



Hallaton, Whatborough and Loddington Newsletter

Edition Date: 21st November 2024

Services & Events – In Church & on Zoom:

Sunday 24th November, Sunday next before Advent, Christ the King

9.30am **Slawston** Holy Communion (Revd David Palmer)
10am **Tugby** Morning Praise (Congregation led)
10am **Cold Overton (with Knossington)** Holy Communion (Revd Jayne Lewis)
11am Launde Deanery **Zoom Service**

DECEMBER

Sunday 1st December, Advent 1

9.30am **East Norton** Advent Holy Communion (Revd David Palmer)
11am **Loddington** Holy Communion (Revd David Palmer)
11am Launde Deanery **Zoom Service**
4pm **Tilton** Christingle (Revd Jayne Lewis)
4pm **Hallaton** Teatime Service (Revd Jonathon Dowman)
5pm **Owston** Evening Prayer (Church Warden Led)
5pm **Tugby** Advent Holy Communion (Revd Chris Webb)

Sunday 8th December, Advent 2

10am **Hallaton** Holy Communion (Revd Jayne Lewis)
10am **Knossington** Advent Holy Communion (Revd Philip Norwood)
11am Launde Deanery **Zoom Service**
6pm **Lowesby** Carol Service (Revd Jayne Lewis)

Sunday 15th December, Advent 3

11am **Tugby** Christingle (Revd Jayne Lewis)
11am Launde Deanery **Zoom Service**
4pm **Horninghold** Carols & Readings by Candlelight (Community Led, Revd David Palmer)
5.30pm **East Norton** Advent Service (Community Led)
6pm **Slawston** Carol Service (Revd David Palmer)
6pm **Knossington** Candelit Carol Service (Congregation Led)
6pm **Tilton** Carol Service (Community Led)
6pm **Owston** Carol Service (Church Warden Led)

Thursday 19th December, Advent 3

6pm Launde Deanery **Zoom Carol Service** (preceded by Christmas Party at 5pm)
6.30pm **Allextion** Carols by Candlelight (Revd Jayne Lewis)
6pm **Cold Overton** Carol Service (Community Led)

Sunday 22nd December, Advent 4, Christmas

11am Launde Deanery **Zoom Service**
5pm **Tugby** Carol Service with Nativity (Revd Jayne Lewis)

6pm **Hallaton** Carol Service (Community Led)

Tuesday 24th December, Advent 4, Christmas Eve

4pm **Tilton** Crib Service (Revd Jayne Lewis)
5pm **Slawston** Crib Service (Revd David Palmer)
11.15pm **Tugby** Christmas Holy Communion (Revd David Palmer)

Wednesday 25th December, Advent 4, Christmas Day

10am **Hallaton** Family Christmas Communion (Revd David Palmer)
10am **Owston** Christmas Communion (Revd Michael Wilson)
10am **Knossington** Christmas Communion (Revd Jayne Lewis)
11am Launde Deanery **Christmas Day Zoom Service**
11am **Loddington** Christmas Communion
Sunday 29th December, 1st Sunday after Christmas
11am **Tilton** Launde Deanery/ Minster Community Service, *livestreamed on Zoom*

Sunday 24th November 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 #

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=HD1LgagamMFBN2y1m7p226w0h2KVkj.1>

Meeting ID: 898 2029 7969

Passcode: 470000

Collect for Sunday 24th November Sunday next before Advent, Christ the King

Eternal Father,

whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven

that he might rule over all things as Lord and King:

keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit

and in the bond of peace,

and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet;

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

Amen

Contact Us:

