

# Launde Minster Community



## Newsletter

Edition Date: Thursday 12th March 2026

**Sunday 15th March Fourth Sunday of Lent,**

**Mothering Sunday**

Attached is the MC Worship Plan for **MARCH 2026** (as of 12th 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 15th March 11am

Launde Minster Community Online Church

**Mothering Sunday** All are welcome

Leader: Hilary Painter

To join the livestream, click on this zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83679676342?pwd=CDIQKl91dakSkeAh5kbOeu8idqGI8Q.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 15th March Lent 4, Mothering Sunday

God of compassion,  
whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary,  
shared the life of a home in Nazareth,  
and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself:

strengthen us in our daily living

that in joy and in sorrow

we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal;

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**

God of love,

passionate and strong,

tender and careful:

watch over us and hold us

all the days of our life;

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

### Reflection: Sunday 15th March Lent 4, Mothering Sunday

For most of us, Mothering Sunday is a joyful moment in the Church's year, a day to give thanks for the gift of our mothers, for the love that has shaped our lives in ways both seen and unseen and a day of respite in the middle of Lent. It is also a day when we should remember that motherhood reflects something profound about God's love.

Throughout Scripture, God's love is often described in parental terms. For example, Matthew speaks of Jesus longing to gather His people 'as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings.' This image portrays someone deeply protective, nurturing, and full of compassion, thankfully not just motherly traits! In Christ, we see the love that feeds the hungry, tends the wounded, and stays with us even in suffering. At the cross, John's Gospel tells us that Jesus ensures His mother Mary will be cared for, showing that even in His final moments, love and responsibility remain central.

Mothering Sunday is also an opportunity to reflect on the wider meaning of 'mothering.' Not everyone is a biological mother, and not all experiences of motherhood are easy or joyful. Yet many people - grandmothers, godmothers, aunts, teachers, friends - offer mothering love. The Church itself is sometimes called 'Mother Church,' because she nurtures us in faith, feeds us with Word and sacrament, and teaches us to walk in Christ's ways.

On Mothering Sunday we give thanks for those who have shown us patience, sacrifice, courage and faith and remember with gratitude them, including those who are no longer with us. We pray too for those who long to be mothers, for those who grieve, and for those whose relationships are strained or broken.

Above all, we rest in the assurance that we are held in God's faithful love, a love that gives life, sustains hope, and never lets us go.

Hilary Painter

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## Bible Readings: Sunday 15th March Lent 4, Mothering Sunday

### Exodus 2.1-10

1 Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman.

2 The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months.

3 When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river.

4 His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

5 The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it.

6 When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said.

7 Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?'

8 Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother.

9 Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it.

10 When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because', she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

## Alternative Reading to Exodus 2.1-10:

### 1 Samuel 1.20-end

20 In due time Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, 'I have asked him of the Lord.'

21 The man Elkanah and all his household went up to offer to the Lord the yearly sacrifice, and to pay his vow.

22 But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, 'As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, that he may appear in the presence of the Lord, and remain there for ever; I will offer him as a nazirite for all time.'

23 Her husband Elkanah said to her, 'Do what seems best to you, wait until you have weaned him; only-may the Lord establish his word.' So the woman remained and nursed her son, until she weaned him.

24 When she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine. She brought him to the house of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was young.

25 Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli.

26 And she said, 'Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the Lord.

27 For this child I prayed; and the Lord has granted me the petition that I made to him.

28 Therefore I have lent him to the Lord; as long as he lives, he is given to the Lord.' She left him there for the Lord.

### 2 Corinthians 1.3-7

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation,

4 who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God.

5 For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ.

6 If we are being afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation; if we are being consoled, it is for your consolation, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we are also suffering.

7 Our hope for you is unshaken; for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation.

## Alternative Reading to 2 Corinthians 1.3-7 Colossians 3.12-17

12 As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

13 Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

14 Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

15 And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.

16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.

