



# Gaulby and Coplow Newsletter

Edition Date: Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2025

## Services & Events – In Church & on Zoom:

### Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February, 4 Before Lent

9am **Skeffington** BCP Holy Communion (Revd John Taylor)

10am **Gaulby** Morning Prayer (Hilary Painter)

11am **Billesdon** Holy Communion (Revd John Taylor)

11am Launde Deanery **Zoom Service**

### Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February, 3 Before Lent

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 Jeff Hopewell)

6pm **Illston** Evening Prayer (Hilary Painter)

### Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> 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)

## 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 9<sup>th</sup> February 11.00am Zoom

### Launde Parishes Zoom Service

**Leader & Reflection:** Hilary Painter

**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 #



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:

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## Collect for Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February Fourth Sunday before Lent

O God,

you know us to be set

in the midst of so many and great dangers,

that by reason of the frailty of our nature

we cannot always stand upright:

grant to us such strength and protection

as may support us in all dangers

and carry us through all temptations;

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: Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2025 Fourth Sunday before Lent

In our Gospel reading from Luke we are told of Jesus's calling of his first disciples at the beginning of his ministry. Encouragingly for us Jesus chooses a group of simple fishermen. Rabbis were more likely to select their followers from much more intellectual and academic men and would be very choosy about who they were prepared to include in their group. Peter is concerned that he is not worthy to be included but Jesus reassures him and the others that with his help and guidance they will be able to carry out his mission for God and Jesus and that they are to be 'fishers of men.' This is, of course, exactly what happens and the disciples, who become the apostles, not only bring people to know and serve Christ and cause the early church to grow and develop, but many of them bravely give their lives so that this can happen.

Then in our other reading from 1 Corinthians, we hear of Paul referring to himself as the least of the apostles because he had begun as one of the persecutors of the church, and only when confronted by the risen Christ on the road to Damascus, did Paul come to acknowledge Jesus as the Christ and answer the call on his own life to spread the Gospel to the Gentile world.

It is good for us to learn that Jesus is ready and willing to use all manner of people to be included in his mission to spread his Gospel and is more interested in how willing and how faithful we are, so that all those who believe in him and love him can play their part in his wonderful mission. This means, of course, that all those gifts, given by the Holy Spirit, can be used and put together to bring others to know Christ, to know and experience his wonderful love for us and to be the best witnesses to his amazing love for us as we can be. Whilst reading and understanding our bible is important and very helpful to us, this does not mean that we have to be highly

academic and intellectual. We just need to open our hearts and minds to what the amazing love of Jesus means and do our best to follow his example as we live lives which will show others that the best way to live is with Jesus Christ, the Son of God, as our Saviour and guide through our earthly life. We must always remember that Jesus gave his life for us on the Cross and that he did this for all people who want to follow him and love him, and of course he did it for us - something we should constantly be reminding ourselves of. This will give us even more desire to love him and do all we can to be all and do all that he asks of us. Be encouraged, if Jesus is asking something of us, he will have chosen us because we are the right person and he will give us all we need to succeed for him.

**Revd Christine Blodwell**

## **Bible Readings: Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2025** **Fourth Sunday before Lent**

### **Isaiah 6.1-8 9-end**

6 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple.

2 Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew.

3 And one called to another and said: 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.'

4 The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke.

5 And I said: 'Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!'

6 Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs.

7 The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: 'Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.'

8 Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I; send me!'

9 And he said, 'Go and say to this people: "Keep listening, but do not comprehend; keep looking, but do not understand."

10 Make the mind of this people dull,  
and stop their ears,  
and shut their eyes, so that they may not look with their eyes,  
and listen with their ears, and comprehend with their minds,  
and turn and be healed.'

11 Then I said, 'How long, O Lord?' And he said: 'Until cities lie waste

without inhabitant, and houses without people,  
and the land is utterly desolate;

12 until the Lord sends everyone far away,  
and vast is the emptiness in the midst of the land.

13 Even if a tenth part remains in it,  
it will be burned again, like a terebinth or an oak

whose stump remains standing  
when it is felled.' The holy seed is its stump.]

