

# Launde Minster Community



## Newsletter

Edition Date: Thursday 14th May 2026

### Sunday 17th May, Easter 7

#### Sunday after Ascension Day

Attached is the MC Worship Plan for **MAY 2026** (as of 14th May)

This is **your** newsletter so please use it to share your notices, events and invite others to join you.

Please send me any contributions by Tuesday before the Thursday publication.

If you know anyone who would like to be added to the list to receive a copy of the newsletter, please send me their name and email address to:

[l.jones2k@btinternet.com](mailto:l.jones2k@btinternet.com) 07851163712

You can also find the **Launde Minster Community Worship Plan**, and the links for online services, on the website: <https://launde-minster-community.webador.co.uk>

### Our Churches Online:

All of our churches have web pages on

'A Church Near You' – This link takes you to the



Launde Minster Community page, where you can access each of the churches: <https://launde-minster-community.webador.co.uk/our-churches-on-acny>

### Every Sunday at 8am

#### Launde Abbey Chapel

**Holy Communion** - Please come quietly into the chapel via the external north door to join the Abbey Community and those on retreat. See *Worship Plan for details*

### Saturday Morning Prayer on Zoom

**Everyone is welcome**

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

All welcome. Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81751227280?pwd=VtUdahsUf34Vc7Bbr5gVFoeiobrOO8.1>

Meeting ID: 817 5122 7280 Passcode: 419620

### Sunday 17th May at 11am

#### Launde Minster Community

#### Online Church

**Leader & Reflection:** Hilary Painter

To join, click on this zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83679676342?pwd=CDIQKl91dakSkeAh5kbOeu8idqGI8Q.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:

**Revd Crystal Mcallister**, Oversight Minister of Launde Minster Community. Vicar of the Coplow Benefice and Priest in Charge of The Gaulby Group; The Whatborough Group; Hallaton and Allexton with Horninghold, Slawston, Tugby and East Norton; The Langtons and Shangton; and Welham, Glooston, Cranoe and Stonton Wyville. [pioneerystal136@gmail.com](mailto:pioneerystal136@gmail.com) 07890 020012

**Wendy Lewis**, Administrator

Wendy works on Tuesdays and Thursdays during school hours. [wendy.lewis@leicestercofe.org](mailto:wendy.lewis@leicestercofe.org) 07777 934092

### Collects for Sunday 17th May

#### Easter 7

O God the King of glory,  
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ  
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven:  
we beseech you, leave us not comfortless,  
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us  
and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is  
gone before,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen**

Risen, ascended Lord,  
as we rejoice at your triumph,  
fill your Church on earth with power and compassion,  
that all who are estranged by sin  
may find forgiveness and know your peace,  
to the glory of God the Father.

**Amen**

### Reflection: Sunday 17th May

#### Easter 7

This week we celebrate the Ascension and Acts tells us of continuing uncertainty of the disciples. Jesus has risen from the dead, appeared to them over many days, and now prepares to ascend to the Father. The disciples still want more answers, still haven't quite got it: 'Lord, is it now you're going to restore the kingdom to Israel?' They want certainty and clear instructions. They're still followers, not yet leaders. But change is coming.

Jesus doesn't oblige. Instead, it's another 'Fear not!' moment. 'You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses.' They have been called, they will receive everything they need, now all they have to do is get on with it. Trust in God.

It's so easy for us to become preoccupied with what might happen. We become bogged down with worries about the future — about conflicts, from those within our families to the worldwide situation; about the Church, about our own mortality. We may hope for quick answers or at least signs that we're on track.

However, Jesus reminds us that faithfulness matters more than certainty. Like the disciples, sometimes we have to wait, pray, and wait for the Holy Spirit.

The disciples gathered in prayer after the ascension. They are learning. The fear that followed the crucifixion has gone. Instead, they are gathered in hope and prayer, along with the women and other followers. A small community sharing grace, forgiveness, hope and expectation.

Our lives are spent in 'in between' times. This reading shows us how we can live faithfully between promise and fulfilment, prayer and answer, waiting and action. The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit are still there to equip us to bear witness in everyday life. Our task is not to know everything about the future, but to remain prayerful, united, and ready for the work God gives us to do.

Hilary Painter

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## Bible Readings:

### Sunday 17th May

#### Easter 7

##### Acts 1.6-14

6 So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?'

7 He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority.'

8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.'

9 When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.

10 While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them.

11 They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

12 Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away.

13 When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.

14 All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

##### 1 Peter 5.6-11

6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time.

7 Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you.

8 Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour.

9 Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters throughout the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering.

10 And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you.

11 To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

##### John 17.1-11

17 After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you,

2 since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him.

3 And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

4 I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do.

5 So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

6 'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word.

7 Now they know that everything you have given me is from you;

8 for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me.

