

Launde Minster Community



Newsletter

Edition Date: Thursday 23rd April 2026

Sunday 26th April, Easter 4

Attached are the MC Worship Plans for **APRIL and MAY 2026** (as of 23rd April)

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 **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 26th April at 11am

Launde Minster Community

Online Church

Easter 4

Leader & Reflection: John Bartlett

To join, click on this zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83679676342?pwd=CDIQKl91dakSkeAh5kbOeu8idgGI8Q.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 07890 020012

Wendy Lewis, Administrator

Wendy works on Tuesdays and Thursdays during school hours. wendy.lewis@leicestercofe.org 07777 934092

Collects for Sunday 26th April

Easter 4

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:
raise us, who trust in him,
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,
that we may seek those things which are above,
where he reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen

Risen Christ,
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:
teach us to hear your voice
and to follow your command,
that all your people may be gathered into one flock,
to the glory of God the Father.

Amen

Reflection: Sunday 26th April

Easter 4

Have you noticed how we herd sheep? It's from behind, perhaps with a sheep dog, or even a quad bike, guiding them where they need to go, encouraging them in a certain direction. We think of sheep dog trials, where shepherds and their dogs race to round up the sheep in record time. But the sheep do know the shepherd's voice.

The method was different in Jesus' time and in the Middle East even today. As John's Gospel shows, the shepherd goes before the sheep and has a series of calls that the sheep recognise. They also know his or her voice and each sheep really would have a name that the shepherd would call. For safety, in times of bad weather or under threat of attack, the shepherd would use a sheep pen that would actually be more like a courtyard. The gate to this would be kept by a gatekeeper and they would only let the shepherd through. In this passage Jesus says: 'Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep' (v.7) ...

Jesus is the one who protects the sheep from the threats around them. The 'thieves and bandits' (v.8) who came before were ignored by the sheep as they did not

recognise their voices. Jesus, the gate, did not let them prevail.

Voice is a very powerful sound.... We can still recognise voices that we may not have heard for many years. But do we recognise God's voice calling us by name? I wonder where God's voice is calling to us personally today? Perhaps it is calling us into safety, away from things that aren't good for us. Maybe this is you. Or perhaps it is calling us to pasture, like the sheep. God knows what is good for us, and what we need. Perhaps, like the sheep, we need to go to pasture, to rest, maybe, to eat good and nourishing food, and to lie down. Can we listen for God's voice together, attentively, and follow what God is calling us to, both individually and collectively?

Extract from Roots on the Web

Bible Readings: Sunday 26th April Easter 4

Acts 2.42-end

42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

43 Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles.

44 All who believed were together and had all things in common;

45 they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need.

46 Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts,

47 praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

1 Peter 2.19-end

19 For it is to your credit if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly.

20 If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, where is the credit in that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval.

21 For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

22 'He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth.'

23 When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly.

24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

25 For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

John 10.1-10

10 'Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit.

2 The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep.

3 The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

4 When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice.

5 They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.'

6 Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

7 So again Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep.

8 All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them.

9 I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture.

10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

Sunday 26th April Easter 4 Psalm 23

1 The Lord is my shepherd;
therefore can I lack nothing.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.

3 He shall refresh my soul
and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5 You spread a table before me
in the presence of those who trouble me;
you have anointed my head with oil
and my cup shall be full.

6 Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Praying Pilgrims in Launde Minster Community April, May & June 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, May & June is:

April 29: Thorpe Langton

May 6: Gaulby

May 13: East Norton

May 20: Tilton on the Hill

May 27: Skeffington

June 3: Loddington

June 10: Tugby

June 17: Owston

June 24: Billesdon

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

Rev David Palmer and Rev Crystal McAllister

In the Evening Light - Choral Reflections at the Close of Day by Harborough Singers

Saturday 25th April at 7.30pm

Methodist Church, Market Harborough

Tickets: £10

To book: online: harboroughsingers.com

Email: adelerogers59@gmail.com

Box office: 07581 341957



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 Custard, Tinned fruit, Tinned beans (kidney, chickpeas, etc), Pot Noodle, Breakfast cereal, Jars of Pasta sauce, Tinned sweetcorn, Tinned peas, Tinned carrots, Peanut butter, 'No Cook' products, long life e.g. John West Fish and pasta meals, Kettle only products e.g. noodles, couscous, soups, Microwave puddings, Jam, UHT milk (whole or semi-skimmed), Rice Pudding.

