



Gaulby and Coplow Newsletter

Edition Date: Thursday 10th April 2025

Sunday 13th April, Holy Week, Palm Sunday

9am **Skeffington** BCP Holy Communion (Rev'd John Taylor)

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

11am **Billesdon** Holy Communion Palm Sunday (Rev'd John Taylor)

11am Launde Deanery **Zoom Service**

1pm **Pilgrimage Walk** Glooston to (3pm) Goadby (Rev'd David Palmer and Rev'd Jonathan Dowman)

Monday 14th April, Holy Week

7pm **Keyham** Compline (Rev'd Philip Norwood)

Tuesday 15th April, Holy Week

7pm **Hungarton** (Rev'd Philip Norwood)

Thursday 17th April, Holy Week

7pm **Billesdon** Maundy Thursday

Friday 18th April, Holy Week, Good Friday

2pm **Skeffington** "The Crucifixion" by Stainer *Everyone is welcome*

7pm **Gaulby** Good Friday Service (Hilary Painter) *This service will be live streamed on Zoom (see link opposite)*

Sunday 20th April, Easter Day

9am **Hungarton** Holy Communion (Rev'd Jeff Hopewell)

9am **Skeffington** Easter Sunday (Rev'd John Taylor)

10am **Gaulby** Holy Communion (Rev'd Christine Blodwell)

10.30am **Keyham** Easter Sunday (Rev'd Jeff Hopewell)

11am **Billesdon** Easter Sunday Holy Communion (Rev'd John Taylor)

11am Launde Deanery **Zoom Service** Easter Sunday

Sunday 27th April, Easter 2

9am **Skeffington** CW Holy Communion (Rev'd J Hopewell)

11am **Billesdon** Holy Communion (Rev'd Jeff Hopewell)

11am Launde Deanery **Zoom Service**

6pm **Gaulby** Holy Communion (Rev'd 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=HD1LgagamMFBN2y1m7p226w0h2KVkj.1>

Meeting ID: 898 2029 7969

Passcode: 470000

Sunday 13th April 11.00am Zoom

Launde Parishes Zoom Service

Leader & Responder: Hilary Painter

To Join our Zoom Services, click on this link:

PLEASE USE THIS LINK:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83679676342?pwd=CDIQKI91dakSkeAh5kbOeu8idqG18Q.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 #

Friday 18th April 7.00pm Zoom

Launde Parishes Zoom Service

Good Friday Service Live from Gaulby

Leader: Hilary Painter

To Join our Zoom Services, click on this link:

PLEASE USE THIS SPECIAL LINK:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87997426465?pwd=EJwqplpxZHdSyq29gOeexX6kxt2pc9.1>

Meeting ID: 879 9742 6465

Passcode: 127761

DIAL IN FROM A LANDLINE OR MOBILE:

T. 0203 481 5240

Enter the **Meeting ID:** 879 9742 6465 followed by #

Enter the **Passcode:** 127761 followed by #

Holy Week – Services at Launde Abbey

All from Launde Deanery are welcome to join

Holy Week Days	Service
Monday	12pm Midday Eucharist
Tuesday	12pm Midday Eucharist
Wednesday	12pm Midday Eucharist
Thursday	12pm Midday Prayer with Anointing // 7.30pm Maundy Thursday Eucharist
Friday	12pm The Midday Passion
Saturday	
Sunday	7.30am Easter Eucharist

Contact Us:

Hilary Painter: 0116 259 9752

hilarypainter@rocketmail.com

Keith Evans, Church Warden 01162596438/

07754395006 keithevans6@btinternet.com

Collect for Sunday 13th April

Palm Sunday

Almighty and everlasting God,
 who in your tender love towards the human race
 sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
 to take upon him our flesh
 and to suffer death upon the cross:
 grant that we may follow the example of his patience
 and humility,
 and also be made partakers of his resurrection;
 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 13th April 2025

Palm Sunday

As we enter Holy Week when we remember all that happened to Jesus and reflect on all that it means to us, we may like to begin by holding up our Palm crosses as symbols of many of the realities which Jesus had to go through, from his victorious procession into Jerusalem on the back of a donkey as had been prophesied, to his being raised up on the Cross, hands and feet nailed through with large, cruel nails, causing him great pain which he went through for our sake, together with a crown of thorns, and ending with his glorious resurrection, creating an open pathway for us to have our sins forgiven and claim a place for us to be with him in heaven for ever. As we think deeply about what Jesus went through for us, we should constantly give thanks that, unlike him and because of his great love for his Father and also for us, we only have to come to him, give him our love and obedience and serve him as he calls us to and we can claim our place with him, knowing that although undeserving, because of his great love and grace we are assured of all this just as he promised us.

