



Services & Events – In Church & on Zoom:

Sunday 7th April – Easter 2

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

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

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

11am Launde Parishes **Zoom Service**

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

Sunday 14th April – Easter 3

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

10am **Gaulby** Morning Prayer (Hilary Painter)

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

11am Launde Parishes **Zoom Service**

Sunday 21st April – Easter 4

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

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

11am Launde Parishes **Zoom Service**

6pm **Illston** Evening Prayer (Lay Led, Hilary Painter)

6pm **Skeffington** Evensong (Revd Jeff Hopewell)

Sunday 28th April – Easter 5

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

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

11am Launde Parishes **Zoom Service**

6pm **Gaulby** Holy Communion (Revd Christine Blodwell)

Saturday Morning Prayers on

6th April at 9am (From Gaulby Church)

To Join our Zoom Prayers:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2139072137?pwd=WjV4WDJBTEIzeVB0YkRCcVJISEc0QT09>

Meeting ID: 213 907 2137 Passcode: 405197

Sunday 7th April 11.00am Zoom

Launde Parishes Zoom

Leader & Reflection: Revd Jayne Lewis

To Join our Zoom Services, click on this link:

<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 #

Contact Us:

Hilary Painter: 0116 259 9752

hilarypainter@rocketmail.com

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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/>

Collect for Sunday 7th April

Second Sunday of Easter

Almighty Father,

you have given your only Son to die for our sins
and to rise again for our justification:

grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and
wickedness

that we may always serve you

in pureness of living and truth;

through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ 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 7th April 2024

Second Sunday of Easter

“I have confidence in me!” sang Julie Andrew as she headed for her new assignment with the von Trapp family – or even “Confidence in confidence alone”. And didn’t she do well! But our readings today are all about confidence in something else, and certainly not in ourselves.

None of the disciples of Jesus had any confidence in anything on Good Friday evening. The Master they had given everything for was defeated, dead, and even “cursed by God” as the Law had it (Deuteronomy 21.23, Galatians 3.13). No wonder a week after Easter they were still in hiding.

Thomas, especially, lacked confidence. He was a realist in saying that they should ‘face the music’ in going up to Bethany to visit Lazarus, and who challenged Jesus in the Upper Room when Jesus said they knew where he was going. Thomas had seen people brought back to life, such as Lazarus and Jairus’ daughter and the widow’s son at Nain, but someone who been ‘hung on a tree’ was different.

That’s why he insisted on seeing the marks of the nails and spear. But now with the others, he could have confidence in Jesus after all and he went on, we believe, to do great things, as we can see from the numbers of Christians in Leicester today who come from the Church in India which he is said to have founded.

John certainly had confidence in Jesus. He could talk in his Epistle about the risen Jesus as the one ‘we have seen and looked at and touched for ourselves’, the one who has given us the Word of Life, the light to see our way by, and the forgiveness of our sins.

And those first converts who had probably heard Jesus teach, were now confident enough in the truth of the Resurrection to pool all their resources in sharing the life of fellowship and in reaching out to others in need. That sort of communism which was possible in the earliest years of the Christian Church could not have been possible without real confidence.

In the light of all that, what about us?

Bible Readings:
Sunday 7th April 2024
Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 4.32-35

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised

32 Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common.

33 With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.

34 There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold.

35 They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

1 John 1.1-2.2

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised

1 We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life-

2 this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us-

3 we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.

4 We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

5 This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all.

6 If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true;

7 but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.

8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

9 If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

1 My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous;
2 and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

John 20.19-end

New Revised Standard Version, Anglicised

19 When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.'

20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

21 Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.'

22 When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.

23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

24 But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.

25 So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

26 A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.'

27 Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.'

28 Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!'

29 Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

30 Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book.

31 But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Additional Prayer for Sunday 7th April
Second Sunday of Easter

Risen Christ,
for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:
open the doors of our hearts,
that we may seek the good of others
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace,
to the praise of God the Father.

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>

Everyone is welcome to join us at the Sunday Zoom Service at 11am

whenever it suits you, for instance when you haven't got a local in-church service.

