



Launde Minster Community

Newsletter

Edition Date: Thursday 5th February 2026

Sunday 8th February 2nd Sunday before Lent

Attached is the MC Worship Plan for **FEBRUARY 2026** (as of 5th February)

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 **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

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 8th February 11am

Launde Minster Community Online Church

All are welcome

Leader & Reflection: Hilary Painter

To join the livestream, click on this zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83679676342?pwd=CDIQKI91dakSkeAh5kbOeu8idqGI8Q.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:

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Collects for Sunday 8th February 2nd Sunday before Lent

Almighty God,
you have created the heavens and the earth
and made us in your own image:
teach us to discern your hand in all your works
and your likeness in all your children;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things,
now and for ever.

Amen

Almighty God,
give us reverence for all creation
and respect for every person,
that we may mirror your likeness
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Reflection: Sunday 8th February 2nd Sunday before Lent

Matthew 6: 25-end

We seem to be living in a world where almost daily we are being invited to worry. Worry about the cost of living, homelessness, crime, unemployment, foodbanks, inflation, the economy, Gaza, Greenland, Ukraine, Israel, Iran, Putin, Russia and not forgetting President Trump. On a more local level you might be worrying about your neighbours, village, church and possibly the Launde Deanery Minster Community and the future. So, there we all are amid all this worry, and we are suddenly presented with this passage from Matthew's gospel. Don't worry says Jesus, don't focus on all the 'stuff' that is going on around you, most of which you can do nothing about anyway, focus on your relationship with God. Worry and stress are the cause of much physical as well as mental illness in this world, yet here is Jesus saying, God feeds the birds and animals and clothes the fields with beautiful wildflowers, so he will look after you. It is easy to skip over this passage as being a little naive on the part of Jesus. But is it? I have been challenged to think more about God and not worry about anything else, and I feel better for it. My challenge to you is to take Jesus's words to heart and stop worrying.

Mike Hammond

Bible Readings:

Sunday 8th February

2nd Sunday before Lent

Genesis 1.1-2.3

1.1 In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth,

2 the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.

3 Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light.

4 And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness.

5 God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

6 And God said, 'Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.'

7 So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so.

8 God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

9 And God said, 'Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.' And it was so.

10 God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

11 Then God said, 'Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.' And it was so.

12 The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good.

13 And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

14 And God said, 'Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years,

15 and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.' And it was so.

16 God made the two great lights-the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night-and the stars.

17 God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth,

18 to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.

19 And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

20 And God said, 'Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.'

21 So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

22 God blessed them, saying, 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.'

23 And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

24 And God said, 'Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.' And it was so.

25 God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

26 Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.'

27 So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

28 God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.'

29 God said, 'See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food.

30 And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.' And it was so.

31 God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

2.1 Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude.

2 And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done.

3 So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

Romans 8.18-25

18 I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us.

19 For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God;

20 for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope

21 that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

22 We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now;

23 and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

24 For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen?

25 But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Matthew 6.25-end

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.

34 'So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

Sunday 8th February

2nd Sunday before Lent

Psalms 136

1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is gracious,
for his mercy endures for ever.

2 Give thanks to the God of gods,
for his mercy endures for ever.

3 Give thanks to the Lord of lords,
for his mercy endures for ever;

4 Who alone does great wonders,
for his mercy endures for ever;

5 Who by wisdom made the heavens,
for his mercy endures for ever;

6 Who laid out the earth upon the waters,
for his mercy endures for ever;

7 Who made the great lights,
for his mercy endures for ever;

8 The sun to rule the day,

for his mercy endures for ever;

9 The moon and the stars to govern the night,
for his mercy endures for ever;

10 Who smote the firstborn of Egypt,
for his mercy endures for ever;

11 And brought out Israel from among them,
for his mercy endures for ever;

12 With a mighty hand and outstretched arm,
for his mercy endures for ever;

13 Who divided the Red Sea in two,
for his mercy endures for ever;

14 And made Israel to pass through the midst of it,
for his mercy endures for ever;

15 But Pharaoh and his host he overthrew in the Red Sea,
for his mercy endures for ever;

16 Who led his people through the wilderness,
for his mercy endures for ever;

17 Who smote great kings,
for his mercy endures for ever;

18 And slew mighty kings,
for his mercy endures for ever;

19 Sihon, king of the Amorites,
for his mercy endures for ever;

20 And Og, the king of Bashan,
for his mercy endures for ever;

21 And gave away their land for a heritage,
for his mercy endures for ever;

22 A heritage for Israel his servant,
for his mercy endures for ever;

23 Who remembered us when we were in trouble,
for his mercy endures for ever;

24 And delivered us from our enemies,
for his mercy endures for ever;

25 Who gives food to all creatures,
for his mercy endures for ever.

26 Give thanks to the God of heaven,
for his mercy endures for ever.

Praying Pilgrims in February 2026

Launde Minster Community

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 February is:

February 4: **Slawston**

February 11: **Keyham**

February 18: **Knossington**

February 25: **Hungarton**

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

Rev David Palmer and Rev Crystal McAllister

Lent Resources and Courses

Revd David Palmer has prepared a **Resource for Lent**. Each day comprises a Bible verse and a short thought or prayer.

Here is an extract for February 18th, Ash Wednesday:

'Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity. (Joel 2:13)

Lord, forgive me for forgetting you so often. Help me to remember your constant love and presence.'

I will include the week's Bible verses and thoughts/ prayers in the newsletter. But if you would like a copy of the complete resource, please let me know and I will send it to you.

l.jones2k@btinternet.com

Lent Group in Church Langton

Revd Martin Hathaway and Maxine Johnson will be running a Lent Group.