Revd Jayne Lewis: 0116 259 7244

Jaynelewis28@googlemail.com

Reflection: 24th November 2024

Sunday next before Advent,

Christ the King

The Feast of Christ the King is not even 100 years old. In 1925 Pope Pius XI established it on the last Sunday of October as a prelude to All Saints, though it was widely thought by other denominations the idea was to have a Roman Catholic festival to counterbalance Reformation Sunday that Lutherans and others celebrate on that day. It was moved in 1969 to the last Sunday of the Church's year because of its link to the Second Coming of Christ. Subsequently, all the major denominations have adopted the feast and what may have started out as a symbol of division has become a symbol of unity. And so it should. As Christians we all acknowledge Christ as our King and that is what sets us apart from the secular world. The gospel preached by Jesus and the kingdom he chose are the yardstick by our society is measured and often found wanting. By declaring our faith in him we declare that we do not depend on the world's standards and values for our identity, nor do we use them in our assessment of others. We confess our faith in a kingdom that is in the world but not of the world.

Wolf Hall is back on our television screens and reminds us of the problems many faced when confronted by a king who declared himself Supreme Head of the Church of England, when the head of the church is not a mere mortal but Christ himself. Today our King is Supreme Governor of the Church of England but his role in the church is now largely symbolic in a similar way to his secular authority. However, in China the state insists that its authority overrides any religious affiliations and, with the Russian Orthodox church largely in the pocket of the state, the situation there is much the same. We can celebrate the Feast of Christ the King with joy and without fear of reprisal but, in so doing, remember those who do so in the knowledge it may cost them dearly.

Rev'd Jeff Hopewell

Bible Readings:

Sunday 24th November 2024

Sunday next before Advent,

Christ the King

Daniel 7.9-10, 13-14

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised

9 As I watched, thrones were set in place,
and an Ancient One took his throne; his clothing was white as snow,
and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames,
and its wheels were burning fire.
10 A stream of fire issued
and flowed out from his presence. A thousand thousand served him,

and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him. The court sat in judgement,
and the books were opened.

13 As I watched in the night visions, I saw one like a human being
coming with the clouds of heaven. And he came to the Ancient One

and was presented before him.

14 To him was given dominion
and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages

should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion

that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

Revelation 1.4b-8

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised

4 John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne,

5 and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood,

6 and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

7 Look! He is coming with the clouds;
every eye will see him, even those who pierced him;
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen.

8 'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

John 18.33-37

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised

33 Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?'

34 Jesus answered, 'Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?'

35 Pilate replied, 'I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?'

36 Jesus answered, 'My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.'

37 Pilate asked him, 'So you are a king?' Jesus answered, 'You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.'

Additional Collect for Sunday 24th November Sunday next before Advent, Christ the King

God the Father,
help us to hear the call of Christ the King
and to follow in his service,
whose kingdom has no end;
for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, one glory. **Amen**

World Day of Prayer 2025

St Michael & All Angels Church, Hallaton

Friday 7th March – *Would you like to be involved?*

It does not involve a lot of work as the women of the Cook Islands have prepared the service for us and all of the materials have been provided. We just have to decide how we would like to run the service and who should do what on the day. **Do get in touch with Linda Jones**
l.jones2k@btinternet.com or call 01858 555249



Stamps for your Christmas Cards

Buy your stamps from the Church Association of Sudan and South Sudan (CASSS)

The war in Sudan has been described as 'The Forgotten War'.

Did you know that:

* Half of Sudan's population – more than 24.8 million people, almost 13.6 million of whom are children – are in need of urgent assistance.

* Sudan now has the world's largest number of internally displaced people, with more than 11 million people uprooted by the conflict which began in April 2023 – 2 million more have left Sudan in search of safety.

The churches in Sudan and South Sudan are in a desperate situation and are providing humanitarian aid in the most desperate of situations.

By buying new stamps through the CASSS you can help this situation without costing you any more because CASSS is a registered charity and buys the stamps legally through a stamp dealer at less than face value. This allows CASSS to sell the stamps at normal prices and the difference in prices raises funds for the CASSS.

Stamps are available in all denominations.

Please give your orders to John and Mary Twidell by Friday November 22nd.

