



Gaulby and Coplow Newsletter

Edition Date: Thursday 20th February 2025

Services & Events – In Church & on Zoom:

Sunday 23rd February, 2 Before Lent

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

MARCH

Sunday 2nd March, Next before Lent

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

Friday 7th March, World Day of Prayer

- 10am **Hallaton** World Day of Prayer Service (Deanery Community Led)

Sunday 9th March, 2 Lent 1

- 9am **Skeffington** BCP Holy Communion (Revd John Taylor)
- 10am **Gaulby** Morning Prayer (Hilary Painter)
- 11am **Billesdon** 1st Lent Holy Communion (Revd John Taylor)
- 11am Launde Deanery **Zoom Service**

Sunday 16th March, Lent 2

- 10.30am **Keyham** Holy Communion (Revd Jeff Hopewell)
- 11am **Billesdon** Songs of Praise (Revd Christine Blodwell)
- 11am Launde Deanery **Zoom Service**
- 6pm **Skeffington** Evensong (Revd Philip Norwood)
- 6pm **Illston** Evening Prayer (Hilary Painter)

Sunday 23rd March, Lent 3

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

Sunday 30th March, Lent 4, Mothering Sunday

- 10am **Gaulby** Morning Prayer Mothering Sunday (Hilary Painter)
- 11am **Hungarton** Mothering Sunday (Revd John Taylor)
- 11am **Church Langton** Launde Deanery **Zoom Service**
- 11am Mothering Sunday **Launde Deanery/ Minister Community Service**

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

Contact Us:

Hilary Painter: 0116 259 9752

hilarypainter@rocketmail.com

Keith Evans, Church Warden 01162596438/

07754395006 keithevans6@btinternet.com

Sunday 23rd February 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=CDIQKI91dakSkeAh5kbOeu8idqGl8Q.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 23rd February Second Sunday before Lent

Almighty God,

you have created the heavens and the earth

and made us in your own image:

teach us to discern your hand in all your works

and your likeness in all your children;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,

who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things,

now and for ever. **Amen**

Reflection: Sunday 23rd February 2025 Second Sunday before Lent

Have you felt like giving up lately? A well-known phrase that was also the title of a book by the American Pastor David Wilkinson, famous for his work with American Street Gangs in New York, that spawned a best-selling book and film entitled 'The Cross and the Switchblade'. But it's not the contents of his book that I remember, but the front cover, showing a marathon runner clearly exhausted and shuffling along rather than running but not giving up! How often do we feel like that runner struggling but somehow finding the strength to not give up. Feeling like there is no light at the end of the tunnel but persevering? For millions in this country this is a daily reality, and Christians are not exempt from a feeling of helplessness in the face of illness or financial hardship and fear for the future..

Our readings for Morning prayer on the last Sunday in February from the books of Job and Acts, are about people who chose not to give up. Job, despite the misfortunes, and bewilderment of feeling that God had abandoned him could exclaim "I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth "(Job 19:25 KJV). (If you've started to sing the aria from Handel's Messiah, your penance is to put an extra pound on the collection plate the next time you go to church). The man crippled from birth in Lystra in the

second reading Acts 14:8-17 also had faith to believe despite all the evidence to the contrary having been crippled since birth, that he could be healed. He was right. Faith is seeing past the present to what the future can be and not giving up, as Mother Julian reminds us, 'all will be well'.

Mike Hammond

Bible Readings:

Sunday 23rd February 2025

Second Sunday before Lent

Genesis 2.4b-9, 15-end

4 These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created. In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens,

5 when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up-for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground;

6 but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground-

7 then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being.

8 And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed.

9 Out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

15 The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.

16 And the Lord God commanded the man, 'You may freely eat of every tree of the garden;

17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.'

18 Then the Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.'

19 So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name.

20 The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner.

21 So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh.

22 And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man.

23 Then the man said, 'This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken.'

24 Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

25 And the man and his wife were both naked, and were not ashamed.

Revelation 4

4 After this I looked, and there in heaven a door stood open! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, 'Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.'

2 At once I was in the spirit, and there in heaven stood a throne, with one seated on the throne!

3 And the one seated there looks like jasper and cornelian, and around the throne is a rainbow that looks like an emerald.

4 Around the throne are twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones are twenty-four elders, dressed in white robes, with golden crowns on their heads.

5 Coming from the throne are flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and in front of the throne burn seven flaming torches, which are the seven spirits of God;

6 and in front of the throne there is something like a sea of glass, like crystal. Around the throne, and on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind:

7 the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with a face like a human face, and the fourth living creature like a flying eagle.

