



Gaulby and Coplow Newsletter

Edition Date: Thursday 13th February 2025

Services & Events – In Church & on Zoom:

Sunday 16th 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 23rd February, 2 Before Lent

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

📅 Sunday 16th February 11.00am Zoom

Launde Parishes Zoom Service

Leader: Hilary Painter

Reflection: Steve Grasham, Church Army

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 16th February

Third Sunday before Lent

Almighty God,
 who alone can bring order
 to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity:
 give your people grace
 so to love what you command
 and to desire what you promise,
 that, among the many changes of this world,
 our hearts may surely there be fixed
 where true joys are to be found;
 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

Contact Us:

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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/>

Reflection: Sunday 16th February 2025

Third Sunday before Lent

Next Sunday's Gospel, containing the passage known as the Beatitudes, presents us with the contrast between blessings and woes, which can be seen as a reflection on how God's kingdom often overturns worldly values.

In the Beatitudes, Jesus blesses the poor, the hungry, and the persecuted - those who are often overlooked or oppressed in our society. These blessings declare the reversal of fortunes that the Kingdom of God promises, where humility, faith, and endurance are honoured above wealth, power, and comfort.

Conversely, the next verses warn of woes to come to those who are rich, well-fed and, in particular, complacent in their worldly status. Jesus is not condemning wealth in itself, but rather living a life that finds its ultimate fulfilment in the emptiness of material possessions and ignores the needs of others. These woes serve as a reminder that earthly security is both temporary and transitory, and that true fulfilment comes from a deeper relationship with God.

In this modern world of influencers; people famous for merely being famous; encouragement to spend what we don't have and a general lack of consideration for the needs of others let's allow this passage to challenge us to examine where and in whom we place our trust; to consider how we can live a life more focussed on helping others and unite our way of life with the values of God's Kingdom, rather than the fleeting priorities of the world so that on our journey through life we leave behind us a world that in some small way is a better place.

Hilary Painter

Bible Readings:

Sunday 16th February 2025

Third Sunday before Lent

Jeremiah 17.5-10

5 Thus says the Lord: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals
and make mere flesh their strength,
whose hearts turn away from the Lord.
6 They shall be like a shrub in the desert,
and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,
in an uninhabited salt land.
7 Blessed are those who trust in the Lord,
whose trust is the Lord.
8 They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.
9 The heart is devious above all else;
it is perverse-
who can understand it?
10 I the Lord test the mind
and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways,
according to the fruit of their doings.

1 Corinthians 15.12-20

12 Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead?
13 If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised;
14 and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain.
15 We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ-whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised.
16 For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised.
17 If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.
18 Then those also who have died in Christ have perished.
19 If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.
20 But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

Luke 6.17-26

17 He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon.

18 They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured.

19 And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

20 Then he looked up at his disciples and said: 'Blessed are you who are poor,

for yours is the kingdom of God.

21 'Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you will be filled. 'Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

22 'Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man.

23 Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

24 'But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

25 'Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry. 'Woe to you who are laughing now,

for you will mourn and weep.

26 'Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

Additional Collect for Sunday 9th February Third Sunday before Lent

Eternal God,
whose Son went among the crowds
and brought healing with his touch:
help us to show his love,
in your Church as we gather together,
and by our lives as they are transformed
into the image of Christ our Lord.

Amen

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>



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>



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>

Evangelist Retreat

Thursday 10 April to Friday 11 April – Launde Abbey

Are you a lay evangelist? Would you like to spend time with others, sharing ideas, worship, reflection and resourcing? Church Army's Resources team are joining with Launde Abbey to facilitate a retreat for anyone who is an evangelist or whose work includes mission and evangelism.

Cost £150. **Click here to book:**

[https://booking.eu.guestline.app/LAUNDE/availability?hotel=LAUNDE&arrival=2025-04-10&departure=2025-04-11&adults=1&children=0&filters\[rates\]\[\]=ENT_CHU_ARMY](https://booking.eu.guestline.app/LAUNDE/availability?hotel=LAUNDE&arrival=2025-04-10&departure=2025-04-11&adults=1&children=0&filters[rates][]=ENT_CHU_ARMY) or call Launde Abbey on 01572717254.

For more information email jane.henderson@churcharmy.org

Strengthening Your Intercultural Leadership

Monthly sessions starting Tuesday 11 Feb, 7.30pm-8.45pm – Online

Over six interactive sessions you'll learn valuable skills to enhance your leadership in intercultural church settings. This course, from the Intercultural Churches Network is a chance to meet other leaders and hear expert speakers share practical tips and strategies covering all aspects of intercultural ministry. **Download the flyer:**

<https://thehub.leicester.anglican.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Intercultural-Leadership-Course-Promo.pdf>

Book your free place:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/strengthening-your-intercultural-leadership-tickets-1205484700189?aff=oddtcreator>



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>

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/>

