

Illustrated talk given by Rev Andrew Ashdown:

Faith amidst conflict

The context and experience of faith communities during the war in Syria.



Since the birth of Christianity and Islam, Syria has been home to both communities which have coexisted for centuries. Andrew is an Anglican priest who has been visiting and travelling in the Middle East for over 30 years, and is this year completing Doctoral Research into Christian-Muslim relations in Syria prior to and during the conflict.

Andrew visited Syria several times before the conflict started in 2011, and since 2014, has visited Syria 10 times as a guest of the local Church, both as a member of faith delegations and independently, travelling widely throughout the country at the height of the conflict in areas most affected, meeting with hundreds of Syrians from all communities, including faith and community leaders, and people internally displaced.

He was one of few westerners in Aleppo, when East Aleppo was recaptured by the Syrian Army in 2016.

In this illustrated talk, Andrew will share some of the religious context, and stories from first-hand experience of how various communities have coped during the war.



There will be opportunity for questions and discussion.

Friday 7th June 2019 7:30pm

at St. Johns Church Hall, Rownhams Lane SO16 8AR

(parking at St. Johns Church, 27 Horns Drove SO16 8AH)