



Gaulby and Coplow Newsletter

Edition Date: 3rd October 2024

Services & Events – In Church & on Zoom:

Sunday 6th October Trinity 19, Harvest Thanksgiving

9am **Hungarton** Holy Communion (Revd Jeff Hopewell)

10am **Skeffington** Morning Praise (Congregation Led)

10.30am **Illston** Holy Communion (Revd Jeff Hopewell)

11am Launde Deanery **Zoom Service**

4pm **Billesdon** Choral Evensong (Revd John Taylor)

5pm **Goodby** Harvest Festival Evensong (Revd Philip Norwood)

Sunday 13th October Trinity 20, Harvest Thanksgiving

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

10am **Gaulby** Morning Prayer (Lay Led)

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

11am Launde Deanery **Zoom Service**

Sunday 20th October, Trinity 21, Harvest Thanksgiving

10.30am **Keyham** Holy Communion (Revd Jeff Hopewell)

11am **Billesdon** Songs of Praise (Revd Christine Blodwell)

11am Launde Deanery **Zoom Service**

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

6pm **Skeffington** Harvest Festival (Revd Philip Norwood)

Sunday 27th October, Last Sunday After Trinity,

All Saints Day, Bible Sunday

9am **Skeffington** CW Holy Communion (Revd Jeff Hopewell)

11am **Billesdon** Holy Communion (Revd Jeff Hopewell)

11am Launde Deanery **Zoom Service**

TBC **Gaulby** Teatime Café Church (Hilary Painter)

Saturday Mornings

Zoom Prayer Meeting

Every week at 9am (meeting open from 8.45am)

If you would like to join our Zoom Prayers, please email

Hilary Painter: hilarypainter@icloud.com

Sunday 6th October 11.00am Zoom

Launde Parishes Zoom Service

Leader: Reflection: Revd Philip Norwood

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 #



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:

Hilary Painter: 0116 259 9752

hilarypainter@rocketmail.com

Keith Evans, Church Warden 01162596438/

07754395006 keithevans6@btinternet.com

Collect for Sunday 6th October Nineteenth Sunday After Trinity

O God, forasmuch as without you
we are not able to please you;
mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit
may in all things direct and rule our hearts;
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 for Sunday 6th October 2024 Nineteenth Sunday After Trinity

“Who gives this woman to be married to this man?”

That question is posed in the Prayer Book marriage service to the one who accompanies the bride to her place in the church, and it is central to the meaning of marriage. It is not without contention these days, however, and is omitted from the Common Worship version of the service. ‘What right has anyone to ‘own’ or to ‘give away’ another person?!

That is an interpretation I still challenge in marriage preparation. Traditionally, the father or other supporter of the bride is asked to give the bride’s hand to the priest, and the priest then passes her hand to the groom before the vows are made. That simple act symbolises that it is God alone who gives us to each other in marriage. It refers back to God forming Eve as a gift to Adam, and tells us what marriage is really about – that by God’s gift that we are joined together according to His will. Of course, gifts may be very precious, but they are not always entirely suitable. Moses in Deuteronomy 24 recognizes that divorce happens, but Jesus, who always emphasises redemption and resurrection, expresses the ideal of life-long commitment for which we should all strive. Yet Jesus also teaches compassion, repentance and forgiveness, and re-marriage is pastorally recognized in the Church (- in the Eastern Orthodox Churches it has been for centuries).

Our Heavenly Father knows how to give good gifts to His children, Matthew tells us. (7.11). This is fundamental in Jesus’ encounter with those who bring children for him to bless. He says, “Whoever does not receive the Kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.” Does that mean we cannot become Christians unless we are baptised as babies? No, of course not. But we cannot become Christians unless we become, not childish, but like children who are dependent on parents for many gifts. It is fitting that Mark brings marriage and children together. God’s wonderful gifts of life, love and growth are united and fulfilled in His purposes for every one of us.

