



Services & Events – In Church:

Sunday 20th November Sunday Next Before Advent Christ the King

10am **Keyham** Holy Communion
 4pm **Billesdon** Choral Evensong (John Taylor)
 6pm **Gaulby** Evening Worship (Hilary Painter)
 6pm **Skeffington** Evensong (Congregation led)
Sunday 27th November First Sunday of Advent
 9am **Skeffington** CW Holy Communion (Revd Jeff Hopewell)
 11am **Billesdon** Holy Communion (Revd Jeff Hopewell)
 6pm **Gaulby** Holy Communion (Revd Christine Blodwell)

Launde Parishes Zoom Services

Sunday 20th November at 11am
 Sunday 27th November at 11am

Saturday 19th November at 9.00am

Saturday morning Prayers (From Gaulby Church)

To Join our Zoom Prayers:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2139072137?pwd=WjV4WDJBTEIzeVBOYkRCCvJISEc0QT09>

Meeting ID: 213 907 2137 **Passcode:** 405197

Sunday 20th November 11.00am Zoom

Launde Parishes Zoom Service

Leading and Reflecting: Sue Sills (Knossington)

To Join our Launde Parishes Zoom please click on the link below:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87679803190?pwd=VzV5d1UwaTd4UnlybDdDbmdVUTZTZz09>

Meeting ID: 876 7980 3190

Passcode: 172162

DIAL IN FROM A LANDLINE OR MOBILE:

T. 0203 481 5240

Enter the **Meeting ID: 876 7980 3190** followed by #.

Enter the **Passcode: 172162** followed by #

All are very welcome

The Collect: The Sunday Next Before Advent Christ the King:

Eternal Father,
 whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven
 that he might rule over all things as Lord and King:
 keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit
 and in the bond of peace,
 and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet;
 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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Our Churches Online:

All have web pages on 'A Church Near You'

for sermons, videos, information and on line giving:

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 for The Sunday Next Before Advent, Christ the King

This, the last Sunday in the church's year, we celebrate the feast of Christ the King, our Redeemer King, King of the Creation, whose just and gentle rule is supreme. (Think of Graham Sutherland's tapestry in Coventry Cathedral.)

However, our Gospel reading tells of Christ being mocked as a false messiah by Jewish leaders, Roman soldiers, most likely the onlookers and one of the criminals dying beside him.

Hardly the attributes of a king. The Gospel shows us our king executed as a cursed criminal. His crown - a crown of thorns.

What is it that qualified Jesus for paradise? What turns the crown of thorns into the crown of our heavenly king? In the Gospel there is little sense of regal triumph but there is a lot of grace. There's **forgiveness** - *Father forgive them for they know not what they do*. There's Christ's **dignity** when he was being mocked and jeered. There's his **steadfastness** when the crowd call on him to save himself. There's his **compassion, understanding** and **friendship** towards the criminal who realises that Jesus, unlike the other two, is innocent.

Isn't this what we'd like from our leaders today?

Power is often both addictive and toxic. Once people have it in their hands, they can find it difficult to let it go and the temptation to abuse power is ever-present. Throughout his life on earth, Christ taught us in so many ways that he did not come *to be served* but *to serve* and we are called to the same service. As the old year ends and we look towards Advent, remember that the cross was not the end but that it became the throne of Christ the King, who uses his power to serve and save. In our prayers, let's resolve to follow in the footsteps of Christ our King.

Hilary Painter (Reader, Gaulby)

Bible Readings:
Sunday 20th November 2022
The Sunday Next Before Advent
Christ the King

Jeremiah 23:1-6

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised
Restoration after Exile

23 Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. ² Therefore, thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. ³ Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴ I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord.

The Righteous Branch of David

⁵ The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶ In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'

Colossians 1:11-20

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised

¹¹ May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

The Supremacy of Christ

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all

things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Luke 23:33-43

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised

³³ When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴ Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.' And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵ And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!' ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁷ and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!' ³⁸ There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.'

³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!' ⁴⁰ But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?' ⁴¹ And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.' ⁴² Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' ⁴³ He replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'

Additional Prayer for the Day: The Sunday Next Before Advent
Christ the King:

God the Father,
help us to hear the call of Christ the King
and to follow in his service,
whose kingdom has no end;
for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, one glory.

Amen

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>

Launde Abbey Quiet Day offer extended!

Members of Launde Deanery churches are offered places on the Launde Abbey Quiet Days at a **discounted price of £35 through to the end of 2022** - please ask when you book. Why not take time out from the busy-

ness and nurture your spiritual life with one of these 'quiet days'. Arrive at 10 for morning coffee and a 10.30 start. With some gentle input, short acts of worship, buffet lunch and plenty of time to pray, read or just chill in the house and gardens.

