



Gaulby and Coplow Newsletter

Edition Date: 19th September 2024

Services & Events – In Church & on Zoom:

Sunday 22nd September Trinity 17 & Harvest

Thanksgiving

9am **Skeffington** CW Holy Communion (Revd Jeff Hopewell)

11am **Billesdon** Holy Communion (Revd Jeff Hopewell)

11am Launde Deanery **Zoom Service**

6pm **Gaulby** Evening Worship (Hilary Painter)

Sunday 29th September Trinity 18, Michael & All Angels

11am **Gaulby** Launde Deanery/ Minster Community Service, *livestream on Zoom*

11am **Billesdon** Harvest Festival (Revd Philip Norwood)

4pm **Hungarton** Harvest Festival (Revd David Palmer)

6.30pm **Keyham** Harvest Festival (Revd David Palmer)

Saturday Mornings

Zoom Prayer Meeting

Every week at 9am (meeting open from 8.45am)

If you would like to join our Zoom Prayers, please email

Hilary Painter: hilarypainter@icloud.com

Sunday 22nd September 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=CDIQKl91dakSkeAh5kbOeu8idqGl8Q.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 #

Collect for Sunday 22nd September Seventeenth Sunday After Trinity

Almighty God,
you have made us for yourself,
and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you:
pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself,
and so bring us at last to your heavenly city
where we shall see you face to face;
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**



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>

Contact Us:

Hilary Painter: 0116 259 9752

hilarypainter@rocketmail.com

Keith Evans, Church Warden 01162596438/

07754395006 keithevans6@btinternet.com

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/>

Reflection for Sunday 22nd September 2024 Seventeenth Sunday After Trinity

Based on Mark 9.30-37

Last week retired clergy, wives and widows were invited to a day at Launde Abbey and our keynote speaker was David Newman, former Warden of Launde and former Archdeacon of Loughborough. Many of us there remembered his amazing feat of memorising the whole of St Mark's Gospel and telling it in its entirety to a number of church gatherings some ten or a dozen years ago. I was fortunate to attend one of those meetings and the cumulative effect of hearing the gospel from beginning to end was extremely powerful and inspiring. For better or worse, we cut the gospel up into bite-sized portions for our Sunday readings and thereby lose some of its power. Jesus predicts his death three times in successive chapters of Mark's gospel, but I doubt if many people are aware of that. Each passage falls into three sections – Jesus predicts his forthcoming suffering, the disciples fail to understand and then he goes on to give them some instructions. It never ceases to amaze me how dense the disciples can be but perhaps there are some things that are so awful that we are unable to take them in.

In this Sunday's reading we hear the second of those three predictions and it differs from the other two in one important respect. The first and third seem to lay the blame for his death solely on the chief priests and the scribes. This one, however, says that the Son of Man is to be betrayed *into human hands* and they will kill him. It is not just the Jewish authorities but the entire human race that is implicated. The sinfulness of the whole world is the reason why God came to earth as a man to die for us all. The old spiritual asks 'Were you there when they crucified my Lord?' and we are all called on to answer.

Revd Jeff Hopewell

Bible Readings:

Sunday 22nd September 2024

Seventeenth Sunday After Trinity

Wisdom 1.16-2.1, 12-22

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised

16 But the ungodly by their words and deeds summoned death; considering him a friend, they pined away and made a covenant with him, because they are fit to belong to his company.

2 For they reasoned unsoundly, saying to themselves, 'Short and sorrowful is our life, and there is no remedy when a life comes to its end, and no one has been known to return from Hades.

12 'Let us lie in wait for the righteous man, because he is inconvenient to us and opposes our actions; he reproaches us for sins against the law, and accuses us of sins against our training.

13 He professes to have knowledge of God, and calls himself a child of the Lord.

14 He became to us a reproof of our thoughts;

15 the very sight of him is a burden to us, because his manner of life is unlike that of others, and his ways are strange.

16 We are considered by him as something base, and he avoids our ways as unclean; he calls the last end of the righteous happy, and boasts that God is his father.

17 Let us see if his words are true, and let us test what will happen at the end of his life;

18 for if the righteous man is God's child, he will help him, and will deliver him from the hand of his adversaries.

19 Let us test him with insult and torture, so that we may find out how gentle he is, and make trial of his forbearance.

20 Let us condemn him to a shameful death, for, according to what he says, he will be protected.'

21 Thus they reasoned, but they were led astray, for their wickedness blinded them,

22 and they did not know the secret purposes of God, nor hoped for the wages of holiness, nor discerned the prize for blameless souls.

