

Prayer for the Persecuted Church

Northern Syria

40,000 to 50,000 Christians are already caught up in the escalating conflict in Northern Syria, as Turkish troops attack Kurdish-led forces. This number is very likely to increase in the coming days. Open Doors has been working through local church partners in the region for many years, and is well-placed to help in this new and urgent crisis. Partners are on the ground, assessing and responding to immediate needs and caring for those affected by the fighting.

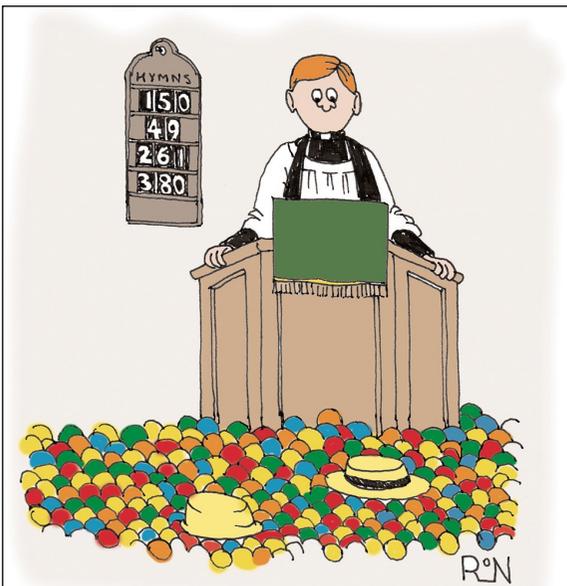
Pastor George of the Evangelical Christian Alliance Church reports shelling on the border and houses destroyed. His church has provided shelter to Kurdish believers made homeless by the fighting.

“We are deeply concerned for all those fleeing for their lives,” says Open Doors’ Field Director. “The Christians have even more to fear: not just the fighting but the freedom that extremists will have as the situation unravels. They need their global church family to rise up in prayer and stand with them for the long term.”

PLEASE PRAY:

- For a swift resolution and effective intervention by the international community
- For protection for all those caught up in the fighting, particularly courageous pastors and church workers providing immediate assistance and pastoral care
- For the future of the church in Syria: that it will not just survive but be a light in these dark times

Information provided by Open Doors



A ball pool in the nave sounded like a good idea. . .

Church Membership

If you would like to know more about St Mary’s and increasing your commitment to our church community, please speak with Douglas or one of the Church Wardens about our home groups, helping with some of our many church activities, or about joining the Electoral Roll and our regular giving arrangements.

ST MARY'S CHURCH SPELDHURST

We welcome any visitors and friends to our worship today

20th October 2019

Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

10 am Parish Communion (Karol Leeves & John Perkins)

Readings: 2 Timothy 2:8-15 (p.1196) (Barbara Bell)

Luke 17:11-19 (p.1051) (Martin Atkinson)

Intercessions led by Sue Toft

For other details see printed service sheet or powerpoint

6 pm Evensong (David Lamey)

Readings: 2 Timothy 2:8-15 (p.1196) (Sandy Scott)

Luke 17:11-19 (p.1051) (Jean Angus)

Hymns: A&M 142; A&M 227; 'I lift me eyes' (on separate sheet);

A&M 207

Psalm 119: 97-104



Collect for the Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

God, our judge and saviour,
teach us to be open to your truth
and to trust in your love,
that we may live each day
with confidence in the salvation which is given
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

NEXT WEEK...

27th October 2019

Last Sunday after Trinity

8 am Holy Communion (1662) (t.b.a.)

10 am All-Age Worship (Jenny Fitzsimmons)



From St Mary's Prayer Cycle:

- 1) Etherington Hill and Lower Green Road
- 2) Discipleship and Mission
- 3) Uniformed Groups - Scouts, Guides, Cubs, Brownies, Beavers and Rainbows
- 4) Caring for our Village Community, the Village Hall, the Management Team and for all activities taking place there

All items for inclusion in the next newsheet should reach the office by

FRIDAY OCTOBER 25TH at 9 a.m.

