



Launde Minster Community

Newsletter

Edition Date: Thursday 2nd April 2026

Sunday 5th April, Easter

Attached is the MC Worship Plan for **APRIL 2026** (as of 2nd April)

This is *your* newsletter so please use it to share your notices, events and invite others to join you.

Please send me any contributions by Tuesday before the Thursday publication.

If you know anyone who would like to be added to the list to receive a copy of the newsletter, please send me their name and email address to:

l.jones2k@btinternet.com 07851163712

You can also find the **Launde Minster Community Worship Plan**, and the links for online services, on the website: <https://launde-minster-community.webador.co.uk>

Our Churches Online:

All of our churches have web pages on 'A Church Near You' – This link takes you to the Launde Minster Community page, where you can access each of the churches: <https://launde-minster-community.webador.co.uk/our-churches-on-acny>



Every Sunday at 8am

Launde Abbey Chapel

Holy Communion - *Please come quietly into the chapel via the external north door to join the Abbey Community and those on retreat. See Worship Plan for details*

Saturday Morning Prayer on Zoom

Everyone is welcome

Every week at 9am (meeting open from 8.55am)

All welcome. Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81751227280?pwd=VtUdahsUf34Vc7Bbr5qVFoeiobrOO8.1>

Meeting ID: 817 5122 7280 Passcode: 419620

Sunday 5th April at 11am

Launde Minster Community

Online Church

Easter

Leader & Reflection: Madeleine Wang

To join, click on this zoom 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 #

Contact Us:

Revd Crystal Mcallister, Oversight Minister of Launde Minster Community. Vicar of the Coplow Benefice and Priest in Charge of The Gaulby Group; The Whatborough Group; Hallaton and Allextion with Horninghold, Slawston, Tugby and East Norton; The Langtons and Shangton; and Welham, Glooston, Cranoe and Stonton Wyville. pioneerystal136@gmail.com 07890 020012

Wendy Lewis, Administrator

wendy.lewis@leicestercofe.org 07777 934092

Friday 3rd April at 7pm

Good Friday Service at Gaulby

Livestream

Leader: Hilary Painter

To join the livestream, click on this special zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87556010219?pwd=nXMPHSLxUUAaEcDFIZKZLje6joO6uv.1>

Meeting ID: 875 5601 0219

Passcode: 916461

Collects for Sunday 5th April

Easter

Lord of all life and power,
who through the mighty resurrection of your Son
overcame the old order of sin and death
to make all things new in him:
grant that we, being dead to sin
and alive to you in Jesus Christ,
may reign with him in glory;
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
be praise and honour, glory and might,
now and in all eternity.

Amen

God of glory,
by the raising of your Son
you have broken the chains of death and hell:
fill your Church with faith and hope;
for a new day has dawned
and the way to life stands open
in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Amen

Reflection: Sunday 5th April

Easter

People were running – Mary Magdalene running to tell John and Peter that the grave has been robbed: Peter and John running to the tomb in alarm at the news. Their lives had been shattered by Jesus' traumatic death on Friday, and now on Sunday they were desperate because the body was missing. They hadn't taken in what Jesus has been telling them about the third day. Peter and John headed slowly for home; Mary stayed sobbing in the garden.

These peoples' lives had been shattered, and it was in large part because of the way Jesus had been killed – crucifixion. In Deuteronomy, we read that anyone hung on a tree is 'cursed by God' (22 .23), so the Jewish leaders went to great trouble to insist that Pilate crucify Jesus for that reason. In Acts, Galatians and 1 Peter, those words are used to describe what happened, as we see today in our passage from Acts. Jesus' friends were not only devastated: they were completely disillusioned. Until they saw him for themselves. Through her tears, Mary thought he was the gardener, until he said her name – how often we recognise a person by their voice. Later the other women met him, and gradually all the close group of followers heard his voice and knew that his presence was real.

But like Mary who was told not to cling to him, all of them came to realize that Jesus' resurrection not only changed their lives; it also gave each of them a new identity and purpose in life.

And that is still true for us today. If in Holy Week we have stood by the Cross, if we have followed our Lord to Calvary, if we have seen the curse of evil at work and witnessed its defeat, if we have heard the Word of the Lord, then our lives are changed too.