Mary.twidell@gmail.com 01858 555 204

Whittle & Wine

Concert at St Peter's, Knossington

Friday 22nd November at 7.30pm

Tickets £12 available from Sue Sills 01664 454584, Debbie Thomas 01664 454970 or Liz sanders 07956622054



Food Bank Appeal:

Our Churches continue to support local Foodbanks. **Jubilee Foodbank Market Harborough** You can drop off donations at **Hallaton Church** or to Linda Jones at **25, Eastgate, Hallaton at any time.**

Please note that all food collected is non-perishable, long-life or tinned. A message from the Foodbank: *Due to your amazing Harvest donations we do not have an urgent need of food. Thank you! However, please keep the donations coming as the food is still going out to people in need. We will update our urgent list again soon. The list of food always required is on the website: <https://www.jubileefoodbankmh.uk>*



St Peter's Church, Tilton:

Friday Mornings 'Coffee and Chat'

Between 10.30 – 12.00noon

Café Morrell St Michael and All Angels Church, Hallaton Tuesday Mornings Coffee, Cake and Chat
Between 10.00 to 12.30pm

Launde Deanery Zoom Service on Sunday 17th November – Quote from C S Lewis

The Presence of the Lord

On Sunday, Joanne Newlon, South Carolina, USA, led our Intercessions. Joanne included this powerful quote from C S Lewis:

"In the encounter with the divine we feel something grander than ourselves. It is not a feeling of comfort but a sense of inescapable reality. Before God all illusions fall away, and we realize we are seen, known, and loved like never before. When we pray sincerely we can feel the presence of the Lord."

McCabe Educational Trust concerning the needs of the AL SHUROOQ Christian-run school for blind children in Bethlehem.

Is your Church thinking about a Charity to support this Christmas? What about this?

The school currently has 34 pupils aged 3 – 12 years. 21 pupils who come from Hebron, Jericho and remote parts of the West Bank, live and stay at the school all week as transportation is no longer available to take them home for weekends. Pupils from around Bethlehem commute every day as it is difficult for the school to provide for them to live in-house. This year the school started taking on social cases of children with visual disabilities and opened a new class for 10 pupils with multiple disabilities and behavioural problems. There are plans to bring blind children from Gaza to the school. 24 teachers are currently employed, in addition to therapists who work with special cases.

The school is facing an existential financial crisis with an annual deficit of £140,000. Half of the £1050 raised on Saturday 9th November at the Coffee Morning at Billesdon will be sent to Al Shurooq.

Could you or your church help?

Donations can be made to the McCabe Educational Trust at: <https://www.mccabe-travel.co.uk/projects/>



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>



Discover Churches: A New Toolkit

Discover Churches is a new resource designed to help volunteers extend a warm and meaningful welcome to visitors exploring church heritage, art, and community. It was launched at the recent Church Visitor and Tourist Association conference. **Find out more at the National Churches Trust website:** <https://www.nationalchurchestrust.org/explore/discover-churches-toolkit>

Pastoral Message from Bishop Martyn



Bishop Martyn has recorded a pastoral message, following the release of the Makin Review and the resignation of the Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby.

In it he also talks more generally about Safeguarding and shares an update on the Minster Community process.

Watch the Pastoral Message:

<https://www.leicester.anglican.org/news/pastoral-message-from-bishop-martyn.php>

If you or anyone you are in contact with are affected by the recent publication of the Makin Review and want to talk to someone independently, you can [contact the diocesan safeguarding team](#).

Alternatively, call the Safe Spaces helpline on 03003031056 or visit safespacesenglandandwales.org.uk

It's never too late to come forward. You will be listened to, supported, cared for, and advised.



The
Leprosy
Mission



Bishops' Lent Appeal 2025

The bishops have chosen to support The Leprosy Mission as their Lent Appeal charity for 2025.