Tuesday Evenings at 7.30pm at Brook House, Stonton Road, Church Langton

Last year saw the 1700th anniversary of the Nicene Creed we use regularly in Communion Services - remarkable! The Church of England has prepared a 5-session discussion course looking at how the creed came about and the focussing on key topics, so we will use this.

Everyone is very 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

Billesdon Coffee Concert

Saturday 21st of February

David Whittle kicks off the 2026 season with an organ recital. Coffee served from 10.30am followed by a 40 min recital at 11am.

Admission free; all welcome. Donations in aid of LOROS

Snowdrop Sunday at Tugby Church

Sunday 15th February



Come and have a walk round the Churchyard to see the snowdrops and spring flowers. We will be serving hot drinks and delicious cakes from 2-4pm.

Everyone welcome, it would be lovely to see you

Food for Thought: Save the Dates

We hope you have had a good start to 2026 We are delighted to tell you that we have 2 speakers and 2 dates secured. More details later but please save the dates. Both evenings will be at Launde Abbey.

Monday April 13th

Lord Donald Curry

Farming, Faith, Politics

Tuesday June 23rd

Bishop Saju

(Subject tbc)

Mary Twidell mary.twidell@gmail.com

01858 555204/ 07464 309966



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 Rice Pudding, Custard, Tinned fruit, Dried Packet Rice, Baked Beans, Strong clean 'bags for life'.

Other suggested donations: Porridge Oats, UHT milk (whole or semi-skimmed), Teabags, Sugar (500g), Deodorant, Jam, Corned Beef, Tinned Baked beans with sausages, Cereal, Crackers, Tinned sweetcorn, Tinned Carrots, Dried potatoes (Smash), Tinned red meat, Tinned meatballs, chicken in sauce, Biscuits, Sweets, Snacks and Crisps, Tinned tomatoes, Tinned chickpeas, mixed chilli beans, lentils, Tinned rice pudding, Sachet meals (pan or microwave), 'No Cook' meals for the homeless, Cordial, Marmalade, Jam, Tinned potatoes, Coffee (small jars), Fray Bentos pies, Pasta sauce, Tinned ham, Crackers, Tinned

soup, Cup of soup, Sugar (500g), Tinned peas, Tinned vegetarian meals, such as veggie chilli, Meals that do not need cooking e.g. John West Fish and rice meals, Snacks and cereal bars, Fruit squash/ juice, Microwave puddings, Pasta sauce, Peanut butter, Tinned pasta, Sandwich paste, Teabags, Tuna, ALPRO yoghurts (long-life, for the shelf not fridge), Long-life meals, Robinsons minis or similar for families (small squash concentrates), Small cartons of long life milk (for homeless people or someone without a fridge), Mayonnaise, Angel Delight, Small sachets of herbs, Shampoo, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Sunscreen (for homeless people in the summer), Shower gel, soap, Feminine products – sanitary towels, tampons

The list of food always required is on the website:

<https://www.jubileefoodbankmh.uk>

Where possible and available, consider giving tins with a ring-pull as these can also be used for homeless people where the food is appropriate (e.g. fish, tinned fruit, etc)

World Day of Prayer 2026 in the Launde Minster Community

St Thomas a Becket Church, Tugby

Friday March 6th at 2pm



It would be good if all of our churches in the Minster Community will come and support WDP

Extracts from Diomail Monday 2nd February

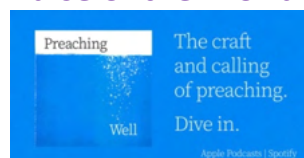
For more information and other events use this link for Diomail 2nd February:

https://thehub.leicester.anglican.org/newsletters/diomail-2-february-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/>

Where the Art of Preaching Meets the Pulse of the World



The new podcast is now live and available across Spotify and Apple Podcasts.

Hosted by Bishop Saju Muthalaly, Bishop of Loughborough in the Diocese of Leicester, it's a podcast for preachers and those who love preaching, featuring wisdom from some of the most insightful and inspiring voices in contemporary Christianity.

"The aim is to equip and inspire preachers while opening up rich theological and cultural perspectives for anyone passionate about the Gospel," explains Bishop Saju. "Each episode offers practical insights and deep reflection on language, imagination, and the transformative power of preaching."

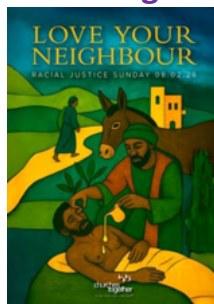
Episode 1 features The Most Reverend and Right Honourable Rowan Williams, former Archbishop of Canterbury.

What if preaching isn't a performance, but a pilgrimage? In this episode of Preaching Well, Rowan Williams – poet, priest, theologian, and one of the most extraordinary Christian voices of our time – invites us into the landscape where sermons are born.

Preaching Well – a reason to open your app, hit play, and dive deep into the conversation...

Read more: <https://www.leicester.anglican.org/preaching-well-podcast/>

THIS WEEK: Racial Justice Sunday – Love Your Neighbour



Racial Justice Sunday is an opportunity for all churches to reflect on the importance of racial justice, relent, pray for, and commit to ending racial discrimination, whilst at the same time giving thanks for God's beautiful diversity.

This year's ecumenical resources, coordinated by Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, are on the theme of 'Love Your Neighbour'.

Helpful for planning church services around this theme, the resources contain worship materials and prayers, relevant scripture verses and hymn/worship song ideas, sermons, homilies and reflections, plus 'take action' suggestions for congregations.

Find the resources here: <https://ctbi.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/Racial-Justice-Sunday-resource-2026.pdf.pagespeed.ce.dCns4cfhgC.pdf>