Alternative Reading to Wisdom 1.16-2.1, 12-22

Jeremiah 11.18-20

18 It was the Lord who made it known to me, and I knew;

then you showed me their evil deeds.

19 But I was like a gentle lamb

led to the slaughter. And I did not know it was against me

that they devised schemes, saying, 'Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,

let us cut him off from the land of the living, so that his name will no longer be remembered!'

20 But you, O Lord of hosts, who judge righteously, who try the heart and the mind, let me see your retribution upon them,

for to you I have committed my cause.

James 3.13-4.3, 7-8a

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised

13 Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom.

14 But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth.

15 Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish.

16 For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind.

17 But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy.

18 And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

4 Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you?

2 You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask.

3 You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.

7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

8 Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Mark 9.30-37

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised

30 They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it;

31 for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, 'The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.'

32 But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

33 Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the way?'

34 But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest.

35 He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, 'Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.'

36 Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them,

37 'Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'

Additional Prayer for Sunday 22nd September Seventeenth Sunday After Trinity

Gracious God,
you call us to fullness of life:
deliver us from unbelief
and banish our anxieties
with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Collects, Readings and Reflection for Harvest Thanksgiving on Sunday 8th, 15th & 22nd September

Collect for Harvest Thanksgiving

Eternal God,
you crown the year with your goodness
and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season:
grant that we may use them to your glory,
for the relief of those in need and for our own well-
being;
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 for Harvest Thanksgiving

Extract from 'Roots on the Web'

"...In a 2019 poll, 67 per cent of parents, from all faiths and none, expressed warm memories of taking part in Christian harvest festivals, saying that they wanted their children to do the same. The perceived benefits were: giving thanks for the good things in our lives, teaching children where their food comes from and showing generosity to people in need.

Harvest is one of our farming village's best-attended services. Even the smallest child can understand. The church is lovingly decorated with flowers and fruit. I organise a choir, to belt out well-loved hymns: *We Plough the Fields and Scatter*, *All Things Bright And Beautiful* and *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*. The children bring up harvest gifts to the altar, destined for our local food bank.

Harvest is more than a nostalgia trip for traditionalists. Certainly, older people revisit happy childhood memories and there is the aroma of apples stored for the winter and smoke from the post-harvest burning of the fields, and people make a corn dolly to take to church. However, recognising the cyclical nature of human existence — "for everything there is a season" (Ecclesiastes, iii, 1) — has what feels like a renewed modern resonance. After 18 months dominated by the Pandemic, our human vulnerability to challenges such as

disease, weather problems and disruptions to the supply chain feels more relevant than ever.

Our food bank's stock is running low. News reports of empty supermarket shelves add a poignancy to realising our interdependence, reliance on others and the need for connection, for the supply of our most basic human needs.

Farmers' reports at harvest suppers offer insight into lives lived on the land. The TV series *Clarkson's Farm* has recently engendered a wider respect for farmers and a more sympathetic understanding of the problems that they face every year. Their livelihood is dependent almost entirely on the weather and other factors beyond their control. No prayer is perhaps more heartfelt than a farmer's prayer for rain — or for it to stop raining. Small rural churches often seem rather marginalised, treated in diocesan league tables like "failed" urban churches...Yet harvest allows countryside communities a big moment of celebration.

Harvest conveys a feeling of handing on the baton to the next generation. I have so far failed to pass on my Christian faith to my own children, who accept the common social attitude that religion is the cause of war. However, in my own life, Christianity has been nothing but a source of comfort and joy. The author John Buchan said that an atheist was a man who had "no invisible means of support". I hope that small rural churches will stay open long enough for my children to return to them if they ever want to do so.

Harvest suppers showcase the glories of nature, coming to terms with not being in control, looking after the hungry and needy and the wonderful reading from St Matthew about the lilies of the field, advising against worrying about what to wear. They add up to a message that the nation's mental health problems could be addressed if we looked not inwards but upwards and outwards, with gratitude at all the good gifts around us."