9 I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours.

10 All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them.

11 And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

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### Sunday 17th May

#### Easter 7

##### Psalm 68.1-10, 32-end

1 Let God arise and let his enemies be scattered; let those that hate him flee before him.

2 As the smoke vanishes, so may they vanish away; as wax melts at the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God.

3 But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; let them make merry with gladness.

4 Sing to God, sing praises to his name; exalt him who rides on the clouds.

The Lord is his name; rejoice before him.

5 Father of the fatherless, defender of widows,

God in his holy habitation!  
 6 God gives the solitary a home  
 and brings forth prisoners to songs of welcome,  
 but the rebellious inhabit a burning desert.  
 7 O God, when you went forth before your people,  
 when you marched through the wilderness,  
 8 The earth shook and the heavens dropped down rain,  
 at the presence of God, the Lord of Sinai,  
 at the presence of God, the God of Israel.  
 9 You sent down a gracious rain, O God;  
 you refreshed your inheritance when it was weary.  
 10 Your people came to dwell there;  
 in your goodness, O God, you provide for the poor.  
 32 Sing to God, you kingdoms of the earth;  
 make music in praise of the Lord;  
 33 He rides on the ancient heaven of heavens  
 and sends forth his voice, a mighty voice.  
 34 Ascribe power to God, whose splendour is over Israel,  
 whose power is above the clouds.  
 35 How terrible is God in his holy sanctuary,  
 the God of Israel, who gives power and strength to his  
 people!  
 Blessed be God.

### Praying Pilgrims in Launde Minster Community May & June 2026

As part of our ongoing support to all the parishes across the LMC, a group of us, **Praying Pilgrims**, will join together at the churches listed, to reflect and pray for the needs of the church and community.

**Every Wednesday for a 9.00am start.**

**The rota for May & June is:**

**May 20: Tilton on the Hill**

May 27: Skeffington

June 3: Loddington

June 10: Tugby

June 17: Owston

June 24: Billesdon

**We would encourage and greatly welcome others to join us for Morning Prayers.**

**Rev David Palmer and Rev Crystal McAllister**

### Launde Deanery & Minster Community Service

**Trinity Sunday, 31st May at St Nicholas Church,  
 Shangton at 6pm**

Our next Launde Deanery & Minster Community Service will be held at Shangton on Sunday 31st May at 6pm.

**We hope you can join us.**

### Philip Norwood - Celebrating 60 years as a Priest

**6.30pm on Sunday 7th June, Choral Evensong at  
 St. James the Greater Church, London Road,  
 Leicester**

Philip Norwood is marking 60 years as a priest at a service of Choral Evensong at 6.30pm at St. James the Greater in London Road, Leicester. **Please feel welcome to attend.**  
**Parking is possible in nearby streets or in Victoria Park.**

### St Andrew's Church, Foxton Choral Evensong with Leicester Cathedral Choir

**Sunday 17th May at 4pm**



### Tilton Church: Loughborough Concert Band

**Saturday 30 May at 7pm**

Tickets £10 from:

Kathy 07917 168565, Brenda 07766 203051

*In aid of roof repairs*



**Loughborough Concert Band**

St Peter's Church, Tilton

Saturday 30 May, 7pm



In aid of Roof Repairs  
 Tickets £10 including refreshments available  
 from  
 Kathy – 07917 168565  
 Brenda – 07766 203051

### Gaulby Church: Tea & Cake Sale in aid of LOROS

**Sunday 7th June 2-4pm**



## Gaulby Church: Home-made cakes and Cream Teas Every Saturday 2.30-4.30pm



**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



## Our Churches continue to support local Foodbanks:

### Food Bank Appeal: The Well

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>

### Food Bank Appeal: 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.

The Foodbank has **MOST URGENT NEED of:** Tinned Custard, Tinned fruit, Tinned beans (kidney, chickpeas, etc), Pot Noodle, Breakfast cereal, Jars of Pasta sauce, Tinned sweetcorn, Tinned peas, Tinned carrots, Peanut butter, 'No Cook' products, long life e.g. John West Fish and pasta meals, Kettle only products e.g. noodles, couscous, soups, Microwave puddings, Jam, UHT milk (whole or semi-skimmed), Rice Pudding.

**Other suggested donations:** Jars of Coffee (100grams), Tinned vegetarian meals, Teabags (80), Corned Beef, Dried Potato (Smash), Dried Packet Rice, Baked Beans, Strong clean 'bags for life', Porridge Oats, Sugar (500g), Tinned Baked beans with sausages, Crackers, Dried potatoes (Smash), Tinned red meat, Tinned meatballs, chicken in sauce, Biscuits, Sweets, Snacks and Crisps, Tinned tomatoes, Sachet meals (pan or microwave), Cordial, Marmalade, Tinned potatoes, Fray Bentos pies, Tinned ham, Crackers, Tinned soup, Cup of soup, Sugar (500g), Snacks and cereal bars, Fruit squash/ juice, Microwave puddings, Tinned pasta, Sandwich paste, Tuna, ALPRO yoghurts (long-life, for the shelf not fridge), Robinsons minis or similar for families (small squash concentrates), Small cartons of long life milk (for homeless people or someone without a fridge), Mayonnaise, Angel Delight, Small sachets of herbs, Deodorant, Toothpaste, Shower gel or soap, Shampoo, Toothbrushes, Sunscreen (for homeless people in the summer), Feminine products – sanitary towels, tampons

