



The Coplow Benefice

Edition Date: 26th November

Services – In Church:

Sunday 28th November: Advent Sunday

Skeffington 9 am – BCP Holy Communion

Billesdon: 11 am – Holy Communion (including Christening)

Kings Norton: 3 pm - Christening

Gaulby: 6 pm – Holy Communion

Keyham: 6 pm – Service of Lights

Sunday 5th December: Second Sunday of Advent

Hungarton: 9 am – Holy Communion

Skeffington 9 am – Morning Praise

Illston: 10.30 am – Holy Communion

Billesdon: 11 am – Holy Communion

Kings Norton: 3 pm – Christening

Goadby: 5.00 pm – Readings and Carols

Services – Online:

 **Saturday 27th November at 9.00 am**

Saturday morning Prayers:

To Join Zoom Service:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82031214679?pwd=OUVqQG5uaVp1Vkl1NIJCMGhxOUpDQT09>

Meeting ID: 820 3121 4679

Passcode: 661204

 **Sunday 28th November at 10 am**

Advent Sunday

Leader Hilary Painter **Preacher:** Sue Sills

To Join Zoom Service:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81640209573?pwd=YVZnb3ZxYzRZVG14OThtdXJGT083Zz09>

Meeting ID: 816 4020 9573

Passcode: 541697

DIAL IN FROM A LANDLINE OR MOBILE:

T. 0203 481 5240 enter the **Meeting ID:** 816 4020 9573 followed by #. Enter the **Passcode:** 541697 followed by #

The Collect: Advent Sunday

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

Billesdon Church no longer open:

Very sadly and due to circumstances beyond our control, we are no longer able to fulfil the requirements to open in a Covid compliant manner. Billesdon Church will remain closed until the Covid venue management requirements stop.

Contact Us:

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A Prayer for The Day: Additional Collect

Almighty God,
as your kingdom dawns,
turn us from the darkness of sin to the light
of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. **Amen**

Praying for Leicestershire:

Sunday 28th November at 7 pm

For further details:

T. 0116 255 8672

E. prayingforleicestershire@gmail.com



Concert in Gaulby Church:

Wednesday 15th December at 6.30 pm

This intimate setting for a concert on **Wednesday 15th December** Tamaki Higashi (violin), Julian Metzger (cello) and Lisa Nelson (flute). The concert commences at 6.30 pm to allow for a relaxed evening of music and seasonal treats from Byrn Bakery during the interval. Refreshments will also be available. Please see the link below:

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/4699/news/>

Reflection:

Happy New Year! No, I have not lost it completely and skipped to Jan 1st but this Sunday is Advent Sunday, the first Sunday of the Church Year. We begin with looking forward to Jesus coming to earth – the Old Testament reading is a prophecy of Jesus' first coming and the Gospel reading a prophecy of the second coming – which is nowhere near as cheerful as looking back on the first coming!

To be honest though looking back tends to be more cheerful, often because we choose to remember the good things and forget the difficult, something that allows us to keep our optimism.

With this Advent Sunday we don't need to forget anything and to be honest the more 'miserable' Gospel reading is just realistic; you only have to read or listen to the news to know that our world is often full of fear and foreboding – as the Gospel reading puts it!

Yet within this there is hope and that is what we are really holding onto on this Advent Sunday.

In Advent we look back to the joy and promise of that first Christmas and forward to the joy and promise of God's presence once more with us.

We are told in our Gospel to trust that God will always be there and that we can be given strength amidst difficulty, we should pray for God's strength and trust that God's Kingdom is near.

Advent is about getting ready, not just for our celebration this year but for the Kingdom of God, our eventual home in heaven where celebration happens every single day!

Revd. Alison

Bible Readings: Sunday 28th November: Advent Sunday:

Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 33: 14-16 (NRSV)

¹⁴ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵ In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶ In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Gospel Reading: Luke 21: 25-36 (NRSV)

²⁵ "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶ People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

²⁹ Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰ as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³² Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴ "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵ like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

'Travelling Light':

Advent Course from Lights for Christ:

Based around some familiar and less familiar passages from the gospels (from Luke chapter 1 and Matthew chapter 2) the recurring theme of this course is travel: how God comes to people, how people draw near to Jesus and how we keep moving forward as Lights for Christ in today's world. This four-part course 'Travelling Light' is designed to be used in small groups, although it can also be effective if you use it on your own.

[Find out more here.](#)

Online services and events:

<http://leicestercathedral.org/online-services/>
<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>

Online Giving – Please help us:

As we try to move forward in the wake of COVID, please donate to help keep our ministry going, please click on your village below:

[Billesdon](#) [Skeffington](#) [Hungarton](#)

Our Churches Online:

All have web pages on 'A Church Near You' – for sermons, videos, information:

[Hungarton](#) [Keyham](#) [Billesdon](#)
[Skeffington](#) [Goadby](#) [The Gaulby Group:](#)



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.

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: thewellkibworth.org and sent to them.

Leicester South (Wigston). [donate money online](#)

Leicester Grammar School Concerts:

Please see the attached link to the Leicester Grammar School Concert Programme.

See link below:

[8F04E13729243EAFDD590897B17DC676.pdf](https://www.leicestergrammar.org.uk/8F04E13729243EAFDD590897B17DC676.pdf) (lgs-senior.org.uk)

Next Suffragan Bishop of Loughborough:

On Friday 12th November, Downing Street announced that the Revd. Saju Muthalaly had been appointed as the next Bishop of Loughborough.

More details can be found at the following link: [Read more here.](#)

A Prayer for those affected by Coronavirus:

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy. Sustain and support the anxious, be with those who care for the sick, and lift up all who are brought low; that we may find comfort knowing that nothing can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen.

Advent Candle Prayer:

God of Abraham and Sarah,
and all the patriarchs of old,
you are our Father too.
Your love is revealed to us
in Jesus Christ,
Son of God and Son of David.
Help us in preparing to
celebrate his birth



to make our hearts ready for your Holy Spirit
to make his home among us.
We ask this through Jesus Christ,
the light who is coming into the world.
Amen.