



Gaulby and Coplow Newsletter

Edition Date: Thursday 22nd May 2025

Sunday 25th May, Easter 6

9am **Skeffington** CW Holy Communion (Rev'd Jeff Hopewell)

11am **Billesdon** Holy Communion (Rev'd Jeff Hopewell)

11am Launde Deanery **Zoom Service**

6pm **Gaulby** Evening Prayer (Lay led)

JUNE

Sunday 1st June, Easter 7

9am **Hungarton** Holy Communion (Rev'd Jeff Hopewell)

10am **Skeffington** Songs of Praise (Congregation led)

Everyone is welcome

10.30am **Illston** Holy Communion (Rev'd Jeff Hopewell)

11am Launde Deanery **Zoom Service**

4pm **Billesdon** Choral Evensong (Rev'd John Taylor)

Sunday 8th June, Pentecost

9am **Skeffington** BCP Holy Communion (Rev'd John Taylor)

10am **Gaulby** Morning Prayer (Lay led, Hilary Painter)

11am **Billesdon** Pentecost Holy Communion (Rev'd John Taylor)

11am Launde Deanery **Zoom Service**

Sunday 15th June, Trinity Sunday

11am **Billesdon** Trinity Sunday (Rev'd Christine Blodwell)

11am Launde Deanery **Zoom Service**

6pm **Keyham** Songs of Praise (Rev'd David Palmer)

6pm **Skeffington** Evensong (Rev'd Philip Norwood)

6pm **Illston** Evening Prayer (Lay led, Hilary Painter)

Sunday 22nd June, Trinity

9am **Skeffington** CW Holy Communion (Rev'd Philip Norwood)

11am **Billesdon** Holy Communion Patronal Festival (Rev'd Jonathan Dowman)

11am Launde Deanery **Zoom Service**

6pm **Gaulby** Holy Communion (Rev'd Christine Blodwell)

Sunday 29th June, Trinity 2

11am Launde Deanery **Zoom Service**

4pm **Gaulby** Songs of Praise, followed by refreshments (Congregational led)

6pm **Knossington** Choral Evensong sung by the Melton Church Choir *Deanery-wide event*

NOTE: DEANERY/ M C SERVICE MOVED TO 6TH JULY

Saturday Mornings

Zoom Prayer Meeting

Every week at 9am (meeting open from 8.55am)

All welcome. Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89820297969?pwd=HD1LgaqamMFBN2y1m7p226w0h2KVkj.1>

Meeting ID: 898 2029 7969. Passcode: 470000

Launde Minster Community May Services

You can now find the services throughout the Launde Deanery/ Minster Community on the website: <https://launde-minster-community.webador.co.uk>

under the Tabs: 'MAY and JUNE SERVICE TIMES'

Sunday 25th May 11.00am Zoom

Launde Parishes Zoom Service

Leader & Reflection: Madeleine Wang

To Join our Zoom Services, click on this link:

PLEASE USE THIS LINK:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83679676342?pwd=CDIQKI91dakSkeAh5kbOeu8idqGI8Q.1>

Meeting ID: 836 7967 6342

Passcode: 079282

DIAL IN FROM A LANDLINE OR MOBILE:

T. 0203 481 5240

Enter the **Meeting ID: 836 7967 6342** followed by #

Enter the **Passcode: 079282** followed by #

Contact Us:

Hilary Painter: 0116 259 9752

hilarypainter@rocketmail.com

Keith Evans, Church Warden 01162596438/

07754395006 keithevans6@btinternet.com

Collect for Sunday 25th May

Sixth Sunday of Easter

God our redeemer,

you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son:

grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy;

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

Reflection: Sunday 25th May 2025

Sixth Sunday of Easter

John 14:23-29

The Passage today, is one of the mainly discourses of Jesus that the gospel of John records. The basic tenant of the text is clear, if you love me you will follow my teaching, and if you do not love me you will not follow my teaching. That's the easy bit. The harder non-specific bit of the text is the question of what does following Jesus's teaching entail? While Jesus does not specify an answer here, he does promise the giving to Christians of the Holy Spirit, to help us to understand what Jesus taught. The Holy Spirit is the sign of God's love for us, in helping us to live better and more productive Christian lives. What Jesus then does, is to give the disciples and by association us, His peace. Jesus concludes by returning to a refrain found elsewhere in John's gospel, which is to not be afraid.