It is many, many years since the first Holy Week, but now we are among many millions of Christians who go through Holy Week and Easter each year both to remember all that Jesus has done for us and also to let others know that he also did it for them and we are here to help them find their own way to him. It is getting increasingly more difficult to overcome the worldly attractions and barriers which stop people giving themselves to Jesus but that is what Jesus commands us to do for him while we are still here representing him on earth. In many parts of the world many people of all ages and backgrounds are coming to know him and bringing others to do the same. Perhaps a good way for us to use the time well is to make an effort to tell people what Easter is really about - not just chocolate eggs and bunny rabbits, but about God's only Son, Jesus Christ our Saviour, giving himself up to a painful and humiliating death by crucifixion at a relatively young age, because he loves us so much and inspires many other people to follow his example and display that same love and find ways to help them and be Christ to all those who are in need of help, healing and our prayers. And when that starts to challenge us and seems too much for us, let us reflect once more on what Jesus went through for us and remember that as well as other Christians, Jesus had also promised to be with us even unto the end of the earth and he will give us all we need to spread his love to those who need to know it.

Revd Christine Blodwell

Additional Collect for Sunday 13th April

Palm Sunday

True and humble king,
hailed by the crowd as Messiah:
grant us the faith to know you and love you,
that we may be found beside you
on the way of the cross,
which is the path of glory.

Amen

Bible Readings:

Sunday 13th April

Palm Sunday

Liturgy of the Palms

Luke 19.28-40

28 After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

29 When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples,

30 saying, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here.

31 If anyone asks you, "Why are you untying it?" just say this: "The Lord needs it."

32 So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them.

33 As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, 'Why are you untying the colt?'

34 They said, 'The Lord needs it.'

35 Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it.

36 As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road.

37 As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen,

38 saying, 'Blessed is the king

who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!'

39 Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, order your disciples to stop.'

40 He answered, 'I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.'

Liturgy of the Passion

Luke 23.1-49

23 Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate.

2 They began to accuse him, saying, 'We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king.'

3 Then Pilate asked him, 'Are you the king of the Jews?' He answered, 'You say so.'

4 Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, 'I find no basis for an accusation against this man.'

5 But they were insistent and said, 'He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place.'

6 When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean.

7 And when he learned that he was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time.

8 When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time, because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some sign.

9 He questioned him at some length, but Jesus gave him no answer.

10 The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him.

11 Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then he put an elegant robe on him, and sent him back to Pilate.

12 That same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; before this they had been enemies.

13 Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people,

14 and said to them, 'You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges against him.

15 Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death.

16 I will therefore have him flogged and release him.'

18 Then they all shouted out together, 'Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!'

19 (This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.)

20 Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again;

21 but they kept shouting, 'Crucify, crucify him!'

22 A third time he said to them, 'Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him.'

23 But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed.

24 So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted.

25 He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished.

26 As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus.

27 A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him.

28 But Jesus turned to them and said, 'Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children.

29 For the days are surely coming when they will say, "Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed."

30 Then they will begin to say to the mountains, "Fall on us"; and to the hills, "Cover us."

31 For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?'

32 Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him.

33 When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. [[

34 Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.']] And they cast lots to divide his clothing.

35 And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!'

36 The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine,

37 and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!'

38 There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.'

39 One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!'

40 But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?'

41 And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.'

42 Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.'

43 He replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'

44 It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon,

45 while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two.

46 Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, 'Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.' Having said this, he breathed his last.

47 When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, 'Certainly this man was innocent.'

48 And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts.

49 But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

(See Lectionary for full selection of readings)



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>

A request for Ukraine – Can you help?

Some of our Ukrainian guests have joined Rotary and formed an Impact Club (one with a special mission). They are collecting unused and unwanted medical equipment which is sent to Ukraine for distribution. If anyone has anything spare, let Hilary Painter know: hilarypainter@icloud.com and she will arrange collection.



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>

Fridays in Lent at Gaulby Church 12.30-2pm



Agape Service Maundy Thursday at 6.30pm St Thomas Becket Church, Tugby

To reserve e your place contact Madeleine Wang:

madeleine.v.wang@gmail.com



Hallaton Café Morrell 'Give in Lent'

Donate a Tonne of Tins for Lent for the Jubilee Foodbank – *that's just 74 tins a day!*

Can you help to make a difference this Lent?



Launde Zoom Lent Course

From Thursday 6 March 6pm-7pm for 6 weeks

Exploring Bishop Guli's Book 'Cries for a Lost Homeland, Reflections on Jesus' Sayings from the Cross'

Everyone is welcome at any session(s).

