A joyous service around the theme of friendship, with tea and cake afterwards. Please come along and support the children in their faith journey.



Ash Wednesday Eucharist

We are pleased to announce that Revd Peter Lister has offered to lead a Eucharist service on Ash Wednesday.

When: Wednesday 5 March

Time: 5.30pm

Where: St John the Baptist, Morton

This service replaces Morning Prayers at Morton 5 March