8 And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and inside. Day and night without ceasing they sing, 'Holy, holy, holy, the Lord God the Almighty,

who was and is and is to come.'

9 And whenever the living creatures give glory and honour and thanks to the one who is seated on the throne, who lives for ever and ever,

10 the twenty-four elders fall before the one who is seated on the throne and worship the one who lives for ever and ever; they cast their crowns before the throne, singing,

11 'You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power, for you created all things,

and by your will they existed and were created.'

Luke 8.22-25

22 One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side of the lake.' So they put out,

23 and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A gale swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger.

24 They went to him and woke him up, shouting, 'Master, Master, we are perishing!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm.

25 He said to them, 'Where is your faith?' They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?'

Additional Collect for Sunday 23rd February

Second Sunday before Lent

Almighty God,
give us reverence for all creation
and respect for every person,
that we may mirror your likeness
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Launde Deanery Synod

Thursday 27th February 7.15 for 7.30pm
Tur Langton Village Hall

The meeting is open to anyone interested in the proposed discussions as well as our Deanery Synod reps so feel free to send more than 1 person per Parish. Please also send apologies to Wendy Lewis in writing before Synod. Written questions are welcome to be submitted to Wendy by or on Friday 21st February. For more information contact Wendy on wendy.lewis@LeicesterCofE.org

World Day of Prayer 2025 Service

St Michael and All Angels Church, Hallaton
Friday 7 March at 10am. *Suitable for all the family*
Everyone is very welcome

We plan to livestream this service for those who cannot get there. More details nearer the time.



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 12th March 7 for 7.30pm

The Fox and Hounds, Tugby

Bookings by Thursday 6th March: mary.twidell@gmail.com
01858 555204/ 07464 309966



Food for thought

An evening with
Dr Caroline Beardsmore

Learning Through Life

Meal and talk £17.50

Wednesday 12th March
7pm meet for 7.30pm start
The Fox and Hounds, Tugby

Bookings (by Thursday 6th March):
mary.twidell@gmail.com / 01858 555204 / 07464 309966

About the speaker: Caroline combined university teaching with practical studies of lung function in children. She spent time living in Jerusalem and Montreal. She took up beekeeping 25 years ago and studied to become a Master Beekeeper, which she teaches.

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 Deanery.



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>



Lent and Easter at Launde Abbey

There are lots of opportunities to pray and reflect at Launde Abbey throughout Lent and Holy Week.

A number of 'Soul-Filled Meanderings' are taking place, led by Jo de Graff, and including a guided walk, prayer service and soup lunch. **See details here:**

<https://www.laundeabbey.org.uk/events/category/soulfilledmeanderings/>

On *Ash Wednesday*, 5 March, the administration of ash will be offered at all of Launde's services – midday and 5pm for non-residents.

A retreat is being held throughout *Holy Week*. You can join for as much as you like by booking an overnight stay or attending for the day. **See details**

here: <https://www.laundeabbey.org.uk/event/holyweek2025/>

Webinar: Thy Kingdom Come 2025 Resources



Tuesday 25 February, 11am – Online

To mark the 10th anniversary of Thy Kingdom Come, this year's focus will be the Lord's Prayer.

Join this webinar as this year's resources are revealed, including the new Prayer Journal featuring ecumenical voices, the Novena, daily films and resources for schools and children, such as the Cheeky Pandas.

There's also a new youth and young adults strand, including content from the Way UK and others. **Register here for the webinar:** <https://churchofengland.org.zoom.us/webinar/register/2817387640461/WN-X0bG0iScmx-2wekLEVxQ#/registration>

Being Missional Today - Day Conference

Tuesday 10 June, 9:30am-5pm – Coventry Cathedral

A festival of missional thinking exploring the impact of disruptions in church and world, the liminality of this current season, and the role of reconciliation practices.

Featuring 22 different speakers, with Bishop Guli Francis-Dehqani and Revd Dr Al Barrett headlining.

Being Missional Today promises to be a stimulating event for those looking for inspiration in the missional challenges facing us today. **Full details and bookings:** <https://reconciliation-initiatives.org/being-missional-today/>

Churches Invited to Apply to Newly Expanded £5million Conservation Fund

Parishes are being encouraged to apply for grants towards the conservation of historical and cultural heritage through the Church of England's conservation grants scheme which is supported by £4.68million from The National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Applications for grants to fund the conservation of special objects such as stained glass, paintings, bells, organs and clocks in churches are now open.