Being afraid is a very natural reaction, we are taught that Humans contain within us a 'fight or fly' mentality. Whether it is the problems in the world, the wars in Gaza or Ukraine, or political instability in the USA, the cost-of-living etc, or whether we worry about the future of our churches in Launde, the injunction to not be

afraid, seems to be hollow and perfunctory. Yet that is exactly what Jesus is commanding here. Letting go and giving the world and indeed our churches in Launde over to God, is a remedy for peace. It doesn't mean stopping praying and stopping working for God where we are. It means being at peace that ultimately God's plan will be fulfilled where we are, being assured as John reminds us of the love of the Father.

Mike Hammond

Bible Readings:

Sunday 25th May

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 16.9-15

9 During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.'

10 When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

11 We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis,

12 and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days.

13 On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there.

14 A certain woman named Lydia, a worshipper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul.

15 When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, 'If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.' And she prevailed upon us.

Revelation 21.10, 22-22.5

10 And in the spirit he carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

22 I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb.

23 And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb.

24 The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it.

25 Its gates will never be shut by day-and there will be no night there.

26 People will bring into it the glory and the honour of the nations.

27 But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practises abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

22 Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb

2 through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations.

3 Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him;

4 they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads.

5 And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign for ever and ever.

John 14.23-29

23 Jesus answered him, 'Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.

24 Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

25 'I have said these things to you while I am still with you.

26 But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you.

27 Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.

28 You heard me say to you, "I am going away, and I am coming to you." If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I.

29 And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.

Alternative Reading to John 14.23-29:

John 5.1-9

5 After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

2 Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes.

3 In these lay many invalids-blind, lame, and paralysed.

5 One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years.

6 When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, 'Do you want to be made well?'

7 The sick man answered him, 'Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; and while I am making my way, someone else steps down ahead of me.'

8 Jesus said to him, 'Stand up, take your mat and walk.'

9 At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk. Now that day was a sabbath.

Additional Collect for Sunday 25th May Sixth Sunday of Easter

Risen Christ,
by the lakeside you renewed your call to your disciples:
help your Church to obey your command
and draw the nations to the fire of your love,
to the glory of God the Father.

Amen

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM THE BISHOP'S LODGE on Sunday 18th May:

The Revd Crystal McAllister

We are pleased to announce the appointment of The Revd Crystal McAllister, currently Ordained Pioneer Minister in the Framland Deanery, as **Interim Oversight Minister in the Launde Deanery Minster community**. This 3-month role will begin on 1st July 2025.

A huge thank you
to everyone who joined me
as I said thank you and farewell
on the occasion of my retirement.
It was a delight to see those who could make it.

Thank you also
to those who contributed to the refreshments
and for your very generous gifts
they are much appreciated.
With love and prayers
Jenna



Food Bank Appeal:

Our Churches continue to support local Foodbanks. All donations welcome, which may be left in any of our Church porches, or you can donate online.

To make a donation to The Well's Food bank fund,

by bank transfer to *The Well Kibworth*

Sort Code: 40-32-04 Acc: 41666959 Ref: 'Foodbank'

Gift Aid Forms can be downloaded from the website:

<https://www.thewellkibworth.org/support-us>

Teas in Gaulby Church



Join us **every Saturday** until mid-September in Gaulby church for a cream tea, homemade cake, or just a cup of tea or coffee.

Teas are served between 2:30pm and 4:30pm, with optional seating outside when weather permits.

