



# Gaulby and Coplow Newsletter

Edition Date: Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2025

## APRIL

### Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April, Lent 5, Passiontide begins

9am **Hungarton** Holy Communion (Revd Jeff Hopewell)  
10.30am **Illston** Holy Communion (Revd Jeff Hopewell)  
11am Launde Deanery **Zoom Service**  
4pm **Billesdon** Stainer's Crucifixion sung by Billesdon Church Choir

### Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April, Holy Week, Palm Sunday

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

### Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April, Holy Week

7pm **Keyham** Compline (Revd Philip Norwood)

### Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> April, Holy Week

7pm **Hungarton** (Revd Philip Norwood)

### Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April, Holy Week

7pm **Billesdon** Maundy Thursday

### Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April, Holy Week, Good Friday

2pm **Skeffington** Words & Music  
7pm **Gaulby** Good Friday Service (Hilary Painter) *This service will be live streamed on Zoom*

### Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> April, Easter Day

9am **Hungarton** Holy Communion (Revd Jeff Hopewell)  
9am **Skeffington** Easter Sunday (Revd John Taylor)  
10am **Gaulby** Holy Communion (Revd Christine Blodwell)  
10.30am **Keyham** Easter Sunday (Revd Jeff Hopewell)  
11am **Billesdon** Easter Sunday Holy Communion (Revd John Taylor)  
11am Launde Deanery **Zoom Service** Easter Sunday

### Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April, Easter 2

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)

## 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

## Contact Us:

Hilary Painter: 0116 259 9752

[hilarypainter@rocketmail.com](mailto:hilarypainter@rocketmail.com)

Keith Evans, Church Warden 01162596438/  
07754395006 [keithEVANS6@btinternet.com](mailto:keithEVANS6@btinternet.com)

## Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April 11.00am Zoom

### Launde Parishes Zoom Service

**Leader & Responder:** 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 #

## 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

## Collect for Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April

### Fifth Sunday of Lent

Most merciful God,  
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world:  
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory;  
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 6<sup>th</sup> April 2025

### Fifth Sunday of Lent

A person we love dearly dies. People come to share our grief. We have to tell them how the suffering began; what happened last month, last week, the other day and at the end. It's how we cope with grief.

That is what Passiontide is about, a period which begins this Sunday and takes us to Easter Day. For Jesus is the friend we love dearly, and all the events that led up to his suffering and cruel death are remembered and re-lived by us his committed followers.

St. John's account of those last days of Jesus' life can be so real to us. Jesus hears that Lazarus is ill. He comes up to Bethany, but too late to save the sick man, yet in his anguish he is able to restore Lazarus to life. He then has to run away to hide because the warrant is out for his

arrest and it is too early to enter Jerusalem, but six days before the Passover, he comes back and takes part in the dinner at which Mary extravagantly pours scent over his feet, to the annoyance of Judas.

Next day it is time to enter the city with all the other pilgrims, time enough before Passover to complete the ritual washing for purification. Peter is with him. At the last Supper, when Peter tells Jesus to wash him all over, Jesus says that Peter has done his bathing – only his feet need to be washed.

St. Paul knows all about ritual washing. He's done it for years, but all that dutiful routine of being a faithful Pharisee are swept away in his mind by the new experience of knowing Jesus as his friend and Saviour. Paul knows too what suffering is about and his friendship with Jesus enables him to enter into the things that Jesus suffered.

Mary at Bethany enters into Jesus' suffering in a way that Judas Iscariot, tragically dominated by his own agenda, was not able to do. And we? Are we so dominated by own agenda that unthinkingly we let Passiontide pass us by? Or are we able specially at this time able to remember all that happened to our Friend and Saviour and share his grief?

**Revd Philip Norwood**

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## **Additional Collect for Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April Fifth Sunday of Lent**

Gracious Father,  
you gave up your Son  
out of love for the world:  
lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,  
that we may know eternal peace  
through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

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## **Bible Readings: Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April Fifth Sunday of Lent**

### **Isaiah 43.16-21**

16 Thus says the Lord,  
who makes a way in the sea,  
a path in the mighty waters,  
17 who brings out chariot and horse,  
army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise,  
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:  
18 Do not remember the former things,  
or consider the things of old.  
19 I am about to do a new thing;  
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will  
make a way in the wilderness  
and rivers in the desert.  
20 The wild animals will honour me,  
the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the  
wilderness,  
rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people,  
21

the people whom I formed for myself so that they  
might declare my praise.

### **Philippians 3.4b-14**

4 even though I, too, have reason for confidence in the  
flesh. If anyone else has reason to be confident in the  
flesh, I have more:

5 circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the  
people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born  
of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee;

6 as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to  
righteousness under the law, blameless.

7 Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard  
as loss because of Christ.

8 More than that, I regard everything as loss because of  
the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.

For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I  
regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ

9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my  
own that comes from the law, but one that comes  
through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God  
based on faith.

10 I want to know Christ and the power of his  
resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by  
becoming like him in his death,

11 if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the  
dead.

12 Not that I have already obtained this or have already  
reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own,  
because Christ Jesus has made me his own.

13 Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my  
own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind  
and straining forward to what lies ahead,

14 I press on towards the goal for the prize of the  
heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

### **John 12.1-8**

1 Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany,  
the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the  
dead.

2 There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and  
Lazarus was one of those at the table with him.

3 Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure  
nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her  
hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the  
perfume.

4 But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who  
was about to betray him), said,

5 'Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred  
denarii and the money given to the poor?'

6 (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but  
because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and  
used to steal what was put into it.)

