

Launde Minster Community



Newsletter

Edition Date: Thursday 12th February 2026

Sunday 15th February Sunday next before Lent

Attached is the MC Worship Plan for **FEBRUARY 2026** (as of 12th 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@btointernet.com 07851163712

You can also find the **Launde 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**

💻 Saturday 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=VtUdahsUf34Vc7Bbr5gVFoeiobrO08.1>

Meeting ID: 817 5122 7280 Passcode: 419620

💻 Sunday 15th February 11am

Launde Minster Community Online Church

All are welcome

Leader: Hilary Painter **Reflection:** John Bartlett

To join the livestream, click on this zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83679676342?pwd=CDIQK191dakSkeAh5kbOeu8idqGI8Q.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:

Revd Crystal Mcallister, Oversight Minister of Launde Minster Community. Vicar of the Coplow Benefice and Priest in Charge of The Gaulby Group; The Whatborough Group; Hallaton and Allexton with Horninghold, Slawston, Tugby and East Norton; The Langtons and Shangton; and Welham, Glosston, Cranoe and Stanton Wyville. pioneerocrystal136@gmail.com 07890 020012

Wendy Lewis, Administrator

wendy.lewis@leicestercofe.org 07777 934092

Collects for Sunday 15th February

Sunday next before Lent

Almighty Father,
whose Son was revealed in majesty
before he suffered death upon the cross:
give us grace to perceive his glory,
that we may be strengthened to suffer with him
and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory;
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen

Holy God,
you know the disorder of our sinful lives:
set straight our crooked hearts,
and bend our wills to love your goodness and your glory
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Reflection: Sunday 15th February

Sunday next before Lent

As we approach the holy season of Lent, the Church invites us into a sacred time of prayer, repentance, and renewal. Lent isn't simply about giving something up; it is about making space - space for God to work more deeply within our hearts.

In the Gospel, Jesus often withdraws to quiet places to pray. He fasts in the desert. He listens attentively to the Father's will. Lent calls us to follow Him into that same spiritual wilderness, where distractions are stripped away and we are reminded of what truly matters. In a world that constantly demands our attention, Lent offers us the gift of stillness and reflection.

Through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, we are invited to refocus our lives toward love - love of God and love of neighbour. Prayer deepens our relationship with Christ and reminds us that we are never alone. Fasting teaches us self-discipline and helps us recognise our dependence on God. Giving, of time or money, opens our eyes to the needs of others and challenges us to respond with compassion and generosity.

Preparing for Lent begins not with perfection, but with honesty. We come before God as we are - wounded, hopeful, grateful, and in need of mercy. The ashes we may receive on Ash Wednesday remind us of our human

frailty, but they also proclaim God's promise of new life. From dust we came, and by God's grace, we are being shaped into something beautiful. This Lent, let's not be content with small sacrifices alone, but seek something deeper. Let's try to forgive more readily, listen more patiently, pray more faithfully, and love more generously. As we walk this forty-day journey together, may we grow closer to Christ and be renewed by His transforming grace, ready to celebrate Easter with hearts renewed with hope and joy. **Hilary Painter**

Bible Readings:

Sunday 15th February

Sunday next before Lent

Exodus 24.12-end

12 The Lord said to Moses, 'Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.'

13 So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God.

14 To the elders he had said, 'Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.'

15 Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain.

16 The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud.

17 Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel.

18 Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

2 Peter 1.16-end

16 For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty.

17 For he received honour and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, 'This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'

18 We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

19 So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

20 First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation,

21 because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

Matthew 17.1-9

17 Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves.

2 And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white.

3 Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him.

4 Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.'

5 While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!'

6 When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear.

7 But Jesus came and touched them, saying, 'Get up and do not be afraid.'

8 And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

9 As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, 'Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.'

Sunday 15th February

Sunday next before Lent

Psalm 2

1 Why are the nations in tumult,
and why do the peoples devise a vain plot?

2 The kings of the earth rise up,
and the rulers take counsel together,
against the Lord and against his anointed:

3 'Let us break their bonds asunder
and cast away their cords from us.'

4 He who dwells in heaven shall laugh them to scorn;
the Lord shall have them in derision.

5 Then shall he speak to them in his wrath
and terrify them in his fury:

6 'Yet have I set my king
upon my holy hill of Zion.'

7 I will proclaim the decree of the Lord; •
he said to me: 'You are my Son; this day have I
begotten you.'

8 'Ask of me and I will give you the nations for your
inheritance

and the ends of the earth for your possession.

9 'You shall break them with a rod of iron
and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.'

10 Now therefore be wise, O kings;
be prudent, you judges of the earth.

11 Serve the Lord with fear, and with trembling kiss his
feet,

lest he be angry and you perish from the way,
for his wrath is quickly kindled.

12 Happy are all they
who take refuge in him.

Lent Resources and Courses

Please send details of proposed Lent courses to Wendy Lewis, Administrator
wendy.lewis@leicestercofe.org 07777 934092

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

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 for Lent, please let me know and I will send it to you.**

l.jones2k@btinternet.com

This week: 18th and 19th February

Wednesday 18th February, 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.'

Thursday 19th February

Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law, day and night. (Psalm 1:1-2)

Lord help me to keep in step with you today and always, and to learn more of you from your word in the Bible.