17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

### Luke 2.33-35

33 And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him.

34 Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed

35 so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed- and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

## Alternative Reading to Luke 2.33-35

### John 19.25b-27

25 And that is what the soldiers did. Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

26 When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.'

27 Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

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## Sunday 15th March

### Lent 4, Mothering Sunday

#### Psalm 34.11-20

11 Come, my children, and listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

12 Who is there who delights in life and longs for days to enjoy good things?

13 Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from lying words.

14 Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

15 The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous and his ears are open to their cry.

16 The face of the Lord is against those who do evil, to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.

17 The righteous cry and the Lord hears them and delivers them out of all their troubles.

18 The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and will save those who are crushed in spirit.

19 Many are the troubles of the righteous; from them all will the Lord deliver them.

20 He keeps all their bones, so that not one of them is broken.

## Alternative Psalm

### Psalm 127.1-4

- 1 Unless the Lord builds the house, • those who build it labour in vain.
- 2 Unless the Lord keeps the city, • the guard keeps watch in vain.
- 3 It is in vain that you hasten to rise up early and go so late to rest, eating the bread of toil, • for he gives his beloved sleep.
- 4 Children are a heritage from the Lord • and the fruit of the womb is his gift.

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## Lent Resources and Courses

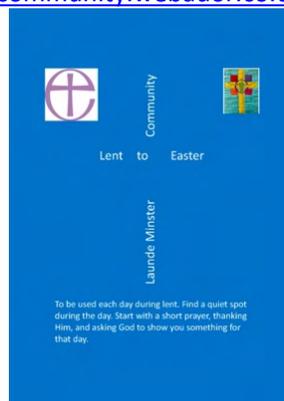
**Please send details of proposed Lent courses to Wendy Lewis, Administrator**

[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>



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### Fourth Week of Lent, Beginning:

#### Thursday 12 March

**Reading:**When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. (Matthew 1:24)

**Prayer:**Thank you that Joseph had the courage to do what the angel had told him in a dream. Give me the courage to obey you wherever it takes me.

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#### Friday 13 March

**Reading:**Jesus said the most important commandment is this: "Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength." (Mark 12:29-30)

**Prayer:**Lord, you call us to dedicate our whole selves to you. Forgive me for offering you only part of myself. Take my life and let it be consecrated Lord to you.

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#### Saturday 14 March

**Reading:**Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unflinching love; according to your great compassion blot

out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. (Psalm 51:1-2)

**Prayer:** Thank you, Lord, that you have a short memory for my many failings when I confess them to you, and that you blot them out from your memory for ever. Help me to believe that and cleanse me of lingering guilt.

#### Sunday 15 March, Mothering Sunday

**Reading:** Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. (Colossians 3:12)

**Prayer:** May your people everywhere be noted for their kindness and patience, and may those virtues become more prevalent in our often intolerant and hurrying society.

#### Monday 16 March

**Reading:** Sing the praises of the Lord, you his faithful people; praise his holy name. For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favour lasts a lifetime; weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning. (Psalm 30:4-5)

**Prayer:** Give thanks for the times when God has brought you through a time of difficulty, darkness or trial.

#### Tuesday 17 March, St Patrick's Day

**Reading:** God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. (Psalm 46:1-3)

**Prayer:** O God our help in ages past, be our hope for years to come. Help me to find the strength I need to get me through any tough times that come my way.

#### Fifth Week of Lent, Beginning:

##### Wednesday 18 March

**Reading:** Many, Lord my God, are the wonders you have done, the things you planned for us. None can compare with you; were I to speak and tell of your deeds, they would be too many to declare. Sacrifice and offering you did not desire – but my ears you have opened. (Psalm 40:5-6)

**Prayer:** Nothing and no-one can compare with you, O Lord. May I worship and serve you as you deserve, just as Mary did when she was told she would be the mother of Jesus.

##### Thursday 19 March

**Reading:** Woe to you Pharisees, because you give God a tenth of your mint, rue and all other kinds of garden herbs, but you neglect justice and the love of God. You should have practiced the latter without leaving the former undone. (Luke 11:42)

**Prayer:** Lord, do not let me lose sight of your bigger picture when I focus on the small details of life and worship. May the thoughts of my heart and my actions in the world be acceptable to you.