Grants towards building repairs of up to £25,000 that are linked to the conservation of an object and bids for specialist surveys and help with existing recipients' conservation projects will be considered for funding as well.

Read the Church of England press release:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/media/press-releases/applications-invited-new-expanded-ps5-million-conservation-fund-churches>

Applications can be made via this online portal:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/churchcare/our-conservation-grants/grants-historic-church-interiors-and-churchyard-structures>

Kiteto Cathedral Bench Appeal

Thanks to all who contributed to the appeal to fund 60 benches for Kiteto Cathedral in our link diocese of Tanzania.

More than £2200 has been raised, enough for 40 benches. You can still donate to the appeal. **See full details on our website:**

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

Members of our diocese will be visiting Kiteto next month.

Consultation on the Nomination of the 106th Archbishop of Canterbury

Your feedback through this public consultation will play a vital role in shaping the decision-making process as we seek God's guidance for the next Archbishop of Canterbury.

Views can be submitted online or by post. Full details are available on the Church of England website:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/about/governance/archbishops/canterbury-crown-nominations-commission/consultation-nomination-106th-archbishop-canterbury>



The Church of England's Lent theme for 2025 is Living Hope.

This special webinar explores the resources available for churches this Lent and Easter, explaining more about the theme, and featuring reflections and various printed and digital resources for use in your worshipping communities. They'll also be an opportunity to ask any questions you might have about making the most of Lent and Easter and the Living Hope theme.

Find out more about Living Hope:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-life/what-we-believe/lent-holy-week-and-easter/living-hope-resources-lent-2025>



Thursday 27 February, 6pm-7.30pm – St Andrew's Jarrom Street

In the first Bishop's Chaplaincy lecture of 2025, Lord Woolley of Woodford is joining us to address how we can seek to increase the diversity and representation of minoritised groups.

The evening is free to attend and open to all. It will include a Q&A and refreshments will be served. **See full details and booking:** <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-belief-that-we-can-change-the-world-tickets-1220867350109?aff=oddtcreator>

OWL Network – Growing Community

Saturday 15 March, 10-11.30am – Zoom

Come and be inspired by a morning with Revd John White. John is the founder and leader of the Hazelnut Community, a worshipping community that has social innovation, economic inclusion, political and spiritual transformation at its heart. He is passionate about connecting with creation and addressing the reality of the climate emergency. This will be a wonderful chance to think about using our church land differently, creatively growing community and deepening our roots in God our creator and sustainer. **Register to receive Zoom link:**

<https://htl.churchsuite.com/events/1ipewiye>

3rd Anglican Intercultural Mission Conference

Wednesday 19 to Friday 21 March – Fountains Church, Bradford

Following the success of the previous Intercultural Mission Conference in Leicester, this gathering promises to unite over 300 participants dedicated to advancing intercultural mission in the Church of England.

Under the theme, 'How will we make disciples of all nations in our different contexts?', the conference will include dynamic keynote sessions, practical workshops, and transformative discussions. **More information and registration:**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-third-anglican-intercultural-mission-conference-tickets-1004427518747?aff=oddtcreator>

Step Forward Vocations Event

Saturday 8 March, 10.30am-4pm – Bishopthorpe Palace, York

Step Forward is an opportunity for those aged 18 and 30 to find out about ministry in the Church of England. It includes input from Archbishop Stephen Cottrell and those with recent experience of the discernment process and theological training. **Register your interest:**

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

Storytelling for Everyone

Saturday 15 March, 10am-3pm – St Martins House, Leicester

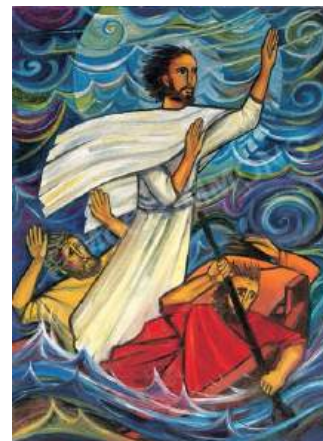
A practical workshop to gain confidence in leading others in worship in the local church. The session includes:

- Our experience of worship
- The shape of worship
- Engaging with the Bible
- Leading others in prayer
- Resources and guidelines

Refreshments served from 9.30am, session starts at 10am.

Register on the Learning Hub:

<https://thehub.leicester.anglican.org/learning-resources/storytelling-for-everyone/>



Luke 8.22-25