2. 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, Stanton 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

3. Launde Minster Community Online Lent Group

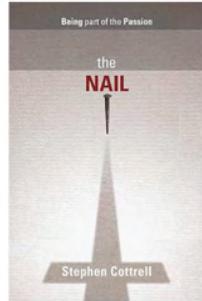
Every Wednesday for 6 weeks starting on 18th February 10-11am

Launde Minster online Lent Study Group 2026

Wednesday mornings, 10-11

beginning on 18 February Ash Wednesday

Details and Zoom link in the Newsletter and on Launde Minster website



This Lent book, by the Archbishop of York, offers reflections on Christ's crucifixion. Each of the chapters is focused on a different key character, who describes his or her experience of the Passion. The nails used to crucify Christ are used as a jumping off point for their reflections. Each character considers the questions, 'Who killed Christ' and 'Who was responsible?' Each chapter includes a Biblical passage, a meditation, a reflection from the point of view of the character, and prayer.

Use this special Zoom Link to join the Lent group:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89249553263?pwd=NHCV9WSC0rXRNsKhRPK9tK930wdCbp.1>

Meeting ID: 892 4955 3263

Passcode: 658857

Everyone is welcome

Praying Pilgrims in February & March 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 and March is:

February 18: Knossington

February 25: Hungarton

March 4: Church Langton

March 11: Glooston

March 18: Shangton

March 25: Lowesby

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

Rev David Palmer and Rev Crystal McAllister



Billesdon Church 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

Tugby Church

Snowdrop Sunday



Sunday 15th
February 2026

Refreshments will be served in the Church
from 2-4pm

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

Horninghold 22nd February

Because of the ongoing building work in St Peter's, the **11am service at Horninghold on 22nd February** will be a Simple Home Communion Service in Bridgford House, taken by Revd David Palmer, to which ***all are very welcome***

Concert at St John's Church, Hungarton

Saturday 7th March

Refreshments at 10.30am, Concert at 11am

Musicians: Michael Lessiter and Ron Berry

Admission is free, donations to the church heating fund



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

Good News Story

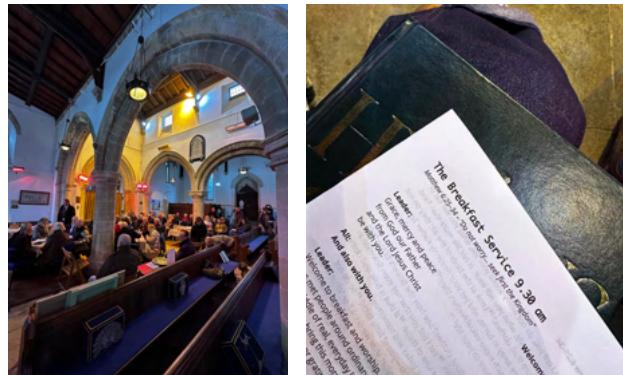
God of surprises!

When was the last time God really surprised you? Imagine receiving your post today and finding a letter from the King with your name on it. Every week a list goes out with the worship plan for the Launde Minster Community, your very own invitation from our King of Kings to join Him.

On Sunday the 8th of February I took my invitation to St Michael and all Angels in Hallaton, not only was I expecting to meet the King, we were going to have breakfast together. I probably know what you are thinking, what does one wear?

The Rev Crystal was leading the service and the reflection was from Matthew 6. The message, not to worry.

8 “And why do you worry about clothes? See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labour or spin. **29** Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendour was dressed like one of these. **30** If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith?



I do believe God surprised everyone on Sunday. The chairs and tables were all set out in advance including a table with a magnificent cake. The coffee, tea and bacon baps being prepared, all the tables were full and more seats were needed, lots more seats, for 58 adults, 2 young people and 2 children. What a surprise, no one was expecting that many people, let's hope there are enough bacon baps! We all shared another celebration of achievement.

Remember I said imagine getting a letter from the King? Well, Denis Kenyon did receive a letter from the King, appointing him as a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE). As Bryan Hollier explained, it was awarded

for over 40 years of faithful service to the community in Hallaton, its history, village life, its church and the memory of fallen servicemen and women.

Denis Kenyon MBE said a few words, and they are so true, He said anyone can begin something but it is the keeping it going that matters, as his lifetime of service proves.

I was speaking with his wife, Anthea, and as we know, behind every good man is an even better woman. She did laugh about going to the palace with Denis, to receive the award, and is particularly looking forward to getting a new hat!

Thanks everyone for making your church so welcoming, and for all the preparation before, and work after, the service. Just for the record, there were ample bacon baps for everyone.

Uel Sandford

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 9th February

For more information and other events use this link for Diomail 9th February:

https://thehub.leicester.anglican.org/newsletters/diomail-9-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/>

Fantastic Amount Raised for 2025 Ride+Stride

The LeicesterShire Historic Churches Trust is delighted to announce that 2025 Ride+Stride raised £40,461.67

This is a wonderful tribute to everyone who opened their church or chapel on the day – 317 in all – and to all riders, striders, welcomers, and their sponsors.

Follow the link for a full report, giving thanks to those who organise the annual event and all who took part.

2026 Ride+Stride will take place on Saturday 12 September

Read the full report:

<https://www.leicester.anglican.org/news/2025-ridestrideraised-over-40000.php>