Revd Philip Norwood

Bible Readings:

Sunday 6th October 2024

Nineteenth Sunday After Trinity

Genesis 2.18-24

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised

18 Then the Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.'

19 So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name.

20 The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner.

21 So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh.

22 And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man.

23 Then the man said, 'This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken.'

24 Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

Hebrews 1.1-4, 2.5-12

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised

1 Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets,

2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds.

3 He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

4 having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

2.5 Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels.

6 But someone has testified somewhere, 'What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them?

7 You have made them for a little while lower than the angels;

you have crowned them with glory and honour,

8 subjecting all things under their feet. 'Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them,

9 but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honour because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

10 It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

11 For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters,

12 saying, 'I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,

in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.'

Mark 10.2-16

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised

2 Some Pharisees came, and to test him they asked, 'Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?'

3 He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?'

4 They said, 'Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.'

5 But Jesus said to them, 'Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you.

6 But from the beginning of creation, "God made them male and female."

7 "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife,

8 and the two shall become one flesh." So they are no longer two, but one flesh.

9 Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.'

10 Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter.

11 He said to them, 'Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her;

12 and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.'

13 People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them.

14 But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.

15 Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.'

16 And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

**Additional Prayer for Sunday 6^h October
Nineteenth Sunday After Trinity**

Faithful Lord,

whose steadfast love never ceases

and whose mercies never come to an end:

grant us the grace to trust you

and to receive the gifts of your love,

new every morning,

in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Collects, Readings and Reflection for Harvest Thanksgiving

Collect for Harvest Thanksgiving

Eternal God,
you crown the year with your goodness
and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season:
grant that we may use them to your glory,
for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being;
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 for Harvest Thanksgiving

Extract from 'Roots on the Web'

"...In a 2019 poll, 67 per cent of parents, from all faiths and none, expressed warm memories of taking part in Christian harvest festivals, saying that they wanted their children to do the same. The perceived benefits were: giving thanks for the good things in our lives, teaching children where their food comes from and showing generosity to people in need.

Harvest is one of our farming village's best-attended services. Even the smallest child can understand. The church is lovingly decorated with flowers and fruit. I organise a choir, to belt out well-loved hymns: *We Plough the Fields and Scatter, All Things Bright And Beautiful* and *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*. The children bring up harvest gifts to the altar, destined for our local food bank.

Harvest is more than a nostalgia trip for traditionalists. Certainly, older people revisit happy childhood memories and there is the aroma of apples stored for the winter and smoke from the post-harvest burning of the fields, and people make a corn dolly to take to church. However, recognising the cyclical nature of human existence — "for everything there is a season" (Ecclesiastes, iii, 1) — has what feels like a renewed modern resonance. After 18 months dominated by the Pandemic, our human vulnerability to challenges such as disease, weather problems and disruptions to the supply chain feels more relevant than ever.

Our food bank's stock is running low. News reports of empty supermarket shelves add a poignancy to realising our interdependence, reliance on others and the need for connection, for the supply of our most basic human needs.

Farmers' reports at harvest suppers offer insight into lives lived on the land. The TV series *Clarkson's Farm* has recently engendered a wider respect for farmers and a more sympathetic understanding of the problems that they face every year. Their livelihood is dependent almost entirely on the weather and other factors beyond their control. No prayer is perhaps more heartfelt than a farmer's prayer for rain — or for it to stop raining.

Small rural churches often seem rather marginalised, treated in diocesan league tables like "failed" urban churches...Yet harvest allows countryside communities a big moment of celebration.

Harvest conveys a feeling of handing on the baton to the next generation. I have so far failed to pass on my Christian faith to my own children, who accept the common social attitude that religion is the cause of war. However, in my own life, Christianity has been nothing but a source of comfort and joy. The author John Buchan said that an atheist was a man who had "no invisible means of support". I hope that small rural churches will stay open long enough for my children to return to them if they ever want to do so.

Harvest suppers showcase the glories of nature, coming to terms with not being in control, looking after the hungry and needy and the wonderful reading from St Matthew about the lilies of the field, advising against worrying about what to wear. They add up to a message that the nation's mental health problems could be addressed if we looked not inwards but upwards and outwards, with gratitude at all the good gifts around us."