Other suggested donations: Jars of Coffee (100grams), Tinned vegetarian meals, Teabags (80), Corned Beef, Dried Potato (Smash), Dried Packet Rice, Baked Beans, Strong clean 'bags for life', Porridge Oats, Sugar (500g), Tinned Baked beans with sausages, Crackers, Dried potatoes (Smash), Tinned red meat, Tinned meatballs, chicken in sauce, Biscuits, Sweets, Snacks and Crisps, Tinned tomatoes, Sachet meals (pan or microwave), Cordial, Marmalade, Tinned potatoes, Fray Bentos pies, Tinned ham, Crackers, Tinned soup, Cup of soup, Sugar (500g), Snacks and cereal bars, Fruit squash/ juice, Microwave puddings, Tinned pasta, Sandwich paste, Tuna, ALPRO yoghurts (long-life, for the shelf not fridge), 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, Deodorant, Toothpaste, Shower gel or soap, Shampoo, Toothbrushes, Sunscreen (for homeless people in the summer), Feminine products – sanitary towels, tampons

The list of food always required is on the website:

<https://www.jubileefoodbankmh.uk>



Diomail – 20th April 2026

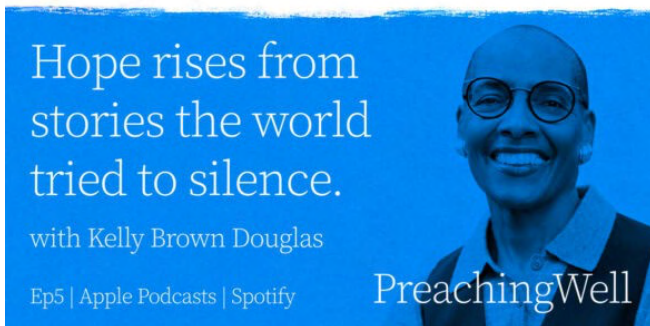
For more information and other events use this link for Diomail 20th April:

https://thehub.leicester.anglican.org/newsletters/diomail-20-april-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/>

The Revd Dr Kelly Brown Douglas - Preaching Justice and Hope



What happens when a preacher carries a whole people's story into the pulpit?

In this featured episode of the Preaching Well podcast, the Revd Dr Kelly Brown Douglas – trailblazing priest, womanist theologian, and voice of moral fire – opens her heart and her history.

She takes us from a rainy Dayton street to Harlem classrooms, from enslaved ancestors to vigils, from lectionary wrestling to preaching with butterflies in her stomach and a cloud of witnesses at her back. Kelly reveals the truth she brings to every sermon: God's justice breathes in every life, and hope rises from stories the world tried to silence.

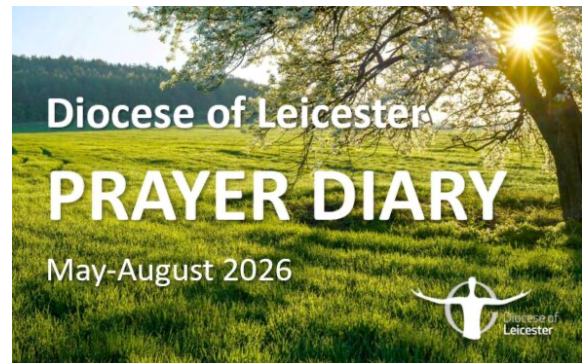
Bold. Tender. Unfiltered.

Listen now on [Apple Podcasts](#) or [Spotify](#).

More from Preaching Well:

<https://www.leicester.anglican.org/about-us/bishop-of-leicester-and-loughborough/preaching-well-podcast/>

Our Latest Prayer Diary:



Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:6-7

Every four months, the diocese produces a prayer diary with daily prayer requests, including a cycle of prayers for our parishes and ministry teams.

Our latest diary for May-August is now available for you to use as part of your everyday prayer.

Download the latest prayer diary:

<https://d3hgrlq6yacptf.cloudfront.net/5f3ffd8a9f6aa/content/pages/documents/prayerdiary-may-aug-2026.pdf>

Archbishop of Canterbury to Visit the Diocese of Leicester



We are pleased to announce that the Archbishop of Canterbury will visit the Diocese of Leicester in September, to spent time with us in our Cathedral, church and wider communities, as well as help celebrate our centenary.

Archbishop Sarah said: "Being invited to celebrate with Bishop Martyn and the Diocese of Leicester for their centenary celebrations in September is a real privilege, marking one hundred years of this diverse diocese."

We will share more details about her visit and our centenary plans in Diomail very soon.

You can read about Archbishop Sarah's pastoral diocesan visits here:

<https://www.leicester.anglican.org/news/archbishop-sarah-to-visits-four-dioceses-including-leicester.php>