Revd Philip Norwood

Bible Readings: Sunday 5th April Easter

Jeremiah 31.1-6

1 At that time, says the Lord, I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people.

2 Thus says the Lord: The people who survived the sword

found grace in the wilderness; when Israel sought for rest,

3 the Lord appeared to him from far away. I have loved you with an everlasting love;

therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you.

4 Again I will build you, and you shall be built,
O virgin Israel! Again you shall take your tambourines,
and go forth in the dance of the merrymakers.

5 Again you shall plant vineyards
on the mountains of Samaria; the planters shall plant,
and shall enjoy the fruit.

6 For there shall be a day when sentinels will call
in the hill country of Ephraim: 'Come, let us go up to
Zion,
to the Lord our God.'

Acts 10.34-43

34 Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality,

35 but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.

36 You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all.

37 That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced:

38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

39 We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree;

40 but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear,

41 not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.

42 He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead.

43 All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

John 20.1-18

20 Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb.

2 So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.'

3 Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb.

4 The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first.

5 He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in.

6 Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there,

7 and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself.

8 Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed;

9 for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

10 Then the disciples returned to their homes.

11 But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb;

12 and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet.

13 They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.'

14 When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus.

15 Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him

away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.'

16 Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher).

17 Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."'

18 Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Sunday 5th April

Easter

Psalm 118 1-2, 14-

1 O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures for ever.

2 Let Israel now proclaim,
'His mercy endures for ever.'

14 The Lord is my strength and my song,
and he has become my salvation.

15 Joyful shouts of salvation
sound from the tents of the righteous:

16 'The right hand of the Lord does mighty deeds;
the right hand of the Lord raises up;
the right hand of the Lord does mighty deeds.'

17 I shall not die, but live
and declare the works of the Lord.

18 The Lord has punished me sorely,
but he has not given me over to death.

19 Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter and give thanks to the Lord.

20 This is the gate of the Lord;
the righteous shall enter through it.

21 I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me
and have become my salvation.

22 The stone which the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

23 This is the Lord's doing,
and it is marvellous in our eyes.

24 This is the day that the Lord has made;
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Lent Resources and Courses

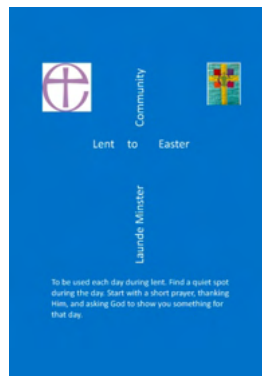
**Please send details of proposed Lent courses to
Wendy Lewis, Administrator**

wendy.lewis@leicestercofe.org 07777 934092

**1. Revd David Palmer has prepared a Resource
for Lent. Each day comprises a Bible verse and a short
thought or prayer. This is this week's extract.**

If you would like to read or download a copy of Revd
David's complete resource for Lent, you can do so here:

[https://launde-minster-
community.webador.co.uk/what-s-on](https://launde-minster-community.webador.co.uk/what-s-on)



Seventh Week of Lent:

Thursday 2 April, Maundy Thursday

Reading: Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. (John 13:14-16)

Prayer: Thank you, Lord God, for the example of Jesus who came to serve rather than to be served. Help us to serve one another through our prayers and actions, however small and insignificant they seem to us.

Friday 3 April, Good Friday

Reading: He was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. (Isaiah 53:5-6)

Prayer: Many public events commemorating Jesus' death on the cross have been cancelled today because of the corona virus. Let us pray that none the less many may recall the significance of the day and turn to Jesus for forgiveness and renewal.

Saturday 4 April, Easter Eve

Reading: Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. (1 Peter 4:8)

Prayer: Forgive me for the times when my love for others has faltered or failed. Grant me your grace that I may see others as you see them, with compassion and care, and help me to express that in word and deed today.

Sunday 5 April, Easter Sunday

Reading: We are witnesses of everything Jesus did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a cross, but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. (Acts 10:39-40)

Prayer: "At break of dawn, poor Mary, still weeping she came, when through her grief she heard your voice, now speaking her name ... You're alive, your alive, you have risen! Alleluia! And the power and the glory is given Jesus to you." (Graham Kendrick, "Led like a lamb to the slaughter")

2. Lent Group in Church Langton

Revd Martin Hathaway and Maxine Johnson have been running a Lent Group.

The Creed, of course, spells out our belief in the Trinity, the God who comes to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit - so on Tuesday 31st March we had a meditation looking at Rublev's famous icon "The Hospitality of Abraham" or "The Trinity". Time for thought, discussion and silence.