Emma Thompson is a freelance writer and a member of Save the Parish

Additional Prayer for Harvest

Thanksgiving

Creator God,
you made the goodness of the land,
the riches of the sea
and the rhythm of the seasons;
as we thank you for the harvest,
may we cherish and respect
this planet and its peoples,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Bible Readings:

Harvest Thanksgiving

Joel 2.21-27

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised

- 21 Do not fear, O soil;
be glad and rejoice,
for the Lord has done great things!
- 22 Do not fear, you animals of the field,
for the pastures of the wilderness are green; the tree bears its fruit,
the fig tree and vine give their full yield.
- 23 O children of Zion, be glad
and rejoice in the Lord your God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication,
he has poured down for you abundant rain,
the early and the later rain, as before.
- 24 The threshing-floors shall be full of grain,
the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.
- 25 I will repay you for the years
that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter,
my great army, which I sent against you.

26 You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame.

27 You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame.

1 Timothy 2.1-7

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised

1 First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings should be made for everyone,

2 for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity.

3 This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour,

4 who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

5 For there is one God;

there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human,

6 who gave himself a ransom for all-this was attested at the right time.

7 For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

Alternative Reading to Joel Timothy 2.1-7

1 Timothy 6.6-10

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised

6 Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment;

7 for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it;

8 but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these.

9 But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction.

10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

Matthew 6.25-33

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised

25 'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?

26 Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

27 And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life?

28 And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin,

29 yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these.

30 But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you-you of little faith?

31 Therefore do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?"

32 For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.

33 But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

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>

Open Doors

Saturday 12th October



Revd David Palmer, Pioneer Priest

Ride + Stride 2024 – Jeff's journey

It took me longer than I had anticipated to get around a dozen city churches – not because of old age and decrepitude but because I spent a lot of time talking with people, including some old friends, and looking at the stained glass in some of the churches that were less familiar to me.

Starting from All Saints, I worked my way round to the cathedral, then St Nicholas, where they were having a church fete hoping to benefit from increased footfall, and to St Mary de Castro. Thence to St Andrew, Jarrom Street and Holy Trinity, which was hosting an Eco Church Conversations Day. Holy Cross was next on the list, followed by St George's Serbian Orthodox and Central Baptist, Charles Street. Across to Bishop Street Methodist Church, then a long haul to the Great Meeting House at East Bond Street and finally to St Margaret's before driving back home.

So far it looks as if I will have raised, including gift aid, around £1,000. If you haven't managed to sponsor me yet and would like to do so, the:

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/jeff-hopewell-lhct2024>

Coffee Concert at Billesdon Church

Saturday 12th October

Philip and Shona Millward (piano/ organ and violin)
Coffee served from 10.30am followed by a 40 min recital at 11. Admission free; retiring collection to a good cause.

All welcome

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/>

A Series of Talks on 'Holiness' on Thursday Evenings

Market Harborough Baptist Church at 7.30pm

For anyone that's interested and wanting some spiritual 'meat', Rev Dr Derek Tidball, writer and theologian, is delivering a series of talks on Holiness over the next three Thursday evenings. These take place at MH Baptist Church commencing 7.30pm. The first in the series last Thursday was brilliant and very accessible! (Revd David Palmer)



Games Night at the Cathedral!

12 October 2024, 7pm

Join us for a fun-filled evening with games like Scrabble, Jenga, Klask, Hues and Clues, Onitama, Cobra Paw, Catan, and Sushi Go! Drinks from our bar, music, and a friendly, relaxed atmosphere for all. **Don't miss out!**



'Shakespeare in Song' by the Harborough Singers

St Andrew's Church, Lyddington on

Saturday 2nd November at 7.30pm



It's Black History Month during October. This year's theme, 'Reclaiming Narratives', emphasises the importance of acknowledging people's identity in Christ and in their culture, as well as recognising and correcting the narratives of Black history and culture.

Our Intercultural Worship team would like to encourage you and your church to engage with Black History Month: "It's crucial to retell the stories of African Caribbeans who contributed to the building of this country and our churches, especially in the Diocese of Leicester. This history doesn't just belong to Black people; it's the history of the United Kingdom as a whole."