Also, if you know anyone who can't physically get to a church, we would love to see them wherever they live - members of our Zoom congregation come from our Parishes, Leicester, Market Harborough, Andorra and even New Jersey!



John Morrison & Helen Bence have talked about their experiences of the Zoom community – see what they have to say:

<https://launde-minster-community.webador.co.uk/our-zoom-services> All are very welcome! If you want details and/ or the Zoom link, contact: Linda on l.jones2k@btinternet.com

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/>

Historic Leicestershire Churches Trust Ninth Tour – An event in the Trust's 60th Anniversary Year

Saturday 8th June

Pre-tour booking essential – maximum 30. £12 per person.

Cheques to "Leicestershire Historic Churches Trust".

Call/email David Knowles DL 01509 268354

djpk34@hotmail.com

HISTORIC LEICESTERSHIRE CHURCHES TRUST Registered Charity No.233476

Ninth HISTORIC CHURCHES TOUR :: Saturday 8th June 2024

An event in the Trust's 60th Anniversary Year

Once again Roger Willson will lead and share his passion for the history and architectural development of churches.

Retired history master at Loughborough Grammar School Roger tutors and lectures for U3A. Honorary Archivist to Loughborough Parish Church.

At Church Langton Parish historian Mrs Ros Folwell will be our guide.

Own car travel. Please try to share seats to limit vehicles.

Meet 10am at Birstall St James the Greater, Church Hill LE4 4DN

The tour will continue to the churches listed below with a lunch stop in Barkby Church (bring your own lunch)

BIRSTALL St James the Greater, Church Hill LE4 4DN C13 tower. Medieval church now welcoming area for large 1962-3 extension by local architects. Arts & Crafts style stained glass by Theodora Salusbury installed circa 1925 – 1932. Toilet

GADESBY St Luke LE7 4WE "One of the largest and most beautiful of the village churches in Leicestershire" (Pevsner/Williamson). C13/C14 masonry. See, almost life-size in white marble, Colonel Cherry outside his collapsing horse. Toilet

BARKBY St Mary LE7 3QB Essentially late C13 of ironstone. Curious tracery patterns. Pews 1837-38 with tall bench ends and doors. Memorials to the Pochins from C17. The Family continue to live next door and actively support the church. Toilet

KING'S NORTON St John the Baptist, Norton Lane LE7 9BA One of England's most remarkable early Gothic Revival churches, built 1760-61. Interior "wonderfully complete and unchanged" (Pevsner) save for font 1850. Access from road up nine steps. NO Toilet

CHURCH LANGTON St Peter LE16 7SX "A remarkably tall church after major C13 re-building and additions in the C14 and C15. Tour members will hear of the remarkable Rector of the living from 1753 – 1778 who secured the first English performance of Handel's Messiah in Church Langton parish church. Parishioner Mrs Ros Folwell will be our guide. Village Toilet from 4pm

Pre-tour booking essential – maximum 30. £12 per person.

Cheques to "Leicestershire Historic Churches Trust".

Call/email David Knowles DL 01509 268354 djpk34@hotmail.com



Bishop's Lodge Garden

The Bishop's Lodge garden is now a member of the **Quiet Garden Movement** – a network of beautiful gardens and outdoor spaces for prayer, stillness, contemplation and an appreciation of the natural world.

If you would like to come into this garden (located in the city at Springfield Road, LE2 3BD) for quiet reflection or a self-led retreat, then please contact the Bishop's Office on bishops.office@leicestercofe.org who will be very happy to assist you.

Embrace The Difference - Unconscious Bias Training

Thursday 18 April, 6pm-9pm – Kempe Room, St Martins House, Leicester

A training workshop which will help us examine our biases, understand how they become embedded, and explore God's design in diversity.

Sign up by emailing dinta.chauhan@leicestercofe.org



QUIZ NIGHT FUN & GAMES in Tugby Village Hall Saturday 13th April

**Ticket Price only £12:50
includes a delicious
Hot Supper & Pudding
Bring your own drinks**

**To reserve places & tables:
Contact madeleine.v.wang@gmail.com
or Tugby 277**

**Individual/couples bookings are also invited
Please support this Tugby Church fundraiser**