



Gaulby and Coplow Newsletter

Edition Date: Thursday 24th April 2025

Sunday 27th April, Easter 2

9am **Skeffington** CW Holy Communion (Revd J Hopewell)
11am **Billesdon** Holy Communion (Revd Jeff Hopewell)
11am Launde Deanery **Zoom Service**
6pm **Gaulby** Holy Communion (Revd Christine Blodwell)

MAY

Sunday 4th May, Easter 3

9am **Hungarton** Holy Communion (Revd David Palmer)
10am **Skeffington** Morning Praise (Congregation led)
10.30am **Illston** Holy Communion (Revd David Palmer)
11am Launde Deanery **Zoom Service**
4pm **Billesdon** Choral Evensong (Revd John Taylor)

Sunday 11th May, Easter 4

9am **Skeffington** BCP Holy Communion (Revd Canon Jonathan Dowman)
10am **Gaulby** Morning Prayer (Lay led)
11am **Billesdon** Holy Communion (Revd John Taylor)
11am Launde Deanery **Zoom Service**

Sunday 18th May, Easter 5

10am **Keyham** Holy Communion (Revd Philip Norwood)
11am **Billesdon** Songs of Praise (Lay led)
11am Launde Deanery **Zoom Service**
4pm **Tilton** Jayne Lewis's Farewell Service *This service will be live-streamed on Zoom (details to follow)*
6pm **Skeffington** Evensong (Revd Philip Norwood)
6pm **Illston** Evening Prayer (Lay led)

Sunday 25th May, Easter 6

9am **Skeffington** CW Holy Communion (Revd Philip Norwood)
11am **Billesdon** Holy Communion (Revd Philip Norwood)
11am Launde Deanery **Zoom Service**
6pm **Gaulby** Holy Communion (Revd Christine Blodwell)

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

Sunday 27th April 11.00am Zoom

Launde Parishes Zoom Service

Leader & Responder: Mike Hammond

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

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07754395006 keithevans6@btinternet.com

Collect for Sunday 27th April

Second Sunday of Easter

Almighty Father,

you have given your only Son to die for our sins
and to rise again for our justification:

grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and
wickedness

that we may always serve you

in pureness of living and truth;

through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ 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 27th April 2025

Second Sunday of Easter

Doubt is faith in two minds said Os Guinness in his book on Doubt written in the 1970s, which I finally managed to get through almost 40 years after I bought it! In our gospel reading today from John's gospel, we meet in Thomas a man who wasn't in two minds at all seemingly. He resolutely did not believe that the risen Jesus had visited the disciples in a locked room. He wanted evidence before he was going to believe what the other disciples who had been there did. Arguably this is not doubt, it is unbelief, which is the opposite of faith. But even in his unbelief Jesus met Thomas. Straightaway Jesus turns to Thomas and throws his own words back at him, Jesus tells Thomas to put his fingers in the nail holes and his hand in Jesus's side and start believing. Thomas moves from unbelief to belief in an instance, declaring Jesus his Lord and God, but Jesus rebukes Thomas by pointing out that he had believed because he had seen, how much better it is for those (like us) who had not seen and yet believed concludes Jesus. To believe in something without the physical proof is faith. To believe that the Easter events we have just celebrated happened, and that as a result the human condition in relation to God changed for ever is the central tenant of the Christian faith. Only Christianity makes the claim that through faith in Jesus we can be put right with God.

In Launde we face considerable doubt, unbelief and lack of interest in our churches, which can often seem to sap our spiritual strength. Easter is a time to ponder on the wonders of God and recharge our batteries ready to be a witness for Jesus again.

Mike Hammond

Bible Readings:

Sunday 27th April

Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 5.27-32

27 When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, 28 saying, 'We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us.'

29 But Peter and the apostles answered, 'We must obey God rather than any human authority.'

30 The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree.

31 God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour, so that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins.

32 And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.'

Revelation 1.4-8

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 20.19-end

19 When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.'

20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

21 Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.'

22 When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.'

23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

24 But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.

25 So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

26 A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.'

27 Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.'

28 Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!'

29 Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

30 Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book.

