

## Launde Minster Community



## Newsletter

Edition Date: Thursday 26th March 2026

### Sunday 29th March Holy Week, Palm Sunday

Attached are the MC Worship Plans for **MARCH and APRIL 2026** (as of 26th March)

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](mailto:l.jones2k@btinternet.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=VtUdahsUf34Vc7Bbr5gVFoeiobrOO8.1>

Meeting ID: 817 5122 7280 Passcode: 419620

### Sunday 29th March 11am

Launde Minster Community/ Deanery Service at 11am at Hallaton

*Livestream from Hallaton*

Leader: Revd Crystal McAllister

To join the livestream, click on this zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83679676342?pwd=CDIQKl91dakSkeAh5kbOeu8idqGl8Q.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, Glooston, Cranoe and Stonton Wyville. [pioneerystal136@gmail.com](mailto:pioneerystal136@gmail.com) 07890 020012

**Wendy Lewis**, Administrator

[wendy.lewis@leicestercofe.org](mailto:wendy.lewis@leicestercofe.org) 07777 934092

### Collects for Sunday 29th March Palm Sunday

Almighty and everlasting God,  
who in your tender love towards the human race  
sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ  
to take upon him our flesh  
and to suffer death upon the cross:  
grant that we may follow the example of his patience  
and humility,  
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

True and humble king,  
hailed by the crowd as Messiah:  
grant us the faith to know you and love you,  
that we may be found beside you  
on the way of the cross,  
which is the path of glory.

**Amen**

### Reflection: Sunday 29th March Palm Sunday

#### Matthew 21:1-11

In the Gospel of John, Jesus visits Jerusalem regularly as a pilgrim at the great Jewish feasts. The other Gospels concentrate on his final Passover visit, during which he is arrested and executed. We might easily imagine the holy city in chaos at Passover, the most important of the great Jewish festivals. Pilgrims from all over the Jewish diaspora around the Mediterranean, together with Gentile visitors, swell the local population. Passover was the most volatile of the festivals, with its reminders of liberation from Egyptian captivity. In the law of Moses, it is instituted as a 'day of remembrance' that extends to future generations, who remember God's deliverance as if it is actually happening to them (Exodus 12:14). With popular feelings so ramped up, the Roman occupying power raised its profile, as the governor moved into his residence and additional troops were drafted in. Hopes of a free, independent state of Judea had been rumbling in Jerusalem for well over a century.

Passover always threatened to turn the rumble into a roar, especially when pilgrims spread branches on the road to remember Simon, who liberated Jerusalem from foreign rule in 141 BC (see 1 Maccabees 13:51). Jesus was careful to avoid becoming the focus of popular dissent, hence his deliberately staged arrival on a donkey. Matthew's interpretation of words from Zechariah 9:9 has Jesus riding a donkey and its foal. This is Matthew's way of emphasising the significance of these particular Scriptures. Jesus chooses to enter the holy city at Passover as its humble king: not the son of David the soldier, but the son of David the healer (David's son Solomon was known as a healer). The message is directed to Galilean pilgrims, including his disciples, who see him as messianic. Israel's true king 'comes in the name of the Lord' (v.9) – words from Psalm 118:26, one of the psalms sung at Passover – in humble obedience to God. Jerusalem is in turmoil, but for Matthew this is more than Passover commotion. It recalls the impact of the magi, who came looking for the 'king of the Jews' (2:1-3). For all his humility, Jesus has been a disturbing presence throughout Matthew's Gospel, which continues as his entry gives way to his arrest and execution as 'king of the Jews' (27:11,37).

#### Roots on the Web

### Bible Readings:

### Sunday 29th March

### Palm Sunday

#### Philippians 2. 5-11

5 Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,  
6 who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,  
7 but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness. And being found in  
human form,  
8 he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death-  
even death on a cross.  
9 Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,  
10 so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
11 and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

#### Matthew 21.1-11

21 When they had come near Jerusalem and had reached Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples,

2 saying to them, 'Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to me.

3 If anyone says anything to you, just say this, "The Lord needs them." And he will send them immediately.'

4 This took place to fulfil what had been spoken through the prophet, saying,

5 'Tell the daughter of Zion, Look, your king is coming to you,

humble, and mounted on a donkey,  
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'

6 The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them;

7 they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them.