01892 861187 or e-mail: speldhurst.church@btopenworld.com

See our website on <http://www.speldhurst.org/church>



Monday to Friday	8.30 am	Morning Prayer
Tuesday 22nd	7.45 pm	Bellringing Practice
Saturday 26th	2.30 pm 4 pm	Visiting Bellringers from Boughton Monchelsea Visiting Bellringers

SERVICES ELSEWHERE IN THE UNITED PARISH

27th October 2019

St Martin's, Ashurst 11 am Holy Communion (Common Worship)
(Canon Don Laurie)
No separate service at St John's, Groombridge



Put your clocks back!!

Don't forget that clocks go back by an hour next Sunday morning. Don't be the one to get it wrong!!!



Speldhurst School PTA invites you to its

Bonfire Night celebrations

Sunday November 3rd - 4.30pm in the McAuley's field,
Langton Road (almost opposite the school).

As well as fireworks and a bonfire there will be a BBQ, bar and other stalls. Tickets will be available at the gate on the night - £7 for adults and £5 for children aged 2-16 - but early bird discounted tickets can be purchased from the Village Shop in advance.



Operation Christmas Child in Malawi

Julie Pinnell will be speaking about her visit to Malawi to distribute Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes on **Wednesday October 30th at 8 pm** in Speldhurst Village Hall. There is no charge for entry. Julie will be sharing stories, videos and photos of her trip. Come along and find out what a huge impact these boxes have and how you can get involved this year.

Keep In Touch

If you would like to receive an electronic version of our newsheet every week, please e-mail: speldhurst.church@btopenworld.com - saying "Yes, please" and your address will be added to the mailing list.

Stewardship

If you are a regular giver and/or on the Electoral Roll at St Mary's you will have received a letter and response form following Douglas's sermon and Edward Pinnell's input on 6th October. May we please remind you of Douglas's request that you review your finances and ask for God's guidance in being generous for the sake of His Kingdom. If you have not already returned your form to either Edward or Mike Bullett, would you please try to do so in the next few days in one of the following ways:

- by email at edward.pinnell@btconnect.com providing the information needed,
- to Kent Cottage, Barden Road, Speldhurst TN3 0LE
- placing it in his pigeon hole in church or
- handing it in at the church office.

Even if you are unable to change your level of giving, it would be helpful to have the form back, or an email to Edward (edward.pinnell@btconnect.com) so we know your intentions.

If you are a regular worshipper at St Mary's but have not received a letter, there are packs available on the shelves at the cross aisle or at the back of the church. Alternatively, please speak with Edward, Mike or me.

Thank you.

Martin Atkinson, Chairman, Finance Committee.



Confirmation

We are hoping to have a confirmation service in the parish next Spring. This is an opportunity for people over the age of twelve to stand up and be counted as a Christian. If you are interested in exploring this do please have a word with Douglas or Polly Joyce.



Community Choir for Carols

St Mary's would like to invite you to join a community choir for a carol service this Christmas.

Practices will be in St Mary's from 7.30 – 9 pm every Friday from November 8th up to the service on Saturday 21st

December.

Adults and secondary school children are very welcome. There are no auditions – just come to the first practice on November 8th.

If you would like to know more please talk to me, contact information below. Becky or any member of the St Mary's singers would be glad to answer your questions too.

To register your interest (so we make enough copies), please email or text me.

Mary Wren (marywren@me.com) / 07970040930 / 01892860327)



Crèche helpers needed

Crèche runs during Sunday morning 10am services, except all-age, for children aged 4 and under and is held in the tower room at the back of the church. As a helper it is a lovely opportunity to engage with families at St. Mary's Church and allow parents/guardians to leave their children, if they wish, in a safe, fun place whilst they enjoy the service.

More leaders are needed to keep crèche running so if you are able to help, even for just one Sunday a term, please email Sarah de Carle at sarahdecarle@btinternet.com. This position is subject to an enhanced DBS disclosure.