31 But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Additional Collect for Sunday 27th April Second Sunday of Easter

Risen Christ,
for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:
open the doors of our hearts,
that we may seek the good of others
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace,
to the praise of God the Father.

Amen

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>

Food for Thought

Wednesday 21st May 6.45 for 7.15pm at Launde Abbey: Faith in Farming by Lord Donald Curry CBE

Bookings by 15th May to Mary Twidell

mary.twidell@gmail.com 01858 555204 / 07464309966



Food for thought

An evening with
Lord Donald Curry CBE

Faith In Farming

Reflections on a life in farming, politics and Christian faith

Meal and talk £15

Wednesday 21st May

Meet 6.45pm for 7.15pm start
Launde Abbey

Bookings (by Thursday 15th May):
mary.twidell@gmail.com / 01858 555204 / 07464 309966

About the speaker: Donald is a British farmer and businessman, crossbench member of the House of Lords, former chair of NFU Mutual and an Officer of the Order of the British Empire.

About Food for thought: Talks about life, faith and contemporary issues, arranged by a local group of Christians, including support from Launde C of E Diocese.

A concert at All Saints Slawston

Saturday 17 May

By the renowned guitarist James Woodrow
In aid of church funds
Details to follow ... contact Wendy Edmond,
07746 018444 wendyedmond@ymail.com



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/>



NEW: 'We Believe' Nicene Creed Resources Webinar

Thursday 1 May, 2pm – Zoom

A special webinar exploring the new resources available to churches as we celebrate the 1700th anniversary of the Nicene Creed. Learn about the creed and the new resources:
<https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-life/what-we-believe/nicene-creed>

Register for webinar: https://churchofengland-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_KhqQ5EQMSvaADctRtpBC-w#/registration

Renew Wellbeing Cafés Webinar

Thursday 1 May, 4pm – Zoom

The charity Renew Wellbeing offers a model specifically for a wellbeing café, where it's OK not to be OK. The national church is partnering with Renew Wellbeing and looking for new parishes to be part of this new movement. Around 50 parishes have already started a Renew Wellbeing space nationally and this is set to radically increase over the next two years. Join this webinar find out if your church could be involved. **Learn more on the Church Support Hub:**
<https://churchsupporthub.org/all-resources/promoting-community-spaces-in-our-churches/>

Register for the webinar: https://churchofengland-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/6917424028769/WN_cSgC2iDwQXSEoS228Rj_YQ#/registration

VE Day 80th Anniversary

On 8 May 2025, we're marking the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE Day), when the nation will unite to remember the end of the Second World War in Europe.

Prayers and an outline service to help your church plan services and events are now available online.

Find out more: <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/worship-texts-and-resources/80th-anniversary-end-second-world-war>

Mental Health First Aid Training Course

Four weekly sessions from Wednesday 7 May, 9.30am-1pm, The Cube on Symingtons, Market Harborough

Mental Health First Aid training is aimed at leaders, paid or voluntary who work with young people and want to develop how they support young people's mental health and wellbeing.

This training is free as the cost is covered by the Diocese but spaces are limited, so we do ask that you only sign up if you can make all four dates (7 May, 14 May, 21 May, 4 June).

Booking is on a first come, first served basis. **Sign up here:**
<https://mhfaengland.org/course-booking-form/?id=021a1b42-8ff4-ef11-be1f-7c1e52765da6>

(The venue on the booking form says "London" – please ignore this.)

For more information, contact Lou: spyouth3@gmail.com

Chaplaincy Lecture with Dr Israel Olofinjana

Thursday 8 May, 6pm-7.30pm – Attenborough Film Theatre, University of Leicester

For the next event in our Chaplaincy Lecture Series, 'Decolonising the Church: And Intercultural Approach' we welcome Rev. Dr Israel Olofinjana, Honorary Research Fellow at Queens Foundation for Theological Ecumenical Education. He is a Baptist pastor, the author of several books, and sits on the Christian Aid Working Group of Black Majority Church leaders exploring the intersection of climate justice and racial justice.

The event is free, open to the public and will be followed by a drinks reception.

Book on Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/dr-israel-olofinjana-decolonising-the-church-an-intercultural-approach-tickets-1248174305949?aff=oddttdcreator>