8 A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

9 The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting, 'Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!

10 When he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was in turmoil, asking, 'Who is this?'

11 The crowds were saying, 'This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee.'

### Sunday 29th March

### Palm Sunday

### Psalm 118.1-2, 19-end

1 O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
his mercy endures for ever.

2 Let Israel now proclaim,  
'His mercy endures for ever.'

19 Open to me the gates of righteousness,  
that I may enter and give thanks to the Lord.

20 This is the gate of the Lord;  
the righteous shall enter through it.

21 I will give thanks to you, for you have answered me  
and have become my salvation.

22 The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.

23 This is the Lord's doing,  
and it is marvellous in our eyes.

24 This is the day that the Lord has made;  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.

25 Come, O Lord, and save us we pray.  
Come, Lord, send us now prosperity.

26 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord;  
we bless you from the house of the Lord.

27 The Lord is God; he has given us light;  
link the pilgrims with cords  
right to the horns of the altar.

28 You are my God and I will thank you;  
you are my God and I will exalt you.

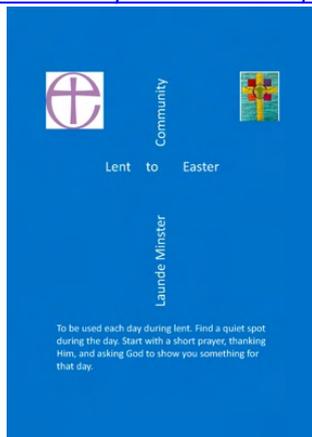
29 O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
his mercy endures for ever.

## Lent Resources and Courses

Please send details of proposed Lent courses to  
**Wendy Lewis, Administrator**  
[wendy.lewis@leicestercofe.org](mailto: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. This is this week's extract.

If you would like to read or download a copy of Revd David's complete resource for Lent, you can do so here:  
<https://launde-minster-community.webador.co.uk/what-s-on>



#### Sixth Week of Lent, Beginning:

##### Thursday 26 March

**Reading:** Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always. (Psalm 105:4)

**Prayer:** "Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in his wonderful face, and the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of his glory and grace." (Helen H Lemmell, "O soul, are you weary and troubled?")

##### Friday 27 March

**Reading:** You, Lord, reign for ever; your throne endures from generation to generation. (Lamentations 5:19)

**Prayer:** Spend time today meditating on the fact that God never changes, that his love endures, and that he is in ultimate control of our world and our lives – and praise and thank him for it.

##### Saturday 28 March

**Reading:** Jesus said, "And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die. (John 12:32-33)

**Prayer:** As we approach Holy Week, thank God for the sacrifice Jesus made on the cross, and the new life he brings to all who seek him.

##### Sunday 29 March, Palm Sunday

**Reading:** A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name

of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" (Matthew 21:8-9)

**Prayer:** Lord Jesus, we join the crowds around the world welcoming you afresh today. We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory, for you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord.

##### Monday 30 March

**Reading:** Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will bring justice to the nations. He will not shout or cry out, or raise his voice in the streets. A bruised reed he will not break, and a smouldering wick he will not snuff out. In faithfulness he will bring forth justice. (Isaiah 42:1-3)

**Prayer:** Thank you Lord that even though you are a King, you are also my friend and brother, and you deal gently with my faults and failings. Thank you for your faithfulness; help me to be faithful today.

##### Tuesday 31 March

**Reading:** Jesus went out as usual to the Mount of Olives, and his disciples followed him. On reaching the place, he said to them, "Pray that you will not fall into temptation." (Luke 22:39-40)

**Prayer:** Our Father, who art in heaven, keep us from temptation today, deliver us from evil, and help us always to turn to you when we face challenges and difficulties.

#### Seventh Week of Lent, Beginning:

##### Wednesday 1 April

**Reading:** Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. (Hebrews 12:1-2)

**Prayer:** Lord grant me the endurance I need to follow you, the vision to see your hand at work around me, and the faith to trust that your purposes are good.

##### Thursday 2 April, Maundy Thursday

**Reading:** Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. (John 13:14-16)

**Prayer:** Thank you, Lord God, for the example of Jesus who came to serve rather than to be served. Help us to serve one another through our prayers and actions, however small and insignificant they seem to us.

##### Friday 3 April, Good Friday

**Reading:** He was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. (Isaiah 53:5-6)

**Prayer:** Many public events commemorating Jesus' death on the cross have been cancelled today because of the corona virus. Let us pray that none the less many may recall the significance of the day and turn to Jesus for forgiveness and renewal.

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### Saturday 4 April, Easter Eve

**Reading:** Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. (1 Peter 4:8)

**Prayer:** Forgive me for the times when my love for others has faltered or failed. Grant me your grace that I may see others as you see them, with compassion and care, and help me to express that in word and deed today.

