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PERSECUTION

LAUNCH OF CORNWALL NETWORK FOR SUPPORTING PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS



A new network has launched to link individuals and churches across Cornwall wishing to pray, learn about and witness on

behalf of those persecuted for their faith anywhere in the world.

The group is open to anyone and is supported by Churches Together in Cornwall but will operate independently. For further details, to view the launch video and to join the mailing list visit www.ctcinfohub/persecution.

WHAT DOES THE LOGO MEAN?

The letter 'N' in Arabic (Nun - pronounced noon) at the centre of the Network's logo stands for Nazarene – as Christians are referred to in the Middle East. ISIS painted 'N' on the doors of Christians' homes so they could be targeted. The 'Nun' sign has been adopted by Christians as representing their persecution.

THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH (IDOP)

was launched in 1996 by the World Evangelical Alliance and is marked by Christians around the world as a way of focusing prayer on the plight of persecuted Christians. Churches in the UK and Ireland are invited to use Sunday November 5, or any another Sunday in November, to stand with Christians who face violence and discrimination because of their faith. **The theme for IDOP 2023 is *Struck down but not destroyed* (2 Corinthians 4:9).** View the online service at www.ctcinfohub/persecution.

Do you know:

- 360 million Christians around the world live in places where they face persecution. for their faith?

On average, last year, every day...

- 15 Christians were killed
- 6 churches were attacked
- 12 Christians were detained

All because - they love and follow Jesus.

Persecuted Christians inspire us with their resilience and courage. Let's stand in solidarity with them, showing that they are not alone in their struggle. Through prayer and support, we can bring comfort to the broken-hearted and strength to the weary. Let's be a beacon of hope and compassion for our persecuted family.

PRAY FOR THE PERSECUTED

May God the Father surround them with his angels of light.

May the Son surround them with his blood outpoured.

May the Spirit surround them with his fire of power

To save, to keep, to heal, to protect.

Each day, each night, each light, each dark, until their journey's end.

Amen.

The health of any democracy is measured in how it treats freedom of thought, conscience, and religion. The right to bear witness in words and deeds is bound with the very existence of religious convictions. The right to live by one's conscience is the hallmark of any truly free society. When nations impose cultural values by force, in the process marginalising those bearing witness to conscience and religious beliefs, the antecedent for more serious persecution is created - Religious Freedom in the World 2023, Aid to the Church in Need

YOUR VOICE COUNTS!

When we **pray – learn – witness** together on behalf of persecuted Christians world-wide, we *can* make a difference.

Visit www.ctcinfohub/persecution, for ideas, videos, contacts, groups and other information – and add yours by emailing ctcinfohub@gmail.com – thank you!

Our usual Justice and Peace news is replaced this week by a focus on the Persecuted Church, Sunday 5 Nov being the International World Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church. The YouTube video is to be recommended for viewing and prayer.

For our monthly meeting next week, we are holding an afternoon of prayer for Peace and for the Persecuted church, to which all local churches are invited – 14 Nov, 2-3.30pm, St Mary's Church Hall.

Mary Bradley