Skeffington Church Coffee Morning

Saturday 24th May 10.30 – 12.3



Quiz Night Tugby Village Hall

Saturday 28th June 7-10pm

Tugby Village Hall



7 -10pm Sat 28th June

£15pp

With a 2-course supper

For more information or to book

contact

Madeleine.v.wang@gmail.com

This is a church fundraiser

Stand Up Against Street Harassment Bystander Online Training

The Suzy Lamplugh Trust are delighted to announce that they have partnered with L'Oréal Paris to exclusively bring you the expert-approved "Stand Up Against Street Harassment" international training programme by "Right To Be".

Sessions are *thirty minutes* long and *free of charge* to attend. This is online training. There are a range of dates.

To get more information and sign up, use this link:

<https://www.suzylamplugh.org/Pages/Events/Category/events>



Information about the Zoom services (*including the Link*), and **other information**, can be found on **The Launde Deanery and Minster Community Website** at: <https://launde-minster-community.webador.co.uk>

Our Churches Online:



All have web pages on 'A Church Near You'

Billesdon <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/3500/>

Hungarton <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/4708/>

Keyham <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/4709/>

Skeffington <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/3502/>

Goadby <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/14444/>

The Gaulby Group

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/4699/>

NOTE: Back copies of Newsletters available on Launde Minster Community website

Do you want to have a look for something in previous editions of the Gaulby and Coplow, and the Hallaton, Whatborough and Loddington Newsletters?

Back copies can be downloaded from the Launde Minster Community website at: <https://launde-minster-community.webador.co.uk/newsletters>



Thy Kingdom Come

Thursday 29 May to Sunday 8 June

2025 marks the 10th year of Thy Kingdom Come, a global ecumenical prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray from Ascension to Pentecost for more people to come to know Jesus.

You and your church community are invited to take part.

Find full information and resources

at <https://www.thykingdomcome.global>

Glimpse the Beauty of Launde Abbey Online



Launde Abbey is known and loved by many in our diocese as a place to retreat and be refreshed. 'God's peace and love fills Launde Abbey...'. is what one recent guest remarked. Another commented it was, 'an opportunity to step out of a busy life'.

Launde Abbey cater for day and residential groups, organised and self-guided retreats, all with the opportunity to participate in their daily rhythm of prayer.

To showcase this special place and extend the invitation to visit, Launde Abbey have launched a new website. Whether you are organising a conference, away day, looking for a led retreat or seeking some much-needed time out, take a look and see what Launde Abbey has to offer.

Visit the new Launde abbey website:

<https://www.laundeabbey.org.uk>

Completion of New Heritage & Learning Centre

Leicester Cathedral is delighted to announce the completion of its highly anticipated Heritage & Learning Centre.

This state-of-the-art extension is designed to share the rich heritage of

the Cathedral and engage visitors in new and exciting ways.

The centre will officially open to the public on Saturday 14 June 2025, marking a significant milestone in the Cathedral's history. **Reads more on the Cathedral website:**

<https://leicestercathedral.org/news/2025/05/completion-of-new-heritage-and-learning-centre>

Journey in Faith Course 25/26

Our next Journey of Faith course begins this September.

This three-term course will offer you the time and space to *grow* in your knowledge of the Christian faith, *deepen* your relationship with God and *explore* how to live out faith in the whole of life.