Emma Thompson is a freelance writer and a member of Save the Parish

Additional Prayer for Harvest Thanksgiving

Creator God,
you made the goodness of the land,
the riches of the sea
and the rhythm of the seasons;
as we thank you for the harvest,
may we cherish and respect
this planet and its peoples,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Bible Readings:

Harvest Thanksgiving

Joel 2.21-27

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised

- 21 Do not fear, O soil;
be glad and rejoice,
for the Lord has done great things!
- 22 Do not fear, you animals of the field,
for the pastures of the wilderness are green; the tree
bears its fruit,
the fig tree and vine give their full yield.
- 23 O children of Zion, be glad
and rejoice in the Lord your God; for he has given the
early rain for your vindication,
he has poured down for you abundant rain,
the early and the later rain, as before.
- 24 The threshing-floors shall be full of grain,
the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.
- 25 I will repay you for the years
that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the
destroyer, and the cutter,
my great army, which I sent against you.
- 26 You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied,
and praise the name of the Lord your God,
who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people
shall never again be put to shame.
- 27 You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel,
and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no
other. And my people shall never again
be put to shame.

1 Timothy 2.1-7

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised

- 1 First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers,
intercessions, and thanksgivings should be made for
everyone,
2 for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we
may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and
dignity.
- 3 This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our
Saviour,
4 who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the
knowledge of the truth.
- 5 For there is one God;
there is also one mediator between God and
humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human,
6 who gave himself a ransom for all-this was attested at
the right time.
- 7 For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am
telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles
in faith and truth.

Alternative Reading to Joel Timothy 2.1-7

1 Timothy 6.6-10

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised

- 6 Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined
with contentment;

7 for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can
take nothing out of it;
8 but if we have food and clothing, we will be content
with these.

9 But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and
are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that
plunge people into ruin and destruction.

10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and
in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away
from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

Matthew 6.25-33

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised

25 'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life,
what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your
body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and
the body more than clothing?

26 Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor
reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father
feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

27 And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to
your span of life?

28 And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the
lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor
spin,

29 yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not
clothed like one of these.

30 But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is
alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will
he not much more clothe you-you of little faith?

31 Therefore do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?"
or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?"

32 For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things;
and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need
all these things.

33 But strive first for the kingdom of God and his
righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as
well.

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>

Open Doors

Saturday 12th October



Revd David Palmer, Pioneer Priest

Ride + Stride 2024 – Jeff’s journey

It took me longer than I had anticipated to get around a dozen city churches – not because of old age and decrepitude but because I spent a lot of time talking with people, including some old friends, and looking at the stained glass in some of the churches that were less familiar to me.

Starting from All Saints, I worked my way round to the cathedral, then St Nicholas, where they were having a church fete hoping to benefit from increased footfall, and to St Mary de Castro. Thence to St Andrew, Jarrom Street and Holy Trinity, which was hosting an Eco Church Conversations Day. Holy Cross was next on the list, followed by St George’s Serbian Orthodox and Central Baptist, Charles Street. Across to Bishop Street Methodist Church, then a long haul to the Great Meeting House at East Bond Street and finally to St Margaret’s before driving back home.

So far it looks as if I will have raised, including gift aid, around £1,000. If you haven’t managed to sponsor me yet and would like to do so, the:

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/jeff-hopewell-lhct2024>

Billesdon Church Coffee Concert

Saturday 21st September

With student soloists from the Leicester Grammar School. It is proper coffee from 10.30am with the Concert from 11.00.

Everyone is welcome



National Day of Prayer for Schools

On Friday 27 September, Youthscape, Pais, Pray for Schools, Prayer Spaces in Schools, Scripture Union and Youth for Christ are joining forces to encourage Christians all across the UK to take some time to pray for the schools in their parish.

Join an online prayer gathering, use the prayer resources on your own, at home or in groups, encourage young people to pray with their peers, or go on a prayer walk around your local school. **Find out more and get**

involved: <https://paimovement.com/ndopfs/>

Making the Most of Creationtide



Creationtide, or the Season of Creation, takes place in the Church calendar from 1 September to 4 October, and is dedicated to God as Creator and Sustainer of all life. Creationtide began in the Orthodox Church in 1989 and has been supported by a growing number of churches across Europe since then, including the Church of England. Many churches use this time of year to hold themed services and events, including Harvest celebrations, giving thanks for God’s gift of creation, and renewing their commitment to caring for the planet we call home.