Visit our website to watch a video exploring the theme of 'Reclaiming Narratives' along with details of local events marking Black History Month.

Visit our website:

<https://leicester.anglican.org/news/reclaiming-narratives-during-black-history-month.php>

Looking to the future in the Diocese of Leicester

Our Diocesan Strategy was approved by Diocesan Synod on 3 September 2024. It is a discernment of what God is saying and doing in Leicester and Leicestershire and how we should respond in the coming years.

The Bishop of Leicester, the Rt Revd Martyn Snow, describes the strategy as "a living document in a rapidly changing

world” and so it will change and evolve over time, and will be used to guide our decision making and allocation of resources.

A simple ‘**Strategy on a Page**’ document has been created, together with an outline of the **3 Key Questions** for churches and ministers, and **5 Strategic Priorities** for our bishops and diocesan support.

These documents are available on our website:

<https://leicester.anglican.org/strategy/>

Riding and Striding around the Diocese

It was perfect weather for this year’s Ride+Stride, which took place on Saturday 14 September. The LeicesterShire Historic Churches Trust (LHCT) has expressed its gratitude to everyone who rode, strode or welcomed on the day.

Many churches and chapels were open, with funds being raised for those of our churches nominated by participants, and for the LHCT.

Janet Arthur, Chair of LHCT said: “What a wonderful Ride+Stride, opening our churches and chapels for visitors on a beautiful early autumn day – plus tea and cake from time to time. Many thanks to everyone who took part!”

Read more about the day:

<https://www.leicester.anglican.org/news/riding-and-striding-around-the-diocese-2024.php>

Full summary of Diocesan Synod

A full summary of the last meeting of Diocesan Synod, which took place on 3 September 2024, is now available to download from our website:

<https://www.leicester.anglican.org/diocesan-synod/>

Learning to live well together - Blog

The Revd Dr Tom Wilson, Director of the St Philip’s Centre in Leicester, is currently guest author on the *Difference* blog.

He believes living harmoniously with people of different beliefs is a learnable skill, like riding a bike. Revd Tom says by fostering meaningful encounters, understanding, trust, and cooperation, we can bridge divides. He also emphasises open-minded dialogue, respectful disagreement, and collaboration as key to overcoming societal challenges and building a peaceful society. Read Tom’s blog here:

<https://difference.rln.global/blog/learning-to-live-well-together/>

'I Will Give You Rest' - Autumn Quiet Morning

Saturday 5 October, 10.30am to 12.30pm – Leicester Cathedral

Through guided reflection, prayer, and permission to ‘be’ in the quiet comfort of the Cathedral, spend a morning reflecting and resting. **Visit Eventbrite to book your free**

place: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/i-will-give-you-rest-a-quiet-morning-for-autumn-tickets-972021872587?aff=oddtcreator>

Everybody Conference

Saturday 12 October, 10am-3.30pm – St John the Baptist, Clarendon Park

This one-day conference is dedicated to empowering Christians to live for Jesus in their everyday lives. Bishop Saju Muthalaly will be the keynote speaker. **Further details and booking:**

<https://stjohnthebaptist.churchsuite.com/events/2lg6lhxt>

Anti Racism Training: Embrace the Diversity

Saturday 2 November, 9.30am-3.30pm – St Martin’s House, Leicester

‘Embrace the Diversity’ is a chance to enhance your awareness of contemporary, systemic, and interpersonal racial discrimination. Its aim is to delve into the challenges that may impede the development of healthy intercultural relationships and work towards promoting one of the diocesan strategic priorities: fostering Intercultural worshipping communities.

In this training programme, you will learn: some of the language used to discuss racism and anti-racism, to make the distinction between being ‘not racist’ and anti-racist, the roots of racist ideologies and their impact on the Church & society today, about practical actions aimed at promoting racial unity in the church community. This training is free of cost and open to all. Lunch will be provided.

To book your space

email Dinta.Chauhan@LeicesterCofE.org

