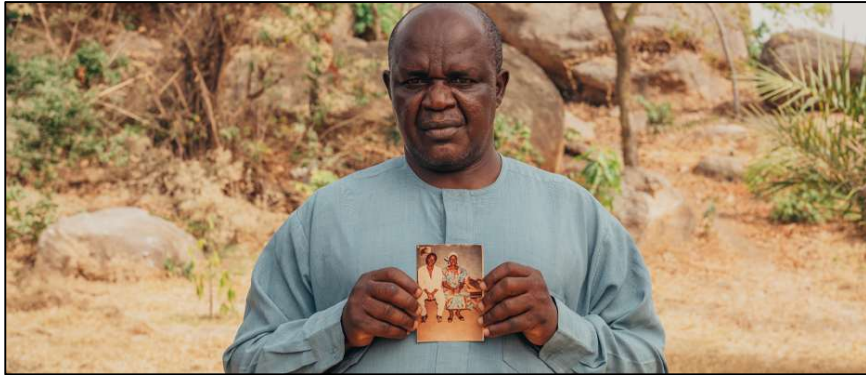




Pastor Josiah with a photo of his wife and one of his sons

Pastor Josiah almost lost his whole family to extremist attacks in Nigeria. Today, through prayer and support, he is slowly finding restoration.

He still holds the photos of his loved ones tenderly. "Rowland loved singing in the church band... Jonathan was never lazy... Timothy was always calm and resourceful." He pauses over a picture of his wife. "This is my favourite photo of us as a married couple. She was industrious, hospitable, considerate... her spiritual life made me proud."

Radicalised attackers invaded their home, shooting his wife and kidnapping Josiah and three of his children. "I could hear Rebekah crying, 'I'm going to die!' But I was powerless." During two and a half months in captivity, their captors mocked their faith: "They said, 'You follow Jesus. Where is He now?' We could only pray in our hearts."

When Josiah and his daughter were released, he learned that his sons Jonathan and Timothy had been killed. Only months later, his third son, Rowland, and his younger brother were also murdered.

"I felt like the world was crumbling in on me," he says. "I kept thinking, 'Why did this all happen to me?'"

Open Doors trauma caregivers met Josiah in his grief. "My anger and bitterness reduced and I have received freedom," he explains. "Forgiveness is almost impossible without God... but I have forgiven them."

Now Josiah is determined to help others facing persecution. And he wants believers everywhere to know their prayers matter.

"My brethren in Christ, thank you for the relief you have given. Don't think your prayers are not being felt – they are. Believers' prayers brought me out of the bush. Please keep supporting through your prayers and help."

Please pray for:

- Christians in Nigeria facing ongoing extremist violence
- Trauma caregivers supporting grieving families
- Pastors like Josiah who continue to serve despite deep loss
- Comfort, protection and hope for all who mourn

Ringstone in Aveland News Sheet 6 September Trinity 14



Psalm 149: Praise for God's Goodness to Israel

Praise the Lord!

Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise in the assembly of the faithful.

Let Israel be glad in its Maker; let the children of Zion rejoice in their King.

Let them praise his name with dancing,
making melody to him with tambourine and lyre.

**For the Lord takes pleasure in his people;
he adorns the humble with victory.**

Let the faithful exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their couches.

**Let the high praises of God be in their throats
and two-edged swords in their hands,
to execute vengeance on the nations and
punishment on the peoples,
to bind their kings with fetters and their nobles
with chains of iron,**

to execute on them the judgement decreed.

This is glory for all his faithful ones. Praise the Lord!

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 God, whose only Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence: give us pure hearts and steadfast wills to worship you in spirit and in truth; 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**

Readings for this Sunday

**Exodus 12.1-14;
Romans 13.8-14;
Matthew 18.15-20**



Post Communion Prayer for this Sunday

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**



Please pray for...

Julie Shortland, Linda Hall, Brian Osborne, Jane Nichols, Sheila Bates, Margaret Brumby, Marie Rose Cubacub, Christine Evans, Sue Grainge, Annie Hall, Clive Hall, 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 remember 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.

Anniversaries

Baptisms: Millie Storer (2 years)

Services in the Ringstone and Corby Glen combined Groups

Wednesday 2nd September	10.00am	Eucharist	Corby Glen
	10.00am	Morning Prayer	Morton
Sunday 6th September	9.00am	Eucharist	Swayfield
	11.00am	Eucharist	Morton
	11.00am	Morning Worship	Corby Glen
	11.00am	Morning Prayer	Irnham
Wednesday 9th September	10.00am	Eucharist	Morton
	10.00am	Morning Prayer	Corby Glen
Sunday 13th September	9.00am	Eucharist	Haconby
	11.00am	Eucharist	Irnham
	4.00pm	Eucharist	Corby Glen
	6.00pm	Evening Prayer	Morton

Additional Services

Tuesday 8 th September	10.30am	Funeral of Jane Dyer	Morton
Saturday 10 th October	2pm	Baptism of Freya Cambell	Morton

Safeguarding & Contact Information

Priest in charge: Revd Helen Roulston -

revhelenroulston@outlook.com or 07736 780131

Group Safeguarding Officer: Janice Hill

janicethreetuns@hotmail.co.uk or 01778 440733 and 07972 211936

Group Administrator: Sue O'Riordan

and for entries to the news sheet (by Tuesday please) . ringstoneoffice@gmail.com



Italian Evening

DELICIOUS ITALIAN FOOD,
TABLE QUIZ + RAFFLE
ITALIAN WINES WILL BE AVAILABLE TO
PURCHASE FROM THE BAR

MORTON CHURCH HALL
7PM SATURDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER

PLEASE GET YOUR TICKETS EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT AS
THEY ARE LIMITED!!! OUR PREVIOUS EVENTS HAVE SOLD OUT.

TICKETS £12 PER PERSON - CHILDREN HALF PRICE
AVAILABLE FROM
DIANNE NEWTON TEL 01778 571890
JUDITH GENTLEMAN 07963 876280



End of summer BBQ

Saturday 12 September
4 – 6pm

Morton House
High Street, Morton

Celebrate the glorious summer of 2026

Pulled Pork Burgers Fresh Salads Desserts
Wine & Soft Drinks

Live Music Raffle

Tickets £10 per person | £25 per family

To buy your ticket(s)
contact Sue on 07962 238413 after 5pm

All proceeds to St. John the Baptist Church

A Service of Thanksgiving

For the staff of the NHS and Key Workers

Saturday 19 September at 5.30pm at St. John the Baptist, Morton

Followed by refreshments

**ALL are welcome to this
joyous service of
celebration**



Did you know?.....

If you find it difficult (or forget) to bring things to leave in the drop off bin at the back of Morton church, you can go to the Foodbank website, and purchase items which will then be available in the foodbank.

Go to <https://bournefoodbank.org.uk/how-to-help>

Urgently needed items – can you help?

Pasta Sauce

UHT Milk

Washing Powder