## 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.

*Everyone is very welcome!*

*If you would like to let us know you are coming that could help with numbers. Thank you.*

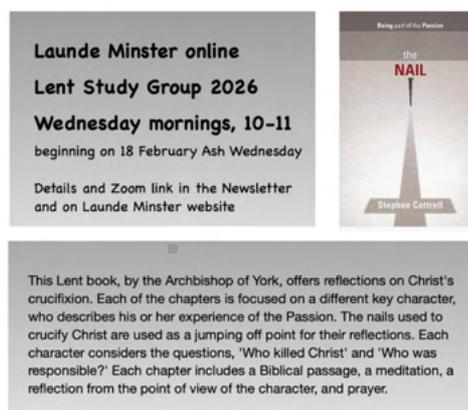
Contact:

[revd.martinhathaway@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:revd.martinhathaway@tiscali.co.uk)

[maxinejohnson.1@btinternet.com](mailto:maxinejohnson.1@btinternet.com)

## 3. Launde Minster Community Online Lent Group

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



**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*

## 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.

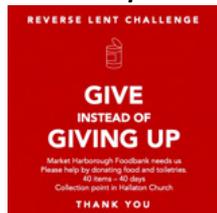
There will be coffee, cake and conversation for anyone who wants to learn more about Lent. **This runs for 6 weeks until 31 March.** Each session will stand alone, so you can come to all or dip in and out.



## 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



## Praying Pilgrims in Launde Minster Community March & 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 March and April is:

March 18: **Shangton**

March 25: **Lowesby**

April 01: **Cranoe**

April 08: **Illston**

April 15: **Hallaton**

April 22: **Lowesby**

April 29: **Thorpe Langton**

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

*Rev David Palmer and Rev Crystal McAllister*

## 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.**

## Horninghold Village Trail Launch

Saturday 14th March 2-4pm Free

Get a copy of the new trail and join a guided tour around the village.

*Tea and coffee and nice things to eat.*



## World Day of Prayer 2026

On Friday 6th March, a World Day of Prayer

Service was held, on behalf of the Launde Minster Community, at St Thomas a Becket

Church, Tugby. On Sunday 8th March, WDP was also celebrated at our Online Church.

This year the service had been put together by Christian women in Nigeria. It was very moving with personal and community efforts to help each other amid great hardship. The women's faith enabled them to cope with life, and to do what they could to prepare for a better future for their families, neighbours and communities. It was distressing, moving and inspiring.

It was good to see so many joining from a range of churches across our Minster Community, together with children from Tugby Church of England Primary School and The Manor Care Home in Hallaton. Everyone did us proud with a wonderful spread of food and great hospitality. *Thank you to everyone involved.*





### 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 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>

**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)**



### **Diomail Monday 9th March**

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

[https://thehub.leicester.anglican.org/newsletters/diomail-9-march-](https://thehub.leicester.anglican.org/newsletters/diomail-9-march-2026/?newsletter_email=l.jones2k@btinternet.com)

[2026/?newsletter\\_email=l.jones2k@btinternet.c](https://thehub.leicester.anglican.org/newsletters/diomail-9-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/>

## **Chaplaincy Lecture: Is God Back? What might the ancient wisdom of Christianity offer for today's turbulent times?**

**Thursday 30 April 6-7.30pm, Lecture Theatre 2, Bob Burgess Building, University of Leicester**

CHAPLAINCY  
UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER  
Diocese of Leicester

THE BISHOP OF LEICESTER'S CHAPLAINCY LECTURE SERIES

**Is God Back? What might the ancient wisdom of Christianity offer for today's turbulent times?**

ELIZABETH OLDFIELD  
AUTHOR OF FULLY ALIVE

Thursday 30th April, 6-00pm  
Lecture Theatre 2  
Sir Bob Burgess Building  
University of Leicester, LE2 6BF

This free event is open to the public and will be followed by a drinks reception at the Chaplaincy Gatehouse.

**Book Here:**

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/chaplaincytotheuniversityofleicester1/2091092>