To join use this link: Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82936355714?pwd=lorgmtzbfNZIkfqZKgyBDYW9uFWvw.1>

Meeting ID: 829 3635 5714

Passcode: 810997



For more information, contact Hilary Painter:

hilarypainter@icloud.com or Linda Jones:

l.jones2k@btinternet.com



New Festival Churches Resources Launched



A Festival Church is a church building which is not used for weekly worship, but is an open church, a local icon and a community asset. The model for becoming a Festival Church is increasingly being adopted by churches nationally as a way of rejuvenating parishes and giving new life to relevant mission and ministry within a local community.

The model in the Diocese of Leicester has been developed in the context of growing concern amongst some PCCs about their church's future. It may be that a church has unrealised potential and could become more sustainable if energy and effort was spent doing fewer things really well.

Becoming a Festival Church is a positive, proactive decision to do less, but to do what is done better, and differently, as a springboard to a sustainable Christian presence and mission. It is *not* a step on the road to closure.

St Mary's Church in Walton-le-Wolds were the first church in

the diocese to pilot the Festival Church model in 2021 and have since seen many benefits. Revd Clive Watts is Rector of the Benefice of Barrow-upon-Soar with Walton le Wolds, Wymeswold and Prestwold with Hoton, and has been leading this work.

"Becoming a Festival Church has enabled us to engage with our local community, doing less but doing it better and with more people," he explains. "It has given us a way forward for a struggling church with a very small congregation, which gives us hope for a bright future. It is proving to be the best move we ever made."

This week we've released a new suite of resources, designed to enable Festival Church conversations to take place. The main document is a Pathway which is intended to help PCCs stop & re-imagine how they can work with the local community to deliver the worship they want to participate in.

Please do read on to understand what it means to be a Festival Church and whether this model could be the pathway for your church:

<https://www.leicester.anglican.org/news/new-festival-church-resources-launched.php>

Prayer and Fasting During Lent

In a pastoral letter on 3 March our bishops encouraged members of the diocese to pray and fast during Lent, with a particular focus on the Church of England at this time.

You could spend this time on retreat or by praying with others. If you would like to participate you can find the full details on our website, including suggested themes for prayer:

<https://www.leicester.anglican.org/news/notices/prayer-and-fasting-during-lent-2025.php>

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

Intercultural City - What Next?

Thursday 10 April, 6-8pm – Mirch Masala, Leicester

Following the launch of Leicester as an Intercultural City, this is a chance to reflect on how to develop Leicester as a city where people of all faiths and cultures don't simply observe each other from afar, but interact, support each other and celebrate together.

Come along and enjoy great food, make new friends and plan some positive action.

Book now on Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/intercultural-city-what-next-tickets-1292790584439>

Embrace the Difference: Unconscious Bias Training

Friday 11 April, 6pm-9pm -Thurnby Lodge, Christ Church, Leicester LE5 2HQ

A training workshop to help us examine our biases, understand how they become embedded, and explore God's design in diversity. Come and be equipped with knowledge and skills to help you better engage with people from all cultures.

This training is free and a meal will be provided.

Sign up by emailing the IWC project

administrator: Dinta.Chauhan@LeicesterCofE.org

Good Friday Walk of Witness

Friday 18 April, 9am-1pm – Leicester City Centre

We are delighted to say that we are partnering again with the New Testament Church of God and other churches in Leicestershire in a Good Friday Walk of Witness starting with singing in Victoria Park and stopping at various points to pray.

Watch the promo video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3jbKywvBHEE>

See poster for full details:

https://d3hgriq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/5f3ffd8a9f6aa/content/pages/documents/wow2025_poster.pdf

Stations of the Cross at Leicester Cathedral

Exhibition: Stations of the Cross until 21st April

The Stations of the Cross are an ever-evolving form of devotion and contemplation in the Christian tradition. They form a narration of the final hours of the life of Jesus Christ on earth. Originating in Jerusalem, as Pilgrims arrived wanting to follow Jesus' journey, the practice was brought home to those unable to visit the Holy Land.

Different Christian traditions have included different stations; scriptural, imaginative or educational, all designed to bring us closer to the person of Jesus, the path he trod, the effect this wrought on those closest to him and on those he encountered for the first/only time.

Artist Mark Cazalet has painted images on Bread boards (Jesus

being the Bread of Life), in dialogue with devotional poems and prompts from Richard Leaf, for pilgrims treading the path themselves. We invite you to follow the journey here at Leicester Cathedral and explore The Stations of the Cross for yourself. ***The stations of the cross can be seen with free admission during the Cathedral's opening hours.***

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: An 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=oddtcreator>

Thy Kingdom Come

Thy Kingdom Come 2025 will run from 29 May – 8 June.

Join the global wave of prayer calling all Christians to pray between Ascension and Pentecost for more people to come to know the love and peace of Jesus Christ.

We invite you to take part along with churches from over 85 different denominations and traditions in over 172 countries around the world.

How could your church be involved?

See full details and resources:

<https://www.thykingdomcome.global>



Luke 19.28-40