On Good Friday we meet in St Peter's Church at 2.00pm to share the Last Hour together - readings, thoughts, silence as we experience something of what Jesus has done for us. All welcome.

If you would like to let us know you are coming that could help with numbers. Thank you.

Contact:

revd.martinhathaway@tiscali.co.uk

maxinejohnson.1@btinternet.com

3. Launde Minster Community Online Lent Group

Good Friday Service at Gaulby Starts at 7pm **Livestream**

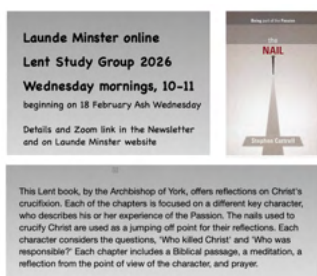
This weekly group has now finished but the final section of 'The Nail' will be addressed in the Good Friday Service at Gaulby. It starts at 7pm and will be **livestreamed**. Use this special link to join the congregation:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87556010219?pwd=nXMPHSLxUUAaEcDFIZKZLje6joO6uv.1>

Meeting ID: 875 5601 0219

Passcode: 916461



Everyone is welcome

Hallaton Church: Reverse Lent Challenge: GIVE instead of GIVING UP Collecting 40 items in 40 days for the Market Harborough Foodbank

Collection point in the church



Holy Week at Launde Abbey

Services and Events

See April Worship Plan for Services

Other events at Launde during Holy Week:

- Monday 30th March: A Holy Week Quiet Day
- Tuesday 31st March: Soul-filled Meandering (a led contemplative walk)
- Wednesday 1 April: Soul-filled Meandering (a led contemplative walk)
- Thursday 2 April: A reflective day making Hot Cross Buns

Bookings for all of these via the Abbey's website please

Praying Pilgrims in Launde Minster

Community April & May 2026

As part of our ongoing support to all the parishes across the LMC, a group of us, **Praying Pilgrims**, will join together at the churches listed, to reflect and pray for the needs of the church and community.

Every Wednesday for a 9.00am start.

The rota for **April** is:

April 08: **Illston**

April 15: **Hallaton**

April 22: **Welham**

April 29: **Thorpe Langton**

May 6: **Gaulby**

May 13: **East Norton**

May 20: **Tilton on the Hill**

May 27: **Skeffington**

We would encourage and greatly welcome others to join us for Morning Prayers.

Rev David Palmer and Rev Crystal McAllister

Tugby Church Maundy Thursday

Agape Meal and Service

6pm for 6.30pm

Donations towards costs of food and wine £7pp

To reserve your place, please contact:

madeleine.v.wang@gmail.com



Tugby Church Maundy Thursday Agape Meal & Service
Donations towards costs of food and wine £7pp
6pm for 6:30pm
To reserve your place, please contact:
madeleine.v.wang@gmail.com

Good Friday at Skeffington

A Service of Words and Music at 2pm

A moving service, led by Simon Ainge and the Billesdon Choir

Everyone is welcome

Food for Thought

Launde Abbey Monday 13th April 6.45 for 7.15

An evening with Lord Donald Curry: *Farming, Faith and Politics*

Bookings by Tuesday 7th April

mary.twidell@gmail.com 01858 555204 / 07464 309966



Food for thought

An evening with
Lord Donald Curry CBE

Farming, Faith & Politics

Meal and talk: £16.95

Monday 13th April
Meet 6.45pm for 7.15pm start
Launde Abbey

Bookings (by Tuesday 7th April):
mary.twidell@gmail.com / 01858 555204 / 07464 309966

About the speaker: Donald has been a Crossbench Peer in the House of Lords since 2011. He is a trustee of Anglican International Development (AID), a charity which leads a range of development projects in South Sudan. He is also Chair of Food and Farming Futures and a founder and chair of The Rural Design Centre in the North East of England.

About Food for thought: Talks about life, faith and contemporary issues, arranged by a local group of Christians.

Kindertransport – A concert documentary

Great Meeting Unitarian Chapel, 45 Bond Street, Leicester LE1 4SX

Saturday 11th April at 7.30pm

Tickets: Adult £10/ Under 16s £5

Bookings: wegottickets.com/event/690813

Enquiries: 07944 907051



The Kinder Transport Documentary performed by Lincoln Klezmer band Simcha offers a highly effective way into this topic by bringing to life the story of Jewish children saved from death by the famous initiative of Nicholas Winton. The documentary also traces the background rise of Nazism through contemporary reports, journalism and literature with accompanying specially composed music and audio-visual material. We hear the voices of political leaders, eyewitnesses and ordinary men, women and children of that era, while seeing the scenes that accompanied these unfolding dramatic events.