Every two minutes, someone is diagnosed with leprosy. That's more than 200,000 new cases a year. Although it is curable, millions of people worldwide are living with the effects of the disease, from physical disability to mental health problems, poverty and discrimination.

The Leprosy Mission is a global Christian organisation leading the fight against leprosy. Following Jesus Christ, they seek to bring about transformation, breaking the chains of leprosy and empowering people to attain healing, dignity and life in all its fullness.

Everything the charity does is focused on its goals of zero leprosy transmission, zero leprosy disability and zero leprosy discrimination. They work in four key areas to achieve this – diagnosing and treating leprosy; caring for disabled people; fighting stigma; and advocating for change and pioneering research.

The Leprosy Mission runs projects in countries across Africa and Asia, including Nepal, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Sudan, Nigeria, Niger, Myanmar, Mozambique and Sri Lanka. *The Bishops' Lent Appeal will centre around the charity's work in Sri Lanka. More details will be shared in the new year. Visit Leprosy Mission UK:* <https://www.leprosymission.org.uk>

The Bishop of Leicester and the Bishop of Loughborough are pleased to announce the appointment of Sophie Holder as Director of Racial Equity for the Diocese of Leicester.

Bishop Martyn said: "I am delighted that Sophie has agreed to take on this key role in the diocese. Sophie brings a wealth of experience in equality, diversity, inclusion and most significantly, racial equity, and will take the lead in forging ahead with this important work in the diocese. I look forward to welcoming her."

"I am passionate about creating a culture of inclusion and belonging and, as Director of Racial Equity for the Diocese of Leicester, will ensure that community, compassion and equity – as exemplified by Christ – is at the heart of my work," said Sophie. "...Building and achieving racial equity will be a journey, one that will take time, change, wisdom and faith. There will be triumphs and challenges, but I believe if we stay the course, God will transform our diocese into a place that welcomes, serves, and introduces all to Christ."

Sophie will be commissioned to her new role at Diocesan Synod on Saturday 23 November 2024 and will begin work on Friday 6 December 2024.

The role of Diocesan Director of Racial Equity has been made possible by national church Racial Justice funding and has been offered on an initial three-year term, by approval of our Bishops' Council and Diocesan Synod.

Read more about Sophie and her role:

<https://www.leicester.anglican.org/news/bishops-appoint-sophie-holder-as-diocesan-director-of-racial-equity.php>

Supporting our Link Diocese: Fundraising for New Benches in Kiteto Cathedral



A diocesan campaign to raise enough money to provide durable, long-lasting seating in Kiteto Cathedral, is appealing to churches to donate the price of one bench.

The Dioceses of Leicester and Kiteto in Tanzania have been linked since 1982. We, as a diocese, partner with Kiteto to support the area in improving education, training pastors, planting churches and by offering financial support for emergencies arising from natural causes.

At the moment, much of the seating is plastic chairs that gradually and inevitably depreciate. The Cathedral currently have six benches and are asking for 62 – at £55 each. Could your church donate a bench? **Read the full story and how to donate:**

<https://www.leicester.anglican.org/news/supporting-our-link-diocese-fundraising-for-new-benches-in-kiteto-cathedral.php>



Everyone is warmly invited to our Global Carol Service, an intercultural celebration of Christmas followed by refreshments and drinks.

In addition to the cathedral choir, we will have carols, readings, and prayers in various languages. Join us as we come together to embrace one another across cultural and ethnic boundaries, celebrating with joy the birth of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

New Webinar: Digital Giving for Advent and Christmas

This webinar will explore how Digital Giving can support your church, from online donations to contactless and in-person giving options, plus QR codes and promotional material. Additionally, attendees will have the opportunity to schedule a 1:1 Zoom session with Ariel Baker from Generous Giving, where you'll receive personalised guidance on setting up a free digital giving QR code.

Webinar Dates:

- November 22, 11am

To reserve your spot, or if you have any questions, please email: Ariel.Baker@LeicesterCofE.org