5 December: "Also Made" with Emily Owen: *"In Genesis 1, we read that God made the stars. In fact, He 'also made the stars'. This day will offer gentle time and space to be affirmed in who we are. We are not an afterthought."* More information and booking details can be found on the Launde Abbey website, www.laundeabbey.org.uk and we look forward to welcoming you to Launde.

Messages from The Revd Alan Humphrey, Interim Co-Area Dean

Deanery January Service Pattern

This is advance notice that the Deanery Service in January 2023 will be held at 11:00am on 1st January at St Peter's, Gaulby. There will be NO Deanery Service on 29th January (5th Sunday). Parishes are recommended to treat 8th Jan as the 1st Sunday, 15th Jan as the 2nd Sunday, 22nd Jan as the 3rd Sunday, 29th Jan as the 4th Sunday. However, please check with your local church for confirmation of the pattern that they are adopting. The normal pattern resumes in February.

Preparing for becoming Launde Minster Community

Every Churchwarden has received copies of the findings of the Minster Community Working Groups. Each parish has been advised to become familiar with the various recommendations and conclusions of these reports so that they can be ready to critically examine the proposals for becoming a Minster Community when they are issued early in January. Anyone who wishes to familiarise themselves with the relevant issues and become involved in the process, whether a PCC member or not, is advised to contact their churchwarden to obtain copies of the reports. Parish wide consultations are being recommended during January with a formal PCC vote occurring in February. Please contact your churchwarden for more information.

The image shows two posters side-by-side. The left poster is for Christmas decorations, featuring a blue and white color scheme with a heart icon. It says 'Buy your decorations for Christmas! Enjoy free tea, cake and music!' and 'Where? Tugby Church When? Saturday, 19th November drop-in 2-4pm'. It also mentions that decorations are handmade by local Ukrainian guests and that they accept donations of cash and warm clothing. The right poster is for winter clothing, featuring a blue and white color scheme with a snowflake icon. It says 'Can you help? Winter clothing/bedding needed for Ukrainians in Kharkiv'. It lists items needed like warm clothes, hats, scarves, gloves, shoes, duvets, blankets, nappies, and hygiene products. It also mentions that they accept donations of food with a long use-by date.

News from the Diocese:

Near & Far Lecture Zara Mohammed: Reflections and Leadership

Monday 14 November at 6.30pm, St Martins House and online

Leicester Cathedral's annual Far and Near Lecture will be given this year by Zara Mohammed, who was elected as

the youngest and first female Secretary General of the Muslim Council of Britain in January 2021. Her lecture will look at the theme of 'Reflections and Leadership'. Tickets to gain access to the live-stream video are £2.50, available via Eventbrite:

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-far-and-near-lecture-2022-zara-mohammed-reflections-and-leadership-tickets-411832691667?utm_source=Diomail&utm_campaign=60cafb9615-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2019_03_25_10_27_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_3b79945ade-60cafb9615-87844078

Covid News from our partner diocese in Tanzania

Covid apparently never got the memo that it is over and so continues as a threat all over the world. As we get boosted the majority of people in Tanzania still have very low protection with about 97% of the population still NOT vaccinated in and around our link diocese of Kiteto. Earlier this year our diocese supported work amongst local media and churches to counter myths around vaccine hesitancy and to start this mountain climb by encouraging community leaders to take up the vaccine.

Have you been protected from covid? If so, let's show our gratitude to God by helping our brothers and sisters get the same benefit. Our link Diocese of Kiteto have asked for our support to:

1. Run local TV and radio educational covid programmes
2. Produce promotional materials
3. Support the governmental vaccination programme through the Kiteto Dispensary
4. Help target vaccine to the high-risk groups

If 1,100 of us offered £5 in gratitude for our protection we can raise the money requested. It could be the cost of living for some. If you can help, please send donations to:

Sort code: 20-49-37

Account number: 90577103

Account name: Leicester Diocesan Board of Finance
Reference: 'Kiteto'



The national Church of England is using a liturgy and video by Revd Barry Hill, Team Rector of Market Harborough Resource Church Team & our Diocesan Resource Church Enabler, to help churches in the run up to Advent. Barry has written a short act of commissioning to be used in churches on 20 or 27 November when it is hoped invitations for congregation members to pass on to friends and family, classmates, colleagues and neighbours will be given out for Christmas and advent services, and events. A short

video of Barry introducing the pre-Advent liturgy:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IK4PdOfkPag>