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### Sunday 5 April, Easter Sunday

**Reading:** We are witnesses of everything Jesus did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a cross, but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. (Acts 10:39-40)

**Prayer:** "At break of dawn, poor Mary, still weeping she came, when through her grief she heard your voice, now speaking her name ... You're alive, your alive, you have risen! Alleluia! And the power and the glory is given Jesus to you." (Graham Kendrick, "Led like a lamb to the slaughter")

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## 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, 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.

**Our Lent Course continues**, looking at the Nicene Creed. This Tuesday we had 10 people squashed around Maxine's table looking up different Bible verses about the Holy Spirit! Next Tuesday we look at what we believe in the Church.

The Creed, of course, spells out our belief in the Trinity, the God who comes to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit - so on Tuesday 31st March we will have a meditation looking at Rublev's famous icon "The Hospitality of Abraham" or "The Trinity". Time for thought, discussion and silence. All welcome - can we make it a round dozen? Then on Good Friday we meet in St Peter's Church at 2.00pm to share the Last Hour together - readings, thoughts, silence as we experience something of what Jesus has done for us. **Again, all 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](mailto:revd.martinhathaway@tiscali.co.uk)  
[maxinejohnson.1@btinternet.com](mailto:maxinejohnson.1@btinternet.com)

## 3. Launde Minster Community Online Lent Group

**Good Friday Service at Gaulby**

**Starts at 7pm *Livestream***

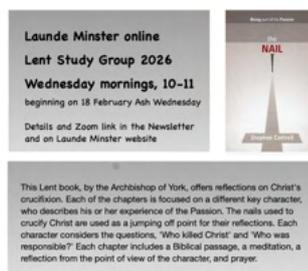
This weekly group has now finished but the final section of 'The Nail' will be addressed in the Good Friday Service at Gaulby. It starts at 7pm and will be ***livestreamed***. Use this special link to join the congregation:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87556010219?pwd=nXMPHSLxUUAaEcDFIZKZLje6joO6uv.1>

Meeting ID: 875 5601 0219

Passcode: 916461



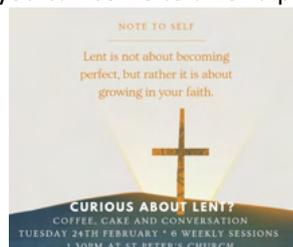
***Everyone is welcome***

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## 4. Lent Course at St Peter's Church, Tilton

**Starting on Tuesday 24 February, St Peter's Church in Tilton are running a Lent course.**

There will be coffee, cake and conversation for anyone who wants to learn more about Lent. **This runs for 6 weeks until 31 March.** Each session will stand alone, so you can come to all or dip in and out.



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## Hallaton Church: Reverse Lent Challenge: GIVE instead of GIVING UP

**Collecting 40 items in 40 days for the Market**

**Harborough Foodbank**

**Collection point in the church**



## Soup Lunches at Gaulby during Lent

Every Friday during Lent 12.30-2pm



## Holy Week

### Services and Events at Launde Abbey in See March and April Worship Plans for Services

#### Other events at Launde during Holy Week:

- Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March: A Holy Week Quiet Day
- Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March: Soul-filled Meandering (a led contemplative walk)
- Wednesday 1 April: Soul-filled Meandering (a led contemplative walk)
- Thursday 2 April: A reflective day making Hot Cross Buns

*Bookings for all of these via the Abbey's website please*

## Praying Pilgrims in Launde Minster Community April 2026

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 April is:**

April 01: **Cranoe**

April 08: **Iiston**

April 15: **Hallaton**

April 22: **Welham**

April 29: **Thorpe Langton**

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

*Rev David Palmer and Rev Crystal McAllister*

## Memorial Service for Gary West St Peters, Knossington LE15 8LT

**Friday 27th March at 12 noon**

Gary was a long-standing member of the congregation at Knossington. He was also a regular attender of the Launde Minster Community Online Church. The service is being led by Revd Philip Norwood. There will be refreshments at the pub afterwards.