The list of food always required is on the website:  
<https://www.jubileefoodbankmh.uk>



## Diomail Monday 11th May

For more information and other events use this link for Diomail 11th May:  
[https://thehub.leicester.anglican.org/newsletters/diomail-11-may-2026/?newsletter\\_email=l.jones2k@btinternet.com](https://thehub.leicester.anglican.org/newsletters/diomail-11-may-2026/?newsletter_email=l.jones2k@btinternet.com)

**You can subscribe to receive the weekly Diomail here:**  
<https://www.leicester.anglican.org/news/diomail/>  
<https://leicester.anglican.org/calendar/>

## Bishop Graham Tomlin on Preaching Well



**Bishop Graham Tomlin has preached through fire – literally. From parish pulpits to national crises, he's carried a voice shaped by Scripture,**

## culture, and the raw edges of human experience.

In this featured episode of the *Preaching Well Podcast*, he opens his study, his honesty, and his hard-won wisdom.

We move fast: from Pascal's "night of fire" to Grenfell's ash; from the surprises hidden in familiar texts to the quiet weight of a preacher's character; from storytelling as spiritual art to preaching that speaks to believers, doubters, and everyone in between.

Graham shows us why the cross still disrupts, why good sermons begin in silence, why hope matters in catastrophe, and how every preacher can learn to read the world with biblical eyes.

It's warm. It's searching. It's full of stories, insight, and unexpected laughter. A masterclass in preaching – and a gentle call to become the kind of person whose life can bear the weight of the words we speak.

Learn more and listen here:

<https://leicester.anglican.org/preaching-well-podcast/>

## Diocesan Synod - Latest Meeting

### Summary

Diocesan Synod met on 19 March 2026 for an evening of discussion about faith lived out in public life, responsible stewardship of resources, and the Church's presence in communities facing the greatest challenges. **A summary of the meeting is available here:**

<https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/5f3ffd8a9f6aa/content/pages/documents/synod-summary-march-2026.pdf>

## Thy Kingdom Come



**Thy Kingdom Come begins on Thursday 14 May, as Christians across the world join together in prayer from Ascension Day to Pentecost.**

One of the simplest and most powerful invitations of Thy Kingdom Come is this: to pray faithfully for five people you would love to know the love of Jesus.

Write their names down. Hold them in prayer each day. Ask God to guide them, bless them, and draw near to them.

And if you're not sure who to choose, simply begin by asking God to lead you.

Prayer takes patience and discipline, but small acts of faithfulness can, over time, change lives.

**See resources and more:**

<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/thy-kingdom-come-2026>

## Centenary: Send Us Your Smiling Group Photos



**As part of our diocesan centenary celebrations, we would love to feature every single parish, worshipping community, chaplaincy, church school and diocesan-affiliated organisation, in a special picture slideshow that will be on display at events throughout the centenary period.**

So, we're appealing to our communities to send us your smiling group photographs.

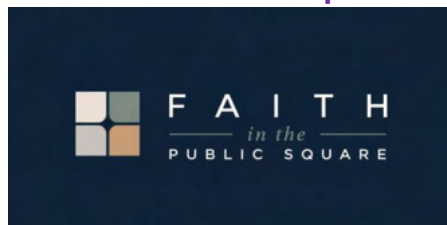
We want to see our diocesan people, gathered together in God's glory, where you worship.

Please email your images

to [David.Stevens@LeicesterCofE.org](mailto:David.Stevens@LeicesterCofE.org)

*And please remember to ask permission from everyone included in the photo. Each picture will be labelled with who you are, as a collective – e.g. All Saints Church, Wigston – and will be on rolling display including at the Cathedral, during our event in September, and on the centenary pages of our diocesan website.*

## Faith in the Public Square



**Bishop Martyn and his Social Policy Advisor, Florence Gildea, have launched a blog designed to help Christian leaders participate in public debates about contested questions.**

The aim behind "Faith in the Public Square" is to bring evidence from the social sciences together with theology to help readers think through areas of our common life which are the subject of heated debate.

Posts will be published on a monthly basis, addressing topics related to how Christians should be involved in politics, divisions in society, immigration, and the impact of social media and A.I.

**You can subscribe to Faith in the Public Square here:**

<https://faithinthepublicsquare.substack.com> and

**receive new posts directly to your inbox. Read more**

**here:** <https://www.leicester.anglican.org/news/launch-of-faith-in-the-public-square.php>