We’ve compiled a selection of Creationtide resources you might like to make use of in your worshiping communities, including service plans, ideas for community events, and more. **See Creation ideas here:**

<https://www.leicester.anglican.org/news/how-could-your-church-make-the-most-of-creationtide.php>

Renew Wellbeing Cafés - Information Sessions

Tuesday 17 September, 2-3pm and Thursday 19 September, 11am-12pm – Zoom

The Diocese of Leicester has been selected to join a pilot scheme offering parishes training and support from *Renew Wellbeing* to launch simple, welcoming, café-style spaces to help improve people’s mental, emotional and spiritual wellbeing. **This video** explains the project:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vhm6nPKM_Z4

Find out more at one of these two (repeated) introductory sessions. Email Sharon Andrews to register: Revdsandrews13@gmail.com

Following these sessions there will be a training event for those wanting to take things further at St Martins House on Thursday 31 October, 10am-12pm.

New Everyday Faith App

Everyday Faith is the new daily devotional app from the Church of England.

The app aims to help individuals to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in the whole of life by providing carefully curated daily reflections, including selected Bible readings, a simple prayer for the day ahead, and thoughts based on that week’s theme. **Find out more here:**

<https://www.leicester.anglican.org/news/everyday-faith-app-develop-a-daily-connection-with-god.php>

A Service of Lament for Homelessness

Wednesday 2 October, 5.30pm – Leicester Cathedral

A gentle, reflective service to remember those who have died on our streets, to lament the facts around homelessness and consider how we can work for change.

Followed by refreshments.

RSVP to rebecca.pawley@togetherleicester.org.uk

Taking the Next Steps in Your Journey in Faith

The course is delivered over three terms and looks at: Exploring Faith, God's Call and Our Response, and The Development of the Church.

Revd Liz Rawlings, Diocesan Discipleship and Vocations Enabler, who co-ordinates JiF, says: "It doesn't matter if you are exploring faith, new to faith or have been in church for many years. You don't need to have done any learning before but come eager to learn and willing to share your own questions and experience."

There are five courses running on weekday evenings in venues around the diocese, starting with **an introductory session on Saturday 28 September.**

For more information and to book your place:

<https://www.leicester.anglican.org/news/taking-the-next-steps-on-your-journey-in-faith.php>

'easyfundraising' Webinar

Tuesday 24 September 2024, 12.30pm-1.30pm – Zoom

ACAT are offering a free webinar on generating income for your church using easyfundraising. **Learn more and book your free place:** <https://www.acat.uk.com/product/meet-the-funder-easyfundraising-free-unrestricted-funding-for-your-church/>

Mental Health and Wellbeing Day

Saturday 21 September, 9am-2pm – St John's Church, Hinckley

This training day is for all who want to know how to look after their own mental health better, and the mental health of others, particularly in a church setting.

Speakers will be Dr Emma Hayward and Sangita Jobanputra. *Please bring a packed lunch.*

The event is free, but please

email Kim.Ford@LeicesterCofE.org if you would like to attend.

Holy Listening Course at Launde Abbey

Are you interested in helping people deepen their spiritual lives? Could God be calling you to be a spiritual director?

Spiritual direction is the practice of being with people as they attempt to deepen their relationship with God, a prayerful ministry by which one Christian accompanies another as they discern the place and work of God in their life.

Holy Listening is a Launde Abbey training course which will help you develop skills and reflective practice for this ministry. You'll explore core aspects of Christian spirituality, and how we create and hold spaces that enable other people to hear God speaking in their lives.

Launde Abbey is seeking interested applicants to form its cohort for 2025 and 2026. Applications must be submitted by Friday 27 September, with interviews to be held on 14 & 16 October.

Find out more about the ministry of spiritual direction and about *Holy Listening*:

<https://www.laundeabbey.org.uk/holy-listening/>

Reconciling Habits Workshop using the Difference Course

Saturday 28 September, 9am-12.30pm – St Martins House, Leicester.

Monday 4 November, 7pm-8.30pm – a 'regathering' follow-up session on Zoom.

A two-session course where you'll hear and share insights into the ways reconciliation is at the heart of the Christian faith and how it has a practical impact on our everyday lives and leadership as we serve through discipleship, pastoral work, and mission.

There'll be the opportunity to practice using the habits personally and explore how to offer it to your communities by developing the three 'reconciling habits' – Be Curious, Be Present, and Reimagine. These habits are grounded in Biblical principles and seen in the life of Christ.

The course will be facilitated by Sharon March, Associate Minister and Lay Training Tutor, and Emma Crick de Boom, Reconciliation Enabler for Coventry Diocese.

Please make sure you can attend both sessions before registering. For more information & sign up here:

<https://thehub.leicester.anglican.org/learning-resources/the-reconciling-habits-workshop/>