A special and unique strength of the show is the way it follows the real-life story of the family of one band member, Close friend of Caroline Beardsmore, bringing

history vividly to life and making it particularly approachable.

This moving and revealing show lasts for approximately 45 minutes and after an interval is followed by a concert of exciting klezmer music and songs from that time, performed by an experienced and accomplished 8-piece band.

The venue is the beautiful and welcoming Great Meeting Unitarian Chapel in central Leicester.

In the Evening Light - Choral Reflections at the Close of Day by Harborough Singers

Saturday 25th April at 7.30pm

Methodist Church, Market Harborough

Tickets: £10

To book: online: harboroughsingers.com

Email: adelerogers59@gmail.com

Box office: 07581 341957



St Peter's Church, Tilton:

Friday Mornings 'Coffee and Chat'

Between 10.30 – 12.00noon

Café Morrell

St Michael and All Angels Church, Hallaton

Tuesday Mornings Coffee, Cake and Chat

Between 10.00 to 12.30pm

Our Churches continue to support local Foodbanks:

Food Bank Appeal: The Well

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 Bank Appeal:

Jubilee Foodbank, Market Harborough

You can drop off donations at **Hallaton Church** or to Linda Jones at **25, Eastgate, Hallaton** at any time. Please note that all food collected is non-perishable, long-life or tinned.

The Foodbank has **MOST URGENT NEED of:** Tinned Carrots, Deodorant, Toothpaste, Shower gel, Corned Beef, Tinned peas, Jam, UHT milk (whole or semi-skimmed), Jars of Coffee (100grams), Jars of Pasta sauce, Dried Potato (Smash)

The list of food always required is on the website:

<https://www.jubileefoodbankmh.uk>



Diomail Monday 30th March

For more information and other events use this link for Diomail 30th March:

https://thehub.leicester.anglican.org/newsletters/diomail-30-march-2026/?newsletter_email=l.jones2k@btinternet.com

You can subscribe to receive the weekly Diomail here:

<https://www.leicester.anglican.org/news/diomail/>
<https://leicester.anglican.org/calendar/>

The Bishop's Easter Message 2026 – Rumours of Another World



The Rt Revd Martyn Snow, Lord Bishop of Leicester, and the Rt Revd Saju Muthalaly, Bishop of Loughborough, share their message for Easter 2026.

This Easter message invites us into the gentle yet powerful “rumours of another world” that began on the road to Emmaus and continue to echo through our communities today.

Amid stories of hope rekindled, lives transformed, and faith quietly taking root across Leicester and Leicestershire, the bishops reflect on how the risen Christ still meets people in ordinary places – on streets, in schools, churches, prisons, and homes.

It is a reminder that resurrection hope is alive and active, reshaping relationships, nurturing courage, and revealing God's Kingdom breaking into everyday life.

Download the video here to share with your worshipping communities this Easter:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GKpXexoK56w>

Bishop Martyn Opens Up on Preaching Well



What happens when a preacher of 35 years sits in a room full of new voices and tells the truth – that preaching is still hard, still mysterious, still thrilling?

In this episode of Preaching Well, Bishop Saju and Revd Kat sit down with Bishop Martyn Snow, who opens up about everything: the content of his first sermon at 17, the stories that shaped him, the African night that rewired his preaching, and why meaning-making matters when the world feels bewildering.

He talks plot, tension, light in the dark, mystery that refuses to shrink, and the beauty of adapting your voice from tiny rural chapels to buzzing inner-city churches. He names his influences – from Wesley to Ortberg to Paula Gooder – and shares the secret hope he carries into every pulpit.

It's warm, funny, honest, and full of lived wisdom for anyone who has ever tried to speak about God to real people in a real world.

If you preach, want to preach, or simply care about the craft that shapes the church, this conversation will move you. **Read more and listen here:**

<https://www.leicester.anglican.org/about-us/bishop-of-leicester-and-loughborough/preaching-well-podcast/>

Share Your Stories

We'd love to hear about and share your everyday faith stories and the missional endeavours going on in your church communities and schools.

Get in touch with us

at communications@leicestercofe.org