**All are welcome**

PLEASE NOTE: Parking is limited in the village

## Tugby Church Maundy Thursday Agape Meal and Service

**6pm for 6.30pm**

**Donations towards costs of food and wine £7pp**

To reserve your place, please contact:

[madeleine.v.wang@gmail.com](mailto:madeleine.v.wang@gmail.com)



## Food for Thought

**Launde Abbey Monday 13th April 6.45 for 7.15**

**An evening with Lord Donald Curry: *Farming, Faith and Politics***

Bookings by Tuesday 7th April

[mary.twidell@gmail.com](mailto:mary.twidell@gmail.com) 01858 555204/ 07464 309966



**Food for thought**

An evening with  
Lord Donald Curry CBE

**Farming, Faith & Politics**

Meal and talk £10.00

**Monday 13th April**

Meal 6.45pm for 7.15pm start

**Launde Abbey**

Bookings by Tuesday 7th April

[mary.twidell@gmail.com](mailto:mary.twidell@gmail.com) / 01858 555204 / 07464 309966

About the speaker: Donald has been a Crossbench Peer in the House of Lords since 2011. He is a member of England's Agricultural Development Trust, a charity which seeks to bring disadvantaged people in South India. He is also Chair of Food and Farming Futures and a member and chair of The Rural Design Centre in the North East of England.

About Food for Thought: Talks about life, faith and contemporary issues, arranged by a local group of Christians.

## Kindertransport – A concert documentary Great Meeting Unitarian Chapel, 45 Bond Street, Leicester LE1 4SX

**Saturday 11th April at 7.30pm**

**Tickets: Adult £10/ Under 16s £5**

Bookings: [wegottickets.com/event/690813](http://wegottickets.com/event/690813)

Enquiries: 07944 907051

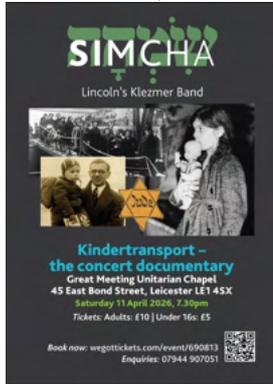
The Kinder Transport Documentary performed by Lincoln Klezmer band Simcha offers a highly effective way into this topic by bringing to life the story of Jewish children saved from death by the famous initiative of Nicholas Winton. The documentary also traces the background rise of Nazism through contemporary reports, journalism and literature with accompanying specially composed music and audio-visual material. We hear the voices of political leaders, eyewitnesses and ordinary men, women and children of that era, while seeing the scenes that accompanied these unfolding dramatic events.

A special and unique strength of the show is the way it follows the real-life story of the family of one band member, Close friend of Caroline Beardsmore, bringing

history vividly to life and making it particularly approachable.

This moving and revealing show lasts for approximately 45 minutes and after an interval is followed by a concert of exciting klezmer music and songs from that time, performed by an experienced and accomplished 8-piece band.

The venue is the beautiful and welcoming Great Meeting Unitarian Chapel in central Leicester.



**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. T

he Foodbank has **MOST URGENT NEED of:** Tinned Carrots, Deodorant, Toothpaste, Shower gel, Corned Beef, Tinned peas, Jam, UHT milk (whole or semi-skimmed), Jars of Coffee (100grams), Jars of Pasta sauce, Dried Potato (Smash)

**Other suggested donations:** Custard, Tinned fruit, Dried Packet Rice, Baked Beans, Strong clean 'bags for life',

Tinned Rice Pudding, Porridge Oats, Teabags, Sugar (500g), Jam, Tinned Baked beans with sausages, Cereal, Crackers, Tinned sweetcorn, 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, Tinned potatoes, Fray Bentos pies, Tinned ham, Crackers, Tinned soup, Cup of soup, Sugar (500g), 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, Toothbrushes, Sunscreen (for homeless people in the summer), soap, Feminine products – sanitary towels, tampons

**The list of food always required is on the website:**

<https://www.jubileefoodbankmh.uk>



## Diomail Monday 23rd March

**For more information and other events use this link for Diomail 23rd March:**

[https://thehub.leicester.anglican.org/newsletters/diomail-23-march-](https://thehub.leicester.anglican.org/newsletters/diomail-23-march-2026/?newsletter_email=l.jones2k@btinternet.com)

[2026/?newsletter\\_email=l.jones2k@btinternet.com](https://thehub.leicester.anglican.org/newsletters/diomail-23-march-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/>

## Holy Week & Easter at Leicester Cathedral

Experience Holy Week and Easter at Leicester's beating heart.

Beginning with Palm Sunday and the annual Holy Week Organ Meditation (Mon 30 March | 12.30pm) and Holy Week Evening Services (Mon 30, Tue 31 March, Wed 1 April | 7pm), all are invited to a week of special services and events.

Step into the hope we find in Jesus Christ as we prepare for the celebration of his resurrection at Easter. **See Leicester Cathedral's 'What's On' Newsletter for full details:** <https://leicestercathedral.org/uploads/lent-and-easter-whats-on-booklet-2024.pdf?v=1767623436>