### **1 Corinthians 15.1-11**

15 Now I should remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand,

2 through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you-unless you have come to believe in vain.

3 For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures,

4 and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures,

5 and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

6 Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died.

7 Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.

8 Last of all, as to someone untimely born, he appeared also to me.

9 For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace towards me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them-though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me.

11 Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

### **Luke 5.1-11**

5 Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God,

2 he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets.

3 He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat.

4 When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.'

5 Simon answered, 'Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.'

6 When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break.

7 So they signalled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink.

8 But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, 'Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!'

9 For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken;

10 and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.'

11 When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

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## Additional Collect for Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February Fourth Sunday before Lent

Lord of the hosts of heaven,  
our salvation and our strength,  
without you we are lost:  
guard us from all that harms or hurts  
and raise us when we fall;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

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## 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>



## Snowdrop Sunday, 9th February St Thomas a Becket Church, Tugby



Come and walk through the Churchyard to see the snowdrops and other lovely spring flowers.

***We will be serving tea, coffee and cakes in the Church between 2-4.30pm.***

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## 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>

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## 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/>



## Racial Justice Sunday is on 9 February

Racial Justice Sunday is entering its 30th year of celebration – a unique day in which we, as the body of Christ, highlight the continued need to oppose racism and pursue racial justice. The call for racial justice can often be a fraught topic in our workplaces, social settings and even our places of worship – yet the Bible is clear that all humanity, in all its racial diversity, has been made in the image of God.

We serve a God who not only values but enshrined variety in

all his creations – from the foundation of the world. And, as his handiwork, our first purpose was to live in harmony with each other, reflecting God’s goodness and character to all.

Unfortunately, sin has marred this purpose. We now live in a world where race is often weaponised. Where racial hierarchies have placed most global communities at the bottom of a system that seeks to erode worth and our collective humanity – due to the depth of skin pigmentation.

It is these injustices that Racial Justice Sunday seeks to call out – encouraging and empowering Christians to be the change makers who lead by example for a fairer and more just world.

Sophie Holder, Director of Racial Equity in the Diocese of Leicester, says: “As Christians, we have the honour and privilege to re-establish what racial justice looks like in our world, as disciples of Christ. This work is not limited to one day, but this coming Sunday gives us opportunity to sing a little louder, connect a little more and work towards reflecting the true kingdom of God and all the people who call it their home.”

The theme of this Racial Justice Sunday is ‘Coat of Many Colours’, a beautiful and poignant reminder that our diversity in Christ is interconnected, that we were created to stand side by side, all representing the fabric and essence of God’s kingdom.

**Find more information and resources:**

<https://www.leicester.anglican.org/news/this-week-racial-justice-sunday-2025.php>



**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>



## The Belief That We Can Change The World

**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>

## Living with Loss - A Bereavement Retreat

**Friday 7 February to Monday 10 February – Launde Abbey**

Come and join with others who have also experienced life-changing loss through bereavement.

This is a gentle retreat with a Christian perspective, sensitively led by Abi May and team, suitable for those who have lost a husband or wife, children or other close family members, or who have suffered multiple losses.

Find more information and booking details on the Launde Abbey website:

<https://www.laundeabbey.org.uk/event/livingwithloss2025/>

## 'Six Inches of Soil' Film Showing

**Saturday 8 February, 7pm (Doors 6pm) – St Mary’s Church, Melton Mowbray**

The first six inches of soil feed 8 billion people. This film offers a look at biodiversity, carbon, food justice, and working with nature rather than against it.

**Watch the trailer:** <https://sixinchesofsoil.vhx.tv>

There will be a raffle and refreshments. Bring your own popcorn or sweets! Booking essential. **Get your free tickets here:** <https://kinema.com/events/six-inches-of-soil-rpl1uw>

## Embrace the Diversity

**Saturday 8 February, 10am-3pm – St Martins House, Leicester**

A training day on tackling contemporary, systemic and interpersonal discrimination, with a view to developing a healthy intercultural church.

For more information and to book your space, email [Dinta.Chauhan@LeicesterCofE.org](mailto:Dinta.Chauhan@LeicesterCofE.org)

## 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=oddttdtcreator>

## 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 5.1-11*