The weekly sessions are open to anyone, with a choice of venues and days to suit you. **Download the flyer for more information:**

<https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/5f3ffd8a9f6aa/content/pages/documents/jif-25-26.pdf>

Sign up for the introductory session on Saturday 13

September: <https://thehub.leicester.anglican.org/learning-resources/journey-in-faith-jif-25-26-introduction-saturday-13th-september-2025/>

NEW - Face-to-face Safeguarding Training

The following safeguarding courses have spaces available:

Basic Awareness

Saturday 31 May, 9am-11.30am

St. Mary's Centre, Mountsorrel Lane, Sileby LE12 7NF

Course Code: LF2FBA3310525

Basic Awareness

Saturday 7 June, 9.30am-12pm

The Bridge, 1 Main Street, Countesthorpe, LE8 5QX

Course Code: LF2FBA3070625

Foundation

Saturday 7 June, 12.30pm-4pm

The Bridge, 1 Main Street, Countesthorpe, LE8 5QX

Course Code: LF2FF2070625

Foundation

Saturday 21 June, 9am-12.30pm

St. Mary's Centre, Mountsorrel Lane, Sileby LE12 7NF

Course Code: LF2FF1210725

To attend, send the completed booking form

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ULdo7-8FGsLgdwITR0vz8NYyHV7I5kQn/edit?tab=t.0> including the course code to SGBookings@LeicesterCofE.org

Caring for God's Precious Gift of Creation



Has your church filled in the Energy Footprint Tool (EFT) yet?

The Energy Footprint Tool (EFT) is an easy-to-use online tool that will reveal your church's carbon footprint, based on the energy you use to heat and light your buildings. All the information you need to fill in the EFT can be found on your church energy bills and should take less than an hour to complete.

As well as being of use at a diocesan level, data collected from the tool will help your church understand its own carbon footprint and could result in savings on energy bills. Churches may also be eligible for grants that will help kickstart their carbon reducing projects as we journey together to reach Net Zero Carbon.

Across the Church of England, Leicester is one of 12 dioceses which have achieved over 30% so far.

The deadline for completion is 30th June

Find out more about the EFT:

<https://www.leicester.anglican.org/news/caring-for-gods-precious-gift-of-creation.php>

Ride+Stride 2025

Ride+Stride 2025 will take place on Saturday 13 September this year. 107 churches and chapels have already registered to be open on the day.

It promises to be another very successful event – opening churches and raising funds for repairs and improvements.

To register your church or chapel, **please use the online form here:** <https://www.lhct.org.uk/ride-and-stride/>

In June, area organisers will contact churches who haven't registered, to ensure that at least 300 churches and chapels open on the day.

LeicesterShire Historic Churches Trust are seeking new area organisers for Leicester, North-East Leicestershire, and South-West Leicestershire. If you could offer your help, contact Sean Dudley for more

information: sean.lhct@gmail.com

Leading Worship for Everyone

Saturday 24 May, 10am–3pm, St. Peter and St. Paul's Church, Hathern

A workshop for all who want to develop their skills and confidence in leading worship.

To register email: MMBookings@LeicesterCofE.org

'Mars: War and Peace' Cathedral Installation

Friday 16 May to Sunday 8 June – Leicester Cathedral

This May Leicester Cathedral welcomes Luke Jerram's extraordinary sculpture Mars for the first time. Following the success of Jerram's Museum of the Moon and Gaia installations, Mars promises to be another unforgettable experience for visitors of all ages.

An awe-inspiring seven-metre sculpture of Mars in Leicester Cathedral will be accompanied by a stellar line-up of events.

Experience Mars during cathedral opening hours or book on to one of several evening events, including concerts, theatre and a ceilidh. **Find full details on the cathedral website:** <https://leicestercathedral.org/mars-war-and-peace>

The Sound of Musings: Launde Abbey Retreat

Monday 1 June to Friday 6 June – Launde Abbey

This year, the beloved musical *The Sound of Music* celebrates its 60th anniversary.

Anglican priest and former BBC radio presenter Bryony Wood is leading a retreat based on her book *The Sound of Musings*. Retreat participants will explore their own journeys of faith with Bryony through story, song, Scripture and creative reflection. With plenty of space for both laughter and stillness, the retreats promise to be spiritually enriching, gently challenging – and rather a lot of fun. **Visit the Launde Abbey website for full details:**

<https://www.laundeabbey.org.uk/event/thesoundofmusings/>