7 Jesus said, 'Leave her alone. She bought it so that she  
might keep it for the day of my burial.

8 You always have the poor with you, but you do not  
always have me.'

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### 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](mailto: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.achurchnearlyou.com/church/3500/>  
Hungarton <https://www.achurchnearlyou.com/church/4708/>  
Keyham <https://www.achurchnearlyou.com/church/4709/>  
Skeffington <https://www.achurchnearlyou.com/church/3502/>  
Goadby <https://www.achurchnearlyou.com/church/14444/>  
The Gaulby Group  
<https://www.achurchnearlyou.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>

### 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=lorgmtzbfNZlKfQZKGyBDYW9uFWww.1>

Meeting ID: 829 3635 5714

Passcode: 810997



For more information, contact Hilary Painter:

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[l.jones2k@btinternet.com](mailto:l.jones2k@btinternet.com)

### Fridays in Lent at Gaulby Church 12.30-2pm



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

To reserve your place contact Madeleine Wang:  
[madeleine.v.wang@gmail.com](mailto:madeleine.v.wang@gmail.com)



## NEW: Strengthening Partnerships and Learning from Brothers and Sisters in Tanzania



Earlier this month, senior members of the diocese and link partner colleagues travelled to Tanzania to visit our Christian brothers and sisters in Kiteto and Mount Kilimanjaro.

The trip included the consecration of the Rt Revd Bethuel Mlula as the new Bishop of Kiteto – a momentous occasion that highlighted the deepening connections and shared spiritual growth between our Christian communities.

It was a journey of faith, of listening and learning, and strengthening partnerships across our link dioceses. Many new friendships and connections were made.

**Read more about the visit:**

<https://leicester.anglican.org/news/strengthening-partnerships-and-learning-from-brothers-and-sisters-in-tanzania.php>

## NEW: Martyn's Law for Charities - Free Webinar

**Tuesday 8 April, 10am-11am – Zoom**

The Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Bill, also known as Martyn's Law, was introduced to Parliament in September 2024 and is currently undergoing Parliamentary scrutiny. An impact assessment has been published, and has found that the law may impose significant responsibilities on organisations including places of worship and venues owned by charities.

**Learn more about the session:**

<https://www.stoneking.co.uk/sites/default/files/2025-03/Martyn%27s%20Law%20flyer2.pdf>

**Register to attend here:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/?WN=WQH9rOEKQL2KcV-oxlh-xQ#/registration>

## NEW: 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](mailto:Dinta.Chauhan@LeicesterCofE.org)

## Bishop Martyn Speaks Out On Child Poverty and Welfare Reform



**With the debate continuing on government welfare reform, senior faith leaders from across the country have joined forces in an urgent call for the government to go further and be 'bold and ambitious' in its forthcoming Child Poverty Strategy**

Bishop Martyn, who serves as the lead bishop in the Church of England for welfare, has joined the call and put his name to an open letter to the co-chairs of the Ministerial Child Poverty Taskforce, Bridget Philipson, Secretary of State for Education, and Liz Kendall, Secretary of State for Work and Pensions. The letter is signed by 35 faith leaders from all six of the major faith traditions represented in the UK.

You can read the full story here:

<https://leicester.anglican.org/faith-leaders-unite-in-call-against-child-poverty.php>

**Following the government's recent welfare reform announcements, the Bishop of Leicester, along with the Archbishop of York, and Canon Alice Kemp, have each expressed their views on the impact of the proposals**

Bishop Martyn shared his understanding of the deep concern felt by those whose vital income could be at risk. While he acknowledged the difficult choices the government faces, he expressed concern that the burden of these decisions should not fall on those already struggling, highlighting the disproportionate effect on disabled people, who are already battling poverty. You can read the full story here:

<https://leicester.anglican.org/response-to-welfare-reform-announcement.php>

You can also read Bishop Martyn's column, published in The Times on Saturday (22 March). Loving your neighbour has never been so vital: <https://www.leicester.anglican.org/about-us/bishop-of-leicester-and-loughborough/bishop-martyns-blog/loving-your-neighbour-has-never-been-so-vital.php>

Read more from Bishop Martyn:

<https://www.leicester.anglican.org/bishop-martyns-blog>

## 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://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/5f3ffd8a9f6aa/content/pages/documents/wow2025\\_poster.pdf](https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/5f3ffd8a9f6aa/content/pages/documents/wow2025_poster.pdf)

Volunteers are needed, especially in stewarding, first aid, and speaking to the public about Jesus. Contact Lorraine Burke to register: [missions@ntcgthelighthouse.org](mailto:missions@ntcgthelighthouse.org)

## Stations of the Cross at Leicester Cathedral

**Exhibition: Stations of the Cross until 21<sup>st</sup> 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: 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=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>

## The Bishop's Lent appeal 2025 – The Leprosy Mission

**The Bishops' Lent Appeal for 2025 is in support of The Leprosy Mission, a Christian charity who work to provide healing and hope to those affected by leprosy.**

Every two minutes, someone is diagnosed with leprosy. Although it is curable, millions of people worldwide are living with the effects of the disease, from physical disability to mental health problems, poverty and discrimination.

Caring for those with leprosy is a cause close to the heart of the Bishop of Loughborough, Rt Revd Saju Muthalaly, and a cause which has historical roots in Leicestershire.

Bishop Saju recently visited the village of Burton Lazars and the site of what was an historic administrative centre for the care of leprosy across the nation.

He also stopped by St James' Church, which is home to 'Roger', a carved stone leper head, and one of just a few preserved relics from this time.

Here, he was taken back to his days growing up in a leprosy hospital in Bengaluru where his mother served as a nurse and, in this video, speaks about that time and the plight of The Leprosy Mission in Sri Lanka today.

**Watch Bishop Saju and find everything you need:**

<https://www.leicester.anglican.org/news/lent2025.php>

## 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/>



